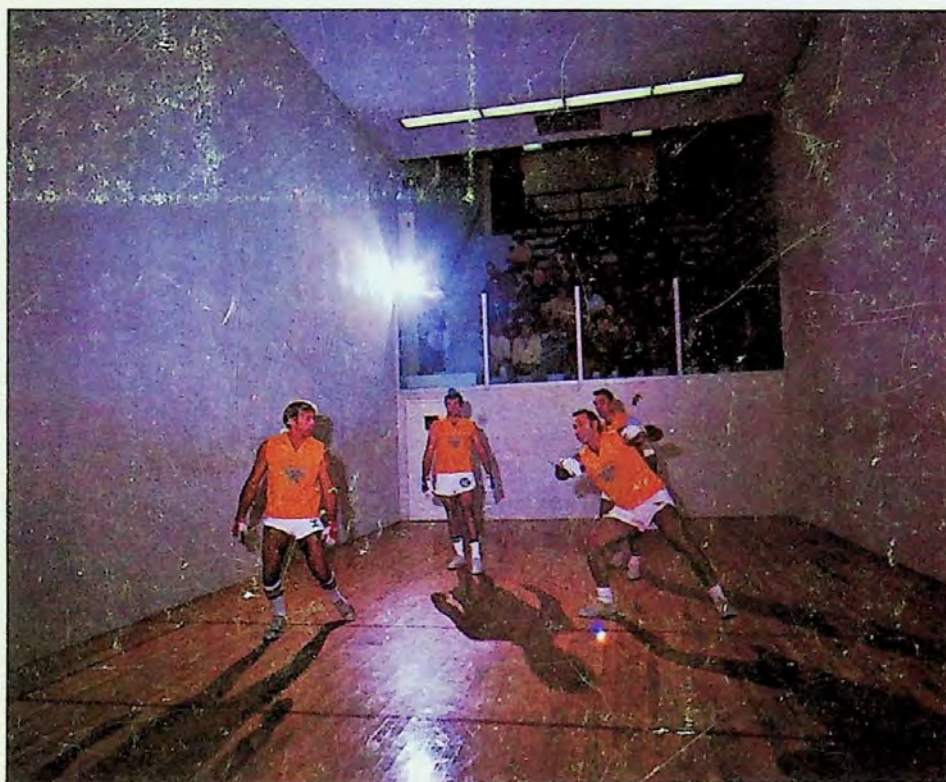


THE OFFICIAL VOICE OF THE
UNITED STATES HANDBALL ASSOCIATION

Handball

*National Invitational Masters & Golden Masters Doubles
at Milwaukee Handball/Racquetball Club*



*Schneider
— Elbert
Repeat*



*Hanft —
Bystock
Win Golden*

DECEMBER
1972
50¢





THE OFFICIAL VOICE OF THE
UNITED STATES HANDBALL ASSOCIATION

*Season's Greetings
to all of our friends, and
a special Good Luck
to our fellow publication
— "Racquetball"*



HANDBALL

OFFICIAL VOICE OF HANDBALL DECEMBER, 1972 VOLUME 22, NO. 6

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Handball Highlights



Ed Kelly 'Wins Battle'
—page 18



*Tom Clifford, Lifetime
Member, North Dakota
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—page 14

ON THE COVER Photos by Arthur Shay

It's 'high time' we gave due tribute to our wonderful Masters, those veteran campaigners who have gotten renewed tournament competition through the specially set up age groups. The Milwaukee Handball/Racquetball Club hosted our biggest entry tourney and we are convinced that the old timers want more and more of the same. Our good friend Alex Guerry of Chattanooga 'stumps' for additional age play (see letters). OK, Alex, the second USHA national invitational singles is set for Chattanooga's YMCA next February. If we get at least eight over-60 entrants we'll add the new bracket — one above the Golden. Joe Ardito, (61) our national tournaments coordinator is the first entrant . . . now, let's get seven more!

HANDBALL, Volume 22—Number 6
—December, 1972. Published bi-
monthly by The United States Hand-
ball Association, 4101 Dempster St.,
Skokie, Illinois. \$3 a year subscrip-
tion, \$7 for 3-year subscription. Sec-
ond class postage paid at Woodstock,
Illinois and at additional mailing of-
fice.



3rd Nat'l Invite Masters & Golden Doubles Schneider-Elbert Repeat . . . Hanft-Bystock Win Golden

New high in entries — 24 Masters teams, 18 Golden Masters teams — new Golden Masters champs in Harold Hanft and Ted Bystock, Ft. Lauderdale . . . repeat Masters victory for Ken Schneider and Phil Elbert, Chicago, in the Third Annual USHA National Invitational Masters and Golden Masters Doubles Championships, held Oct. 27-29, at the Milwaukee (Wauwatosa) Handball-Racquetball Club.

Schneider and Elbert, combining the ideal Masters doubles ingredients of near errorless teamwork; Phil's speed and court coverage and effective serve to get weak returns with Ken's sharp shooting from the left side, racked up a second successive championship. Schneider, 51, showing no visible signs of losing his fine skills, and Elbert, a "roadrunning" 41, went through the largest field of the three annual classics without a game loss, stopping a really good team of Milwaukeeans Tom Schoendorf and Jim White for the final round win, 21-15, 21-10.

Schoendorf and White had to wade through a more formidable lower bracket field from their No. 3 seed. In their second match they went up against former national open doubles titlist Phil Collins, Chicago, and his efficient partner, Elliot Ets Hokin. White's loose-as-a-goose southpaw placement shots kept the known Collins' bombs away, and Big Tom chipped in with some bottom board "killers". Collins, 42, and slowed somewhat by a couple of Achilles tendon operations in recent years, still possesses the big serve and two-handed shots but can't maneuver as he did as a slimmed down "Wrist Kid" of 10-15 years ago.

Schoendorf and White then had another tough twosome on their hands in the semi finals in Milwaukee's Burt Dinken, and Buddy Perelman, representing the Chicago Horwich Center JCC. Dinken, who has paired with Paul Haber in winning the Central USHA divisional over Ray Neveau and Simie Fein last March, was at his best when he and Buddy won a real tough three-gamer over No. 2 seeded Alvis Grant, Dallas, and

EVERYONE'S READY . . . View from the gallery with Masters doubles final round players in readiness as Tom Schoendorf takes ball in three-quarter court. Referee is Don Pichotta. Gallery at Milwaukee Handball/Racquetball Club starts from 4-foot level with higher ceiling behind back wall, affording gallery for 200.

Dr. Cecil Lloyd, Shreveport. Grant, still the pride and joy of the Dallas A.C., played a strong left side but appeared to tire in the third game, while well-conditioned and talented Cecil Lloyd appeared frustrated at the secondary, right court side role. These two fine players just couldn't jell their game to real winning form, while Perelman blended smoothly as right side component as Dinkin shot with good percentage. Buddy was steady in keeping the ball in play and that set up the volley ending plays.

But, that long match seemed to take the edge off both Burt and Buddy and they couldn't cope with Schoendorf and White, and later with their third place playoff loss to Lloyd Koehnke, Appleton, and Dick Roth, Milwaukee.

The finals figured to be a close match although White, who combines his talents of squash, racquetball and handball at the Milwaukee Athletic Club as athletic aide, reported he had some back troubles. In the final analysis it was felt Schoendorf plays a better left side than on the right

and his overall play suffered. Once again it is the old story of few realizing how tough it is to play a strong right side. The first game of the finals was nip and tuck and only an outbreak of "crotch" aces from Elbert at 15-15 blew the game open. Had the Milwaukee duo taken this one, they might have worn down Schneider by the third game and made it a real battle.

Paul Trujilo and Dr. John Sammon, Cleveland, were the pleasant surprises of the Golden Masters. Unseeded, they had to play 13 games within 40 hours, and they were a most formidable team. Trujilo, once one of the better Ohio-area singles players, plays a strong left side and isn't afraid to shoot from all angles. Sammon complements him beautifully with steadiness and the ability to defense services that came to him 90 per cent of the time.

The three-game routine became the schedule for the Clevelanders as they beat the good Milwaukee team of Dick Wickersham and Gus Kopaytic, then Chicagoans Ben Loiben and Dave Weinberg by that route. Then they got up against the two-time champion defenders from Los Angeles, George Brotemarkle and Bill Feivou. Sammon and Trujilo refused to be overawed, won the first one 21-18, lost a squeaker 20-21. The Club's championship court floor had previously SHOWN SOME "tackiness" and Trujilo requested a change of courts after the second game. Both the referee, Ben Loiben, and then Des Smith, tournament chairman, who was consulted, agreed to the switch. However, Bill Feivou steadfastly refused to change courts and it ended up in a frustrating forfeiture. So Trujilo and Sammon moved into the finals against last year's runnerup team of Harold Hanft and Ted Bystock, two transplanted New Yorkers, now Miami area residents.

Hanft and Bystock had good previous matches with Milwaukee teams — JCC Athletic Director Larry Lederman and Marv Bines, and then a semi final win over Nate Rudman and John Collentine.

Hanft, protecting a bad finger, started slowly in the championship match and his team was trounced, 21-5. Then this wizard of control, a former one-wall national winner, let out, and with Bystock loosening up also, they evened the match with a convincing 21-9 win. Hanft and Bystock soared to a 13-0 lead in the third game, then saw their huge margin whittled down as they suffered a natural letdown and couldn't regain the momentum. But at the 15-14 juncture they righted themselves and poured home the decisive tallies to win, 21-15. Rudman and Collentine took third place by default.

Elihu Blanks and Dick Spector, Chicago, won the Masters consolation over another Chicago team of Bud Phillip

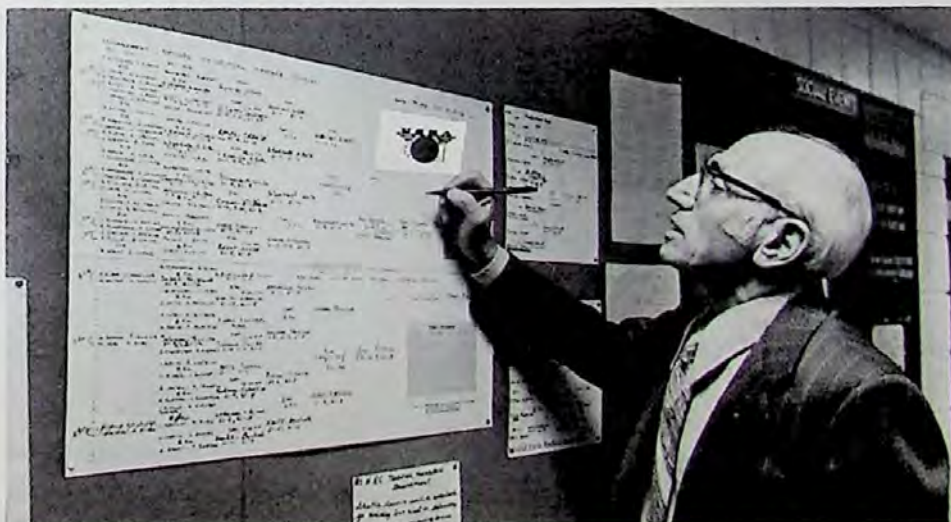
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THE GOLDEN BOYS . . . (l to r) — Art Patch, president and builder of the Milwaukee Handball/Racquetball Club; Ben Loiben, Chicago, who would rather referee than 'play' (and he does a fine job); Dr. John Sammon and Paul Trujilo, Cleveland, runnersup; Harold Hanft and Ted Bystock, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., a couple of transplanted New Yorkers, who took the big prize; Des Smith, who would give up a few diamonds to be in that winner's circle.



AT TRADITIONAL BANQUET . . . USHA President Bob Kendler gives keynote talk to assemblage at classic event, using the Bob Hope theme this time out. That's his 'princess' Evie at his left with Mr. and Mrs. Des Smith at his right. We note Ben Loiben and his good wife, Ilka, at right corner. You can be sure a good time was had by all.



AND WHEN THEY MARK THE SCORE . . . Art Shay says it isn't a matter of winning or losing. Joe Ardito, our national tournaments coordinator, posts scores and doubles as floor manager. Joe says this arduous labor definitely hindered him and 'Beauty' Benny in their Golden Masters quest.

Dig This Crazy Roadrunner Elbert!



PHOTOGRAPHER ART SHAY catches two opposite court photos of Phil Elbert going for the kill in championship Invitational Masters doubles match against Jim White and Tom Schoendorf. At left Phil is in correct right court position with Schoendorf back . . . how he got to the left side wall and shot with his trusty right in the other photo is puzzling. Looks like partner Ken Schneider hadn't time to leave his restful position. However, you can be sure Ken pounded in his share of volley ending shots in their successful defense of the Masters crown.

and Bill Smith, 21-6, 21-16, and Steve Subak and Neal Nordlund of the Minneapolis-St. Paul Twin Cities, gained the Golden Masters consolation over Dave McLees and Joe Bukant, Milwaukee, 21-2, 21-11.

TOURNAMENT SCORES:

MASTERS DOUBLES—(24 teams):
First round: Dick Steinberg-George Selaiden, Milwaukee, def. Ed Ellett, Chattanooga-Bob Jackson, Daytona Beach, 21-18, 11-21, 21-17; Chuck Emmert, Chicago-Joe Timberlake, Chattanooga, def. Dr. Robert Maletich-Richard Cannon, Springfield, Ill., 21-17, 13-21, 21-8; Lloyd Koehnke, Appleton-Richard Roth, Milwaukee, def. Elihu Blanks-Dick Spector, Chicago, 21-9, 21-1; Bill Warshauer, Key Largo, Fla.-Frank Cristaudo, Ft. Lauderdale, def. Jerry Rosenthan-Buddy Wineburgh, Chicago, 21-19, 21-10; Glenn McClintic-Ray Crites, Cedar Rapids, Ia., def. Robert White-Ray Luther, Oshkosh, 21-6, 21-12; Gus Minnesale, Milwaukee-Fred Zitzer, Madison, def. Tony Rojecky-Val Kofler, Milwaukee, 21-7, 21-18.

Second round: Ken Schneider-Phil Elbert, Chicago, def. Steinberg-Selaiden, 21-7, 21-2; Ellett-Jackson def. Jerry Vanek-John Schwindt, Milwaukee, 21-15, 1-21, 21-20; Dick Kalal-Jerry Cronin, Milwaukee, def. Emmert-Timberlake, 21-4, 11-11; Koehnke-Roth def. Murray Marcus, Miami-Harvey Lurie, Cedarhurst, NY, 21-12, 16-21, 21-1; Tom Schoendorf-Jim White, Milwaukee, def. Warshauer-Cristaudo, 21-8, 21-9; Phil Collins-Elliott Ets Hokin, Chicago, def. McClintic-Crites, 21-16, 9-21, 21-6; Burt Dinkin, Milwaukee-Buddy Perelman, Chicago, def. Minnesale-Zitzer, 21-7, 21-17; Alvis Grant, Dallas-Dr. Cecil Lloyd, Shreveport, def. Phillip-Smith, 21-4, 21-7.

Quarter-finals: Schneider-Elbert def. Ellett-Jackson, 21-6, 21-2; Koehnke-Roth def. Kalal-Cronin, 21-9, 21-6;

Schoendorf-White def. Collins-Ets Hokin, 21-11, 21-16; Dinkin-Perelman def. Grant-Lloyd, 21-13, 14-21, 21-13.

Semi-finals: Schneider-Elbert def. Koehnke-Roth, 21-9, 21-6; Schoendorf-White def. Dinkin-Perelman, 21-10, 21-12.

Finals: Schneider-Elbert def. Schoendorf-White, 21-15, 21-10.

Third place: Roth-Koehnke def. Dinkin-Perelman, 21-6, 21-14.

GOLDEN MASTERS DOUBLES—(18 teams):
First round: Steve Subak-Neal Nordlund, St. Paul, def. Walt Skutar, Birmingham-Wendell Corwin, Milwaukee, 21-9, 21-16; Dr. John Sammon-Paul Trujillo, Cleveland, def. Mort Leve-Art Shay, Chicago, 21-7, 21-12.

Second round: George Brotemarkle-Bill Feivou, Los Angeles, def. Subak-Nordlund, 21-9, 21-9; Des Smith-Nick Panizich, Milwaukee, def. Lloyd Leinweber-John Casey, Chicago, 21-17, 21-18; Ben Loiben-Dave Weinberg, Chicago by default over Michael Basile-Bill Salandish, Milwaukee; Sammon-Trujillo def. Dick Wickersham-Gus Kopaytic, Milwaukee, 21-14, 14-21, 21-17; Joe Ardito-Ben Costello, Chicago, def. Dave McLees-Joe Bukant, Milwaukee, 21-12, 21-6; Nate Rudman-John Collentine, Milwaukee, def. Richard Jansen-Harold Trout, Oshkosh, 21-4, 21-4; Larry Lederman-Marv Bines, Milwaukee, def. Jack Burrows-Bill Kaluzer, Milwaukee, 21-2, 21-10; Harold Hanft-Ted Bystock, Ft. Lauderdale, def. William Martin, Burlington, Vt.-Sy Barnes, Birmingham, 21-16, 21-18.

Quarter-finals: Brotemarkle-Feivou def. Smith-Panizich, 21-1, 21-14; Sammon-Trujillo def. Loiben-Weinberg, 31-21, 21-11, 21-5; Rudman-Collentine def. Ardito-Costello 21-3, 21-5; Hanft-Bystock def. Lederman-Bines, 21-20, 21-11.

Semi-finals: Sammon-Trujillo def. Brotemarkle-Feivou, 21-18, 20-21, default; Hanft-Bystock def. Rudman-Collentine, 21-17, 21-7.

Finals: Hanft-Bystock def. Sammon-Trujillo, 5-21, 21-9, 21-15.

Third place: Rudman-Collentine by default.

TOURNAMENT NOTES: Credit Art Patch, president of the Milwaukee Handball-Racquetball Club with the fine artwork on the program cover. Tournament Director Des Smith did the job superbly well . . . packet for incoming registrants included even a sausage and a cheese in addition to the SML nylon souvenir yellow shirt, free car wash, and even a free cleaning pass . . . credits to Connie Dazer, Mrs. Smith, Dick Roth, Bob Osterman, Dick Son, Jack Pearson, Bob Raasch . . . and to Hal Raether, club manager, for 100 per cent cooperation and catering to the incoming warriors.

Joe Ardito with sidekick Ben Costello gave it the USHA support with administration and refereeing help . . . Ben Loiben, who loves to referee, pitching in above and beyond. The nice thing about hosting a tournament at a Court Club is to have the facilities of eat and drink under one roof and with the rain coming down in the Milwaukee area it was most welcomed. The hospitality room spread on Friday, complete with tartar steak spread, was resoundingly received . . . Bob Kendler and Evie came in Saturday afternoon and Bob made with the "Bob Hope" routine at the banquet that night. Neal Nordlund, fresh from hosting a very successful USHA round robin doubles classic at his St. Paul A.C., accompanied by his very attractive wife, Betty. Neal is our Central USHA area commissioner and a strong addition. Partner Steve Subak, chairman of the

Who's Who in Handball

By Ruby Obert

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
0	U	N	Y	N	E	T	A	M	U	H	S	N	A	I	T	S	I	P	H	C
20	O	S	O	A	I	O	S	P	E	S	R	K	Z	Y	C	L	I	N	A	D
40	V	R	S	S	N	E	A	R	I	B	O	C	L	S	I	P	O	C	S	O
60	I	H	D	S	D	T	T	N	O	S	S	U	R	I	R	H	P	C	D	C
80	E	N	C	U	N	I	G	S	K	A	O	M	N	G	E	G	H	R	A	O
100	F	I	S	I	F	E	V	R	N	C	I	L	F	R	Y	N	Y	U	F	N
120	O	L	K	M	R	Y	E	A	E	N	A	H	S	K	E	A	G	T	L	N
140	T	S	T	E	N	B	L	R	D	A	S	H	I	I	M	U	O	A	L	E
160	I	R	Y	E	R	E	L	D	N	E	K	R	D	B	S	B	O	C	A	J
180	D	E	F	V	U	W	C	U	Z	O	B	E	R	T	H	L	E	E	B	Y
200	R	E	E	Y	V	N	A	N	V	Y	R	I	N	R	R	K	G	D	R	T
220	A	X	I	A	L	R	A	I	I	R	C	E	A	E	R	E	T	O	C	N
240	F	D	N	O	S	Y	T	B	L	E	E	K	O	B	A	M	B	O	H	I
260	F	L	S	N	E	Z	T	A	K	I	T	D	L	L	I	B	Y	A	R	G
280	O	A	N	R	A	S	O	T	S	U	M	S	N	E	N	L	D	N	H	K
300	D	N	I	A	C	O	L	E	S	G	A	R	D	A	E	A	A	N	V	A
320	I	O	L	U	R	T	N	N	I	U	H	P	N	L	L	B	R	I	Y	T
340	V	D	L	E	V	E	O	S	W	A	N	A	O	Q	O	F	B	U	B	A
360	A	C	O	G	R	E	U	A	E	V	E	N	D	R	O	G	O	Q	U	L
380	D	M	C	N	S	S	A	L	L	A	B	D	N	A	H	S	U	H	R	P

EARN A PRIZE!!! Circle as many names as you can, send it into USHA, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, IL 60076, and the one who has the most names (legitimate) will win a pair of the outstanding Saranac S-102 gloves . . . indicate size. In case of tie we'll duplicate the award — up to a five-way deal. If more than five are in deadlock we'll have to pick out of a hat for the top five — fair enough. Thanks, Ruby for a fine innovation. Note: To get you underway — Mort the Sport will give you line 340 — 3-6 for your first "name".



PORTLAND'S FRONT FOUR . . . Quartet of Portland, Oregon, talent gaining Pacific Northwest honors. (l to r) — Terry Ball, Jerry Bone, Larry Janssen, Wally Palmberg.

MASTERS INVITE . . .

(From previous page)

National Y handball committee, tells us 1973 Y nationals will be held at the Cleveland YMCA and he will forward dates shortly.

We always kid *Tom Schoendorf* about his size 13½ D brogans, but Tom gets around like a youngster and is one of the real fine Master performers. *Ted Bystock*, an ageless 59, says it takes him a full game to loosen up, so *Harold Hanft* suggested he get a different partner for the first game and then let Ted step in. One opponent of *Ken Schneider* and *Phil Elbert* complained about a loudly cheering lady in the gallery, saying it disrupted his concentration. The referee told him as long as this fan hollered only after the completion of the volley there was no rule against it . . . "And," added Schneider, "That's my wife, *Anita* and she's there to stay."

So we wrap up our third annual Masters doubles invite, and look forward to the Masters singles No. 2 at Chattanooga next February.

Just a closing word . . . My partner *Art Shay* is a great photographer, worked tirelessly through the tournament and at his scale of prices it's a good thing he does it as a labor of love . . . although I let him play doubles with me. We did have the longest match of the tournament in the consolations, losing to *Dave McLees* and ex-footballer *Joe Bukant*, 19-21, 21-20, 20-21. I won't go into gory details.

Terry Muck-Gary Rohrer Win St. Paul A.C. Round Robin Doubles Classic Over 'Best'

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is John Mohan's first literary contribution to HANDBALL Magazine and we think he has done a real "pro" job. In fact, I'm sure he could do well as a comedy script writer for the Hollywood top notchers.

By JOHN MOHAN

Terry Muck and Gary Rohrer won the first Round Robin Doubles Classic held at the St. Paul Athletic Club, Oct. 20-22. The USHA sanctioned tournament final standings:

	W	L
Muck-Rohrer	3	0
Haber-Russo	2	1
Drews-Fusselman	1	2
Fein-Neveau	0	3

All of the matches were attended by enthusiastic capacity crowds. A few individual tickets went on sale daily at 11 a.m. with the crowd beginning to line up about 9:15 a.m.

Neal Nordlund, tournament director, distributed two sets of the new colored uniforms to each of the players. In talking to the crowd, they all agreed the uniforms added a touch of distinction to the tournament.

Nordlund arrived to referee the first match Friday evening without a coin for the toss. This reporter lent him a quarter, and after the toss he handed me back a dime. I lost 15 cents, Muck and Rohrer won the toss. Fusselman and Drews won the first game 21-18. Terry and Gary came back to win the match 21-15 and 21-7. The story of the match was Gary's serve, both natural and reverse to Al Drews on the right side. This particular serve accounting for 15 aces in the three games.

In the second match of the evening, Haber and Russo defeated Fein and Neveau, 21-17, 21-14. The winners establishing themselves as the team to beat in the tournament. We have never seen Neveau's game more polished, and feel only a few pounds stand in the way of a national singles title.

Upon arriving at the Hilton Hotel Coffee Shop on Saturday morning, I spotted Neveau in the corner booth. His pregame breakfast consisted of chicken and dumplings, a hot fudge sundae, garlic toast and a bowl of spanish peanuts.

In Saturday afternoon's first match it was Fusselman and Drews over Fein and Neveau 21-7, 9-21, 21-13. Fusselman, it was agreed by all, showed the best off hand in the tournament during this match. Drews, meanwhile, did a superb job of shooting and retrieving all through the afternoon. The team showing one and all why they are the reigning doubles champs of the USHA.

This set the stage for the match that would decide the championship. The four Twin City television stations were on hand to record the action. In addition we were pleased to note scribes from both the St. Paul and Minneapolis newspapers. Nordlund came ready to referee with a small bottle of aspirin. When Haber heard who was officiating, he sent out for two large bottles for himself.

In the first game Russo and Haber jumped off to an 8-0 lead. Gary then got

his serve working; Terry swung into high gear, and they rolled off 11 straight points. Paul at this time called Nordlund a lousy ape, and questioned his ancestry. I've seen the Nordlund family crest, it's a cocoanut on a field of bananas — Haber was right. You could see Haber beginning to overplay on Russo's side of the court. He had started to panic, and the game began to slip away. Rohrer was having no trouble on the left side. On the right side of the court Russo and Muck were making saves that had the gallery standing and applauding.

The teams battled on even terms during the rest of the game, Muck ending it with a right corner kill. The final score, Muck and Rohrer 21, Russo and Haber 16. In the second game Rohrer and Muck moved out to an 8-0 lead. The closest Haber and Russo came is when they closed the gap to 17-14. The end was fast approaching, and Russo and Haber look drained. The home team scores four, the visitors one. The match is over, and Nordlund informs Haber and Russo they will play for second place tomorrow. The final score Rohrer and Muck 21, Haber and Russo 15.

The banquet that night was held at the Summit, on the top floor of the Athletic Club. Nordlund presented Paul Haber the sportsmanship award, a BIBLE. Haber in turn gave it to Russo to SIT ON, so he could see over the top of the table. Ken Fusselman, the Ohio fireman, not realizing there was no danger, kept blowing out the candles on the table. It was great to see Phil Spiegler of state Masters handball fame on hand for the dinner. Phil's many rug cleaning plants here and abroad keep him too busy to play much anymore.

I certainly enjoyed watching Terry Muck at the dinner. He really lived it up with two kiddie cocktails, and a candy cigar. "Mr. Excitement," Al Drews, thrilled his dinner companions with his bubble gum card collection, which Al says is the fourth biggest in Ohio. Bob Schilling, a regular at these gatherings, came from Wisconsin with his two boys, Paul and Tom. Gary Rohrer excused himself to leave early, and everybody applauded. Paul Haber's garb won the Halloween funniest costume award ten days early. My good friend, Jerry Sandin, left early to attend his weekly class in personality improvement. Simie Fein won the best dressed award, the bus boy finished second, the dishwasher third, and Haber fourth. Ray Neveau topped off his dinner by eating one of the plastic pumpkins in the attractive center piece. The party then moved across the street to the Hilton Hotel, where the fun continued until the wee hours.

In Sunday's final matches, Muck and Rohrer defeated Fein and Neveau, 21-6, 21-18, thereby completing an exceptional weekend of handball with an unblemished record. Haber and Russo in the battle for second place dumped Fusselman and Drews 21-13, 21-14. The results here are secondary, compared to the verbal assault on the referee Steve Subak. I am suggesting to our Area Commissioner that he file a complete report on the actions of Haber and Russo.

Many thanks to Billy Yambrick and Steve Subak for their most able refereeing . . . Betty Nordlund for a great job in the hospitality room . . . Tom Rice, manager of the Athletic Club, for the two beautiful new floors in the handball courts . . . Gordy Gutzmann, athletic director who stood around doing very little . . . And to Paul Schulz, his assistant who covered so well for Gordy . . . Don Riley, the Twin Cities No. 1 sportswriter and broadcaster, for his interview with Paul Haber. To Tournament Director Neal Nordlund, who brought major league handball to St. Paul for the third straight year . . . and last of all to my doubles partner, Dan Kieselhorst, who said it so beautifully, "We could not have had this great weekend tournament, if it weren't for Bob Kendler and the USHA."



USHA Area Commissioner Neal Nordlund Presents Winner's Trophy to Terry Muck and Gary Rohrer.



*Russo and Haber—
'Team to Beat' Got Beat*



*Proud Champs' Wives—
Sandra Rohrer and Judy Muck*



*National Titlists Tumble—
Ken Fusselman and Al Drews*



*Wisconsin 'Lost Weekend'
Simie Fein and Ray Neveau*

Wally Ulbrich Wins One-Wall Singles/Doubles 'Slam'

Takes Doubles With Mark Levine;
Rothman-Danilczyk Again in Masters . . .
Ken Ginty Wins Second Junior Crown . . .

By UGO BONTEMPO

The 14th Annual USHA National One-Wall championships, sponsored by the Brownsville Handball Club and held at that Brooklyn facility, turned out to be both amazing and gratifying.

WINNERS:

Singles—Wally Ulbrich.
PinkBall singles—Al Torres.
Doubles—Mark Levine and Ulbrich.
Junior singles—Ken Ginty.
Masters doubles—Joe Danilczyk and Julie Rothman.

Amazing, because of the large number of enthusiastic competitors, and exceptionally strong matches played by 47 juniors, 102 open singles, 23 Masters teams, and 78 open doubles teams. Excluding the junior matches, the first round matches were of 31 points, followed by the usual 2 out of 3, 21 point games.

Gratifying, because of the pleasure and enthusiasm registered by the players, due to the smooth handling of the tournaments by the energetic and seasoned small committee, which again worked itself into numbness.

What price handball! Again, four weeks of continuous hard work, including self neglect, was the lot of the half dozen dedicated officials. Note: I personally find that I can look forward toward catching my annual cold at tournament time. Nevertheless, the show must go on at all costs and without interruption.

Of course, the players and their matches are the thing. Pleasure, ability, anger, determination, inability, versatility, weaknesses, pride, stamina, intelligence, strength, concentration, enthusiasm, indifference, ambition, chagrin, aggressiveness and fight are some of the qualities and feeling that could be discerned at some time or another. What a lesson this is in psychology or psychiatry, if one were to have scrutinized, studied and have made notations of the individual players, their ploys and their reactions.

The tournaments, of course, had surprises and upsets. Of the 47 juniors, John Edwards, a strong newcomer, emerged as the third place winner. The finalists and also repeaters, were the two greatly improved Stu Kirzner of the BHC, runnerup, and Ken Ginty of the New York A.C., again the One-Wall Junior USHA champ.



BROOKLYN FIREMAN . . . reminiscent of the Vic Herschkowitz glory days . . . Wally Ulbrich wins a second doubles and follows with first coveted singles.

This Ginty lad, I predict, will become one of our better national singles one-wall and four-wall players. He has intelligence, ability, good handball form and determination, and is the fortunate product of our instructor-friend, Bob Davidson. This young man is made of championship stuff and I hope that in his development as a national athlete he will gain maturity and be able to temper his successes with dignity and some graceful humility, facets so admirable in a champion.

The matches of the 102 singles players produced surprises and a number of upsets. Among the fallen heroes was six-year titlist, Steve Sandler, who showed that he, too, is human. Hats off to Steve, though, who was ailing because of injuries and lost to the strong and coming star, Marcel Goldfarb. Let me pause for a word of praise for Sandler, who, knowing that he might lose, nevertheless played with 120 per cent effort. It takes a strong player to beat Steve, even with his injuries. Goldfarb earned third place and was eliminated by Wally Ulbrich. Charlie Sheldon was one of the surprises of the tournament. After a number of years of trying, development, and much fruit eating, Charlie reached the finals by defeating the perennially strong Howie

Eisenberg. In turn Charlie was defeated by our new, strong and brilliant titlist, Ulbrich. Wally has the stamp of a national champion and will give any player, including a healed Sandler, a rough time from now on.

The Masters play was the best ever seen at these tournaments in the opinion of our committee, players and spectators. The vets seemed to be inspired so that the outcome was a series of strong and well-fought matches. Third place awards were won by ex-champ Ray Gershen and his partner, Morty Katz, by defeating the team of Frank Coleman and Ted Leitner. The Masters finals between Steve Gallo and Joe Rispoli against our old-young friends, Joe Danilczyk and Julie Rothman, was a model, breathtaking match in which all four played like champs. Morris Levitsky and I, who refereed the match, were astounded by the play which was just about as strong as any in the championships. A low bow to Danilczyk and Rothman, who apparently have discovered the fountain of youth. The scores of all these matches have been recorded in separate articles appearing in this issue, written by Kevin Kilgallen and Milton Kashtan.

The Pinkball invitational, run by our club vice president, Tony Quintero, produced the finals between "Tiger" Rafael Santiago, runnerup, and the versatile, likeable winner, Al Torres.

The doubles championship, which culminated our tournaments on Sunday, Oct. 22, was a continuance of the super play displayed in this year's championships. The finalists consisted of well-known former USHA champs, Ruby Obert, known as the graceful and stylist Casanova of handball, coupled with Howie Eisenberg. They lost in this battle of giants to the young and apparently stronger team, Mark Levine, and his partner and "Slam" winner, Ulbrich.

USHA trophies were honorably presented to all three match winners up to the champions.

Now comes the time for superlative phrases, which should describe and honor the officials of our committee . . . what a group of hardworking and dedicated friends of handball and its players are: Kevin Kilgallen, Morris Levitsky, Mickey Blechman, co-chairman; Marvin Greenberg, president



ONE-WALL SINGLES . . . (l to r) — Morris Levitsky, national board and ace referee; runnerup Charlie Sheldon; Mickey Blechman, tourney official; Champ Wally Ulbrich; Kevin Kilgallen, national board-administrator-reporter.

of the BHC and chief referee; Ugo Bontempo (your humble servant who is vice president of the BHC and assistant chief referee and aide to all); Norman Butler, Murray Collins, Sal Peluso, all busy referees and assistants; Vice President Tony Quintero, Irving Rosenblatt, and Herbie Greenberg. Without these gentlemen, some nearly exhausted committeemen, there would be no tournaments, no fun, and also no headaches, attesting to their tenacity and sincerity of purpose.

Also, as a USHA national committeeman, I extend the thanks of the Brownsville Handball Club to USHA President Bob Kendler and Executive Secretary Mort Leve for their cooperation with our annual endeavors for handball.

To all concerned — "arrivederci"!



LOOT GALORE . . . One-wall tournament officials with the many trophies awarded in giant-sized three-week competition. (l to r) — Sal Peluso, referee; Ugo Bontempo, national board-referee-reporter; Marvin Greenberg, national board and chief referee.



STATIONERY BLOCK . . . essence of one-wall play is pictured as Wally Ulbrich goes around Charlie Sheldon for one of his many kill shots in the singles finals.



AGAIN THE MASTERS BEST . . . (l to r) — Ugo Bontempo, Julie Rothman and Joe Danilczyk, repeat champions in Masters doubles; Morris Levitsky. Julie was runnerup in national USHA three-wall at Detroit with Marty Grossman.



ONE-WALL DOUBLES CHAMPIONS — (l to r) — Norman Butler, one of the many overworked referees; Wally Ulbrich and Mark Levine, winners. Ulbrich won last year with Artie Reyer (sidelined this year with injury) and added the singles for the 'Hat Trick'.



AND HERE'S THE JUNIOR BEST . . . Stu Kirzner, runner-up, with Ken Ginty, who won the honors for the second straight year. Ginty is the youngest and best of the all-around players with a four-wall junior win (1970) and three-wall runnerup in doubles last September.

Ulbrich-Levine Over Obert-Eisenberg; Rothman-Danilczyk Again in Masters

Wally Ulbrich, the new USHA one-wall singles champion, and Mark Levine, won the doubles title over Howie Eisenberg and Ruby Obert. For Ulbrich it was a second straight doubles title and his third ever. He had won last year with Artie Reyer, who missed this tourney due to a torn Achilles tendon. Ulbrich and Levine won in the championship round 21-20 and 21-8.

Joe Danilczyk and Julie Rothman defended their Masters doubles crown with a two hour-plus win over Joe Rispoli and Steve Gallo. The scores were 19-21, 21-9 and 21-19.

Ulbrich and Levine were extended to a 21-20 thriller in the first game, but quickly opened up a big lead to take the second easily. Marvelous kill shots and pick ups by Obert and Eisenberg almost caught the winners in the first game. Time and again Obert, just as in his singles matches, would catch low drives ankle high for kills, or short hop and flick angles by the young opponents. But, Wally and Mark continued to drive their kills repeatedly. Ulbrich has never looked stronger, especially in snapping off his deep court kills.

The champs were never really tested before the finals. They crushed Mike Dikman and Bob Sparrow 21-8, 21-6 in the quarters and got a rare bye to the finals due to a default by Lou Russo and Dr. Joel Wisotsky. Russo's overextended tournament schedule kept him from competing on the semi-finals night.

Eisenberg and Obert advanced to the finals over the surprising team of Bruce Davidoff and Harvey Gaskowitz, 21-6, 21-15. The latter team had upset Danilczyk-John Reicher 31-24, then beat the injured Steve Sandler and Neal Bocian. Sandler had to default after losing the first game 21-16. His left shoulder

and arm were in pain from singles injury. Howie and Ruby advanced from their quarter-final, topping Rispoli and Steve Piercynski 21-14 and 21-8. The Rispoli duo had first upset Artie Diamant-George Hargett 31-17, then Mark Goldberg-Dan Flickstein 31-18.

The Masters doubles finals was perhaps the finest match in the 14-year history of this tournament. All four men played superbly throughout. Volley after volley saw a complete blend of a new-found kill and drive, and the smartness of these skilled veterans. The greatest suspense waited for the third game of this marathon. Down 10-16, first server Gallo burst out with 8 straight points. He was stopped when Rothman picked off a high drive and punched a kill from above his right ear. Rispoli made it 19-16, then was outvolleyed. Rothman tied it up serving first, two of his points on overhead clutch, punch kills again. Danilczyk finally got the last two points for the title.

Ray Gershen and Morty Katz finished third, 17-21, 21-11, 21-13, over Frank Coleman and Ted Leitner. Danilczyk-Rothman had won their semi-final from Gershen-Katz by a long match of 21-13, 11-21 and 21-11. Gallo-Rispoli whupped Coleman-Leitner with 21-7 and 21-6 scores. The latter were probably still recovering from their laborious quarterfinal win over Les Arkin and Vince Salvo. With no argument delays, only one time out and only 5 minutes rest before the third game, these two teams managed to volley out a 2-hour, 25-minute seesaw ride. It went 13-21, 21-16 and 21-11. Aside from the four far superior finalists Leitner was perhaps the finest player in this Masters tourney. John Fazio showed the greatest improvement.

KEVIN KILGALLEN

Ken Ginty Again Junior Champion

Ken Ginty of the New York Athletic Club successfully defended his USHA Junior One-Wall singles title. He defeated his 1971 finals opponent, Stu Kirzner, of the host Brownsville Handball Club, 21-8 and 21-17. Ginty's offense of hook serve and kill shots routed the recent Tilden high school graduate in the first game and his high deep angles volleyed him into submission in the second. Kirzner did almost catch up with marvelous retrieving but Ginty's long arms kept him a step ahead.

Kirzner advanced to the finals with a smashing 21-7, 21-6 win over young John Edwards of the Bronx. Earlier, Kirzner had to scrap out a 6-21, 21-18, 21-20 win over Charles Farber. Then he had a surprisingly easy time with Joel Davidson of city team Champion Lincoln high school, 21-15, 21-10.

Ginty had a scare in his semi-final, a match of 18-21, 21-12, 21-6 with Alan Kesterbaum. Alan turned his ankle at the end of the first game and hobbled through the rest.

A number of other fine young players competed, such as Kevin Kenny, Tom Sadowski, Bill Fink, and a threesome from Clinton, Tony Gandia, Rosey Lane and Luis Ramos. Fink extended Kistenbaum to three games in his quarter-final loss.

KEVIN KILGALLEN

Ginty's Big Season . . .

Just a couple of points separated Ken Ginty from three national USHA championships in the 1971-72 season. Ken lost his national junior under-19 crown to Rick Christian in a third game 21-20 at Miami Beach last December; then paired with Fred Munsch to come "within a whisper" (one point) of beating Ruby Obert and Joel Wisotsky in the USHA national three-wall at Detroit.

'ACE MAKER' Gordie Pfeifer Wins Second National Invitational Singles

Gordie Pfeifer came through with a power "serve and shoot" brand of championship play to win his second straight USHA National Invitation singles at his home Washington A.C., Seattle court over the Nov. 17-19 weekend. The 34-year-old former pro baseballer who originated from Pittsburgh, demonstrated a devastating serve and the ability to come from behind in the finals against Stuffy Singer to serve notice that he will be the man to beat at the nationals in Austin, Texas, next March.

Pfeifer, although he won the invitational last year at Birmingham's YMCA, was relegated to a No. 7 seed by the cross-country USHA committee mainly on his disappointing loss to Dr. Gary Rohrer in the nationals at the WAC last March.

With this seed Pfeifer had no easy trail. . . he had a tenacious Al Drews, Cleveland, in the first round, and mainly on 15 aces in two games was Gordie able to take two straight 21-10 games. Then, Pfeifer had open national titlist Fred Lewis, seeded No. 2 in this one. Fred was able to combat the amazing number of aces — seven in the first game — to go to the wire before losing, 21-19.

But, the bombardment was too much and Gordie won going away 21-9 in the second.

Then came the ebullient (look it up Looie) Lou Russo in the semis. The first game found Russo shellshocked with a lopsided 21-1 margin. Lou came back and had a 14-13 lead in the second but then "school was out" and Pfeifer breezed to the 21-14 game and match win.

Meanwhile, back on the top ledger, stunning events were the order of the day. First out of the starting gate, Paul Haber, highly respected by the committee for a No. 1 position, came crashing down to the reality that top notch competition in the four walls and ceiling do not mix at all with the floor, bar, and bottles, and a 28-year-old Luis Marquez, refused to get ruffled, stayed with his "go for broke" shooting game and knocked out the big one.

The Lewis-Pfeifer quarter-final first game was one of the best in the tournament. Fred battled back and at 18-19 got an ace to the right to tie it. Pfeifer got the serve back with a good right hand kill from three quarter court but couldn't score; then Lewis was in turn stopped with a pass down the right alley. Pfeifer then went in to kill off a weak serve return and then another kill after a good volley.

Stuffy Singer, seeded No. 8, and primed to bounce up against Haber in the second round, now found he would be up against No. 16 Marquez. First, Stuffy had no bed of roses before eliminating the improving Randy Essel, Cleveland. Stuffy got the first game 21-18 and would have been hard pressed by the youngster for the match edge had he not taken it.

Dr. Steve August, coming off both an arm injury and hamstring misery, found unexpected toughness from southpaw Cliff McCorkle of Reno. Like Pfeifer, the August serve was the big difference.

No. 4 seeded Muck knocked out Jack Scrivens, Portland, (who went on to take the Tournament of Champions, a super

lead August capitulated.

Pfeifer figured at about 6-1 at the onset but sober thinking after the first day play installed him at least even to take it all. Singer would have commanded even longer odds as August looked stronger in his own top bracket.

So we came down to the wire — Pfeifer vs. Singer. In a "not-to-be-named" tournament in Houston in early October Pfeifer had thoroughly trounced Stuffy . . . earlier in August, they had gone right down to the end of the third game before Gordie emerged the winner. Most of the home folk figured Gordie would continue to blast and take Stuffy in two.

This was not to be. Stuffy played at his best in the first game, handled the bombing serves superbly well that went to his right, and effectively used first the controlled lob serve to the left and then the cross court to the left.

Singer went to a 21-15 win, and took a lead in the second, and finally failed to win out on at least three occasions. One was on a fly shot that he just didn't make the coordinated contact.

Again in the third game it was Pfeifer who had to bounce back after being down 18-13. For Singer it could have been a most important comeback victory . . . but even as runnerup he has posted notice that he will be a definite factor to reckon with at the University of Texas courts (to page 64)

charged "consolation" over Ken McQueen, also Portland).

Singer had to go three against Marquez and August went a tough three with Muck. "We could have taken our match back to Southern California, lamented Singer on the developments that found him squared against August in the semis.

Singer was on top most of the first game, then blew it 21-20. Stuffy played one of those trade point games in the second and had opportunities to break it open but let Steve within game and match hailing distance. At the tail end of that second game August was noticeably hampered with a hip muscle pull. And, after Stuffy had taken a 13-6 third game



HITS BOTTOM BOARD . . . Washington A.C.'s Gordie Pfeifer bombarded his home court with aces and kills in overshadowing 'Sweet 16' field.

Fargo-Moorhead YMCA . . .

Bob Kendler Given 'This Is Your Life' Treatment in Gala North Dakota Weekend

USHA President Bob Kendler was singularly honored the weekend of Oct. 16-18 as the feature of the first North Central Can-Am Association tournament held at the Fargo-Moorhead YMCA. Kendler was guest speaker at a Saturday night banquet held at the Gardner Hotel in Fargo and was given a surprise birthday greeting that included messages from President Richard M. Nixon and Chicago's Mayor Richard J. Daley. Rudy Harris, a former national YMCA doubles champion in 1937-38 staged the event to both honor Kendler on his 68th birthday and to spur participation in the Perpetuation Fund.

It is now hoped that a "Bob Kendler Living Memorial Perpetuation Fund" can become a reality, embracing the three court sports of handball, racquetball and paddleball, all headed up by Kendler.

The early response has been excellent. Rudy has turned over more than \$2,000 to the fund through this initial effort and in his October HANDBALL Magazine back cover page message forwarded a four-point plan to get increased participation: (1) Every handball, racquetball and paddleball club to enroll as a Life Member (\$100). (2) Many individuals could become Life Members immediately, by sending in a check for \$100 or more. (3) Others can take out Life Memberships through the Sustaining Member \$10-a-year plan, covering a ten year period. (4) Every organization sponsoring a tournament could add \$1 to the entry fee (ear-marked for the Fund) and with local, state, area and national events, this could really add to the ultimate goal. This latter idea was origi-



UNIQUE 'BLUE RIBBON' GIANT presentation to Bob and Evie Kendler as part of surprise birthday celebration during first Can-Am weekend handball/racquetball tournament. Rudy Harris did the spadework and had his son, John, make up this particular award.

nally forwarded by Jack Spiers of Charlotte, North Carolina, and his sponsored league was the first to send in \$100. At present the Illinois Handball Association is doing the same with its annual Central USHA Contenders competition.

In the combination handball-racquetball Can-Am play: Marv Cooley, Grand Forks, won the handball singles, beating Bill Wood, St. Cloud, 21-15, 21-19. In the handball doubles Dave Rubin and Neil Reuter, Grand Forks, won over the

Sioux City, SD team of Bill Bauerly and Keith Metcalif, 21-17, 21-19. In handball's Masters doubles, John Mohan and Rich Rawlings, St. Cloud, defeated Mel Heim and Rudy Harris, 21-17, 21-13.

In racquetball: Steve Strandemo, St. Cloud, and Ron Strom, also St. Cloud, after winning the doubles over Sioux Falls' John Rude and John Ruducha, faced off in the singles but a head injury to Strom shortly after the match started stopped play and it was to be continued after the pair returned home.



EVERYONE'S HAPPY . . . At the Fargo-Moorhead Y weekend jamboree—(l to r)—Rudy Harris, Dr. Wally Wahsdall, Grand Forks; Bob Kendler, Capt. Felixberto David, U.S. Air Force at Grand Forks, who graciously supplied all the photos.



DEDICATED TO PLAYERS' FRATERNITY . . . Chuck Boley (l), secretary of Grand Forks Handball Club and Lifetime Perpetuation member, with Rudy Harris, who has been spearheading Fund drive.



FARGO-MOORHEAD CAN-AM . . . (l to r) — Bill Bauerly, who has been coming on strong as both singles and doubles performer in many Midwest competitions as Sioux City rep; USHA President Bob Kendler; Bill's pretty wife Sherri; Rudy Harris. AT RIGHT — Vicki David, wife of player-photographer Capt. Felixberto David, Grand Forks, with lobby greeting poster for big weekend.

Fargoans Kathy Holloque and Kathy Conlin were the women's singles finalists with Mrs. Conlin taking a 21-4, 17-21, 21-3 win.

There was a star-studded exhibition



showing with Paul Haber playing one-gamers against Billy Yambrick and Paul Schulz of the Twin Cities. Haber beat Yambrick, 21-10, and Schulz, 21-6.

NOTES: Mort Leve and Joe Ardito joined Bob and Evie Kendler on the weekend trip . . . a proposed return "grudge" match between Harris-Leve and Ardito-Kendler did not materialize because of Rudy's participation in the Masters doubles finals. A surprise guest, coming in from Denver, was "Mr. Hand-

ball of the Rockies," Les Shumate, to pay his respects to the USHA president, and play at least six or seven games as a Saturday tuneup. Billy Yambrick, in his first appearance against Haber in four years, looked real sharp up to about 10 points, then seemed to tire. He has been recovering from a recent illness and bowed out of an invitation to the USHA national invitational singles. Neal Nordlund was another of our USHA officials in attendance.

Brewer Kitchings 'Arrives' at Dorsky Tourney

The 5th Annual Jack Dorsky Tournament was completed on Labor Day at the Jewish Community Center with a total of 63 participants.

Ed Johnson, Birmingham, defeated Danny Kallman, also Birmingham, in the finals of Masters singles 21-29, 18-21, 21-4. To reach the finals Ed Johnson defeated Fred DeNuccio, Chesapeake, Va., one of the top ranked masters players. Danny Kallman defeated Lee Brown, Birmingham.

In the Open Doubles division Roy Gelber and Mike Monroy, Miami, defeated Ralph Villars and Manuel Sala, New Orleans 21-15, 19-21, 21-15 in the finals.

En route to the championship, Gelber-Monroy defeated Waldrop-O'Grady, Birmingham. Villars and Salars defeated Johnson and Nelson, Birmingham, to reach the finals.

In the Open Singles, Brewer Kitchings, III, Birmingham defeated Jim McKee, Memphis, for the championship 8-21, 21-19, 21-15.

To reach the finals, Kitchings had to defeat Bryon Waldrop and Jim McKee defeated last year's champion, Joe Salome, Atlanta, 14-21, 21-3, 21-15.

RALPH THOMAS



DORSKY DOUBLES FINALISTS . . . (l to r) — Manuel Sala and Ralph Villars, New Orleans A.C., runnersup; Jack Dorsky, former top Southern area player, for whom tournament is named; Roy Gelber and Mike Monroy, Miami Beach, doubles winners.

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John Brinn Takes N.Y. Jack Marks Invitational

Joel Wisotsky-Fred Munsch Power Way to Doubles in Successful USHA-Sanctioned Tournament at West Side Y

By **BILL KENNEDY**
USHA East Area Commissioner

Two of three plane tickets to the USHA National Tournament in March will probably be unused by the winners of the Jack Marks USHA Invitational Tournament held Oct. 5-9 at the West Side YMCA in New York.

John Brinn, former USHA East Area division singles champion, won the singles tournament, and he expects to put the first prize, a plane ticket to Austin, Texas, to good use. After defeating Jack Walsh, New York Athletic Club, 21-18, 21-17 for the title, Brinn announced he would participate in the Nationals.

However, Joel Wisotsky and Fred Munsch, NYAC, reported they would not be able to compete in the Nationals after they conquered Fred Lewis and Ken Smolack, Castle Hill Club, 21-14, 21-16 for the doubles crown. Wisotsky said he cannot get away from his busy dental practice and Munsch's wife is expecting their second baby early in March.

The seeding committee looked very well after aligning the 16 singles players and 16 doubles teams. Marty Decatur was top seeded in singles but an injury forced him to withdraw and Walsh was persuaded to take his place. Brinn was second-seeded, with Steve Lott, 92nd St. YMHA, and Ted Gewertz, West Side, the other semifinalists, ranked third and fourth, respectively.

In doubles, Lewis and Smolack drew

top seed with Wisotsky and Munsch No. 2. Joe Cryan and Joe Diemar, Yonkers YMCA, and Joe Botta and Tom Natale, Brooklyn Union Temple, the other semifinalists, were seeded third and fourth, respectively.

Brinn's run at the title was completed without the loss of a game. He sailed through Gerry Magurno, NYAC, 21-10, 21-12, Jerry Klarman, West Side, 21-13, 21-7, and Lott, 21-6, 21-16, before being pressed by Walsh in the finals. The championship match was described as a "street brawl," pitting two strong boys and old rivals.

The difference could have been in their previous rounds' play, because Walsh was extended in the early rounds by a couple of kids. In the first round big Jack scrambled for a 4-21, 21-19, 21-15 victory over Nunez Bonillo, Eastern District, and then eked out Jerry Yee, West Side, 4-21, 21-20, 21-20 in the quarter-finals. By the time he faced Lott in the semifinals, it was expected that Walsh was finished, but "three-game Jack" found his game and whipped Lott, 21-13, 21-9.

In doubles Lewis was forced to play almost every shot with his left hand because a muscle tear in his right shoulder had not healed since the finals of the Florida State Invitational Tourney. With the national singles champion restricted to a one-hand game, Wisotsky and Munsch were able to overpower their opponents. The way Wisotsky and Munsch played throughout the tournament, Lewis and Smolack would have

had their hands full if Fred's good arm was sound.

"We knew they would kill and hit the ball hard," said Smolack, the tournament chairman. "But we expected them to make mistakes. They made very few errors, so we had to earn all our points."

Wisotsky and Munsch had no problem on the road to the championship, winning every game. They topped Tom Ryan and Tom Kessler, Yonkers, 21-11, 21-12 in the first round and rapped Ed and Bill Woerner, Plainfield (N.J.) YMCA 21-11, 21-1 in the quarterfinals before eliminating Cryan and Diemar, 21-9, 21-11 in the semifinals.

Smolack and Lewis triumphed over Dave and Mike Glickson, Orange (N.J.) YMCA, 21-4, 21-5 in the first round, and ousted Andy and John Scola, Newark (N.J.) YM-YWCA, 21-4, 21-8, in the quarter-finals. Botta and Natale succumbed to Lewis and Smolack in the semifinals.

This was the first Jack Marks Invitational ever held. Prior to this year the event was an open tournament. It was also the first time that the tourney was sanctioned by the USHA, and it was believed to be the first USHA-sanctioned tournament ever held in New York City which was not for an Eastern or National championship. It was an outstanding event, especially considering that it conflicted with the USHA National One-Wall and another four-wall event.

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Help . . . Help . . . Help . . .

Once again we want to bring our listing of court facilities up to date, and this is no easy task. Almost every day we hear of new courts along with blue print planning for more of the same. Once we accumulate the needed information we will publish an up-to-date **COURT DIRECTORY** as a special supplement to **HANDBALL** Magazine. Just drop us a card if you will, with name of facility, no. of courts, address, and key man to contact. You will **HELP** us to **HELP** so many players who may be making a move or travel extensively.

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FATHER-SON PERFORM . . . Ed Kelly shooting at three-wall against son, Matt Kelly.

USHA Commissioner Kelly 'Wins The Battle'

Note: Thanks go to the Memorial Hospital Medical Center of Long Beach, California, for permission to use the following feature. This appeared in the Fall, 1972 issue of the "Memorial Mercury" publication—"Ed Kelly Wins Battle!"

HIS age was catching up with him at age 54, he was sure. "Why else," Edward R. Kelly wondered, "was I so tired continually?"

He began to get tired playing handball. Then, he noticed that "the color was bad in my face after particularly tough matches."

Soon, he found that "I could sleep at the drop of a hat" and that he was getting dog tired at work. (Mr. Kelly is the manager of Ben Agajanian's Long Beach Athletic Club and retired area foreman for construction, emergencies, and general plant operation for the Lomita Gasoline Co.) "It slowed me down plenty."

He'd had pains before but really didn't take too much notice of them.

But one Saturday night in late 1969, something happened that scared him:

"My son and I entered a week-long tournament where you're obligated to play every night. We made it to the finals on Saturday. Just prior to the finals (of course, I'm nervous), I had a very sharp pain across my chest."

"That's when I first really noticed that something could be wrong with my heart. But I passed it off. I figured the pain might have had something to do with my being a heavy smoker and nothing to worry about."

The competitive Mr. Kelly went on to play in the finals and won the match, despite having his most serious heart attack on the handball court.

But as his condition worsened, he began to worry and decided "it was high time" he see a doctor for a complete

physical.

His internist discovered an abnormality in the electrocardiogram. "He wondered why I wasn't flat on my back in bed and ordered me immediately to quit handball, quit all physical activities." The specialist in internal medicine also referred Mr. Kelly to a cardiologist.

He took the treadmill heart stress test. "They had to stop the test: I became completely exhausted." The treadmill indicated serious heart problems to the cardiologist and the need for further diagnostic studies — catheterization and angiography.

Three blood vessels — called the coronary arteries — nourish the heart with oxygenated blood. The tests revealed that two of the three life-sustaining arteries were almost completely blocked.

One coronary artery allowed only 10 percent of the normal blood flow to the heart muscle. The other was 98 percent blocked. Deposits of fatty substances had been building up for years in his coronary arteries.

Life, itself, let alone handball, work and normal activity, no longer seemed certain for the vital, virile 54-year-old Mr. Kelly.

FATHER DIED AT SAME AGE

Fifty-four is not old. But, chillingly, that was the age at which Mr. Kelly's father died. "My father, I think, was bothered with the same thing I had. And, yet, during his day, they couldn't identify it as such. He took a blood thinner the last days of his life."

It was on January 9, 1970, that Edward R. Kelly took his fateful trip through the double doors of the surgery suite at Memorial Hospital Medical Center of Long Beach.

Fifty-six is not old. As a matter of fact, in this year of 1972, Mr. Kelly feels much younger. And, if you didn't know better, you'd never suspect that he was in his fifties or ever had heart trouble.

Can you see him there on the handball court? That's him. The fellow with him is his son. The United States Handball Association reputes them to be one of the best father and son teams playing the game of handball today.

Sure, they're all bathed in sweat. Handball is a tough game and those courts get pretty hot. One of his opponents, the kid on the other team, is only 18 or 19. He'll get better with experience, but the senior Kelly is showing him up now.

They're in the second game of the match — been playing about an hour and a half — and Mr. Kelly is still going strong. Yes, they have breaks. But only three 30-second timeouts each game and two minutes between the first and second games. It could go on for another hour or so if the Kelly team doesn't make it two games in a row . . .

Not bad for a man of 56!

On his most recent treadmill heart stress test, just a few months ago, Mr. Kelly went the full 10 minutes and "I could have done more; the doctor told me the results were excellent."

NEW KIND OF HEART SURGERY

A new kind of heart surgery combined with post-operative modern medical management gave Mr. Kelly the chance people of his father's generation never had, the hope that even people of his own generation could not have had until but a few years ago.

He had everything going for him, not the least of which was his own determination to do his part in restoring and safeguarding his health.

Mr. Kelly's winning battle against coronary disease began January 9, 1970, with open heart surgery called a "saphenous vein bypass" operation. The surgical technique, described in detail in this issue, involves transplant of a portion of saphenous vein from the ankle to the coronary system. One end of the vein is sutured upstream from the blockage in a coronary artery; the other end is implanted directly into the heart muscle. The transplanted saphenous vein, thus, bypasses the blockage in the coronary artery and provides an open channel for blood flow to nourish the heart muscle.

HE HAD DOUBLE BYPASS

In Mr. Kelly's case, with one coronary artery blocked 98 percent and another 90 percent, the heart surgery team used two sections of saphenous vein in a double bypass operation.

He says that he had no doubts about the operation and was sure he would come through OK and overcome his heart ailment. "I had faith — a lot of confidence — in my surgeons . . . I knew about the great reputation of Memorial. After all, Lomita Gas had helped furnish the medical center and two of our officers have served on your boards."

Of course, he remembers nothing of the operation. But he clearly recalls the two days in Intensive Surgical Care: "The Intensive gals were tremendous." And he remembers what it meant to have his family involved in his immediate post-operative recuperation: "I can't say enough about the family. They gave me a lot of support. My wife, Dorothy, particularly, was in constant attendance all the time I was in intensive care. They even fixed it up for her to sleep here (in one of the family rooms off the Memorial lobby)."

Mr. Kelly had surgery on a Friday. "I had set a goal for myself to recover quickly enough to get transferred to a regular hospital room by Sunday so I could watch the Kansas City Chiefs play the Minnesota Vikings in the Super Bowl." He made his goal and spent another 11 days at Memorial.

There was a personal problem — withdrawal from smoking: "I had gotten off cigarettes and the strong pain killers and about the fourth day, I was ready to crawl up the walls." But that, too, passed.

So did a physical problem: "Twice I had my fever break while I was upstairs and both times the nurse on duty was right on top of it and took action to correct it. I've nothing but praise for those gals up there; they did a helluva job for me."

HE MAKES STRONG COMEBACK

Now, two and a half years later, the first thing that comes to his mind when asked about his hospitalization is the food: "It was wonderful."

Of his recuperation after leaving Memorial, he recalls: "Well, after about a month I started to really come on fast and my soreness left my chest gradually . . . I started mildly exercising by walking as much as I could, swinging my arms whenever I could. And I reported back to my doctor regularly to let him see how I was getting along."

He yearned to return to an active life. So, when the doctor prescribed Memorial's coronary rehabilitation program he enrolled eagerly:

"The exercises I did helped me recuperate much faster. I was on the (electric exercise) treadmill three times a week and could see the progress I was making on the chart. All of us — there were about a dozen in my class, all heart patients — were interested in each other's progress."

"And the exercises they gave me were quite vigorous and good."

Four months after the operation, Mr. Kelly was strong enough to begin playing handball, "not on a real high competitive basis, but I was smacking the ball around."

SURGERY CHANGED HIS LIFE

Nowadays, Mr. Kelly, West Coast Commissioner of Handball, plays — and beats — handball enthusiasts a third his age and represents the San Pedro YMCA in tournaments. Needless to say, he's also doing very well keeping up with the demands of his job at the athletic club.

His experience with coronary disease and open heart surgery has changed his life:

"I've stayed off cigarettes. I used to smoke two to three packs a day. Now I just smoke a pipe on occasion . . .

"I try to stay away from animal fats as much as possible. I think I've had my share in my lifetime and I just don't require it any more . . .

"Problems? I don't worry about problems as much as I used to. Funny thing about problems, they have a way of solving themselves if you sometimes just back off and wait a little period and not worry about them so much . . ."

He also has learned to pace himself better and give his hardworking body the rest it needs: "I'm very religious about having a good eight hours rest every night."

Until the painful heart attack on the handball court in 1969, the overwhelming fatigue that made him feel prematurely old, and the realization that his life was threatened, Mr. Kelly took heart health for granted.

Routine physical exams, abstinence from smoking, restriction of fat in the diet, adequate rest, regular exercise (not sporadic bursts of energy), and a new way of coping with stress are now part of his life. He wishes that he had made all this part of his life earlier, that young people wouldn't have to learn his lessons the hard way. "But it's a little hard to get through to them," he observes. "They have their own ideas about life."

Thanks to skilled health professionals and the advances of modern medicine at Memorial Hospital Medical Center, Mr. Kelly has been given another chance.

"In a way," he muses, "it is like being reborn. I have a deeper appreciation for life now. I've thoroughly enjoyed the last two years. And I'm going to make the most of whatever time I have left."

All-Time Great Vic Hershkovitz On Serve

By VIC HERSHKOWITZ

The serve is the most important shot in handball because it puts one on the offensive immediately.

More than that, it may give you an immediate point on an ace. If it doesn't and if it is a good serve, it will bring a weak return, possibly setting up a point on a kill, passing shot or some other unreturnable shot.

For this reason, it is vital to develop a strong serve. By this I do not mean an extremely fast or vicious shot. There are many effective methods of getting the ball into play, and each player must "sort" them out until he finds the one best adapted to his physique, age, and style of game. Walter Plekan was the master of the placement and hook shot service, Angelo Trulio did his best work with an overhand high serve, Ken Schneider and Gus Lewis serve underhand with plenty of "cut" on the ball.

Mix Them Up

It is important, I believe, to vary the speed of service, as well as the general type. Plekan always kept his opponent off balance, for example, by mixing them up, much as a baseball pitcher mixes his delivery. Some of his most decisive points were slow serves that hugged the wall or — after he had served consistently to the left court — a slow ball that got lost in the right corner.

If you can get a player all tensed up, ready for a hard serve down the left side and then give him a soft one down the right, you've thrown him off balance.

If you've fed him a steady diet of high Scotch twists and then throw in a sudden fast, low ball, he can't possibly be ready unless he's psychic.

I don't mean by this that you must try to master ALL the serves, but after settling on the basic service best suited to your game, work to develop subtle variations within that general framework.

Execution of Serve

In my case, the serve is a hard one, usually quite low and short. To execute this serve with the right hand, I face the right wall with my feet parallel to the wall and my shoulders in alignment with my feet. I stand about midway between walls and thus do not disclose which side I am going to serve to, while at the same time I am in position for the return.

Placement of the ball is controlled by the hips, shoulder, and arms — not by

NOTE: Vic Hershkovitz — a legend in his time. The all-time national title record holder accumulated in one, three and four-wall. We repeat his fine treatise on "The Serve" as written by Joe Petritz. Knowledgeable handballers will all agree that the serve can spell the difference between victory and defeat. Probably the foundation of one-wall play helped Vic in developing a serve that quickly thrust him in the national four-wall championship class within two years after moving to that game.

the alignment of the feet. To align the feet differently for serves to the left or right is to tip off in advance where the serve is going, and no unnecessary help should be given the opponent!

Whether the ball is to go shallow or deep depends not on the height from which the ball is dropped but on the follow through. I usually drop the ball from a height of about 18 inches. This is quite low and many fine players drop it from greater heights. Trulio, for example, with his overhand service, bounced the ball above his head and hit it when it was level with the top of his head. A Scotch twist is hit at about shoulder height.

Hop Ball Both Ways

The hop and twist are applied solely through wrist action. The follow through of hips, shoulder, and arm control the speed of the ball.

The question has come up whether the ball should always be made to hop toward the wall, depending on whether one is serving to the left or right court. My answer is that it should be made to hop both ways to both courts because the main objective is to confuse your opponent to your own advantage. Keep him guessing by varying the direction of the serve, the direction of the hop, and the speed of the serve. Keep him off balance at all times.

Some strong servers will try for a "crotch shot" almost every time, i.e., a shot that hits the crotch where wall meets floor and comes out as a kill. This, I believe is poor policy, because there is a certain element of luck to this shot and when it is not properly controlled, it may come off the wall as a setup.

"Handcuff Opponent"

It is more desirable to try to hit a twist shot that will break into the receiver, "handcuffing" him . . . but you have to study him closely to decide where he is going to be at a given time, and even so he may anticipate your shot or be agile enough to get into position for a fair return. In any case, when trying to handcuff your opponent, be sure the ball is low enough so that it doesn't come off the back wall as a setup shot.

In mixing up your serves as to general direction and direction of hop, don't become so engrossed in the game or so tense that you are trying to murder every serve. A major league pitcher who concentrates on sheer speed is soon in the showers — unless he is Sandy Koufax or Bob Feller in his prime.

And remember, there are times when there is much more spin on a let-up service than a fast one, and the hop will break very sharply, again keeping the opponent off balance.

Age No Factor

Age has nothing in particular to do with the type of serve you choose. Some of the older players still have very powerful serves. If you're the slender type and don't exercise much it would probably be better to concentrate on a high lob serve against the wall or the Scotch twist — something that will not cause you to throw your arm out. Each individual must find the type of serve that he can perfect to the greatest extent, the type that gives him the best results within the limits of his ability, age, and stamina.

Some players go in for pushups and pulley exercises to build up their arms. I have found that I can get enough strength just by playing handball and more handball. Weight-lifting, push-ups, and such exercises are likely to bind the shoulders and lessen the freedom of one's swing, in my opinion.

Lots Of Action

Nor do I do anything special to condition my hands — except play lots of handball. I have heard of players soaking their hands in brine, adding padding or tape to their gloves and hands, etc. But continuous play will toughen the hands sufficiently, I believe. Almost any kind of glove is adequate without the addition of

tape. I use tape only to protect a cut or bruise against infection.

Rest, I've found, is the best thing for a sore arm. If the condition becomes chronic, however, it would be well to see a chiropractor. The best protection against sore arms is the pre-game warmup — sufficient to loosen the muscles and to work up a slight sweat — and stopping play when the arm begins to feel dead and tired. The latter applies to "fun" games, of course; it is not always possible to stop in tournament play, and you have to take the chance that you'll get by all right without lasting damage.

Like Golf Swing

For the underhand serve the backswing should be similar to a golf backswing in that the muscles of the back "wind up" and the hips pivot. The arm is extended at about a 45-degree angle. Also, as in golf, the head is the pivoted point, and you keep your eye on the ball until after you have hit it.

Now, it is possible to keep your eye on a spot and still move your head, so my advice is to point your chin at the spot where you're going to drop the ball, and keep it pointed at that spot until you are well into your follow through. Remember that important tip — point your chin!

Paranetically, let me say that the top players all watch the ball at all times, never taking anything for granted. If you follow the flight of the ball until your opponent has struck it, you will know whether it's being angled and at what height it's being hit — and thus you get the jump on the ball. Then you can usually be in position to return it.

To apply hop to the ball, one must either cut under the ball, twisting the wrist in a clockwise direction (for right-handed players) to apply spin so that the ball "takes off" to the left or have your hand roll over the ball to apply reverse spin and make the ball bounce to the right. The opposite "English" results for left-handed players.

Meeting The Ball

Many players have asked me where the ball meets my hand and just how twist or hop is applied.

To put natural hop on a serve, the ball meets my hand on the heel or on the thumb and first finger, the hand being cupped to the same degree for all shots. To cut the ball to the right, I hit the ball in the meaty part between the first and second fingers and roll my wrist over so that it covers the ball. For a left hop, I hit the ball in the same spot and roll my wrist under it, in a clockwise direction. (All of this again is for right-handed serves, and opposite hop results when you shift to the left hand).

N.Y.'s Lewis-Lott vs Decatur-Russo in Phil. Exhibition

BY KEN SMOLACK

Philadelphia, "The City of Brotherly Love", was the site of a fine doubles exhibition Nov. 11. The event was scheduled to honor Leon Levin, USHA lifetime member, former outstanding player himself and now a most enthusiastic fan. Marty Decatur and Lou Russo played two games against Fred Lewis and Steve Lott. Lewis and Lott, two-time USHA national doubles runnersup, won a come-from-behind first game that lasted about an hour, 21-19. All the players set a very fast pace, leading to great shots and retrieves.

The capacity crowd at the newly-remodeled downtown YMCA court, many of whom had never seen such top talent, was spellbound by the action. In the second game Lou and Marty jumped off very fast with great serves, especially from Decatur, and some of the flatest kills ever. Fred and Steve came back to within six points to 9-15, but then Lou and Marty ran it out.

The Central YMCA converted two old 25x48 courts to the standard 20x40. It was a real pleasure for all the players and myself to come in from New York to honor Leon. Leon has been a great supporter of handball and one of our dearest friends. He later hosted a fantastic dinner for all of us (including Phylis Decatur, Brenda Russo, Bob and Shirley Most, Bobby and Joanne Newman, Mrs. Levin and their family).

I wish to thank my friend Steve Lott for replacing me, bowing out due to a case of mononucleosis. We gave Steve short notice and he had to cancel other pressing commitments to help us out and save the exhibition. He came through and I greatly appreciate it.

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THE MEATBALL CORNER

By KEN SMOLACK

The Jack Marks tournament held at the West Side YMCA was a rousing success. Many people helped make this tourney run smooth and financially successful enough to award air fare tickets to the winners for the national USHA championships in Austin next March 3-10. I wish to publicly thank Lou Shapiro, Irv Leff, Leon Levin, George Reichner, Spalding handball company, the USHA, Y physical directors, Rod Brown and Dave Wetcher, and our tournament committee of Frank Cataldo, Richie Greenwald, Fred Munsch and Bill Kennedy . . . for the support and work necessary to make this competition a smash hit. The only difficulties we ran into was competition from two other tournaments . . . plus injuries to key players Marty Decatur and Marty Katzen.

All things considered we had a very fine field in this first effort and most of the matches were very good ones. Next year we would like to run this event again, but instead of limiting it to Metro New York residents make it open to anyone.

In the October Handball Magazine, page 14, there is a message from National Commissioner Ken Schneider. In the next to last paragraph is the following sentence: *"In open competition the only consideration given for past performances is a seed and nothing else, during the course of play."* This line of Ken's bears merit and should be thought of when drawing up a tournament. The National USHA one-wall tournament committee seems to have a different opinion. This year's singles tournament is a prime example. Steve Sandler was defending champion and Ruby Obert took fourth place the previous year. Therefore, if all the top players returned it stands to reason that Steve would get the No. 1 seed and Ruby No. 4. This did not happen. The seed matched Obert vs. Sandler in the round of 16. Not only did they not give Ruby his deserved seed but they also gave him a very strong opponent, Al Torres, in the round of 32. This practice is very unfair, not only to Ruby, but to Sandler and Torres and the rest of the players. Things like this have been going on for too long at the USHA one-wall nationals and it is about time something should be said about it.

I did not attend any matches at the national one-wall but I am pleased with the results. Ken Ginty won his second national one-wall juniors, and the way he is improving he will be a strong factor in all three phases of our game. The sweep of the singles and doubles by Wally Ulbrich is just the right thing to revitalize one-wall, which has been stagnant due to a lack of competition for Steve Sandler in the last few years. With a young group of players such as Ulbrich, Levine, Goldfarb and Ginty coming up, one-wall will become big league again — providing there will be progressive leadership and a desire to move with the times.

Wally has been on the threshold for years and he really must have put things together. He is a fine player who gives

his most on the court. Wally is a fine sport and wants to win — not off it or in discussions with referees. I hope Wally renews his efforts to take up both three-wall and four-wall, in which he can become a top player. I remember rooming with him during the 1964 Juniors in San Diego (Kona Kai Club) and was most pleasant to be with. My only complaint with him then was that I had to play him early (in the round of 16) and he almost beat me. In fact he was the roughest of the foes up to the final round meeting with Denny Hofflander of Chicago.

An exhibition will take place Nov. 11 at the Central Y in Philadelphia. This exhibition honors Leon Levin, that grand man of the game in the "City of Brotherly Love". The match will be amongst four imports of Castle Hill: Marty Decatur, Lou Russo, Fred Lewis and Ken Smolack. Marty and Lou will team against Fred and I. The games are being held at the Central Y, recently renovated from 25x48 to standard 20x40. We hope this exhibition and whatever clinic we put on helps renew interest in Philadelphia's handball and possibly an Eastern USHA divisional in the near future.

* * *

Plans are going very well for the Nov. 30th Helms Hall of Fame dinner-exhibition honoring initiates Jim Jacobs and Oscar Obert. The event will be held at the New York A.C. with an exhibition between the "Marvelous Midgets" — Lou Russo and Terry Muck. Present at this event will be four other Hall of Famers — Bob Kendler, Charlie O'Connell, Vic Hershkowitz and Angelo Trulio. Hopefully, Hall of Famer Ken Schneider (our national commissioner) will find a way to attend. I wish to personally thank Joe Ingrassia for making this coming event a reality.

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Muck Over Neveau in Tri-City Open

Fourth Annual Tri-City Open Singles Tournament was held at the Port Edwards YMCA Sept. 22-24. 48 players made up the Open Division and 16 players made up the Masters Division. 30 players' entries had to be rejected because of the limited (3 courts) facilities.

The following players placed in the various divisions:

OPEN DIVISION — 1st Place — Terry Muck (St. Paul); 2nd Place — Ray Neveau (Oshkosh); 3rd Place — Zeke Zaletel (Joliet); 4th Place — Orley Brown (LaCrosse).

MASTERS DIVISION — 1st Place — Bud Koehnke (Appleton); 2nd Place — Jerry Cronin (Milwaukee); 3rd Place — Craig Chapleau (Milwaukee); 4th Place — Frank Radigan (Wausau).

MASTERS CONSOLATION — 1st Place — Roy DeMeyer (Chicago); 2nd Place — John Mohan (St. Paul).

"A" OPEN CONSOLATION — 1st Place — Mark Simpson (Milwaukee); 2nd Place — John Bigley (LaCrosse).

"B" OPEN CONSOLATION — 1st Place — Jim Ward (LaCrosse); 2nd Place — Wilmer Anderson (Madison).

OPEN DIVISION — *Quarter-finals* — Neveau over Reiting (21-16, 21-10); Brown over Koenig (21-7, 21-13); Zaletel over Maly (21-10, 21-19); Muck over Bauerly (21-14, 21-7).

Semi-finals — Neveau over Brown (21-12, 21-7); Muck over Zaletel (10-21, 21-19, 21-17).

Finals — MUCK OVER NEVEAU (21-17, 21-7).

3rd Place — ZALETEL OVER BROWN (21-10, 6-21, 21-5).

MASTERS DIVISION — *Semi-finals* — Cronin over Chapleau (21-16, 21-9); Koehnke over Radigan (21-6, 21-3).



BIG RAY SERVES against Terry Muck in 4th Annual tournament held at Port Edwards, Wisconsin YMCA. Muck, outweighed 100 pounds, proved once again that size is not the ultimate factor in our four walls and ceiling.

Finals — KOEHNKE OVER CRONIN (21-17, 15-21, 21-9).

3rd Place — CHAPLEAU OVER RADIGAN (forfeit).

MASTERS CONSOLATION — *Finals* — DEMEYER OVER MOHAN (21-19, 21-3).

"A" OPEN CONSOLATION — *Finals* — SIMPSON OVER BIGLEY (21-8, 21-14).

"B" OPEN CONSOLATION — *Finals* — WARD OVER ANDERSON (21-4, 21-16).

BILL NELSON

Game Progresses In Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

It has been almost a year since the Coeur d'Alene (Idaho) Athletic Club opened here in the Lake City. We have recently completed our second tournament and had a swell turnout with 24 entries. Trophies were awarded for first and second place. Dave Daboll took first place while John Stone took second. Many of the new players have really progressed, and there were a lot of good, hard games played throughout a two-day stretch. We have been playing handicap tournaments so both old and new players have an even chance at first place.

We hope to have a doubles tournament soon and also a singles class tournament.

Keep up the good work. Glad to see Racquetball has their own magazine. Good luck to them.

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Beaumont-Lake Charles Intercity Matches Held

Although Southwest Louisiana is not exactly on the tournament circuit we have found a way to participate in the fun and excitement of competition handball. On October 28 a nine-man team from Lake Charles packed their "gear", complete with Bengay and honey, and travelled to Beaumont, Texas, for a day's match with the Beaumont "Y" team. For expediency, we played 31-point matches, both singles and doubles. Lake Charles "squeaked by" with 5 out of 9 singles matches and 3 out of 4 doubles.

In our singles matches: Mike Cokinos (B) beat Frank Fuller 31-4; Britt Bell defeated Jim LeBoeuf 31-9; Bill Pharr (LC) edged Steve Bell 31-30; Doug Anger (B) jumped Woody Watson 31-10; Frank Ingraham (LC) defeated L.M. Boy 31-24; Jerry Faaborg (B) pushed past Stan Warburton 31-29; Don Wallace (LC) squeaked by Charles Parks 31-30; David Reinauer (LC) beat Mike Matheny 31-16; and Jes Stewart (LC) won over Bill Knight 31-25.

In doubles, the Bell brothers of Beaumont defeated Watson and LeBoeuf 31-27; Fuller and Ingraham (LC) beat Aokinos and Anger 31-18; Pharr and Warburton slipped by Coy and Jerry Marshall 31-25; while Reinauer and Wallace won over Parks and Knight 31-12.

FRANK N. INGRAHAM

Alvis Grant Still Dallas A.C. 'Top Gun'

Alvis Grant, playing his usual steady game on the Dallas A.C. courts, defeated Bob Roberts 21-20, 21-10 to win the club championship. Alvis is still a hard man to beat on these courts he plays so well and has played on for so many years.

Jim Chambers won the "A" Championship by defeating Dave Wicker 20-21, 21-10, 21-6.

Al Schell won the "B" Championship by defeating Don Reichl 21-16, 21-10.

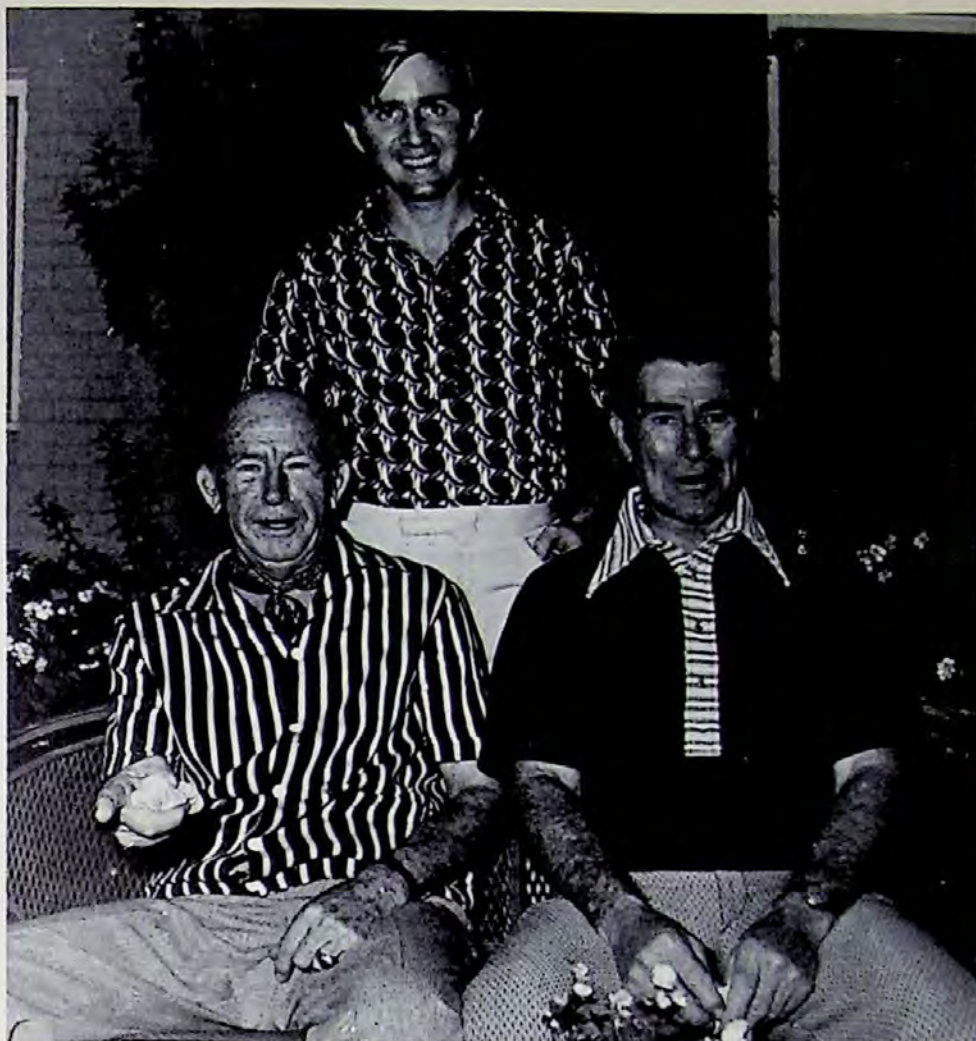
The "C" Championship was won by Ron McCutchin who defeated Tom Warren by the scores of 21-20, 21-13.

"AA" Doubles was won by Bob Roberts and Sam Albright over Jules Fine and Paul Albright 21-15, 21-12.

Al Schell and Ray Hunt won the "B" Doubles Championship by defeating Richard Cate and Don Reichl 21-15, 21-16.

Ron McCutchin and Henry Morgan, Jr. won the "C" Championship over Tom Warren and Randy Kreiling 21-16, 21-17.

DAVID HODGES
Athletic Director



CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA HANDBALLERS enjoy garden party. Seated (l to r) — Veterans Jack Spiers (who 'spearheads' Charlotte court promotions), and Eddie Sloan, an all-time ice cream champ and Southern best in the 50's. Standing — Host Rex Welton.

Rex Welton, and his lovely wife Linda added a new dimension to Charlotte handball just a few days ago. They dreamed up a covered dish garden party as a surprise to veteran handballers.

Handball players in Charlotte must be the best fed people in North Carolina as attested to by the variety and excellence of the dishes prepared. Tables set in spacious garden were crammed with goodies that were quickly crammed into players with great gusto. No leftovers after the hungry group got going.

This sort of get-together for handbal-

lers has been needed for years and all of us are happy that Linda and Rex got the ball bouncing. Incidentally Rex is a co-holder with Heath Houie of the Carolina doubles crown.

The Jack Spiers Handball League got under way Oct. 2 with eight teams of seven players each. This group is contributing to the Perpetuation Fund as outlined in the last issue of HANDBALL. We are having Fun for the FUND.

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Hall of Famer Bob Brady Passes Away

Pride of San Francisco Olympic Club Was 1953 USHA Singles Champion;
Later Won Masters Doubles Titles With Bill Keays and Bob McGuire

By ANGELO DI FALCO

The other day I sat quietly in my sweaty duds in Coach Mike de la Pena's office, cooling off slowly after a rugged match. I let my eyes wander for the umpteenth time over the memorabilia in his office that so vividly portray the history of handball at the Olympic Club. They were all there, these mementoes of a glorious past: Joe Murray getting a deserved hero's welcome at the Ferry building; the incomparable Basque, Al Banuet; Jack Clements making it nationally; Bob Brady doing battle with Vic Hershkovitz in one frame and with Jimmy Jacobs in another; the black and white snapshots of so many great guys I had come to know through the years of playing handball.

This time around though I realized how much of a shock Bob Brady's recent death was: it just didn't seem possible that anyone who could excel in a sport as much as Bob did in handball could be felled in the prime of life by a terminal illness. It just seemed the other day, for crying out loud, that Bob was in the court whacking hell out of the ball and smashing in the lowest kill shots you ever did see. Wasn't it just a couple of weeks ago that he teamed up to win a statewide police tournament double's title? But then I remembered what kind of a fighter Brady was, the kind of a guy who even though he knew he had a fatal illness for the last couple of years still wouldn't knuckle under.

And then I realized what it was about Bob Brady that stamped him so sharply in my mind through the years I knew him. Yes of course it was his brilliance and skill that stamped him as one of the greatest handball virtuosos of all time, a worthy member of handball's hall of fame; and yes, too, it was his many moments of glory that I shared vicariously, thankful for the unforgettable thrills he had provided me. But most of all I realized that Bob had left me and everyone who knew him the memory of the fiercest competitor we had ever known, the kind of a guy who would try to beat you everytime 21-0 if he could, the kind of a guy who never stopped believing he still had a fighting chance against any kind of odds.

As I slowly peeled my gloves off finger

by finger, I could almost recapture the intense excitement of probably Bob's finest athletic hour, the time back in 1957 when the Olympic Club resounded to such a pandemonium those present will never forget the electricity, the heart-in-throat delirium, the afraid-to-breathe tension and finally, unbelievably the explosion of a frenetic, uncontrolled, overwhelming roar as Olympians pounded each other in back-splitting intensity—that was the day Bob just wouldn't be denied, when he literally clawed his way back from the brink of apparent defeat to stun the fabulous Jimmy Jacobs with a come-from-behind win in the third and deciding game of their match for the AAU national title.

Probably the happiest person anywhere that memorable day had to be Marge Brady. She was not only Bob's devoted wife, the mother of his two fine youngsters; she was his greatest fan, always present to root him home to another win. And as I slouched tiredly in the battered old armchair in Mike de la Pena's office, God, I thought, it must be horribly rough on Marge and Bobby and Maureen right now. It just didn't seem right, somehow, that a guy should be struck down in the prime of life. Man, I realized, Bob was only just 50, he had so many good years ahead of him yet, wouldn't you think? And finally all I could do, as I had done when my own kid brother had recently been killed by a heart attack, was thank God at least for the excellence of the years he had granted him.

And with that I stood up, now not so tired as I was just moments ago. Yes, those picture on Mike's office walls sure told much of the saga of Bob Brady. They showed Bob in his many moments of triumph: in 1947 the AAU junior singles champion in Hollywood; 1951 in Philadelphia as the AAU open singles champion and, with his longtime friend in the courts and in the police department, Bill Keays, the AAU open doubles champion; Houston in 1953 where he became the USHA open singles champion; San Francisco in 1957; with Gene McAtter in 1958 as Canadian open doubles champion; 1963 and 1970 he and Keays as the USHA masters doubles champions; 1967 through 1970 the same duo as the YMCA national masters dou-

'Mr. Competitor'

JIM JACOBS: "I was shocked to hear of Bob's untimely passing. He was truly a tremendous competitor and an asset to our game."

...

VIC HERSHKOWITZ: "It shakes me up to hear of Bob Brady's leaving us. It seems like yesterday when we were battling each other and it was always physically exhausting."

...

BOB KENDLER: "Bob was an all-time great, and certainly gave the 120 per cent effort at all times. My heart goes out to Marge and his two children."

bles champions; with fellow Olympian Bob McGuire in St. Louis in 1968 as USHA masters doubles champions.

What a magnificent catalogue of triumphs, I thought. Small wonder indeed Bob was admitted to the prestigious Handball Hall of Fame in 1967, just one of a small handful of men to make it.

Yes, I thought, as I rather pensively lingered just one more time over the great pictures on Mike's office walls, Bob really had a fiery, indomitable will to win. And as I turned for the door, I let my hand rest one more time on the trophy that has the Brady name etched in an impressive succession of years as the Olympic Club's singles and doubles champion, something like an unbelievable 30 times.

And finally, as I closed the door behind me, I remembered the awe-inspired tribute the trophy's engraved litany had evoked. In a happier, more distant time I had been in Mike's office when a telephone repairman had looked at the trophy's names in silent wonder and had finally remarked to me in passing, "Man, this guy Brady must really be something."

That he was indeed, friends, that he was indeed.

Right — Bob Brady in his prime, representing the San Francisco Olympic Club, tabbed by Angelo Trulio as "Bullet Bob". LOWER LEFT — With Bill Keays, his two-time USHA Masters doubles champion partner and life-long police department friend. LOWER RIGHT — Bob with the late J. Frank Knill, foremost handball commissioner of the San Francisco Olympic Club, who brought Bob under the Club's banner.



Three-Wall Courts in Spain? ? ? Sorry – Camouflage For Apartments



MORT THE SPORT... while vacationing in Southern Spain came across this unique building... at first it looked like there would be some 3-wall handball action to be discovered... but, alas, on frontal view we found



apartment complexes... they could still use those outer walls for one-wall. An interpreter might let us know what the bull figure and 'Seghers Pueblo' means.

Diener Wins 1st Janesville Y Singles

The first annual Janesville YMCA Fall open singles tournament was sponsored by Ken Wier, was held this past Oct. 27-29. It was said by many to be one of the finest tournaments ever played here with players coming from all over Wisconsin and also out of state. Players came from Milwaukee, Madison, Fond du Lac, Rockford, Ill., Racine, Kenosha, Winona, Minnesota, Port Edwards, and LaCrosse.

Robert Diener, Fond du Lac, won the very hard-played tournament. Diener had to play five matches within three days as did Ernie Virgili, Kenosha, who lost to Diener in the finals. The tournament started Friday afternoon with Diener defeating Dennis Campbell, Janesville, in the first round and then won over Stan Samuels, Madison, in the second round Saturday morning. Saturday afternoon he met Bob Anderson Racine, in the quarter-finals and it was one of the finest matches to be played in the tournament. Anderson is three time past State champion. In his semi-final game, Diener played Joe Bukant, Milwaukee, who plays football for the Red Devils. Diener won the first game and the second was

a tie 12-12 when Bukant got hit in the eye by the ball and had to forfeit the match. That put Diener in the finals against Virgili. Diener had a very powerful right and left handed kill shots and Virgili was not able to drive him into the back court. Virgili defeated Jim Peters, Madison, in his first round, then won over Mike Lambeseder, Fond du Lac, in his second round match. In his quarter-final match, he defeated Bob Luchsinger, Janesville. His semi-final match with Dan Behr, Rockford, Sunday morning, was one of the best matches ever to be seen here.

The other two matches were Diener vs. Anderson and Bill Nelson of Port Edwards vs. Bukant in a quarter-final match with Bukant winning only to fall to Diener.

John Nett, Winona, Minn., won the consolation finals defeating Bill Gustafson, Rockford, Ill.

Janesville handball players in the tournament were: Ray Leverenz, Don Ryan, Howard Timmermann, Tom Haye, Mel Blowers, Dennis Campbell, Herb Jaeger, and Bob Luchsinger.

MEL BLOWERS

Vern Roberts Wins Lake Forest Juniors

Vern Roberts Jr., of the Cincinnati handball family, now a freshman at Lake Forest College, won the Central Division USHA Juniors. Vern beat Steve Adelman, St. Louis, 1970 national under-15 junior champ, 21-3, 21-10, Nov. 25 at the Lake Forest College facility.

There were 19 entries, including three sets of brothers — Barry and Billy Goldstein, St. Louis; Vern and his brother, Jack; and the 14-year-old Buckley twins, Pat and Mark, of Chicago.

Paul Haber beat Fred Lewis in a special exhibition the night of Nov. 25, 21-13, 21-13. Haber switched from his usual lob serve and ceiling game to a crowd pleasing hard serve and more aggressive shooting.

HINDER!!! Terrorists Bomb Handball Club In Argentina

Rosario, Argentina

Terrorists blew up the Rosario Handball Club yesterday after locking a guard and four members in an office.

They were not injured but the club building, located in the downtown area, was badly damaged. Authorities said discarded pamphlets indicated the dynamiters were members of a leftist guerrilla group but they gave no further information.

Terrorist groups bombed four country clubs in various cities last fall in a campaign they claimed was directed against Argentina's "oligarchy."

Associated Press

Get INSIDE HANDBALL Free

Sign up four NEW USHA members and receive FREE a copy of Paul Haber's INSIDE HANDBALL. Attach this to your letter with names and addresses. New members will receive Jim Jacobs painting as bonus, and coverage through 1973—all for \$3. Coverage through 1975 for \$7.

'Pink Ball' Phase Of One-Wall Again Successful

By HOWARD KING

The Pink Ball-One Wall tournament which has been held at the Brownville Boys Club for the last several years, is very exciting and interesting for most of the participants. The tournament is held each year around the first week of October and is one of the largest tournaments held in New York.

Some of the fellows have never played in a tournament before, and it's enjoyed by all.

I, Howard King, was introduced to the tournament about six years ago. The second year I played I came in third, and

the year after I won first place. If a player wins first one year, he is not eligible for winning until after two years. This is to give each and every player an equal chance. Fellows win trophies from 18 to 24 inches tall.

Some of the members in the tournament like Tony Quintero and Morris Franco put in about two months preparing for this event; going from Brooklyn, Bronx, Manhattan, Queens and Staten Island to help make this tournament a success. There were approximately 50 to 100 applications that these committee members signed up.

Next year the tournament may be held

in another borough to introduce and help interest others in this great extravaganza.

Quarter finals: Gilbert Gonzales beat Teddy Olds 25 — 5; Morris Franco beat Steve Selbst 25 — 5; Alan Randano beat Al Torres 25 — 25; Al Torres beat Keith Williams 25 — 6; Steve Leventhal beat Danny DeLoach 25 — 18; Rafael Santiago beat Anibal Torres 31 — 0.

Semi-finals: Torres beat Leventhal 21 — 11; 21 — 12; 14 — 21. Santiago beat Franco 21 — 18; 21 — 10; 5 — 21.

Finals: Santiago lost to Torres 21 — 15; 21 — 13.

Steve Leventhal took third place over Morris Franco 31 — 30.

Capsule Rundown On Four-Week One-Wall Nationals

By DAN FLICKSTEIN

During the late 60's readers of December issues of ACE (now HANDBALL) became accustomed to studying the results of the USHA one-wall tournament and finding: Steve Sandler - Champion; Howie Eisenberg - Runner-up. Names of doubles and Masters doubles victors also became repetitious as year after year the same players proved their superiority on the courts. As we approached the 70's the name Eisenberg was replaced, to some extent, by Mark Levine and the youngster surged his way to the 1971 finals.

But 1972 was a freak! It was filled with so many highlights that your reporter has seen fit to overlook general tournament play in deference to those events which, because of their unusual occurrence, provide special interest particularly to one-wall enthusiasts.

SINGLES — 1. WALLY ULBRICH — CHAMPION.

Certainly it is not unusual to see this name in the winner's circle of the doubles tournament. But it was unique to see the tight-lipped, strong-slugging Ulbrich emerge as singles champion. His quarter-final finish in 1971, however, might have been an indication of things to come. And 1972 certainly verified that! Picturesque in form, somewhat reminiscent of a young Oscar Obert, Wally annihilated all competition. He was most impressive in his 21-0, 21-2 win over Marcel Goldfarb in the semi-finals. Goldfarb, a fine one-waller, never had a chance. A deep, two-way hook, breaking at blinding speed was Ulbrich's chief weapon. And even when the ball was returned, Wally merely poised himself at the wall to literally roll

out kill shots with awesome power. Throughout the entire match the new champion made only three errors. He has surely fulfilled the potential he demonstrated as a youth in Erasmus Hall High School in Brooklyn.

2. CHARLIE SHELDON — RUNNER-UP.

It was a pleasant surprise to all to find likable Charlie "Bananas" (so nicknamed because he eats a banana or other fruit between games) in the finals. Sheldon has always been a tough match for everyone because of his endurance, maneuverability, and sure-handedness. However, he has never had a strong service (In one-wall some experts feel the service is worth at least 70 per cent) in fact he serves over-hand. Charlie has rarely made it as far as the quarter-finals. This year was no exception for Charlie's serve, but his court-game and determination were stronger than ever. He eliminated, in brilliant fashion, John Reicher, who played one of his finest tournaments. Then, in what was expected to be his toughest match, he downed Mark Levine in three grueling games. And finally, as a big underdog again, he defeated Howie Eisenberg in a hard-fought, tense three-game struggle. Charlie has always had the fans' and players' friendships; now he also has their respect!

3. HOWIE EISENBERG — FOURTH PLACE.

As it had become expected to see Howie's name in the runner-up column in the 60's, it was beginning to become commonplace to learn that he had been eliminated in the early rounds of the tournament. A last-minute entry this fall, Howie seemed, momentarily, to many to be favored to win his first singles championship after Steve Sandler had been

defeated. But Sheldon outlasted Howie's pounding and service which, although still excellent, are not the same equipment he brought to the game a decade ago.

4. STEVE SANDLER — DEFEATED IN QUARTER FINALS.

Perhaps the greatest one-waller of all time, Sandler was upset by young Marcel Goldfarb. We cannot, however, give Marcel all the credit for this victory. Sandler, in a prior match with Ruby Obert, sustained an injury to his chest which made it difficult for him to swing either of his arms. An interesting match might have materialized, for a healthy Sandler was slated to meet Ulbrich in the semi-finals. And the way Wally played — anything might have happened.

5. Some other highlights of lesser consequence were: a) Marcel Goldfarb's third place finish; b) Ruby Obert's 31-30 win over Al Torres; c) Neil Bocian's victory over favored Mike Dikman.

DOUBLES — WALLY ULBRICH AND MARK LEVINE — CHAMPIONS.

While we missed the reflexes and retrieves of Artie Reyer, we must praise Wally Ulbrich on his selection of an alternate partner while Reyer recuperates from an Achilles tendon injury. Levine complemented Wally's style perfectly with steady playing, excellent returns, and a variety of cute shots of his own. Certainly they are a formidable combination.

2. HOWIE EISENBERG AND RUBY OBERT — RUNNERS-UP.

Arch-rivals for many years, Howie and Ruby made a strong team, combining brute strength and experience. They

(to page 41)



"Tournament time, my foot! Now back to the shop!"

3rd Saginaw YMCA Open Dominated by Out-Of-Staters



SAGINAW Y WINNERS . . . (l to r)
— Dave Revenaugh and George Miller Jr., Toledo YMCA, doubles champs; John Leinweber, Chicagoland, singles top man.

Out-of-Staters won the big prizes in the 3rd Annual Saginaw, Mich., YMCA Open Tournament.

In the Singles Division, John Leinweber, Dolton, Ill., defeated Bob Boyle, Livonia, Mich., in the championship match, 21-6, 21-14. Ken Crespi, Livonia, Mich., won the 3rd place trophy by forfeit over Chuck Dohman, Chicago. Leinweber defeated Crespi 21-9, 21-14, Carl Valentino, Lansing, Mich., defending champion, 21-13, 17-21, 21-6 and J. A. Miller, Toledo, Ohio 21-7, 21-2 on his way to the title. Boyle defeated Dohman 15-21, 21-16, 21-15, Bob Goldsmith 19-21, 21-10, 21-19 and J. E. Miller, Toledo, Ohio 19-21, 21-12, 21-4 to reach the finals. Robert Plater, one of the top players from Detroit and the 1970 champion, was upset in the quarter finals by Dohman, 21-2, 21-9.

In the Doubles Division, George Miller, Jr., and Dave Revenaugh, Toledo, won the title without really being tested. Miller and Revenaugh defeated Dick

Sheldon and Chuck Thornton, Detroit, in the finals, 21-5, 21-9. Tom Brittan and Robert Nemeth, South Bend, defeated Robert Landeryou and Dan Skrzypczak, Saginaw, for 3rd place, 6-21, 21-19, 21-6. Revenaugh and Miller defeated Brittan and Nemeth 21-2, 21-5, Barry Boyd and George Boy, Detroit, 21-7, 21-10 and Larry White and Bob Holmes, Kalamazoo, Mich., 21-14, 21-7 on their way to the title. Thornton and Sheldon defeated Landeryou and Skrzypczak 15-21, 21-20, 21-2, Gene Sheets and Keith Ferguson 21-9, 17-21, 21-7 and Tom Scott and Tim Shay, Kalamazoo, 21-6, 18-21, 21-8 to reach the finals.

52 handballers entered the three-day tournament with players coming from Ohio, New York, Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin, making the Saginaw Open a tough but popular tournament.

EUGENE E. SHEETS
Physical Director,
Saginaw YMCA

N.Y. Broderick Club Fosters Tour To Ireland For Series of Matches

NOTE, The following report of the American handball tour is taken from the Irish Press report of Sept. 29, 1972 and the "Gaelic Weekly" magazine of Nov., 1972, written under the nom-de-plume of "ALLEYMAN," a top reporter of handball news in Ireland.

The Irish-American Handball Association team will fly out from Dublin Airport today, having left many pleasant memories of their fortnight's tour of Ireland's handball centers. Under the guidance of their affable president, Larry Dolan, the team (consisting of nine players: Harry Hyde, Jack Walsh, Larry Dolan, Brendan O'Boyle, Jim Fitzpatrick, Mike Grimes, Leo Simpson, Tom Kirby, and Tom Kessler), came here with the purpose of cementing handball links between Ireland and the United States. The I.A.H.A., organized in 1937 by Irish Sports Writer, Wedger Meagher; Tom Ginty, Tom Gaughran, Eddie Roberts, Johnny McGolderick and Jimmy Smea, who were all top athletes in either Gaelic football, hurling, or handball. The Irish-American Handball Association has been kept alive by Larry Dolan, well-known New York sportsman and columnist.

Dolan, the brains behind this unique trip, has a fanatical interest in handball, and is determined in forming a closer bond between American and Irish athletes. He hopes that an Irish club will see fit to pay a reciprocal visit to the United States as guests of the I.A.H.A. in the near future.

The visiting handballers were not interested in victory as an end in itself. Consequently, the tour developed into a moving carnival of handball, that proved most satisfying for the team and their respective hosts. The sporting decorum of the players both on and off the court certainly proved that point despite the fact that they are accustomed to playing on the smaller U.S. courts, (Broderick's Court, Bronx, New York, being their largest at 23 feet wide by 46 feet long), as opposed to the larger 30 feet wide by 60 feet long Irish style courts. This was particularly evident on the new glass court at Croke Park, Dublin, during the All-Ireland Handball Finals, when Jack Walsh and Harry Hyde who "line out" for the New York A.C. as well as the I.A.H.A., defeated former world and All-Ireland handball champion, Joey Maher and Niall Cahill, after a great match that went three games. (16-21, 21-20, 21-19). Indeed, the magnificent

AMERICAN HANDBALL TOUR RESULTS

	PLAYED	WON	LOST
NEW YORK vs ROSCOMMON	5	2	3
NEW YORK vs TUAMGRANEY—(CLARE)	3	2	1
NEW YORK vs SHANNON—(CLARE)	3	2	1
NEW YORK vs CORK	3	3	0
NEW YORK vs COLLINS BARRACKS—(CORK)	2	2	0
NEW YORK vs DUBLIN	5	4	1
NEW YORK vs WEXFORD	2	1	1
NEW YORK vs MAYO	3	2	1
TOTALS	26	18	8

performance of the Americans again raises the point as to the future of the game here in relation to the size of our Irish courts. It calls for a stated policy by the Irish Handball Council that new courts should be built on the American style. It has now been proven, conclusively, that while American players can readily adjust themselves to our larger type courts, the reverse is certainly not true.

The immediate observation, of course is the complete impracticality of adjusting our game overnight to the American style, for the simple reason that the vast majority of courts here are standardized to the 60 by 30 regulations. However, the smaller court is also the ideal training ground for the ever-increasing number of younger players, and into this category must also be placed the upsurge of interest shown by women in the game.

Dolan, for instance, thinks that we should set our sights on a policy that the small court is the thing of the future, at the same time pointing out, that all new developments should be properly completed with roofing designed to take the ceiling shot, a maple floor and central heating. I would personally go along with this theme for a number of reasons: The most vital, in terms of handball economics, is cost. Where clubs, nowadays, tend to satisfy themselves with the mere essentials of a concrete box and haybarn roofing, they could opt for the smaller building and have it completed with the facilities that would put the game on the plane it deserves.

It is superfluous to say that a small court policy will standardize the game at an international level. In a very short time our representatives would have little fear of the difficulties that now confront them in U.S. and Canadian courts. The theme has been generated by the U.S. team who certainly did not disparage our mode of play, but rather in the words of I.A.H.A.

president, Dolan, enjoyed every minute of it.

The star of the visiting team was undoubtedly Harry Hyde, who still retains all the craft and skill that characterized his play here back in 1957. Rather than disappoint his fans, he played in most matches, even though suffering from the effects of a wasp sting, which eventually compelled him to pull out of the last few matches. When it is realized that the team paid for the tour out of their own pockets, their value as sportsmen and ambassadors of handball is truly appreciated. They have returned home to America secure in the knowledge of having won our hearts and of a job well done.

Before leaving Larry Dolan and Jack Walsh were interviewed over R.T.E. (Irish Radio), by sportscaster Morris Quinn. Afterwards they were entertained at the home of Irish Handball Council President Joseph Jennings at Donnybrook, Dublin.

Larry Dolan's New York address is 14 South Magnolia St., Pearl River, N.Y. 10965.

'Down Under' Next

Larry Dolan reports that the next (1973) world handball championships will be held in Australia. He is hopeful of fostering a move toward the standard U.S. and Canada 20x40 courts so that the competition can develop solidly where all participating nations will play on the same sized courts with the same ball. When the Australian representatives compete they must be handicapped as they don't have the ceiling or back wall, playing mainly the Christian Brothers three-wall game. The Irish have the 30x60 courts with a recent trend toward the installation of our 20x40 courts.

from the KILLSHOT ROOM by Mort Leve

Announce Court Club Association

Now in the formulation stage is the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COURT CLUBS — NACC — whose purpose will be to exchange ideas, better promote our court games of handball, racquetball and paddleball; possibly make reciprocal arrangements, and assist in coordinating tournament and exhibition/clinic dates.

The United States Handball Association and the International Racquetball Association will co-host the first meeting of the newly-organized NACC next March 25-27 at the Chicago Marriott Hotel (located near the O'Hare Field airport). A block of rooms have been reserved along with a meeting room for the weekend dates. A planned program covering such subjects as: Court Club construction . . . gallery courts . . . building products . . . teaching aids . . . membership promotions . . . promotions and publicity . . . and any other facets of the overall Court Club operation will be considered for seminar scheduling.

USHA-IRA will take care of the meeting room, a Friday night reception-dinner, registration, and serve at its headquarter office with the necessary correspondence.

Before going into this new development we talked to several key Court Club owner-operators around the country and received an overwhelmingly enthusiastic reception. Mel Gorham of San Diego: *"I think it's a great idea and you can count on me being there."* Mel should have two more clubs added to his San Diego Sport Center by next year. Art Patch, president of the Milwaukee Handball-Racquetball Club, was also 100 per cent for the organization: *"We need such an organization and I'm sure everyone will benefit from it."*

The Court Clubs are a distinct off-spring of the dual purpose play in our standard 20x40 courts . . . the booming popularity of racquetball along with the continued upswing in handball make the Court Club a most feasible business operation.

There are many players who sing the blues about lack of court time. We contended back in 1968 when the various splinter groups of racquetball asked Bob Kendler to unify the game as he has done with handball that such a move would ultimately bring about a boom in building more court facilities. And, this is just what has happened. Even with new YMCAs, Community Centers, and colleges including courts there is a wide open market for the privately owned and operated Court Clubs. The surface hasn't even been scratched.

The NACC can be very beneficial to our handball and racquetball associa-

tions. We can work directly with the Court Clubs, and already we have gained the dividends of holding USHA and IRA tournaments and exhibitions at such facilities. Gorham's club has been a real center for IRA divisionals and national invitationals. The grand opening at Ben Agajanian's Long Beach A.C. witnessed the second "Hands vs. Racquet" classic and will be the site of our second USHA National Invitational Doubles next Jan. 17-19. We had our biggest and most successful third USHA National Invitational Masters & Golden Masters doubles at the Milwaukee Handball-Racquetball Club (Wauwatosa); the new Court House in suburban Minneapolis will hold the IRA National Invitational singles.

What we want to do now is gain knowledge of ALL existing Court Clubs. We invite such clubs to contact us by phone or letter and we will accumulate an official listing and then issue a formal invitation for NACC membership and participation in the first seminar meeting. We do know of at least 35-40 such facilities now in business.

We also are not overlooking the so-called "Old Line" Athletic Clubs who have strong handball-racquetball programs. Some of our greatest tournaments

have been held at the Washington A.C., Olympic Club, Los Angeles Athletic Club, St. Paul A.C. Invitations will certainly go to these clubs. They do have a National Association of Athletic Club Directors that we could work with.

There are other potential NACC participants . . . Park Districts are becoming increasingly aware of the handball/racquetball market. Just recently the Elmhurst Park District of suburban Chicago opened a complex that includes four courts, along with tennis and an ice rink. We would not rule out handball/racquetball clubs within colleges, vs. Community Centers, or Armed Services in some sort of affiliate type membership.

Communication is the key to progress in this era of the greatest growth court sports have ever known. And, the NACC is an ideal way to get the right messages across to the right people.

Please let us know of new facilities, along with contact names and addresses so we can put them on our mailing list . . . USHA/IRA. 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, Ill. 60076. Phone — Area Code 312. 673 4000.

One of the more interesting developments . . . we received a call recently from an official of the Sheraton Hotel chain. Plans are fully underway for an athletic club that will include handball/racquetball courts in conjunction with a new Sheraton hotel in the suburban Valley Forge area of Philadelphia. The Sheraton corporation has made extensive studies and has come to the conclusion that there is a definite market for the Court Club operation, not only for the hotel guests but also for the residents of this rather plush home owner area. *"We feel that this combined setup involving our guests and the surrounding families will make for a successful club facility. We are not including indoor tennis because there are already such facilities there."*

This is the first time a big hotel setup has gone into this type of addition. The International Village franchise with condominiums thinks along these lines also and has its pilot operation near Ft. Lauderdale (Invenarry — where Jackie Gleason is connected with a golf course complex).

Meanwhile, many of the indoor tennis clubs are beginning to become acutely aware of the handball/racquetball potential and we look for combination additions. Whereas tennis can command \$8 to \$15 or more an hour court rental time handball/racquetball court rentals must be pared down at least half that amount. But, taking into consideration comparative costs of these courts, space requirements . . . there is a real positive business proposition to be had. In addition, those months when the tennis players move outdoors the air conditioned 20x40s can still get a willing clientele, keeping alive the pro shop, bar-restaurant and Court Club activities.

1972-73 TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

Stockton-South End Inter-City Rivalry

For the second consecutive year, the Annual Stockton-South End Rowing Club Invite again proved a resounding success. The tournament, which brings together these two fine handball clubs, is played on a "home and home" mutual invitation basis.

Started last year, the aim of the event has really two objectives: First, to bring together in competition members of both clubs. There are no strict tournament rules and regulations governing the play as competition is kept on an informal and relaxed basis. Secondly, it brings together members, wives and friends of both clubs for a pot-luck barbecue style dinner in the evening.

This year's dinner took place at the home of Stockton Handball Club member, Gary Podesto. The main entree was delicious prime rib cuts and of course there was plenty of the "cold, foamy stuff" to go around. Indeed, a special "thank you" must certainly go to Gary and his wife, Janice, for offering their warm hospitality to us so graciously.

The South Enders participating were the following: SERC Handball Commissioner Al Masyk; SERC President Chuck Waller, SERC National Master's Singles Champion Rudy Stadlberger; Howie Wyrsh, Mark Haskell, Gary Kelley, Mike Dunne, Tom Fleming, Ed Coleman, Frank Wentworth, Al Chaparro, Pete Colichidas, Jay Kent, and Raul Muniz.

The Stockton Handball Club members participating were: SHC President Andy Rapacz; SHC Vice-President Bruce Powel, SHC Secretary Carl Agbulos; SHC Treasurer Tim Cassidy; Jim Oliver, Jim Noreen, Craig Stein, Charles Nisby, Gary Wendell, Nick Patron, Sam Quitiquit, Jim Cassidy, Jack Tone and Gary Podesto.

CARL AGBULOS
Secretary Stockton
Handball Club

Denver . . .

Denver Athletic Club will break ground for their new \$800,000 building end of this year with three handball courts and two squash courts. This will give them a total of six handball courts and the glass exhibition/championship court will seat 300 or more.

The A.C. will co-host the National Juniors Dec. 28-30 with the under-19 age matches up to the semi final round. Semis and finals will then go to the Central YMCA, as will all under-15 and under-17 matches.

DECEMBER, 1972

- 8-15 Denver Central YMCA Masters Doubles, Les Shumate.
- 10-16 USHA Central Masters Doubles, under Ill. Handball Association, West Suburban YMCA, LaGrange, Ill. Joe Ardito, USHA Hqs.
- 28-30 USHA National Juniors, Denver YMCA, Mort Leve, USHA Hqs.

JANUARY, 1973

- 5-7 USHA Top Four Round Robin Singles, Birmingham, Ala. YMCA.
- 6-13 Southern California Assn. Contenders Singles, Hollywood YMCA.
- 6-13 Rocky Mountain Singles, A,B,C, Denver Central YMCA, Les Shumate.
- 12-14 8th Youngstown YMCA Invitational Doubles.
- 17-24 Rocky Mountain Doubles, A,B,C, Denver Central YMCA, Les Shumate.
- 19-21 Second USHA National Invitational Doubles, Long Beach A.C., Mort Leve, USHA Hqs.
- 26-28 Central Division—Shreveport YMCA, Dr. Cecil Lloyd.
- 28- Central USHA Doubles, under Ill. Handball Assn., Evanston YMCA (Ill.)
- Feb. 3 Joe Ardito, USHA Hqs.

FEBRUARY, 1973

- 2-4 USHA Divisionals—
 - East Division, YMCA, Paterson, N.J.
 - South—Clearwater, Fla. YMCA
 - Rocky Mountain—Phoenix YMCA and Tempe Swim & Tennis Club.
 - West—Olympic Club, San Francisco.
 - Northwest—Washington A.C., Seattle.
- 9-11 27th George Lee Invitational, Dallas A.C.
- 9-11 Central Intercollegiate Division, Lake Forest College (Ill.), Mike Dau, Athletic Dept., Lake Forest College, Ill. 60045. \$5 entry fee.
- 10-11 First State Doubles, Central YMCA, Wilmington, Del., Bob Lawson.
- 10-17 Southern California Assn. Contenders Doubles, Pasadena YMCA.
- 10-17 Central USHA Singles, under Ill. Handball Assn., Northwest Suburban YMCA, Des Plaines, Ill. Joe Ardito, USHA Hqs.
- (mid-Feb.) Evergreen Invitational Doubles, Olympic A.C., Portland, Nick Rocco.
- 15-18 Second Annual USHA Masters and Golden Masters singles, Chattanooga YMCA.
- 17-24 Southern California Assn. Masters Singles, Encino Health Club.
- 22-25 USHA National Intercollegiates, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tenn., Mort Leve, USHA Hqs.
- 23-25 Fourth Annual Pittsburgh Open, Golden Triangle YMCA, Frederick Rader.

MARCH, 1973

- 3-10 23rd National USHA Four-Wall Championships, University of Texas, Austin. Mort Leve, USHA Hqs.
- 17-24 Southern California Assn. Masters Doubles, Los Angeles A.C.
- 22-25 Canadian Nationals, Quebec City, Quebec, Canada.
- 31- Southern California Assn. singles, Long Beach A.C.
- April 7

APRIL, 1973

- 28- Southern California Doubles, Anaheim YMCA.
- May 5

MAY, 1973

- 12-19 Southern California Assn. Golden Doubles, Los Angeles A.C.
- 17-20 New York A.C. Invitational, New York City, Joe Ingrassia, chairman.
- 18-20 British Columbia Open, Vancouver, B.C., Canada.

USHA LIFE MEMBERS

Contributing to the USHA HANDBALL PERPETUATION FUND

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* Deceased

Pilot's Ordeal Brings Handball Reflection

Dear Bob and Mort:

In August I was the co-pilot on a flight that was hijacked. During the ordeal I had a lot of time to reflect and think about my life. Handball was one of these reflections; the pleasure of playing the people you meet and many other aspects of the game.

United Air Lines has sent me this check as an award for "outstanding service". This check although for only one hundred dollars, meant a lot more to me than that. I didn't know what to do with it, except I wanted to do something worthwhile and that would mean more to me than just one hundred dollars.

Then I thought of your fund for the perpetuation of handball. It fit in so well with what I had in mind.

Thank you so much.

R. J. "Skip" Harrison

Denver, Colorado

A Temporary Misappropriation Of Reality

NOTE: Poem composed by John Marra Jr., 20-year-old junior at Montclair (New Jersey) State College.

I watched with a stare, the madness below,
two men would run, then stop and go.
But they seemed to be losing this ridiculous race,
to a little black ball at a blistering pace.

Could this be the game, they strangely say,
that men would come from miles to play.
The look on their faces, told me this was the case,
but I saw pain, and frustration was great!
I just had to wonder what could it be?
in a game with such a demanding fee.

But wait: one claimed victory, had the other defeat?
how could this be, both were bloody and bleak.
What could it be, what had they gained,
for the ball was more lively, and it knew no pain.
Truly it was victor, or so in my mind.

But since that day, I have played this game,
now two times two just ain't the same.
So if you're scared and a little fickle,
might as well stick to eaten pickles.
You say your bag is timid and meak,
then you'll be better off as a freak!
Not me I seek fortune and fame,
I'm sorry my man, this just ain't the game.
But if you got that flamin desire,
then this is the game that will light your fire!

Cause after you give it all you got,
you get real mean, and curse alot.
And just about when you're ready to fall,
then you'll know this game . . . handball.

J.A.M. JR.

There is only one official tournament ball.

When you play the tournaments, the ball they put into play is the Spalding Red Label Ace. No other.

It's the official ball for every regional and national USHA tournament, and the YMCA and Canadian nationals. Out of its perfect roundness comes rifle sight accuracy. And out of its sizzling rebound comes some of the liveliest play you'll ever have a hand in.

Spalding pressure packs the Red Label Ace ball (four are individually packed in a can) so they never get flat or stale or out of shape. Order yours through your nearest quality sporting goods dealer. Or contact the Spalding branch nearest you—or write the USHA, 4101 Dempster Street, Skokie, Illinois 60076.



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SPALDING®

A DIVISION OF
QUESTOR

1973 USHA NATIONAL INTERCOLLEGIATES

February 22-25

SITE: University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tenn.

ELIGIBILITY: See accompanying Official USHA Intercollegiate Rules.

Must also be current 1973 member of USHA—can sign up now or at tournament site.

ENTRY FEE: \$5 per player. Player can participate in one event only.

HOUSING AND FOOD:

Hqs. Hotel — Sheraton Campus Inn, 1706 Cumberland Ave., Knoxville, TN 37916. Tel. # 615, 524 4681. Single — \$12; 2 persons — (one bed) — \$16; 2 persons — (two beds) — \$18. 4 persons — (two beds) — \$24.

University Residence Halls — vacant doubles rooms. Double occupancy \$5 per person; lounge accommodations — \$4 per night. Breakfast — 85¢ plus tax; lunch — \$1.25 plus tax; dinner — \$1.50 plus tax.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: Feb. 19, 1973.

OFFICIAL BALL: Spalding ACE.

TROPHIES: First three places in all events. First place in consolation events.

Send entries to: Dr. Ben A. Plotnicki, School of Physical Education, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37916.

Please enter me in the () A singles () B singles () Doubles

Name _____ College _____
Please print

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Partner's Name _____
Please print

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

We are competing on the four-man team ().

We are not competing on the team ().

Official USHA Intercollegiate Rules

RULE I — MATRICULATION

No one shall participate in any intercollegiate handball contest unless he is a bona fide matriculated student at an accredited university or college (not business college, trade school, etc.) and is regularly enrolled and doing full work as defined by the regulations of the institution at which he is enrolled.

RULE II — PARTICIPATION

1. Participation in intercollegiate handball shall be limited to four varsity years over a period of five consecutive college years counting from the date of matriculation.

2. In the event of a student's regular attendance being interrupted by military service in any of the armed forces, his period of eligibility shall be five years exclusive of his period of military service, except for the years in which, during his military service, he may have represented an educational institution.

3. Freshmen are eligible for varsity competition in handball.

4. Transfer students or graduates from a junior college may continue their handball competition without complying with the one-year residence rule. Total years of competition shall not exceed four years.

RULE III — NATIONAL AND REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS

1. Eligibility of participants shall be verified prior to the tournament by letter from the Office of the Dean of Admissions or Registrar to the tournament director, with the school seal affixed.

2. Teams shall consist of four players from the same institution; teams cannot be comprised of players from the same system (ex., State of California University System). Members of a doubles entry must be from the same institution.

3. Scoring shall be as follows:

A Singles — two points each match win; except championship round, three points.

B Singles — one point each match win; except championship round, two points.

Doubles — two points each match win; except championship round, three points.

Seeded players who receive a bye shall be awarded points for the bye providing they win their first match.

Points for second, third, and fourth place shall be determined by the tournament committee at the tournament site.

The names of all participants must be sent to the National Intercollegiate Commissioner and to the Executive Secretary of the USHA by the director of a sanctioned USHA intercollegiate tournament.

DIVISIONAL USHA TOURNAMENTS—

NOTE: Obtain full information from rundown of your own particular division below. **SPECIAL AWARD:** From United States Handball Association to ALL winners of open singles and open doubles. Round trip air coach fare to nationals at Austin, Texas, March 3-10, 1973. Doubles winners must remain intact as team to qualify for award. Round trip fares given after arrival at national tournament site. NO player can enter a divisional tournament unless he resides within area specified. **OFFICIAL BALL** — Spalding ACE. All entrants must be current (1973 members of USHA . . . can sign up prior to tournament or at tournament site). No duplicate trip awards if player wins in two open events.

EAST—Downtown YMCA, Paterson, N.J. EVENTS — Singles, Doubles, Masters Doubles, Masters Singles. Only one event.
ENTRY FEE: \$15 per event. **DATES:** Feb. 1-4, 1973.
ENTRY FEE: \$15 per event;

SEND ENTRY AND FEES TO EAST AREA COMMISSIONER — DEADLINE — Jan. 28, 1973. Bill Kennedy, 48 Chapman Pl., Glen Ridge, NJ 07028. **AREA COVERED:** Canadian provinces of Newfoundland, Quebec, New Brunswick and Ontario. Maine, Vermont, Connecticut, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Delaware, Maryland, Washington, D.C., Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Michigan, Indiana.

SOUTH—YMCA, Clearwater, Fla. EVENTS — Singles, Doubles, Masters Singles, Masters Doubles. Players can enter in two events (singles-doubles).
ENTRY FEE: \$12 per event. **DATES:** Feb. 2-4, 1973.
SEND ENTRY AND FEES TO: Larry Lieving, Physical Director, YMCA, 1005 S. Highland ave., Clearwater, FL 33516. Tel. No. #813-443 7688. **DEADLINE** — Jan. 18, 1973 (9 p.m.). Pairings and housing information will be mailed out to all entrants.
AREA COVERED: Florida, Puerto Rico, Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, North and South Carolina, Virginia.

CENTRAL—Shreveport, La. YMCA. EVENTS — Singles, Doubles, Masters Singles, Masters Doubles. Players can enter in two events (singles-doubles).
ENTRY FEE: \$15 per event; \$5 for second event. **DATES:** Jan. 26-28, 1973.
SEND ENTRY AND FEES TO: Dr. Cecil Lloyd, Chairman, c/o YMCA, 400 McNeil st., P.O. Box 566, Shreveport, LA 71162.
PHONE — #318, 423 5151. **DEADLINE:** Jan. 20, 1973. **HOUSING:** Captain Shreve Hotel, 408 Market; Downtowner Inn, 332 Market (both within walking

distance of YMCA). **AREA COVERED:** North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Minnesota, Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas (except El Paso, Amarillo, Lubbock).

ROCKY MOUNTAIN—Downtown YMCA, Phoenix, AZ. EVENTS — Singles, Doubles, Masters Singles, Masters Doubles. Players can enter in two events (singles-doubles).

ENTRY FEE: \$10 per event. **DATES:** Feb. 2-4, 1973.

SEND ENTRY AND FEES TO: Lee Pickering, c/o YMCA, 350 N. 1st ave., Phoenix, AZ. 85003. **DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES:** Jan. 15, 1973. Tel. No. #602-253 6181. **HOUSING** — Westward HO (one block away). **AREAS COVERED:** Arizona, Colorado, Utah, Oklahoma, El Paso, Lubbock and Amarillo only in Texas, New Mexico, and Las Vegas only in Nevada.

WEST—Olympic Club of San Francisco. EVENTS — Singles, Doubles, Masters Singles, Masters Doubles, Golden Masters Doubles. Players can enter in two open event (singles-doubles).

ENTRY FEE: \$15 per man per event. If you do not receive a letter stating a Thursday match, please arrive and be ready to play at 8 a.m. Friday. **DATES:** Feb. 2-4, 1973.

SEND ENTRY AND FEES TO: Hal Jones, Chairman, c/o Olympic Club, 524 Post st., San Francisco, CA 94102. **DEADLINE** — Jan. 26, 1973. Request for hotel reservations: Please be specific as to dates and types of accommodations wanted. **AREAS COVERED:** Hawaii, California, Nevada (except Las Vegas).

NORTHWEST—WASHINGTON ATHLETIC CLUB, Seattle. EVENTS: Singles, Doubles, Masters singles, Masters doubles. Players can enter in two events (singles-doubles).

ENTRY FEE: \$15 per man per event. **DATES:** Feb. 2-4, 1973.

SEND ENTRY AND FEES TO NORTHWEST AREA COMMISSIONER, John Bowen, 4008 1st National Bank Bldg., Seattle, WA 98104. **DEADLINE:** Jan. 26, 1973. **AREA COVERED:** Washington, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Oregon, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Alaska.

OFFICIAL ENTRY

(Fill in appropriate division)

USHA _____ Division

DATES: See rundown of your division.

ELIGIBILITY: Open to current (1973) USHA members. \$3 a year covers membership and subscription to HANDBALL Magazine. Entrants can send in fee along with entry fee, or cover upon arrival, or show current USHA card. Reside within area covered by specific division.

ENTRY FEE: See rundown of division tournament specifications.

OFFICIAL BALL: Spalding ACE.

TROPHIES: As described in rundown.

SPECIAL AWARD: To ALL division winners of open singles and open doubles. No duplicate awards. Round trip air coach transportation to USHA National Four-wall championships at University of Texas, Austin, March 3-10, 1973. Winners must participate in event they have won divisional, and in doubles, with same partner.

ENTRY DEADLINE: As described.

Address entries to tournament chairman and specify event. Players can participate in two events but should realize this is a weekend tournament and the schedule will be very strenuous and tightly scheduled time wise. Waivers on injuries must be signed at time of registration.

Requests for hotel reservations and further information can be obtained from tournament chairmen.

() SINGLES () DOUBLES () MASTERS SINGLES () MASTERS DOUBLES () GOLDEN MASTERS DOUBLES

Name _____ Age () PARTNER _____ AGE ()
Please Print Please Print

ADDRESS _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

USHA NO. _____ CLUB/Y _____ USHA NO. _____ CLUB/Y _____

Upon arrival check in at registration desk.

HANDBALL REFEREEING GUIDE

J. T. "Bud" Simpson of Seattle persisted in the formation of this very worthwhile guide for referees.

For several years, study and effort have been expended to meet the long needed requirement of providing refereeing instruction in handball officiating.

Every sport recognizes the need.

Every sport attempts to accommodate the need.

Over the past several years, progress has evolved in handball.

In 1971 a committee was formed under the auspices of USHA Rules and Referees, and the assignment of the committee was to develop instruction and reference to be used in handball officiating.

The results of the committee work was the writing and publication of "Handball Refereeing Guide."

No changes in Rules were undertaken, rather rules changes were recognized to be avoided and simply interpretation and instruction relative to existent rules was the policy adhered to by the committee.

One of the principal objectives to the "Handball Refereeing Guide" was to develop — **CONSISTENCY**.

Publication of the "Handball Refereeing Guide" was made prior to and in anticipation of the 1972 USHA National Championship Tournament held in Seattle, Washington and was intended to be used for the tournament and thereafter, with as broad a dissemination accomplished in as short a time as possible.

It is to be recognized that further clarifications can and must be accomplished even as this would be applicable to evolution of the rules of handball.

"Referees Conduct" and "Rules Interpretations," was first concluded by the committee, then submitted to Rules Committee and Referees Committee USHA for suggestions, changes and approval.

"Referees Conduct" and "Rules Interpretations" was then submitted to each officer of USHA individually, and the USHA body collectively.

Each reviewing body was requested to edit the proposals and submit observations and recommendations.

It was only after all results were in and after allowing months for further review and refinement incorporating recommendations that the Guide was finally adopted and published.

The Rules and Referees Committee of USHA pledges to give broad distribution to the conclusion.

Incorporated in the publication is the instruction that all suggestions be directed to USHA National Rules and Referees Chairman.

Periodically meetings will be held to review worthy suggestions received, and those which meet with committee approval will be adopted and incorporated in publication and instruction.

Committee for Referees Conduct
and Rules Interpretations and
USHA Rules and Referees Committee.

KNOW THE RULES . . . Consistency . . . Consistency
. . . Consistency . . . Know the Rules.

These interpretations of rules are set forth to ensure **CONSISTENCY**. Suggestions for further clarification, additions, modifications, or rules changes should be directed to Dan Callahan, national rules and referees chairman. Suggestions about *Interpretation* of rules should also be directed to Callahan.

Referees Conduct and The Art Of Handball Refereeing

REFEREES CONDUCT:

Authority—It is the responsibility of the referees to maintain control and authority at all times.

Umpire—A referee should make calls as quickly as possible and should not ask for outside assistance with the exception of any request addressed to the linesmen (if there are linesmen). Promptness and quickness of call by the referee should be given strong priority. A referee should act as an umpire, not a judge.

Call every play—A referee should not call upon a player to make a call, not let a player make a call (except the offensive player having contact on backswing, see rule 3.5 (b)). A referee has the responsibility of calling every play.

Stopping Play—Play can be stopped only by the referee.

Limit Player Appeal—A player has a right to request the referee's attention to any given situation or particular problem. Referee authority shall be maintained and govern in good logic and judgement. Rule 4.12 may be used to limit discussions and eliminate arguments.

The Art of Handball Refereeing—A referee should be familiar with the Art of Refereeing, including:

- a. Introduction of match.
- b. When to call.
- c. Maintenance of control.
- d. Call vs. caution. Call like umpire, not a judge.
- e. Honoring requests for ruling.
- f. Timing play, including time outs and time between games.
- g. Scoring and announcement of score, be brief. Limit to proper terminology only such as: point (4) — (6), hand out or side out score.
- h. Court hinders.
- i. Court conditions, interrupt play as infrequently as possible. Condition the court between games to the extent possible.
- j. Players uniforms—regulation; dry gloves; dry clothes.

If a referee is not doing a satisfactory job he may be replaced at the decision of the tournament chairman or his official representative.

The following rules interpretations are made to establish consistency:

III. OFFICIATING—

3.5(b)—Referees Decision: The player swinging to strike the ball is the only player who can make this call (contact on the backswing). The call by the player should be made prior to his striking the ball.

This rule is in addition to any call by referee and does not relieve the referee of any of his responsibility in making any call as he sees it.

IV. PLAY REGULATIONS—

4.4(b)—Dead ball serves: Maximum consistency on part of referees is needed here.

Position of server at start of serve within the service area is not a criteria of screen serve.

"Fair view of the ball" by receiving player is the criteria in screen serve. This is a judgement call and depends upon degree of "Fair View," the referee should try to keep screen service calls to a minimum.

4.7(a)—**Return of serve:** The "warning" may be made by the referee prior to the infraction if deemed necessary by the referee, or the warning may be made immediately as the infraction occurs, stopping the play, and calling the play over. The "warning" may be made prior to the starting of the game.

4.7(c)—**Fly return:** This rule should relate to any serve, (fly serve or not) i.e., striking ball after bounce. Both feet back of the service zone when receiver strikes ball.

4.9(e)—**Touching ball:** If a hinder call is made prior to the touching of a ball, naturally the ball is dead.

Touching of the ball applies even though the player having just hit the ball is crowded against the wall or in a corner and is unable to get out of the way and is then hit by the ball. The point is against the player hit by the ball unless a hinder call is made prior to the ball hitting the player.

4.10(a)—**6—Other interference:** Applicable to receiving players only.

4.10(c)—**Dead ball hinders:** Avoidance: covers backing in to or failure to get out of the way of, an opponent after hitting the ball. It is the responsibility of the player who just hit the ball to make **reasonable effort** to get out of the way of the receiver and/or the ball.

4.11 —**Avoidable hinders:** It is the responsibility of each player to make substantial effort to avoid hinders. The player having last hit the ball should watch the

ball closely enough and long enough so that he can make reasonable effort to avoid a hinder.

It is the responsibility of the player who just hit the ball to make **reasonable effort** to get out of the way of the receiver; and avoid being hit by the ball.

It is the responsibility of the referee to call all avoidable hinders and if necessary or appropriate to instruct the players before the match begins.

It is the responsibility of the referee to know the interpretations of avoidable hinders calls.

LINESMEN:—

There may be two linesmen in addition to the referee.

The linesmen will be placed one on each side of the gallery; or, if there are glass side walls, at center court, on each side.

Their purpose will be to consult with the referee and **REFEREE'S DECISION** will be final:

1. Short serve.
2. "Skip ball" (where the ball slides along floor or strikes floor on way to front wall).
3. Double bounces.

Any player may request of the referee that the referee consult with the linesmen where there might be doubt on above calls.

The referee may or may not honor the players request to consult with the linesmen.

If the referee consults with the linesmen he should be guided by the judgement of the two linesmen.

ONE-WALL (from page 29)

proved their ability as they nearly defeated the champions in the first game, losing a heartbreaker, 21-20. Perhaps these two stars, after ironing out a few kinks in teamwork, will eventually win still another championship to add to their collections.

3. LOU RUSSO AND JOEL WISOTSKY — FOURTH PLACE.

A fourth place finish is surprise enough for this team gifted with championship abilities, but a forfeit in the semi-finals is a questionable and dubious action. Knowing beforehand that the date of the semi-finals conflicted with a prior engagement, this team might have given some thought to passing up this year's action.

4. STEVE SANDLER AND NEAL BOCIAN — DEFEATED IN QUARTER-FINALS.

A strong, new combination could not, unfortunately, prove its prowess because of Sandler's injury, but we look forward to a doubles championship from them in the near future.

5. BRUCE DAVIDOFF AND HARVEY GASKOWITZ — THIRD PLACE.

Some fine play earned these young competitors their first strong finish in the doubles tournament.

6. MARTY KATZEN AND SORREL FELDMAN — DEFEATED IN OPENING ROUND.

Expected to be one of the strongest entries, Katzen and Feldman were outscored by Joe La Malfa and Tom Sedowski, a 16-year-old up and coming star, for one of the biggest upsets of the tournament.

MASTERS — The Masters had no stunning upsets, but the championship match was one of the highlights of the entire tourney. Two great Joes opposed each other. One was Danilezyk, who teamed up with hard-hitting Julie Rothman; the other was Rispoli, whose partner was crafty, hooking Steve Gallo. With the third game at 21-19, no one, especially the players, could have predicted the winner. Danilezyk and Rothman deserve tremendous credit for defeating Rispoli and Gallo, who are truly a great pair coupling skill and good sportsmanship.

***A SAD NOTE** — Players and fans alike mourn the untimely passing of Co-tournament Director Mickey Blechman's daughter, Karen, while the tournament was in session. We sincerely wish to extend our condolences, and we hope for courage to dominate the approach to life for the entire Blechman family.

San Diego . . .

San Diego Handball Association has chosen its new officers for 1973: **DICK SHAW** was elected president and **BOB DAMRON** will be the new secretary/treasurer. The following will serve on the Board of Directors: **GLEN VAUGHAN, SY SCHNEIDER, JERRY SANDSTROM, BOB GORHAM, BOB JANIS, JACK SAUCIER, TOM PENICK, LEE HINRICHS, TIM BRASWELL, DAVE BOLIN, KEN FLAHERTY, KEN COMINA, RICH HOUK** and **GEORGE BROWN**.

TOM PENICK steps down after an outstanding year as president of the Association. His leadership proved to be essential in its formation.

The San Diego Handball and Racquet Club opened during the first week of November. **GEORGE BROWN** has several money-saving plans available.

BOBJANIS had a successful Master's tourney at his Oceanside Gym and Health Club in September. In the singles, **ED MEADOWS** defeated **CARLOS GUTIERREZ** 21-7, 21-9 for first place honors. **DAN DELANEY** finished third. **MEADOWS** came back to team with **FRANK (LEFTY) COYLE** to win the doubles. They defeated **DICK KILLGORE** and **NACHO BRACAMONTES**, 21-9, 21-10. **JACK SAUCIER** and **BOB SHUMAKE** edged out **WARD DUARTE** and **FRANK GIGLITTO** for third place, 21-17, 21-20.

PLEASE NOTE—

The National Juniors is now officially slated for the Denver YMCA Dec. 28-30. Complete plans under the fine directorship of Rocky Mountain Area Commissioner Les Shumate have been made for housing and food. Call Mort Leve, Area Code 312, 673 4000 for late entries up to Dec. 26.

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Joliet (Ill.) YMCA Hosts 52-Player First Invitational

Top Seeded Zeke Zaletel Wins 8-Player Playoff Over Ernie Virgili, Kenosha

"Zeke" Zaletel, Joliet, Illinois captured Joliet YMCA's First Invitational tournament Sept. 15-17 by beating Ernie Virgili, Kenosha, Wisconsin, while Stan Morris of Joliet won third place honors over Ronald Stopka, also Joliet.

A total of 52 players from Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Indiana and Michigan competed. Joliet players held a preliminary tournament at the beginning of the week, Sept. 11-13, with the top eight players playing in the invitational starting Friday.

The hospitality room was filled with guests, participants and wives exchanging greetings, talking about the tournament, the upset at the USHA nationals and the recent Detroit 3-wall tournament results. Friday evening found the crowd meeting at Old Oak Country Club Ltd. for refreshments. After the matches Saturday night a smorgasbord dinner was held at the Sheraton Inn, compliments of the Joliet handball players and featured cocktails and a dance band. Many players brought their wives and an enjoyable time was had.

Top seeded was Zeke Zaletel, Joliet, YMCA State Champ in 1971 and 1972; winner of the Illinois contenders crown in 1967, winner of the 1972 Winona, Minn., tournament and second place in 1971 in the Port Edwards tournament losing in a thrilling duel to Ray Neveau, Wisconsin State champ and the 1971 USHA Nationals doubles winner. The number two seed went to Bill Nelson, executive director of the Port Edwards, Wisconsin YMCA, winner of the Port Edwards tournament in 1970, numerous Wisconsin tournaments, and who made such a great showing at the Minneapolis top 16 Invitational last year.

Top "dark horses" were the veteran Phil Collins Chicago winner of the USHA National open Doubles in 1957, 58 and 59, with Johnny Sloan, young

Dennis Malmgren, who won the Aurora tournament and finished third in the state YMCA tournament in 1972; Hiles Stout, former U. of Illinois football star, and winner of the 1971 Peoria tournament; Ronald Stopka, who won the state district two championship in 1971, second in the state district YMCA tournament in 1972 and third in the Galesburg tournament in 1971, and Bob Delaney who took second in the YMCA state tournament in 1971, first in the 1972 Joliet tournament and second in the 1972 district tournament.

Before quarter-final action started there were a few upsets: Ernie Virgili beat one of Wisconsin's best handball players, number two seeded Bill Nelson 7-21, 21-16, 21-16; Bob Nemeth, South Bend, Indiana, number one player beat number eight seeded Bob Delaney 21-15, 8-21, 21-15 and Dennis Siebert, Joliet, beat fourth seeded Ron Bullington.

In quarter-final play Zaletel won over Dr. Mosely, Burlington, Iowa, 21-10, 21-11; Stan Morris over South Bend's Bob Nemeth 21-7, 21-17; Ronald Stopka over number three seeded Dennis Malmgren, Aurora, 8-21, 21-4, 21-18 and Ernie Virgili beat Phil Collins, 21-19, 21-14.

In semi-final play it was Zaletel over

Morris 21-17, 21-12. Zaletel used his speed, deception and agility to control the game and only Morris's ability to kill from deep court with either hand kept the games reasonably close. Virgili beat Stopka 21-19, 21-14. Stopka had a commanding 19-12 lead, but Virgili came back with some great gets and proceeded to ace four serves in a row and kill five of Stopka's returns. The second game caught Stopka still puzzled over Virgili's come from behind victory.

A capacity crowd watched the finals between Zaletel and Virgili to start. It started with all the expectation of a championship game. Zaletel forced Virgili to take shots while off balance with deep corner pass shots, then sidewall frontwall kills while Virgili was in deep court recovering from the pass shots. Only Zaletel's consistent and steady shots made it possible for him to win. Whenever Zaletel made a mistake Virgili positioned himself well and killed the ball nine times the first game and ten times the second.

Approval has been given by the sponsors and executive director of the YMCA, Clarence Lenz, to host the second Joliet YMCA Invitational tournament on corresponding dates in 1973.



TOP FOUR AT JOLIET Y... Kneeling (l to r) — Stan Morris, Joliet, Third place; Ronald Stopka, also Joliet, fourth; Standing (l to r) — Ernie Virgili, Kenosha, Wisc., runnerup; Zeke Zaletel, Joliet, winner.



Lesson In Sportsmanship

I LIKE TO WIN

I always strive to win,
Not only to reach my goal,
My objective, but to surpass it.

I HATE TO LOSE

However, I know, too, that at times
An objective won't be reached,
That at times, we will lose.

BUT, THIS IS NOT IMPORTANT
What is important—is how you lose;
If you lose despite all efforts to win,
By never giving up until you are
counted out,
By never conceding until it is all
over.

Then you lose with dignity, and,
then, with self respect, you can
prepare for that next objective, that
victory.

But remember above all, that
without an objective, that without a
goal, and that without the courage to
make one, there never can be a
victory.

—author unknown

from *Rudy Harris*
Fargo, N.D.

Idea To Stop 'Screen' Serve . . .

Dear Mr. Kendler:

I read with interest in the October issue of *HANDBALL* — From the Killshot Room — the article on refereeing. Refereeing is not easy, I know, and the one thing that I've seen cause a lot of problems is the shadow serve. Many, many times it is not called by the referee, as you know.

I have an idea which you may or may not like that would help the referee in calling the 'shadow' or 'screen' serve. The serving area could be divided into five blocks, but the ball should pass the server on the outside of the block he is serving from on its way to the back court. Any ball that passes the server inside the block that he is serving from would be an automatic hinder. This would also make it impossible for the server to stand in either one of the blocks next to the side walls and serve the ball between him and the wall.

I don't think that this would hurt the player with a good serve but it would surely help the referee in making his calls.

If you like the idea, fine. If you don't just keep up the good work with the USHA. Handball is the greatest game I've ever played and I've tried them all.

Incidentally, everyone in our area was very happy about Ken Fusselman and Al Drews winning the national doubles.

Mike Castor
McDonald, Ohio

Conduct Unbecoming . . .

I know this is bound to be a subject that has come up for discussion, but unfortunately it must also come up for action: What is to be done about the disgraceful conduct of some of the tournament players? Deliberate disruption of the game, vulgarity, swearing, abusive argument with the referee — all of these were part of the last "big name" tournament I attended.

The time must be way overdue for a specific game rule against "unsportsmanlike conduct", with a stiff penalty. The nature of handball is such that there is no "15 yards", so this would probably have to be loss of serve or point. It would seem to me to be a good idea to make this as much a mandatory call as possible, with as little option left to the referee as possible. In other words, the referee *must* call a violation under certain circumstances. Everyone knows that there is a certain amount of legitimate "psyching" going on in any sport, but that doesn't mean intimidation, or plain spoiled-brat tantrums.

Sorry to have to bring this up.

Bruce Pearson
Midland, Texas

Note: A referee has a rule — Part III — Officiating, Rule 3.5, (d) Forfeitures. A match may be forfeited by the referee when: (1) Any player refuses to abide by the referee's decision, or engages in unsportsmanlike conduct.

Goldfarb Quarter-final Win Over Sandler Stunner

By CARL ARBOR

On Oct. 8, 1972 at the Brownsville Boys Club, in the quarter-final of the national USHA one wall singles handball tournament there occurred the greatest upset in one-wall history. Marcel Goldfarb, a 20 year old, upset Steve Sandler in two straight games. Sandler was expected to win in his usual, highly skilled manner and very few people were watching the match.

Marcel blitzed Steve 21 to 7 in the first game. Goldfarb completely outplayed Sandler. Marcel is extremely fast and here lies the answer. He gets to all shots. Many a ball Sandler hit would have been points with other players but not with Marcel. Goldfarb displayed a terrific backhand right and backhand left. These are Sandler's patented shots. The backhanded right allows you to return balls you can't reach with your left and the backhanded left allows you to return balls you can't reach with your right. Goldfarb was hitting killers with these shots time after time.

After the first game, Sandler knew he was in a tough contest and would have to use all his ingenuity. Sandler has lost first games before but has always come back to win the second and third. Sandler only plays as hard as he has to.

In the second game, Sandler began to use his excellent variety of serves. Standing on the right side of the court, he began hitting a hard serve to the right side with a hook to Goldfarb's right hand. Goldfarb is left handed. This serve is hard to pick up because the serve passes the server's body. However, Goldfarb was able to reach these serves although he hit a few out. Sandler then would shoot a serve over to the left side. Marcel is so fast that he is able to pick these up and return with power. This was Sandler's "Waterloo".

Goldfarb took the lead and retained it but the score was close. Sandler scored only a few aces. Not being able to ace to the right or left, Sandler began hitting a deep serve to the baseline which hopped up at Goldfarb and he couldn't return it. This serve of Sandler's would bounce about one inch in front of the line and hop, a very difficult serve to return. However, Steve started this serve late in the game and when he "longed" the first serve, he had to return to a safer serve and a rally ensued. Marcel outplayed Steve in most of these rallies.

When Goldfarb stood in the center of the court and served to his right side, the referee always called a screened ball. Marcel was compelled to serve the ball constantly to his left side and to Sandler's left hand. This may have been a blessing in disguise.

With the score 20 to 19, in Marcel's favor, after a rally, he hit a hard ball to the left corner. Steve ran and then leaped through the air to get it but it was beyond his reach. The game was over. The final score of the second game was 21 to 19 in favor of Marcel Goldfarb.



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Instructional Article . . .

'Rap' Session With Twin Cities'

Yambrick-Schulz-Muck

Bill Yambrick, in your Midway Y and St. Paul A.C., you have worked with both Terry and Paul. What do you basically dwell on with men who are aiming toward top tournament ranking?

— I actually learned the game from the late Al Warren. He was my coach. Some of the things he told me have been passed on. And, to compete in top notch handball a player must be able to master all the basics and execute them without thinking about them. If I stress anything to a player it is the fundamentals. And, this gets right down to the basics — watching the ball all the time. To get positioning so one is ready for all shots, which the opponent is going to hit to you. Of course, the best position is in the center of the court at the short line, in front of the opponent. The third point is the actual stroking of the ball or hitting it properly. It is hitting the ball as you throw a baseball and primarily waiting for the ball to drop down to a comfortable height and stepping into the shot with a loose natural motion without forcing anything. Even good A handball players, from observations we have made in numerous exhibition-clinic appearances, do not know what they're doing in a court. If you pin them down they can't come up with plausible reasoning for their actions.

There are many players who have the experience and two-handed shots to perform creditably but they don't execute the basic fundamentals or know what they are. I stress these fundamentals to A players as well as C players and I reason an A player can improve his game if he will go back to the fundamentals and rebuild his game solidly with the tools at his command.

Talking about this shot Haber has that is so effective — with his left hand from the short line area on the left side into the right wall-front wall. Would this shot be hard to pick up and to teach players? Do you feel it is good — or too difficult to learn?

— It is a good shot to learn. It is a cross court kill shot with a natural spin biting into the side wall and the momentum carries it to the front wall. I think it is one of the most effective shots in handball and the way Paul throws it the opponent is back on his haunches looking for a ceiling shot. Against me it always seems to be more a soft shot going around there. It's unexpected. It requires a lot of practice but is a good shot to work on. To use it with the off hand makes it more effective.

Speaking of the need for the deep court

use of the off hand.

— I think it must be recognized that a player will have to use his offhand on high balls in deep court. The best bet is to move quickly into position and set for the shot. Again, it is the basic of watching the ball and then stepping into it as one hits it. It requires a lot of practice. It helps to get in the court alone and throw the ball overhand into the front wall from deep position, and feel the rhythm of the movement coming . . . progressing to dropping the ball and hitting it to the ceiling from an above the shoulder position, and seeing how long the ball can be kept in play . . . then throwing the ball to the front wall and moving in and stroking it overhand with the offhand. The big thing is setting up for the shot . . . coordination is in leading with the right leg . . . it is simply a matter of practice.

Terry, as a former college and professional baseball player, do you find any similarities other than the shots where you move in as you would in hitting . . . for example, hitting behind the runner, holding up your swing, half swing and going to the opposite side. Anything that you could coincide?

— There are a lot of similar movements. I think the one thing that has helped me in both games is just watching the ball. In hitting, after spending a Winter of playing handball, I find myself following the pitched ball much better. Of course, this is basic to most moving games but this is the biggest similarity. As far as throwing, I've played both shortstop and second base and I find the handball stroke very alike that of the throws from shortstop. Everything is similar except possibly the placing of the head. There are shots in handball where you might fake and stroke to the opposite side but in hitting there is the use of both hands on the bat. I do find the games supplement and help one another.

Schulz, you are associated with the St. Paul A.C., and have much contact with the players there. What are some of the things the regular Club handballers do wrong?

— I think the two most common faults . . . the majority have the wrong conception of hitting the ball. They are using a semi-stiff arm and holding the elbow rigid instead of coming through with the nice baseball swing or easy stroke — and planting the feet on the floor and letting the arms do all the work. And, then they wonder why they have sore shoulders or sore arms. They don't seem to have that

nice easy swing and the good footwork, standing flatfooted and not stepping into the ball. I wonder also if they look at the ball all the time. We find they don't keep the position or step into the ball. They keep their eyes on the front wall instead of following the ball.

These players serve, then turn, afraid of being hit by the ball I guess, and this gives the receiver a big edge.

In teaching the young fellows . . . differences in teaching tactics.

— In St. Paul we promote a high school clinic and tournament every year and this is held during the Easter vacation. From my own experience a boy should be 14 or 15 before he starts learning the game, because prior to this age a lad can get mighty discouraged. Again, we stress the basic fundamentals. We try to make it as enjoyable as possible so they will become interested in the game, and have some fun. I feel it should be an enjoyable experience for the boy. We try to introduce them to the game, how it should be played . . . watching the ball, center court position, hit the handball as you throw the baseball. Then they get together and come down and play. When you force the boys to do something you are bound to lose a continuing interest and dedication. Some goal should be there — mastering the fundamentals, finesse, or hitting that ball hard. At least there is some objective. I know Al Warren impressed me on these fundamentals, underlining the loose, smooth strokes. He would stand in the gallery and shout down these instructions over and over again. Sometimes a player will get weary of the hollering so will remember to move quickly to proper position and do things correctly. When I started going to national tournaments about five years ago I asked questions and learned some things from many men. It got me to thinking and most of it would be connected with the basics. The foundation is most important.

Another thing players must realize is to tailor their games according to their physical capabilities. The game should be adapted to size.

— We do stress this in our clinics. National-ranked players have definite opinions and they may vary. For example, there's only one Jim Jacobs and only one Paul Haber. Perhaps we should all be uniform in telling young players to learn a game that is comfortable for themselves. I think this is the important thing as there are varied physical makeups and capabilities.

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Toronto . . .

Second annual Crescent Town Invitational finished Oct. 28. Through the efforts of Mario Fisica and his staff the week-long tournament was enjoyed by all. Would like to mention Vern Heaslip, who was the person most responsible for the two handball courts in this complex. Vern was unable to compete in this tournament, but was around to say hello. From the players and myself, once again thanks Vern for handball.

In the singles, after five rounds, I was able to outlast Ray Reno from West End Y to win in three games. 16-21, 21-10, 21-12. It's always good to win a tournament, but better when the home town club player comes out on top. To win this one I used soft serves down the left side and cut off any weak returns. Played the ceiling when in trouble and needed a breather. The odd roll out and a few passing plays kept me out of trouble. I think I will retire again.

To reach the finals Ray eliminated Bob Thoms 21-14, 18-21, 21-20. In the other half Barrie Leech and I went the distance also — 21-3, 12-21 and 21-5.

The doubles was won by the Forsbrey Brothers, Garry and Albert, Eastview Y, over Stan Kray, West End Y, and John Choma, Crescent Town. Garry and Albert just overpowered Stan and John and maintained that all-important front court position. The 'brothers two' have been running into hard luck in previous tournaments so this should be a real morale booster for them. Congratulations guys!!! To reach the finals the Forsbrey's defeated Bob Thoms and Don Wahrenholtz in three, third game was close, 21-19. Stan Kray and John Choma dominated Alf Williams and Joe Solsky in two.

Highlights of the tournament was the strong play of Bob Thoms. Bob was playing in singles and doubles and in the quarter-finals his games were back to back. Bob's partner had hurt his right elbow and only through Bob's strong desire made the doubles close. Almost immediately he played Ray Reno in the singles and it went the distance. Final game 21-20. His condition is not by luck, Bob works at keeping fit.

Later in the evening there was a buffet and dance. Joe Solsky did the M.C. and a good job too. Naturally, he was getting a lot of help from the group. Trophies were presented to the winners and refreshments tickets to "Iron Man", Bob Thoms. Sad bit of news was the passing of Richie Vale, who played handball for about 40 years at Central Y. Rich's wife had passed away a short time ago and he never seemed to get over the loss.

HAROLD McCLEAN

Skogstad Over Traynham in 3rd Annual Spokane Lilac Tournament; McMillan-Reel Win Open Doubles

The Ontario Handball Association with the help of many volunteer handball players from Toronto demonstrated one wall handball at the Canadian National Exhibition this year. The demonstrations began Aug. 18 and ran each day till Sept. 4. One-wall was demonstrated because it was the only available facility.

The main purpose of these demonstrations was not so much to impress upon the spectators the finesse and excitement of the sport but simply to acquaint them with the sport. Due to the non-existence of glass walled courts in Ontario as well as a minimum of gallery space available for spectators the sport remains a mystery to many people. Hopefully these demonstrations have increased the general public's awareness of the sport and perhaps, motivated a few of them to try their hand at the game.

Many thanks for a job well done to all those four-wall players involved in the demonstrations: Ed Mazur, Mike O'Connell, Craig Cooper, Gordon Cooper, Ron Sibbald, Ray Reno, Norm Churly, Harry Weston, Norm Moorhouse, Bob Thoms, Ed Chalmers, John Choma, Barry Leech, Stan Bargman, Harold McClean, Leo Roach, Brian Smith, Danny Beauchamp, Fred Panasiuk, Cam MacBeth, Mark Sauve, Joe Cardarelli, John Sibbald, and a special thanks to George Sauve, West-End Y chairman.

E. MAZUR

CANADIANS AT DETROIT 3 WALL TOURNAMENT

The 23rd Annual USHA 3-Wall Handball Championships have come and gone for another year. The weatherman made things difficult for the committee as it rained on Saturday. For Bob Thoms and myself we got a break, the first two rounds had to be played indoors. The teams we beat would have been much tougher outdoors. Schneider and Elbert eliminated us in the 1/4 finals, but we had a shot at third place. Am pleased that Bob and I won third place in the Master doubles and received a nice trophy with a clock on it.

Would like to thank the committee members for their efforts at the tournament and especially the committee members who were trying to play in the tournament as well. That Ruby Miller sure can bar-b-q a steak. Also in attendance from Canada were Max Jaffe and Ed Starr, Bob's wife, Gloria and my wife and daughter, Pauline and Susan.

HAROLD McCLEAN

The start of another handball season is upon us and should be a lively one. From the West comes the big change. Bruce Collins steps down from C.H.A. post and Alan Day of Calgary will be our new leader. Congratulations Alan, lots of success. From my own point of view, Bruce came into the C.H.A.

The Third Annual Lilac Open Handball Tournament, held Nov. 10-12, had 109 handballers contesting for the silver. Events included: open singles, open doubles, masters doubles, and B singles.

The B singles event was added last year and has proved to be the most popular draw of the tournament. This year's tourney was no exception with many young players entering from the numerous Pacific Northwest colleges. Our young players are coming as fast as standard courts can be built. Thanks to the efforts of the U.S. Handball Association both Washington State University and Eastern Washington State College have built excellent 4-wall handball facilities, 8 courts at each school. As evidence of what this will do for handball, the B singles winner was Dave Ferro, a fine young player from WSU. He outran his opponent, Mike Furlong, in an excellent 3-game match. The final scores were 20-21, 21-7, 21-13. Furlong, playing out of Helena, can shoot with either hand but Ferro's superb conditioning and outstanding retrieves were too much for Mike.

organization when things were in a sad state, and today the C.H.A. is operating on a sound basis. From old Hometown, "THANKS" — Bruce for a job well done.

From Montreal, Bob Robitaille was voted the Quebec Chairman, R. Morin of Quebec City, Vice Chairman and Gerard Caya as Secretary-Treasurer. Bob has informed me that two new courts were built last year, at Pte.-Aux-Trembles and Montreal East, both in fire stations. Also from the C.H.A. level Mike Monk will represent Quebec. This year out Canadian Nationals will be held at Quebec City, more info on that in the next issue.

A new club opened this year in Kingston, Ontario — Catarqui Handball and Athletic Club. The owner, H. Valiquette, literally built the place with his own hands and is quite keen on handball.

In Toronto, the Valentine Brothers have built a new complex with two superb handball courts, steam room, double whirlpool bath and relax area. I had a couple of games there with Pat Valentine and Ed Chalmers; the lighting is as bright as any I have been in plus the floor gives a true bounce. Top player there is George Philips.

Let's get the local news in the magazine — I know it's out there. Look forward to hearing from the west, the east, the Maritimes and Newfoundland.

HAROLD McCLEAN

The Lilac tourney draws entrants from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and British Columbia, Canada. This year Montana was especially well represented with players coming from Billings, Great Falls, Butte, Helena, and Missoula. Jud Heathcote, former WSU basketball coach now coaching at the University of Montana, was super tough on his fellow Montanans. Heathcote defeated former Montana Champ Norm Gray 21-19, 21-11 in the first round and then came back to outpoint a young, strong Damon Schlenske, Great Falls. At 45 Jud hasn't slowed down much and he does seem to win most of his matches in two games.

In other open singles matches Spokane's Jerry Traynham and Montana's Bill Peoples worked their way to the semi-finals when People's knee gave out as a result of an all-out effort in his 3-game match against Kurt Orton of the Spokane Club. Bill was forced to forfeit to Traynham. In the other bracket Heathcote met his old Elks Club rival Jerry Skogstad. Skogstad, the Elks 228 Club Champ for the last five years was just too much and outpointed Heathcote 21-2, 21-8.

The all-Spokane final of Jerry Skogstad vs. Jerry Traynham was truly a gallery pleaser. First game 21-20 Skogstad. Traynham got in at 19-20 and made it 20-20 in a flat kill. The 20-all serve was the effective "Z" right to the left, a brief volley brought Traynham the set up and he missed the corner, the ball came out high and a hinder resulted. Traynham out next volley, Skogstad in and point for 21-20. The second game was all Traynham 1-21. The third game was a dandy to 11-all when Skogstad's placements began to tire Traynham. Final score 21-16 Skogstad. Skogstad, the national singles consolation winner in 1971, plays position and placement while Traynham powers and kills. The contrasting styles provided a super handball match.

The open doubles finals saw Lea "What's the deal" McMillan, Tacoma, and Bill "Marty Allen" Reel, Seattle, defeat Doug Wiley and Ron Almadova, Portland, by scores of 21-12, 21-13. Lea's fantastic placements and shooting were just too much for Wiley and Almadova. When asked about the win, McMillan said he thought Doug had the Wiley's.

See everybody next year for a bigger and better tourney. Ask anybody who has the best hospitality room at any handball tournament and they will most likely reply Spokane, the Lilac City!

BOB KASEY

Traynham Over McQueen In Yakima Sunfair Play

Jerry Traynham, Spokane, the ex-Southern California standout running back, defeated defending and two-time champ Ken McQueen, Portland, 16-21, 21-17, 21-14 in the semis of the annual Yakima (Wash.) Sunfair tourney, and then went on to beat Dave McGarry, 21-17, 21-14, for the title. McGarry is a fast-improving young man, who was eliminated early in the '71 tourney and then went on to win the consolation.

In doubles Lea McMillan and Bill Reel, Tacoma, defeated defending titlists Bill Zenk and Jim Douglas, Seattle, 21-18, 21-14, Howard Soumie and Al Popick, Portland, repeated in Masters via forfeit.

There was a total of 90 entries in singles, doubles and Masters doubles.

TONY SAGARE,
Chairman, Handball Committee

Orange Coast YMCA

Results of the annual Orange Coast YMCA of Newport Beach Calif., Charles McLennan Memorial Tournament:

In class A, Dudley Frank defeated Bill Hansen 16-21, 21-6 and 21-18. The class B title was won by Bob Hoffman with an exhausting victory over Dr. Mac Somers 8-21, 21-4, and 21-18. Class C was won by United Airline Pilot Nick Page who lost the first match to Lou Leopold 2-21, was behind 12-20 and won 21-20, and won the third game 21-19.

BILL BROWN
Physical Director
Orange Coast YMCA, Newport Beach,
Calif.

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by Pete Tyson

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True Court Buffs 'Reopen' Indianapolis Downtown YMCA

Indianapolis handball buffs will not allow their spirits or their arms to be dampened by the chilly conditions at the newest antique court in the inner-city. A once flourishing YMCA, located in a now slum of the downtown area stood desolate until it was recently rented to a group of indigent elderly citizens who call it home. The dark and damp cellar houses an unretouched gymnasium and its original handball courts, ventilated by a choking steam heat system and windows shattered by bricks thrown by idle, unemployed neighborhood youths.

The facility is complete with broken-down showers frequented only by oversized and smugly complacent cockroaches, who heavily sway through the drains and cracked cement. But, alas, Indy executives and businessmen missed the once lively spot where they could now . . . maybe . . . meet for a well received match on the way to their homes in the suburbs from their tension-filled offices.

Leading the crusade to re-open the courts was Allison engineer, Joe Casey, who secured permission from the "old folks" and opened the facility for minimal fee to handball enthusiasts to play. And so, once again the courts are alive and humming with men unwinding from the day's pressures, having back slapping, good times. They do not allow their mood to be daunted by the deplorable conditions but find the humor in it instead. "Winos" lean against the outside walls, mumbling incoherent greetings to the incoming athletes. The echoing lobby is filled with shabbily clothed inhabitants of the building, who blankly stare at the loud men who invade their privacy while carrying their little brown gym bags.

Lights swing precariously from rusting wires, but are unnoticed by such local stars as Municipal Judge Frank Harlor, Used Car Dealer and City Champ Fred Dorman, Little Red Door Executive Paul Bayne, and many other well known local figures. Only those dedicated athletes who truly love the sport, would, of course, hurdle such obstacles to play the challenging and invigorating sport of heroes, handball. Are repairs needed? Probably. Are donations from wealthy, anonymous sports enthusiasts in order? Hopefully. But the charm of the courts as is can never be replaced.

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National Invitational Doubles At Long Beach

Final preparations for the Second USHA National Invitational Doubles were made at a special meeting held in Long Beach with Mort Leve, Ed Kelly, USHA West Area Commissioner and Long Beach A.C. manager; and, Ben Agajanian, owner of the Long Beach A.C. The competition will be conducted Friday, Jan. 19, through Sunday, Jan. 21.

SEEDING: Eight teams were seeded with a plan for a 16-team tournament. There will be, of necessity, some flexibility needed in the seedings, subject to any change in team alignment and any possible additional teams. The present seedings include: 1—Paul Haber (who won this first tournament in 1970 with Don Ardito), Chicago-Lou Russo, New York. 2—Terry Muck-Gary Rohrer, St. Paul (won the recent USHA-sanctioned St. Paul A.C. round robin top four doubles classic); 3—Ken Fusselman, Warren, Ohio-Al Drews, Cleveland (won 1972 open national doubles at Seattle); 4—Ray Neveau, Oshkosh, Wisc.-Simie Fein, Milwaukee (1971 open national doubles champs); 5—Fred Lewis, Miami Beach, (1972 national open singles champ)-Gordie Pfeifer, Seattle, (who has won last two invitational national singles); 6—Stuffy Singer-Save August, Los Angeles; 7—Mike Kelly-Mike Dunne, San Francisco; 8—Jim Triplett-Skip McDowell, Long Beach.

All teams will be requested to report no later than Thursday night, Jan. 18, so that there will be no difficulties on two rounds of scheduling on Friday. This means there will be a first round and quarter-finals on Friday; semi-finals on Saturday, and finals on Sunday. This was decided upon to alleviate the strenuous schedule of quarter-finals and semi-finals on the second day.

CAROM SHOTS . . .

COURT CLUBS A'POPPIN . . . Hampshire Hills Racquet and Health Club . . . "A healthier, happier life for you and your family." Complex includes paddle tennis, indoor and outdoor tennis courts, two handball/racquetball courts, two squash courts, indoor and outdoor swimming pool. Located on Emerson road in Milford, New Hampshire (near Manchester and Nashua).

George Brown's San Diego Handball/Racquet Club, 7171 Alvarado rd., Mesa, Calif. Six courts, opened in early November.

One of the old-time Minneapolis handballers recently passed on — Pete Lazorik.

And, we have been informed that Dr. S.E. Bilik has passed away. Dr. Bilik has been featured in *HANDBALL Magazine* as a self-styled "Guinea Pig of Handball" . . . a devoted medical man who was able to carry on a seven-day-week at New York's Bellevue Hospital for years, using handball

USHA NATIONAL INVITATIONAL DOUBLES ENTRY

USHA — 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, IL 60076

Please consider our team in the Top 16 National Invitational Doubles tournament to be held at the Long Beach A.C., Jan. 19-21, 1973.

Name _____ Club/Y/Center _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Partner's Name _____ Club/Y/Center _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Deadline for consideration of entry: Jan. 8, 1973.

Reserved seat tickets are available at \$25 and \$15. There are approximately 600 seats at the championship Long Beach A.C. court. General admission tickets, if available, will be priced at \$5 for each round up to the finals; \$10 for the finals.

The nearby Holiday Inn will be utilized as headquarters for housing.

A banquet for the participants, guests and tournament officials will be held Saturday night.

Tickets may be reserved: Check or money order to: Ed Kelly, Manager, Long Beach Athletic Club, 400 Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90807, Tel. No. Area Code 213, 426-5577.

The National Invitational Doubles Tournament Seeding and Selection Committee will pick teams in the Nos. 9-16 seedings based on overall records and current ratings. There is no entry fee for this tournament. Teams in the 9-16 seed category receive no transportation allowances or per diem. They will be given general admission to all matches, plus hospitality room and banquet admission.

as a daily tonic outlet. Dr. Bilik even had his own court at one time, located in a Manhattan loft. He was originally a trainer for the football team some 50 years ago at the University of Illinois, then went to medical school and later published what was considered the "Bible" for athletic trainers. He was one of the first who advocated mobility for those injured as soon as possible.

From Associated Press — Los Angeles dateline . . . quote from Jack Kelly, AAU president: "Our rules for being an amateur athlete are like our sex laws. If every illegal sex act was policed properly, 75% of the population would be in jail. The same goes for amateur athletes. There are very, very few real amateurs left in any sport."

William O. Wallace, who is owner-builder-promoter & misc. of California has a one-court "Club"—with the name —WALLBANGER—promoting handball and physical fitness through competition and fun. William, m'boy, I suggest you offer an honorary membership to Paul Haber, who knows "Harvey Wallbanger" intimately!

Goffstein Adds Watsonville Singles

In 3rd Annual to Previous Doubles Win

Watsonville YMCA hosted its 3rd Annual Open Singles Handball Tournament Oct. 20-23 with 61 entries from Northern California area and several from the San Diego area.

Marty Goffstein, San Jose YMCA, beat Mark Haskell, San Francisco, in the finals, 21-20, 21-12. Goffstein won ten straight games without a loss to win the tournament. He was never even pressured until the first game of the finals when both players had several chances at 20-20 to win the game. Rudy Stadlberger, South End Rowing Club took third place by forfeit over Jerry Cooke, Sacramento Elks.

In the semi-finals games Goffstein won over Stadlberger, 21-14, 21-14, while Haskell beat Cooke, 21-13, 21-10.

Haskell had to win a couple of 3-game matches on his way to the finals. He beat Jerry Fagundes, Oakland YMCA, 21-19, 10-21, 21-14, and Jeff Capell, San Jose YMCA, 21-6, 16-21, 21-5. He also beat Hank Wempe, Watsonville YMCA, 21-11, 21-18.

Stadlberger had to beat Jon Kangas, San Jose Y, 21-11, 16-21, 21-8 and Kevin Sheehy, Embarcadero Y, 21-12, 21-5 to meet Goffstein.

Mitch Covington, Fresno, had to play two tough 3-game matches beating young Bob Dow, San Jose YMCA, 18-21, 21-20, 21-20. Dow was ahead 19-16 and 20-15 before losing to Covington. Covington had one 21-20 game too many while losing to Jerry Cooke, 20-21, 21-18, 21-20. He also lost a 21-20 game to Rick DelBovo, Watsonville Y, in the first round, making it five out of 11 games going 21-20.

Raul Muniz, SERC, pulled off the biggest upset of the tournament by beating Bob Blanco, also South End, 21-16, 21-19.

The Watsonville YMCA Handball Committee with Commissioner Parr Eves and his wife Mary along with many others such as Hank Wempe and his wife Nancy, Russ and Sandi Hampton, Gordon and Colleen Sloan, Darrell and Beverly Kelly and Ken Skillicorn and Tom Burke, Al Garcia and Benny Samano did a lot to make the tournament a success.

The players enjoyed 100 pounds of skirt steak, 50 pounds of potato salad and 3½ barrels of beer throughout the weekend. Again, as always, the losers did most of the beer drinking in the hospitality room, led by one of our local champs, Gordon Sloan.

This makes it three championships in a row for Marty. He also won the Invitational doubles in Watsonville this past



WATSONVILLE (celery center) SINGLES TOP THREE . . . (l to r) — Darrell Kelly, YMCA physical director, who has been promoting big things in local handball; Mark Haskell, 2nd; Marty Goffstein, ex-St. Louis, winner; Rudy 'A young 48' Stadlberger, third.

Summer and the San Jose Open Doubles on Labor Day with his partner, Ron Earl.

With the San Jose YMCA leading the way, the Watsonville tournament this year went to the best 2 out of 3 games to 15 with games beginning at 6-6 for the 1st 3 rounds. This seemed well-liked by

all the players and extremely well-liked by the tournament director because everything was right on schedule. That means a lot when you're scheduled to end at 1 a.m. and begin again at 7 a.m. the next morning. **DARRELL KELLY**

Physical Director

MAKE IT A POINT!

Participate in your divisional USHA tournament. (see entry blank for further information)

EAST—Paterson, NJ, YMCA

SOUTH—Clearwater, Fla. YMCA.

CENTRAL—Shreveport, La. YMCA.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN—Phoenix YMCA.

WEST—Olympic Club, San Francisco.

NORTHWEST—Washington A.C., Seattle.

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Winning Based On Aggressive Offense . . . Get In and Out Fast With Magic 21 Points

By MORT LEVE

"Get in and out of the court a winner as fast as you can."

These sage words of advice were given many years ago by an erudite handballer and recent events bear out the wisdom of this advice.

There are times when a player can go into the court feeling he needs a good tuneup, and playing as he does against an inferior opponent, will keep the ball in play, work on defensive shots and not take an aggressive offensive. And, he may not meet up with any disastrous backlash. However, who is to foretell when this so-called secondary foe will play over his head if he can get one game won and then make some key "unpercentage" shots and place the pressure on "Mr. All Star"?

Stamina plays an all-important role in tournament play.

Recently, Gordie Pfeifer related to us the underlining reason for a three-game loss to Paul Haber at Houston. "I had a big lead up to 18 and Haber was about to give me the game. However, the referee made a call that enraged him and he decided to play it out. Another half hour of tough action took place before I won the game (21-13). He won an exhausting second game, and in the third game I felt it was mine, then came up with a leg cramp that beat me. Had I won that first game easier probably there would have been no cramps."

In a Chicago Park District final round match, Denny Hofflander had a 10-0 lead in the first game . . . he let up, allowed his opponent the escape from the "doughnut"; then a few more points were made. Such a sportsmanlike gesture can backfire. The opponent can come alive.

Paul Haber has played around with first round opponents in the past, flicking everything to the ceiling, controlling the ball beautifully, and working on the theory that he will completely exhaust his opponent. And, it worked. It came back to haunt him at Seattle. First of all, he wasn't at his physical best. He employed the cat and mouse tactics and let it go too far. When he finally realized his mistake the score was against him 3-15 in the third game and then he put on the full offense. Despite his weariness he was able to get back to 15-17 but Luis Marquez stayed with his game plan — shoot at every opportunity, and although he missed a few, he connected at several vital times and won the game and match. I'm sure if Haber had won that match he would have stayed in the tournament contention.

I can remember a similar-type match between Jim Jacobs and Lance Zepp at the Nationals in St. Louis in 1964. Jim had some complaints about an arm (or, was it leg) injury and was definitely not showing at his best against Zepp in the round of 32. In fact, he was down 6-15 in the third game. He did the same thing Haber did — pull out the stops — and he was able to win. Zepp, had he been able to pour in a couple of points could very well have scored the big win and knock the eventual winner right out of the box.

"GO FOR THE DOUGHNUT"

—Meaning, your objective is to hold your opponent to as few points as possible, shutting him out if you can. It is not a stigma to apply the whitewash.

"DON'T START SLOW"

—Get yourself warmed up properly. And, when the gong sounds, you're ready to go at top speed. If you are at your top physical shape you can supplement a short match with solo exercise, in or out of the court, if you feel you need it to stay at a peak.

"MOMENTUM, MOMENTUM, MOMENTUM"

—The all-important must of handball success. Maintain the offensive, shoot the works when you have the serve, regain the serve by good, solid handball. And, remember, it takes 21 points to win. Your opponent can't lose, even if you have 20, if he keeps the serve.

"CONTROL YOUR EMOTIONS"

—Jim Jacobs has written on this but a short reminder won't hurt. If you feel the referee has given you a bad call, shake it off. Don't let that call lead to a loss of another two or three points. In the long haul those calls can even up.

The control of emotions and momentum could be translated into concentration. Concentrate on your game. If the opponent happens to get a few "lucky" shots, stay with your game, don't panic.

"DON'T UNDERESTIMATE YOUR OPPONENT"

—There are many players who play better when they face a better player. It's like the baseball announcer says, "Put a bat in the pitcher's hand and there's no telling what he might do". The opponent who decides he has nothing to lose by shooting for the moon can be very dangerous. Percentages or no percentages he might make a "dozen passes in a row" and make it a toss-up ball game.

"DON'T LOOK AHEAD AT THE NEXT LEVEL OF PLAY"

—There's no tomorrow. Handball tournaments are single elimination. You have to win today to be in the running tomorrow. Play them one at a time. Concentrate on today's opponent. Don't even try and figure out what the draw might bring on tomorrow. Example: At Norfolk in the national Y, Lou Russo was lamenting the fact that he had to play first Terry Muck and then Pat Kirby in the same day (providing he beat Terry) . . . and felt that Pat had an easier foe before the second match of the day. As it happened Terry came up with the flu bug and defaulted, Kirby played with Russo resting on the sidelines, but Lou had himself psyched out.

"PLAY THE PERCENTAGES — UP TO A POINT"

—Percentage handball is solid and over the long haul will probably prove best results. But, when you find your opponent is going against the book and clobbering you, you just can't continue to play conservatively. You've got to fight fire with fire. In other words, you can't sustain a good rally with counter punching, play by the book handball. Shoot at every opportunity. You've got to get back in the fray. Don't get yourself so enmeshed in a pattern that you can't change it when there is a need for change. **BE FLEXIBLE.** React to conditions. What do you have to lose when you're down badly?

"WHEN IN DOUBT, GO OFFENSIVE"

—Don't be afraid to shoot. The impact of the big serve was never more evident than it was at Seattle. Gordie Pfeifer was pulverizing his foes with 12-15 aces a match with a bullet-like, low serve down the right wall. How, then to cope when you're practically giving a handicap? Serve cross court to Gordie's left as Stuff did and then shoot off the return . . . counteract those aces with a serve and shoot game when you have the serve . . . you've got to get those counters up on the board.

"BEST SHOT IN HANDBALL IS THE FLY"

(to page 53)

ADD LETTERS

EXTEND MASTERS AGE?

Dear Mort:

A couple of days ago we were pleased to have a visit from Sid Semel. He and I began immediately to talk about our favorite subjects, handball and racquetball, and soon our conversation turned to an area of particular interest to me, competition at the national level for older players.

As you know, you and I have been talking for several years about National Championships for older players, and in 1972 for the first time the United States Handball Association approved a National Singles Handball Championship for players 50-and-over and awarded this first Golden Masters to Chattanooga. It was a great success, and you have awarded this tournament to Chattanooga again for Feb. 15-18, 1973. As we begin enthusiastic preparations for the second annual event, our major concern is that, with so much interest in the tournament generated last year, we may have a larger field than we can comfortably handle next year.

Much as I like handball and am coming to like racquetball, tennis is really my first love. I have been closely associated for a number of years with tennis for older players, as a competitor, a United States Lawn Tennis Association officer, a tournament director, and a proposer of new age divisions. There are so many parallels between tennis and handball-racquetball that I think we can learn something from the experience of tennis.

National Championships in tennis were being held before the turn of the century, and yet up until ten years ago the only division for older players was a 45-and-over. Ten years ago I proposed to the USLTA a new age division for players 55-and-over, and it was an instant success, with an almost full draw of 64 players for the initial event. Since then more age divisions have been added, and there are now National Championships for over 35, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, and 70. The most popular division still remains the 45-and-over, I believe, and the next two most popular seem to be the 55-and-over and the 35-and-over. But all of these National Championships are very successful, are looked forward to eagerly by many players throughout the country, and have contributed greatly to the advancement of tennis.

The whole point of this letter, of course, is to say that I think it would be a very fine thing for both handball and racquetball to add new age divisions at the national and regional levels as speedily as this can be worked out in the next year or two. I would like to tell you what I think the advantages of this would be and what possible problems there are.

The biggest advantage, of course, is that you make a lot of handball and racquetball players happy by giving them a chance to enjoy competition and to make and renew many friendships at the tournaments which they can attend. The more competitive handball and racquetball that are played, the more interest there is in these great games, and this is something all of us want. Then as more people see that strenuous competitive sports can be played in later years, more people beneath the championship tournament level will realize that they can safely play these sports just for fun and exercise.

The biggest single reason that I have heard for not having national competition for older players is that this might be bad for their health and might lead to such serious problems as heart attacks. Interestingly enough, this never seemed to be a particularly important consideration among the tennis groups, even though a hard two

and a half hour tennis match in the hot sun is about as physically exhausting as a hard hour and a half handball match. And, also interestingly enough, as tennis has expanded to these older age divisions, very, very few health problems have developed among the contestants. Personally, I don't think that the handball and racquetball people should hesitate to try older age events for this reason.

The problem that most concerned the tennis people was whether there would be enough players from enough different sections of the country to give the tournament the distinction of being a National Championship. The tennis people pretty well felt that a draw of 32 from most of the sections of the country was necessary if a tournament was going to have the prestige of a National Championship. In one division, the 50-and-over, there were not as many as 32 entries the first two years, and the tournament was almost discontinued, but by the third year the draw was well over 32, and by the fifth year it was about 64.

From my conversations with handball people, I believe they would be satisfied with slightly smaller fields, perhaps thinking that if there were 16 or more players from around the country, this would be enough. These minimum standards, of course, can be set ahead of time, and a tournament tried to see what the response will be.

Another problem for both tennis and handball is the availability of facilities. There is so much interest these days in just playing tennis that many clubs will not give up their facilities for the necessary number of days to hold a tournament. This seems to be less of a problem for handball. You would know much better than I as to whether there would be enough interest around the country to hold tournaments at these additional age levels.

There is one definite difference between the tennis approach to tournaments and the current handball and racquetball thinking. In every upper age tennis tournament, no contestant is required to play more than one singles match in a day. The majority of the players do also play a doubles match. In most of these National Championships there is a draw of about 64, and six days are devoted to the holding of the tournament.

In handball, on the other hand, there seems to be a desire to hold short tournaments with more than one match in a day. Last year in our National Masters and Golden Masters Singles we played five rounds in three days, and there were some pretty exhausted people on the last day. This year the tournament will be held over four days, but if we have between 32 and 64 players, we could have to play two singles rounds on each of the first two days. My own personal opinion is that players in their 40's and 50's and even their 60's can play competitive singles at the National Championship level. Yet when as many as two singles matches are scheduled in a day, particularly after the first day, I do think the danger of severe muscle or tendon injury is greatly increased and that the luck of the draw becomes much more important in determining the winner, since a player who may have had a hard morning match is at a disadvantage in the afternoon against somebody else who may have had an easier morning match.

Tennis has one other custom which eases the strain on both the tournament committees and the players. They limit the draws to a certain specified number, such as 64 or 32, set entry deadlines of several days before play begins, and then reject entry applications that would put them above this limit. Acceptances are based on the tournament committee's assessment of the abilities of the players, and they select the top 32 or 64 players who have applied.

With this letter, Mort, I am just trying to stimulate some thinking about a further expansion of handball and racquetball in the older age divisions. I think it is worth considering adding new divisions at the 55 and possibly at the 45 and 35 levels. Also, I think it is worth considering the numerical limits on entries and expanding by a day or two the time set aside for tournaments for players beyond 50 so that no more than one singles match will be required on any day other than possibly the first.

ALEX GUERRY
Chattanooga, Tenn.

St. Francis One-Wall

Dear Mr. Kendler:

I wish to thank you for being so kind in having an article in your August HANDBALL Magazine on St. Francis' handball team reported by Ugo Bontempo, entitled "St. Francis Prep Posts One-Wall Mark." In his article Ugo mentioned that the St. Francis Terriers have turned in a record breaking performance of 55 consecutive match wins since 1968. Along with this feat, the team has won four CHSAA City Championships in a row, which is unprecedented in New York Catholic high school play.

I wish to make a few comments about my association with coaching and what I believe has resulted in successful play. I have stressed to my players the importance of physical and mental attitudes in the game and the playing of handball to develop a sportsmanship thinking in winning or losing.

I personally believe that the purpose of handball is to compete against schools in a warm surrounding to improve each boy, both physically, mentally and spiritually! I have read in past instructional HANDBALL Magazine articles that handball teaches patience, moderation and humility. I have drilled into my team members this main objective as I feel that they will learn a lesson for their future lives in dealing with society in learning how to act and treat other people.

I have high praise for my team players who work hard and long to improve themselves. It gives me great pride to help boys with sincerity and who are willing to sacrifice their time and effort for their school. I have never failed to thank Our Lord daily for His many blessings!

Thanking you, Mr. Kendler, for all that you have done to promote handball. God Bless You.

REV. BROTHER ALAN, O.S.F.
CHSAA Handball Chairman
Brooklyn, NY

AXIOMS FOR HANDBALL

(From page 51)

And, to best shoot the fly you've got to be in proper position and quick. Stuffy Singer was executing some fine fly shots but lost the tournament because he was just half a step slow in getting to a shot when he had 20 (and the serve) against Pfeifer.

Steve August was 100% effective with the fly shot, moving real well into position . . . he has the real good range, power, and without physical setbacks this, along with his big power serve, should be his game plan.

Lou Russo, minus a current 10 pounds of lasagna, is the best fly shooter amongst the top drawer performers. He knows that condition is his ever-prevalent problem.

Paul Haber has a good fly shot and must realize at his age that he no longer can "lag" back in deep court and count on quickness to retrieve balls. He should position himself more at the short line position and use the fly shot more (with both hands).

"ALL THINGS BEING EQUAL, THE POWER SERVE CAN SPELL THE DIFFERENCE"

—No doubt. The big serve is even more effective than the fly shot because (1) You are in complete command at the short line . . . (2) You can place the serve where you want it . . . (3) And, with the big serve, you can get some aces and weak returns.

However, there aren't too many players who have the real big serve. Pfeifer and August had it at Seattle and used it to best advantage. Little Terry Muck, with the best court coverage speed in the game, is handicapped without an effective serve. The easiest way to bounce back in a match is with the big serve, obviously. Pfeifer was getting his serve in there like a big time tennis player and in our recent memory more than a few aces has been an exception rather than a rule . . . then to get 12-15 a match is amazing.

"CONTROL IS THE NAME OF THE GAME."

—We've had treatises on this also. Control of your volley, serve, emotions . . . it all comes under this encompassing head. The difference between the winners of tournaments and also runs is often the ability to control the ball when you can't set yourself in position. The ability to put the ball to the ceiling or around the walls when needed . . . the ability to defense with the off hand rather than provide a setup. Pete Tyson wrote a very good article on "finding the weakness" of the offhand, not by just stroking the ball there, but finding out whether that player has his weakness with the offhand, overhead — shoulder high, or lower . . . then the object is to keep the ball at the vulnerable position.

"DON'T GET PSYCHED OUT"

—Stay with your game plan. Don't let your opponent, the draw, or outside comments affect your "life style" . . . stick with what you have. Remember, every handballer, whether he be No. 1 or No. 100, has to put his athletic supporter on the same way!

Miller Over Lackey in Va. State Open

Dick Miller, Greensboro, NC, notched one up on his perennial rival for South honors, Hal Lackey, High Point, NC, beating him for the annual Virginia State Open, held Nov. 11-13, at Norfolk's YMCA, 21-10, 21-12.

Top-seeded Jay Rowe, Richmond, lost to Lackey in the semis, 21-16, 21-5, while Miller eliminated Bill Morecock, Norfolk, 21-14, 21-2. Rowe took third place by default.

New York A.C. team of Fred Munsch

and Ken Ginty took the doubles championship over Dr. Claude Benham, Norfolk, and Dick Husband, now of Nashville, 21-8, 21-14. Wales (Norfolk) and McCulloch, Arlington, Va., won third place over Richie Greenwald and John Scola, New York, 21-7, 17-21, 21-7.

Barry Einhorn and Paul Genovese, both Norfolk, won the Masters doubles over Paul Safarino and Sid Semel, also Norfolk, 21-19, 21-12. Morris-Garino (Wilmington, NC) won third place over

Brown-Kinter, (Fairfax, Va.), 21-20, 21-6.

Harold Powell, Lewistown, Pa., won the consolation singles over Ken Peknic, New York, 21-12, 21-15. Jeff Stone took Richmond, third place consolation over Ty Saltzgiver, Charlotte.

Overall there were 64 singles entries, 9 doubles teams, and 5 Masters doubles teams.

Jim Bishop served as chairman; the Norfolk Handball Club was the sponsoring agent.

United Savings Helms Hall of Fame

Jim Jacobs and Oscar Obert Elected To Handball's Coveted Hall of Fame

Honoring Banquet Held Nov. 30 at New York Athletic Club

Ushering Jim Jacobs into the Helms Handball Hall of Fame was only a matter of when he would become eligible. Assurance of his election was like a Bobby Feller or Stan Musial certainty. Originally we held back eligibility until a player stepped out of open competition; then, at our last Board of Directors meeting in Seattle it was decided that a player could be nominated upon reaching the age of 40.

Judge Joseph Shane, chairman of the Helms Handball Hall of Fame committee, previously had set up eligibility for players who no longer competed in open events, but this stalled any nomination of Jacobs as he has made occasional appearances in open play as he did in the invitational national singles at Birmingham this year.

If there is any nomenclature "complete player" this would apply to Jim Jacobs: . . . power, stamina, two-handed skills, speed, anticipation, and control. As a man who has accumulated the world's largest collection of fight films we know he would understand our description of him best as comparing with a champion counter-puncher in boxing. Jim is the one who developed the control volley game, using the percentage offensive shots, wearing down his opponents, and letting them make the mistakes.

We first met Jim in 1954 when he came to Chicago to compete in the nationals held at Bob Kendler's Town Club. At 24 he was just about ready to assume the throne position. The only thing that kept him back that year was a lack of consistency. Against the late Bob Brady in the semi finals he lost the first game 21-14. Then he proceeded to demonstrate a devastating attack that practically "blew Bob off the court", piling up an 18-0 lead, then winning 21-2. But the veteran San Francisco defending champion, winner the year before at Houston, came back in the final game and methodically wrapped it up, 21-14. There were many around that day who could foresee that Jacobs wasn't to be denied much longer. And, the next year at his home Los Angeles Athletic Club, he put it all together against Vic Hershkowitz, who had beaten Brady in the finals at Chicago, to take the first of six USHA singles crowns.

Angie Trulio, Helms Hall of Famer himself, and former "Together at Twenty" columnist for our magazine, wrote of Jacobs after the '55 win, "Barring injury or illness, Jacobs should go on to better the seven straight mark of Joe Platak and his overall nine national singles wins". And, Jim seemed on the road as he repeated in 1956 and 1957, both over Hershkowitz.

The stage was set for LIFE Magazine coverage and local WGN-TV viewing of the 1958 "World Series" combined USHA-YMCA-AAU at Chicago. The Town Club was again the site for the play up to the singles and Masters doubles finals, and then the revolutionary glass to the floor in side and back walls of the suburban Aurora YMCA was to be the stage for those final events. It was also a YMCA Chicago-Land Centennial and Art Linkletter was key guest and was to do the TV sportscast at Aurora.

Jacobs had literally breezed to the singles finals and was to meet Johnny Sloan at Aurora. However, in the doubles finals the night before, Jacobs playing with Morrie Singer, against Sloan and Phil Collins, suffered a back injury on a collision with Sloan in a losing third-game of the match. The "natural" setting for the singles final at Aurora turned into an injury default and threw any possibilities of LIFE coverage out the window. An exhibition between Hershkowitz and Sloan was substituted. And, the "barring injury" had come to Jacobs.



SIX USHA NATIONAL DOUBLES TITLES . . . Jacobs (l) with Marty Decatur, considered by many as best doubles team of them all. Undeclared in tournament and exhibition play over a 10-year period, this power serve and shooting pair rolled up six open doubles national USHA titles.

It looked like the Jacobs career was ended in 1959. In the national YMCA tournament held in Cleveland Jim played Johnny Sloan in the finals. After winning the first game and taking a big lead in the second, he found himself totally exhausted, lost the game and then the third game. He was unable to enter the USHA nationals held three weeks later at his home Los Angeles A.C. and after thorough examinations by a heart specialist it was found that Jim had a rare condition in which he was flooding his circulatory system with too much oxygen thus causing the exhaustion. Glenn Cunningham, the famed miler, also had this condition. It was cleared up within a six month period and Jacobs was able to resume full play.

And, this he did in probably his strongest USHA tournament at the San Francisco Olympic Club in 1960 when he won the singles and doubles (with Dick Weisman). Again, the injury bugaboo struck in 1961 and he limped through

(To page 75)

OSCAR OBERT's 20

USHA NATIONAL TITLES

Oscar Obert has won more open U.S. Handball Association national championships than any other player in the history of the game. Oscar has accumulated 20 crowns — Four-Wall: singles (1962-63); Three-Wall: singles (1962); doubles: 1957, 1959-60; 1964-65; 1967; One-Wall: singles (1959-60-61; 1963-64-65); doubles — (1959-60-61-62-63). All his one-wall and three-wall doubles titles were achieved with his brother, Ruby.

Vic Hershkowitz leads by one in number of USHA national titles with 21; however, nine of these titles have been in Masters competition.

Jim Jacobs' 15 USHA championships: six four-wall singles, six four-wall doubles (one with Dick Weisman, five with Marty Decatur), three three-wall singles.

OSCAR OBERT as an all-around great, started in one-wall, branched to national championships in three-wall (pictured) and four-wall.

Oscar Obert developed into a champion four-waller comparatively late in his career mainly because he had concentrated on one-wall, combining with his most talented brothers, Ruby and Carl, to stake a firm claim as the outstanding brother combine in the history of the game. Like Vic Hershkowitz, Oscar branched into four-wall after accumulating many national one-wall honors and it took several years of top tournament play to master the side and back walls, and ceiling.

We remember Oscar's brilliant but erratic showing at the "World Series of Handball" in 1958 at Chicago's Town Club when he met the late Bob Brady in the second round. Oscar had the big serve and the thrilling fly kills from all parts of the court but the fighting Brady overcame this with his overall court generalship. It was a knock-down drag out three-gamer with Brady finally winning, 14-21, 21-16, 21-18. In addition Oscar and Ruby lost a real tough doubles match in the quarter-finals to eventual winners, Johnny Sloan and Phil Collins.

Oscar boosted his stock to a fifth place singles showing in 1959 but wasn't ready as yet for the "Little Mechanic" Sloan. Obert's peak was to be the 1961-62 season when he started off with the one-wall victory, then beat Sloan at Houston for a first big four-wall prize, and then won his first three-wall singles at Detroit, beating his brother, Carl, for that honor.

A second four-wall singles was annexed at Seattle in 1963 when Oscar again stopped Sloan.

Coincidentally, Oscar entered national USHA tournaments at the age of 28, as did Hershkowitz. They both proved that the switch from one-wall to four-wall can be done successfully.

Oscar Obert has 20 open national USHA championships to stand alone. Hershkowitz has 21 national USHA titles, nine of them in Masters events. Again, as an unusual angle, Oscar and Vic, who joined the New York A.C. team several years ago, teamed in the national 3-wall in 1971 and lost in the finals to Dr. John Scapis and Jim Golden.

In the past five years or more Oscar has been badly hampered with a chronic back condition. He can no longer get low for those blistering fly shots and bullet serves. Always in splendid physical condition he would today be a dominant figure in Masters play in all three phases of the game were he able to maneuver capably around the courts.

Oscar Obert brought real crowd appeal to handball as a tremendous competitor, exciting all-out shooter, with championship "killer instinct" demeanor on the court. He gave no quarter to any opponent, played clean, and performed superbly. His entrance into the Helms Handball Hall of Fame is richly deserved.



Jacobs-Obert Receive Hall of Fame Honors

Jim Jacobs and Oscar Obert were officially installed in the United Savings Helms Handball Hall of Fame Nov. 30 at a gala testimonial reception-dinner held at the New York Athletic Club. Arrangements were made between USHA headquarters and Joe Ingrassia, athletic commissioner for the New York A.C.

An exhibition between Terry Muck, St. Paul, and Lou Russo, host club, resolved with Terry holding the upper hand, 21-6, 21-11. Tom Bria did an excellent job of refereeing. Muck, who had established himself as a solid performer when winning the Club's invitational in 1971, outshot Russo and was the much steadier in overall play.

As Oscar's brother, Ruby, put it, "There must be over 200 national championships amongst the audience tonight." Most of New York's upper echelon of one-wall, three-wall and four-wall came to honor two of the game's all-time greats.

Stuffy Singer was a surprise guest, extolling Jim as "the greatest four-wall player who ever walked the earth", and recalling that Jacobs stood up for him at his wedding in 1966, "and, feeling that Jim will never get married, this is the one way I can return the favor".

Despite severe facial injuries suffered in a fall just a couple of days previously, USHA President Bob Kendler flew in from Chicago with Evie to deliver words of praise for both recipients. His talk is included, starting on page 58.

Charlie O'Connell, the former AAU national commissioner, retaining the vigor and sharpness of humor at 84, recalled how he brought the Obert brothers to the New York A.C. four-wall scenes after their successes in one-wall. Charlie talked of the wonderfully, close family relationship of the Oberts.

Eastern Handball Notables

Among the many handballers who attended were: Steve Sandler, one of the all-time one-wall greats; Lou Kramberg, Fred Munsch, Ken Ginty, Sid Semel, our USHA Southeast Commissioner, Mort Leve, USHA executive secretary; Bill Kennedy, USHA East area commissioner; Sid Balinsky, Ruby and Carl Obert; Tom Ciasulli, Leon Levin from Philadelphia, along with Jack Emas; Ken Smolack, Frank Munsch, Jack Decatur, Marty Decatur, Stuffy Singer, in from Los Angeles; Harry Hyde, Major Jackson of West Point; Larry Dolan, head man of the Irish-American Handball Association; already Hall of Famers — Vic Hershkowitz, Bob Kendler, Charlie O'Connell; Terry Muck, Artie Reyer, Sam Silvers, and many others we do not wish to overlook or slight.

And, so, the names of Jim Jacobs and Oscar Obert are added to the glittering roster that includes — **PLAYERS:** Sam Acheson, *Al Banuet, *Robert Brady, Frank Coyle, Vic Hershkowitz, Maynard Laswell, Gus Lewis, *Joe Platak, George Quam, Ken Schneider, Angelo Trulio.

NOTEWORTHY CONTRIBUTORS: George Brotemarkle, *Frank Garbutt, Hyman Goldstein, Robert Kendler, *George Lee, Charles O'Connell, *Al Schaufelberger, Joe Shane, Les Shumate.

*Deceased.

Greetings came from far and near . . . Joe Jennings wrote Larry Dolan — "Please raise your glasses to all those who have given so much to handball." — Joe Jennings, President, Irish Handball Council.

RUBY LAUDS BROTHER . . .

Ruby Obert — admonished by Oscar — "Keep it short".

I want to thank you for paying tribute to Oscar and Jim. It's a marvelous thing to have a night like this. Looking around the audience there must be more than 200 national titles represented here in this room.

It's the grass roots of the game — AAU, JWB, YMCA and USHA . . . credit must be given to such men as Bob Kendler, Charlie O'Connell, Steve Subak and the many tireless referees.

I know you all know of the Obert brothers but I wanted to introduce another Obert — my sister Anne. They always ask me, "Does she play handball, too?" No, she's a wrestler and my brother-in-law Vic can prove that.

I can tell you of the thrill I always got of being on the same court with Oscar, getting a first hand view of what he was doing, and me not doing anything necessarily. I was always given plenty of instruction, especially in one-wall before every match. Oscar would say, "Look kid, every ball is mine except those I can't reach or hits to the right line where you may be standing." That combination seemed to work . . . teamwork was taught me — he let me keep score.

I think one of the outstanding characteristics of Oscar is his courage. At Houston in the four-wall in 1962 he was losing the third game of the finals to Johnny Sloan, 18-19. On the next volley Oscar got hit in the eye . . . the fellow next to me said, "It's all over now. He got hit in the eye. What can he possibly do?" Well, Oscar came back with an inner courage, rolled out three shots to win, 21-19.

His sense of sportsmanship . . . Oscar is four years older than me, and had not as yet won a national championship when we met each other in the finals of one-wall in 1954. Oscar had no idea that he would go on to win 42 national titles . . . but that night that rascal let me win the championship.

There are many here that travel back with us 20 to 25 years and they have been great years. Oscar's friends at the New York News thought it appropriate to honor him singularly. Paul Robinson is presenting a framed Sunday headline edition (25¢ now) with the bold faced head — "OSCAR OBERT INDUCTED INTO HANDBALL HALL OF FAME".

O'Connell Gave Oberts 'Wing Foot'

CHARLIE O'CONNELL/OSCAR . . .

A few years ago I had possibly my biggest thrill out of handball. Mrs. Obert, the boys' mother, came to me and gave me a watch, saying, "This is for what you did for my boys."

Actually, it's not what I did for the Obert brothers, it's what the boys did for me. They confirmed my confidence in them as great champions, and what they did for the New York Athletic Club.

There has never been a closer, finer family than the Oberts. The esteem and respect the boys have for their parents is heartwarming. Their folks traveled all over with them.

On the light side. There was a priest on the West Side who wanted to build up his congregation. He placed a sign outside the gate, "If you're finished with sin, drop in." The next morning he went out and saw, scrawled in red lipstick, "If not, call Loretta — Chelsea 60001."

I'm drawing to the end of the line at 84 and it seems they have been giving me periodic retirement parties — one at 70, one at 75, then 80, then 81 . . . now, Joe came to me and told me this would be a fine way to close out my career.

I would call Oscar Obert the greatest all-around handball player of all time.

And, Jim Jacobs, I consider with any of the four-wall players of all times. I met Jim 17 or 18 years ago and have been close to him ever since. I can remember how he volunteered to accommodate our father-son night with his fight films and this had to be the best one we ever had.

OSCAR OBERT'S ACCEPTANCE TALK—

Two great people mean more than anyone else in the world to me, my Mom and Pop. They're first in my heart and what they did for me in all my years of playing will never be forgotten. Also, my wife, Marge, all she did for me was pack my bags and when she packed them she forgot my "sneakers"!

But, in all sincerity I really appreciate the honor you have bestowed on me. My son will be 3 years old tomorrow and he is going to be a great handball player . . . all he likes to do is play ball. It's an honor to be here and see all you great — no, half great players out there. Maybe some day you'll be up here. Without you guys I wouldn't be up here. Because, every time I beat you it helped me. When I'm old (I'm only 29 now) you can step in my place and know what the game is all about . . . to love and honor the game.

I will say to my son, do as I have done — but if you don't want to play the game, don't do it.

The greatest athlete that ever played was a man that lost because when he lost he found greatness. Because when you're down at the bottom you come up and when you are up at the top you go down. I thank you very much.

INGRASSIA ORGANIZER

Joe Ingrassia who served nobly as m.c. and cooperated 100% in planning this honoring exhibition, reception and dinner, should not be overlooked. Joe is a former AAU national doubles champion and is the driving force behind the New York Athletic Club athletic program.

From Jim's Los Angeles A.C.

Dear Jim:

How happy I am that you are being honored by the HELMS HANDBALL HALL OF FAME.

Your mark on the game both as a champion and a great human being will always be remembered in the annals of Handball.

Good luck Jimmy, cherish your award. All your friends at the Los Angeles Athletic Club join me in congratulating you.

Sincerely, your friend,

RICHARD "DUKE" LLEWELLYN
Director of Athletics
Los Angeles Athletic Club
and Allied Clubs

Father O'Connell's Invocation

Some dream of the deed, others do it. The two men we honor tonight are doers. They have used God-given gifts of coordination, stamina, balance. The poet Ruskin said that "A fine art is that in which the hand, the head and the heart of man go together." Oscar and Jimmy have made a fine art of Handball.

We ask you, Almighty God, to bless them in every aspect of their lives. We are grateful for the example they have set before us.

Bless, too, all those who have joined in friendship and respect to pay them honor.

Bless the food we are about to eat that it may keep us strong to enable us to continue in the game of handball which we love, and the game of life as well.

FATHER O'CONNELL

From Hawaii — Sloan's Message

To Jim Jacobs and Oscar Obert — (wonder who'd play the left?)

Now that you are at the twilight of your handball years, ready for the Masters, and I'm still a "comer" (always wondered what they meant by that?), I understand you've been elected to the Helms Hall of Fame.

I've had the opportunity (could have used a better word) of losing to you both in National finals — never could figure out why though — If you'd trained with me the nite before I'd have challenged the two of you.

On a serious note, upon hearing the sad news of Bob Brady recently passing away, I began thinking of some of the great matches we've been in. I know Oscar remembers the 3-wall in Detroit when Bob and I down 20-10 the 3rd game pulled it out. I know Jimmy remembers something similar in '57 at the Olympic Club. It brought back so many of these tournaments.

Some of my fondest memories are of the thrills, the heartbreaks, the satisfactions, the frustrations, and the great competition that I enjoyed in over a decade of handball. I thank you, Jimmy and Oscar, for most of them.

The National tournament in Seattle was fine, but it didn't seem like the Nationals to me, without a Jimmy Jacobs or an Oscar Obert there . . . Let's try and make it to Austin next year so we can get together, maybe over an orange juice, a beer, and a VO and water.

My sincere congratulations on being elected to the Helms Hall of Fame, to both of you.

Very best wishes and
a fond Aloha . . .
Your Pal,

JOHNNY SLOAN

Bob Kendler Eulogizes New Hall of Famers

Thank you, Joe, and thanks to everyone of you who helped to make this tribute possible. It is certainly well deserved, and I am honored to be a part of it. The Handball Committee is to be congratulated, not only for bringing all the "chiefs of staff" together, but also for doing a great job of selling tickets.

It makes me think of the time I visited the Chapel at the Air Force Academy in Colorado. As you approach, you see the 17 spires across the top — which the Colonel told me represented the 12 Apostles and the 5 Chiefs of Staff. Once inside, I saw a magnificent Protestant Chapel on the top floor. Downstairs was an equally beautiful Catholic Chapel. Just behind it, toward the back, was a most impressive Jewish Temple. I asked the Colonel why the Protestants were upstairs, the Catholics downstairs, and the Jews in the back room.

He replied that the Protestants were **up** where they **WOULD LIKE TO GO!** He said they didn't have a chance of making it, but this gave them a boost in the right direction.

The Catholics were downstairs because they seemed to be heading in the same direction; and in order to save time, the Chapel designers gave them a head start. When the Rabbi was asked why the Jewish Temple was in the back room, he said, *"That was OUR choice! With all the traveling the Protestants and Catholics are doing, we wanted to be in a good spot to sit here and sell tickets."*

To be chosen for the Helms Hall of Fame award is just one step short of athletic immortality. Here, each honored athlete is enshrined with others who have achieved greatness in the pages of amateur history. It is a significant award that, on an occasion like this, brings respect and distinction to you who are honored, and to the proud organization you represent. Both of tonight's recipients — Mr. Oscar Obert and Mr. Jimmy Jacobs — have led exemplary lives, inside and outside the court, and the Helms Foundation deserves our gratitude for their superior selections. When you realize what the Foundation stands for, you will feel — as we do — that this award is something to be sought after and dearly treasured.

Helms Hall Supports Amateurs

The Helms Hall of Fame originated in 1936 for the purpose of supporting worthy athletic activities and collecting athletic memorabilia. In addition, the Foundation instigated Halls of Fame in amateur athletic endeavors to honor outstanding players and contributors. The Hall is located opposite one of the globe's major crossroads — the Los Angeles International Airport. Many people consider it the world's greatest sports museum and library. **Handball** has its own niche here with noteworthy contributions of trophies. Previously honored handball stars include Sam Atcheson, Al Banuet, Bob Brady, Frank Coyle, Gus Lewis, Vic Hershkowitz, Maynard Laswell, Joe Platak, George Quam, Ken Schneider, and Angelo Trulio.

The history of the world is but a biography of great men. The two players we salute tonight are not only **GREAT** men — but in handball, they rank with the greatest! Whatever laurels belong to one, belong to both. My words of praise, however inadequate, are directed equally to Mr. Obert and

Mr. Jacobs. They both played in a generation of many outstanding stars — and as the passing years make winning tougher and tougher, it can only be said that they beat the **TOUGHEST** of competitors.

Their records were not made in the early years when one or two men dominated the whole sport. Their titles came when a **HUNDRED** players could have won, and when **HUNDREDS MORE** were standing at the portal. So they truly belong in the Hall of Fame as players who have brought great prestige to our sport.

Oscar Always 'Shot to Kill'

Personally, I like them both — and for different reasons. Take Oscar, for example. I always thought he was the most cold-blooded "killer" I ever saw. Also the most capable. No one ever perfected the fly kill better, and I don't think anyone ever will. He used his left with the same wild abandon as his right. You never knew **when** he was going to kill — or **where**. (I sometimes wondered if **HE** did!) Many players kill only when you are to the rear — but not Oscar. He killed regardless of **WHERE** you were — and with utter disregard for the score. I think all opponents looked alike to Oscar — **LOSERS!** He was so supremely confident, so unemotional, so impersonal, so dedicated to winning — that overnight he became one of the most admired players in our history.

Oscar brought new intensity to the tournaments, a fierce competitiveness that made the entire Obert family a legend. If there was ever a truly professional type player in handball, Oscar was the man. He always played like a pro, acted like a pro, and to his everlasting credit — he won and lost like a pro. With him it was strictly business — the business of winning just as fast and as fair as he could. He used no subterfuges — just serve 'em and kill 'em!

There was never a doubt about his sportsmanship, never a question that he would call his own **double** bounces, never a suspicion of his integrity or character. He was a model player, as I am sure he is a model son, and now a model father. Just as long as handball harvests men like Oscar, our sport will rise to plateaus far beyond our fondest hopes. His impact on handball has not only bettered the game, it has bettered the people who play it.

Oscar Obert developed into a champion **four-waller** comparatively late in his career — mainly because he had concentrated on one-wall. Combined with the very talented Ruby and Carl Obert, they laid a firm claim to the title of "the world's best brother team."

Speaking of these three great players makes me think of the story about three young flyers who, unfortunately, were killed in Vietnam when a bomb exploded during their mission. One was Patrick O'Connell, one was Sam Cohen, and the other was Rastus Jones. St. Peter was the first to greet them when they got to heaven, and he was **MOST** surprised. He said, *"You boys are MUCH too young to be here! But I think I can do something about it. If each of you will give me \$100, I'll see that you are returned to your earthly world immediately."*

Patrick O'Connell paid his \$100 and promptly found himself back with his squadron in Vietnam. The sergeant in command was absolutely dumbfounded! He wondered how

this miracle could have happened! When the Irish lad explained the unusual agreement with St. Peter, the sergeant asked, "Well then, where are your buddies?"

"Oh, they'll be along! Sam Cohen is bargaining — he's up to \$79.50 now, and Rastus Jones is busy looking for a co-signer!"

Oscar branched into four-wall after accumulating many national one-wall honors; and although it took several years of top tournament play to master the side and back walls, Oscar never gave up.

I remember Oscar's brilliant showing at the "World Series of Handball" in 1958 at Chicago's Town Club, when he met the late great Bob Brady in the second round. Oscar had the big serve and the thrilling fly kills from all parts of the court, but the fighting Brady overcame this with his over-all court generalship. It was a knock-down drag-out three-game affair that none of us will ever forget!

Oscar Hit Heights in '61-'62

Oscar boosted his stock to a fifth place singles showing in 1959 but wasn't quite ready for the "Little Mechanic" Sloan. Oscar's peak was reached in the 61-62 season, when he started off with the ONE-WALL championship, then beat Sloan at Houston for the FOUR-WALL prize! He then went on to win his first THREE-WALL singles at Detroit — beating his brother, Carl, for that honor. Another four-wall singles championship was won at Seattle in 1963 when Oscar again stopped Sloan.

Incidentally, both Oscar and Vic Hershkowitz entered national USHA tournaments at the age of 28. They proved that the switch from one-wall to four-wall can be done successfully.

Oscar has 20 open national USHA championships to stand alone. Although Hershkowitz has 21 USHA titles, 9 of them are in Masters events.

In the past 5 years, Oscar has been badly hampered with a chronic back condition. He can no longer get low for those blistering fly kills and bullet serves. Always in splendid physical condition, he would today be a dominant figure in Masters play — in all three phases of the game — if he were able to play without pain. I sometimes think it is more painful for him NOT to play!

Oscar Obert brought real crowd appeal to handball as a tremendous competitor, and as an exciting all-out shooter with a championship demeanor that had no equal. He gave no quarter to any opponent, played clean, and performed superbly. His entrance into the Hall of Fame makes me PROUD that there is a way to express our gratitude for his countless thrills, his unmatched skill, his inspiration to player and spectator alike. And all with a quiet humility that made everyone love and admire him.

Now I have a few well-chosen words to tell you about Jimmy Jacobs, but let me take just a moment to thank you for your smiling attention and patience. Folks don't seem to mind waiting, if the reason is important enough.

You know, people in New York often wait MONTHS to get theatre tickets for the hit shows. I know one couple who waited three months to get tickets, and when they finally sank into their box seats, they were amazed to find the seat next to them was empty. How could this happen at a "standing room only" performance? It kind of irritated the couple during the entire first act. At intermission time they struck up a conversation with the lady sitting just beyond the empty seat.

"Was this seat reserved for a friend of yours?" they asked.

"Yes," she replied. "It was for my husband, but he passed away in the meantime."

"Oh, we're sorry to hear that," replied the gentleman. "But couldn't you have invited one of your friends to come in his place?"

"Not really," the lady admitted. "They are all at his funeral!"

Now this really was not intended to be Jimmy's handball funeral. On the contrary, we are gathered here rather to remind you that he is the ONLY one of his kind ever to grace our sport. It seems only yesterday that he modestly applied for admission into our charmed circle of players. Today he has his own charmed circle, and we are lucky if WE can get in. But Jim never forgot handball — at least not the day he was having lunch with Burt Lancaster, Frank Sinatra, and Alan King. During a discussion concerning televising the Joe Frazier-Mahammad Ali fight, a total stranger pushed through the crowded restaurant and came right up to Jimmy, not even noticing the famous people at the table. He said, "I know you! You're Jim Jacobs. Don't you remember me? My name is Dick Zaveson, and I'm president of the Akron Handball Association. Could I please have your autograph?" I feel sure that the movie stars soon realized THEY were lucky to be lunching with handball's one-and-only super star!

It is hard for me to believe that, almost overnight, Jim carved a niche for himself in the Hall of Handball Immortals. It's hard to believe — because he came to me as a shy, introverted "puddy cat" who looked more like a professor than a player!

Our first encounter took place in 1951 when he arrived unannounced asking for a game. When our receptionist told me the purpose of this kid's visit, she added that he had been playing handball only 11 months.

"Why bother ME," I said — "Send him down to the Club."

But WHAT a bother he turned out to be! An hour later Gus Lewis called and said, "Chief, you'd better get down here. This kid, Jacobs, wants to be on our team."

I said, "So what?"

Gus added, "He also wants a job."

I frowned. "What else does he want?"

Gus is very polite and low-keyed, but he asked, "Well . . . could he stay at your home?"

I was getting irritated. "Oh, SURE! I suppose he wants some clothes too!"

"That's right," Gus replied. "You're both the same size, and it's much colder here than in Los Angeles!"

Well, Jacobs got plenty of ice from me — along with the cold weather.

Bob's Long Lasting Friendship

He also moved into my house, my office, and my clothes! It was the beginning of a perfectly wonderful friendship. I suppose no one has ever intrigued me more in handball than Jimmy Jacobs. I could stand here all night telling you interesting things about him. Every now and then, something will remind me of the many secrets that passed between us, the mutual admiration we felt, the genuine affection that we have — one for the other. I hope Jimmy won't mind a few amusing things I am going to tell, just to convince you he is not a handball machine, a money machine, or a hippie.

Let me start by saying that Jimmy Jacobs NEVER lacked for great ideas. At one time he and Johnny Sloan decided they could make a million dollars by building handball courts behind saloons. This would have been a highly original idea,

except for the fact that it had been practiced by the Irish for 1,000 years! I could just see Jacobs, who never drank, holding up Sloan, who invented drinking — facing the Oberts in a do-or-die match for the right to play Haber and Upatnieks, representing the Women's Christian Temperance Union!

Let's assume this handball emporium was on Irving Park Boulevard — right across the street from the YMCA where only the holier-than-thou people play. I can see Joe Ardito (who eats like Sloan drinks) refereeing, and Phil Collins keeping score. That's like asking a werewolf to button your collar! I can hear Ruby Obert screaming bloody murder whenever Sloan goes into the corner to take another shot of Seagrams VO while Jacobs very quickly takes another vitamin pill. Somehow this idea never got off the ground!

An amusing incident took place several years ago in San Francisco during a championship game with Johnny Sloan. After two hours of grueling play, Jimmy fell to the floor in terrible pain with a severe leg cramp. All athletes fear an injury, and hypochondriacs are commonplace in our world. However, medical assistance was summoned and the match was halted for nearly an hour. Jimmy finally reappeared with his leg bandaged like a freshly wrapped holiday package. The spectators applauded wildly as Jim gallantly approached the service line. A hush fell over the crowd as the referee called service. Just then Jim turned to the stands and loudly lamented, "Gosh, I think they've taped the wrong leg!" The postscript to the story is that Jimmy was so refreshed from his time out that he went on to win the match!

Elbert Learns Who's Champ

Phil Elbert always tells the story of the time he participated in his first national championship at the Town Club in Chicago in 1958. As luck would have it, the newly graduated Elbert drew Jimmy Jacobs in the first round. Naturally, the stands were packed in anticipation of watching the Defending National Champ in his first round warm-up. Oblivious to rankings — and much less to this guy named Jacobs — Elbert attacked his foe with the alacrity and enthusiasm only a college boy can generate.

Much to the surprise of all, including Mr. Jacobs, Elbert jumped off to a 5-1 lead with a series of spectacular dives, leaps, and pinwheels. Jimmy immediately signaled for a time out, approached the lad with his air of total confidence, and softly whispered, "Say, Elbert, you really have a world of potential, your enthusiasm is great, and I've never met a more determined chap. However, you see all these people, kid? Well, they came to watch ol' Jimmy play — so please — cut out the dramatics!"

Needless to say, this unnerved Elbert so much, the final score was 21-5, 21-1 in favor of the silver-tongued orator!

It's going to be pretty hard to get serious about Jimmy after the roasting he just received. But you should know the Helms Award is a very significant one, and is given only for outstanding performance by an outstanding player. Jimmy's record overwhelmingly qualifies him for this honor.

He's been a consistent title winner every year from 1954 through 1968. He holds 6 USHA championships for national singles, 6 championships for national doubles, the distinction of winning both the singles and doubles in 1960 and 1965. In addition, Jimmy won the A.A.U. national singles title in 1956, 1960, and 1964; and he won the Y.M.C.A. national singles title in 1956, 1959, and 1960! That's a total of 18 first place titles; but he also has enough 2nd and 3rd place trophies to blind anyone with sensitive eyes!

Jimmy had great training prior to his handball fame. He

was an outstanding athlete at the Los Angeles High School, and his coaches there regarded him as a great natural athlete. He held the record of scoring the most points in one basketball game, and took 2nd in the All-City Track Meet in the 100-yard dash.

His basketball coach often regretted Jim's fanatic addiction to comic books — but this weakness turned to wealth when he sold his enormous collection for a fortune!

Many players say Jimmy won his titles on the ceiling, along the left wall. It isn't true. Jim's battle plan was always a well-kept secret, but now it can be told.

It all began with the shield and the sword. You guard with your left, and punch with your right. Translating this to handball, you volley with your left, and kill with your right.

That system was great for the gladiators in the Coliseum of Rome, but not in a handball court. After all these years, someone should have told Jim that handball is a TWO-HANDED game, and the shield and the sword is for one-armed bandits — like slot machines! Just think what Jim could have done with TWO hands! Haber would be unemployed, Singer would still be a virgin, and Jimmy could have won the Canadian Nationals without Mort Leve!

Along with the shield and the sword, Jimmy was a master of self-intrigue — that is, he psyched himself to a point where he resembled nothing human on this earth. He added voodoo to his mystic powers and stuck pins into dolls that resembled his opponents. When challenger suddenly felt a hamstring snap, or an Achille's tendon tear, it was not the game but Jimmy's voodoo witchcraft that caused it.

If ever there was a student of the game, it was Jim Jacobs — back in the days when he first came to Chicago. He would sit in the stands when Gus Lewis and Ken Schneider played, and actually TAKE NOTES of every play! It is safe to assume he watched OTHER great players in action, studied the best features of each, and practiced their techniques. After a promising apprenticeship in handball, Jimmy vacationed for the next several years in Korea, where he spent his time laying plans for today's free-thinking soldiers. His memoirs, published in Ace Magazine, implied that he was really Ernie Pyle and not a displaced handball fanatic.

Upon his return from the war abroad — to the war in the court — he soon went down in the record books as one of the greatest handball players of modern times.

Jim Revolutionized Game

That's what the record book says, but I have my OWN book — and you don't have to win ANYTHING to be in it. You just have to do something I consider important, and Jimmy did. I think he, more than anyone else, made this a five-wall game. His expertise with the ceiling ball added a dimension so exciting that handball has never been the same! Handball has never been the same!

We tend to talk about the big things when we pay tribute to a great person. It wasn't the big things Jim did that endeared him to me. It was the little things — the clinics, the exhibitions, the tours, the articles, the integrity — and most of all, the loyalty. Never once, in all our years together, has Jim ever refused any request of mine. If I needed someone for an impossible job, I knew I could rely on Jimmy to take it on successfully.

At this stage in his life, the fight game has become very important, and he's good at that too! Just ask the wise guy in Los Angeles who wound up with a broken jaw trying to take Jim's parking space. Jimmy's the only man I know who mixed professional boxing and amateur handball, and made a lot of money doing it.

No man who CONTINUES to pour his best efforts into the material, intellectual, and moral well-being of this world — is left very long without proper reward. Jim has long deserved this reward for his countless acts of kindness and consideration that are known wherever handball is played. In totaling the riches he has worked hard for — and claimed — I'm sure none is more precious than the recognition he is receiving tonight — from friends and competitors — from here and everywhere. His biography attests to the fact that those who attain excellence, spend the major portion of their time toward a single pursuit. Excellence is not often gained on easier terms.

One must combine talent and determination with the gentle characteristics of a first class performer — in order to successfully achieve distinction. It is these qualities which make the bright and immortal names — the heroes — to which our children aspire. The lofty example which Jim has set is the richest bequest a man can leave on this earth. His devotion to our Players' Fraternity may never be equalled. It is fitting, therefore, that we now present Jim Jacobs — 4 wall handball's one-and-only Super Star — with this mark of high achievement — the Helms Foundation Hall of Fame Award.

Decatur's Decade With Jim

MARTY DECATUR/JACOBS

Marty Decatur was introduced as a disciple of Bob Davidson's "serve and shoot" school.

Again, congratulations Oscar.

Eleven years ago, when Jim came to New York we paired up for the national doubles held at Houston. We were to play Morrie Singer and Phil Collins and to ease the tension Jim handed me a steel, leather encased black jack. Jim had a way then, and now of easing the mind. Beyond handball, I value his friendship tremendously.

There have been many highlights in handball for me but the one of being asked to play as his doubles partner as a raw youngster stands out. I was still calling him Mr. Jacobs.

I have had a heckuva lot of fun playing Jim at the 92nd St. YMHA, getting the ideal view in the court of his killers, hooks, ceiling shots and passes.

Another highlight was the tour of the European Air Force bases. My only regret is that I have missed some of the national tournaments over the past decade and I can blame my wife, Phyllis for several of them. In 1964 she refused to spend her honeymoon at the nationals; and two of our three children were born at tournament time . . . poor planning. I'll have to go back to the drawing board.

There are the ingredients of physical, mental and competitive ability that leads to super ability. Few have it. Today, I venture to say, Jim Jacobs has not passed his gloves to the mantle and will win more in open competition.

I see him as more than a great handball player . . . also for his sportsmanship, friendship, and it is an especially great honor to be here. He commands my respect as a person and as a friend.

MYSTERY GUEST/SINGER

Joe Ingrassia then introduced the "mystery guest". Unbeknownst to Jim Jacobs, Stuffy Singer had flown in from the West Coast to attend the Hall of Fame honors. Stuffy: There are 200 champions out there for they have sat around and listened to Kendler, O'Connell and Ruby Obert. The tendency is to say too much, but if you don't say enough

they're liable to take you in a handball court and kick your rear end in.

I'm not a one-waller and my four-wall record in New York is so horrendous I won't go near Oscar so I will talk about Jimmy. Fair enough?

This is a heckuva long way to come, especially from a 89° temperature in Los Angeles (weather was cold and sleety that night in N.Y.). However, in 1966 Jim flew out to L.A. to stand up at my wedding and as it's obvious by now he's never going to get married, this had to be it.

My game is four-wall and in my opinion Jim Jacobs is the finest four-wall player who ever walked the earth. As an example I can tell stories from a couple of top players.

In 1970 at Los Angeles, Pat Kirby was getting ready to play Paul Haber. He was heard to have said, "You know, I am going to beat Paul, but tomorrow I am going to play Jacobs and I'll get 7." Five years over the hill and Kirby says he will only get 7 off Jacobs? Kirby continued, "Every Tuesday night at the YMHA I get 7 and this has been going on for a long time so tomorrow I'll get 7."

We were sitting around in Seattle last March and Lou Russo was telling about a practice match he had against Jim. In the middle of the game Jacobs stopped the action, and angrily stomped out of the court. Russo followed him to the locker room and asked, "Why?"

"For 12 years you have been cheating on the score, wetting the ball and you won't call your double bounces. I'm fed up. I don't want to play you any more."

Russo replied, "Jim, wait a second. I admit I've been doing all those things — but, I'm only getting 3 points a game!"

In 1965 there was a player named Dave Graybill who had an intimidating physical appearance. Jim had played in both singles and doubles in Austin and was weary going into the singles finals against Graybill. Marty Decatur's advice was — establish some sort of physical superiority . . . "At every opportunity hit the ball right through him and make him give in to you."

Jim walked onto the court. Dave put his arm around him and said, "I want you to know I heard what Decatur said. If that ball comes within 6 inches of me I'm going to break your arm."

So Jim managed to keep the ball away from him and into the glass and managed to win.

About two months ago I won my first game in 11 years from Jim . . . (from Oscar: "You broke his arm.")

Jacobs Talks Of Career

JIM'S ACCEPTANCE

Jim Jacobs, after receiving the accolades of Bob Kendler, Marty Decatur, Stuffy Singer, and Al Stein:

Thanks very much. Thanks Stuffy for flying in . . . good show.

This marvelous moment, a cherished moment for both Oscar and myself . . . Whatever happens to us the rest of our lives we should never forget this moment.

I was in the other room out there before the dinner and a few people came up to me and independently asked me — "What was the greatest moment you have had in handball?" It wasn't exactly as Bob put it. I came into Chicago 20 years ago with the AAA Kirby Shoe basketball team and I wanted to work for Mr. Kendler and asked for that opportunity. Mr. Kendler had many handball players working for him and if I played any one of them and beat them I could have a position. He gave me a list: Kenny Schneider, Gus Lewis, Billy Baier, Leo Dressler, Frank Coyle, Sam Haber — all the great handball players of all time. I asked him

which one was the eldest and he said, "Frank Coyle, and he's got a pot belly." I played Frank Coyle and got 2 or 3 points.

Bob met me in the locker room, said I was hired and that he had won \$5 because he bet \$5 that Frank wouldn't break a sweat and he showed me his t-shirt and said, "Lucky, not wet". That was my introduction to Bob Kendler and Bob gave some very valuable advice during those years — chiefly, to play a lot of handball, but to make the game secondary — to go out in the business world and do something to make a dollar. He said, "When you're in the handball court play hard and in the business world play equally as hard," which I always have.

Vic Taught Jim Lesson

One of the moments I'll always remember in handball is a loss. It happened after the 1955 nationals in which I beat Vic Hershkowitz in the finals. Vic in those days had his injections in the arms, injections in the leg, and I know now what it felt like. He was 50% of himself and I won a close one. Six months later — I had been working for a construction man named Bill Griswold and Mr. Griswold had his own court . . . his own private handball court . . . a real handball enthusiast. And, he greeted me with his new employee.

He had hired Vic Hershkowitz. Vic had come out to Los Angeles and I was going to have the pleasure of playing him all the time in Griswold's private court. Vic asked me how I'd been and I said I was playing at my best. Well, Griswold wanted us to play that day and he would referee as the only onlooker in his private court. "Jimmy . . . Vic . . . this will be a private national championship for me. I will referee."

We got dressed, went in the court, warmed up, and Vic came up to me and said, "Who will serve first?" I replied, "I am the champ, you serve." Oh, my God! It was an utterly unbelievable thing. I pleaded with Griswold never to tell anybody. I got a few points each game and it was one of the great lessons I've learned from Vic Hershkowitz.

Ever since then I tell people that one of the greatest things that happened to me in handball was to have been in the same court with Vic. About 7 weeks later Vic invited me out to what is called the 3-wall nationals, which he had won 5 or 6 in a row. I went out there and they gave me the second place seed at the bottom and at the end of the tournament I got to Hershkowitz. I don't know whether any of you have seen a 3-wall court . . . some of you have, some of you have not. There is a large left wall and a large right wall. And I had the opportunity to play Vic in the 3-wall nationals and watch the ball go down the walls — one side and the other and in 1955 I got 2 and 5, in 1956, 3 and 7, and about the same until 1959. Every year I would play Vic in the finals.

Finally, in 1959, I believe; it comes to everyone, Vic eventually lost after winning 9 straight. And, fortunately, I thought to myself, I won't have to play him anymore. I looked on the board for my semi-final match to see who I would play and it was spelled "DECANTER" — (Marty Decatur). I got to play Decanter. He came on the court, skinny, emaciated as if he had been in a concentration camp. The bettors, who were always in the back, were betting he wouldn't even last through the warmup. I went from Hershkowitz to Decanter, and, after the first game in which I got 3 points looking at balls going down the left and down the right I went up to Decanter, who was then about 19 years and said, "I'm Jim Jacobs, I'm national 4-wall champion and I want to carry you to the national 4-wall doubles championship. I want you to be my partner." I recognized in Marty Decatur

what everyone seems to agree with. Unquestionably, Marty Decatur is the greatest 4-wall doubles player who ever lived.

I'm particularly grateful to have known you and to have enjoyed your friendship, Bob. I'm looking forward to the rest of my life in having your counsel and friendship. It has been a constant source of warmth to me. Thanks for your friendship.

Vic Hershkowitz — I'm very grateful to have played handball with you. You are undoubtedly the greatest thing that ever lived in a handball court.

I'm particularly grateful to my skinny crutch, Marty Decatur, who kept shoving me up to the top to many doubles championships that I never would have won; never could have won without Marty in the court. Many times he did it all by himself and I'm very grateful to you, Marty.

It is a great honor to be named to the Hall of Fame with Vic Hershkowitz, Oscar Obert, and all of the other people who have made the Hall of Fame. And, I'm very grateful to all of you for coming here this evening for Oscar and myself. Thank you very much.

Mom Obert/O'Connell Honored

SPECIAL AWARDS GIVEN

Following Jim's acceptance thanks . . . Bob Kendler. "I wanted to do one more thing. Carl Obert, I want you to bring your Mother up to the podium.

"This evening would not be complete unless we saluted a real champion. I have heard of all the champions — one-wall, three-wall, four-wall. I'll take the all-star champion, and to me this is the champion of them all and because you're such a wonderful woman, Mrs. Obert, the United States Handball Association has decided to give you a trophy and on it is something that truly describes you — 'Handball's All-Star Mother'."

Mrs. Obert, obviously moved, could only say, "Thank you very much from the bottom of my heart".

Carl Obert then asked to say a few words. "This isn't prearranged or anything. I just want to say one thought. Everyone knows of the squabbles between the AAU and the USHA and I'm really grateful, I really am. Many things do not move me but I really appreciate what Bob has done for Oscar and my Mother. In spite of all the haggles between AAU and USHA I really appreciate this. It shows he really is a sportsman also.

People squabble but we let this by-pass and I'm grateful that Jimmy and Oscar are honored. It covers two different styles of play. Everyone talks about the championships won — but what electrifies me is that when they got on a court there was excitement. Two organizations have brought this about and we're hoping for bigger and better handball. My one other thought is, what Oscar was trying to get across, is our friends who play in the tournaments, people who play every day — Fred Munsch, Harry Hyde, Jack Walsh, Ken Ginty and all the people we met in all the tournaments. That's what Oscar really feels he has gotten out of the game. I'm glad Marty Decatur was given his due praise along with Vic — and I put Bob in that same category for doing something like this.

Bob: "Carl, I'm glad you brought up this subject of hassle between the USHA and AAU because I have a little news for you — we're going to lay that little thing at rest tonight, forever, and we're going to do it by presenting to Charlie O'Connell a token of our esteem, and our feeling for a man who has been as great for handball as anyone in the whole world. You know, I keep saying not all the champions are the ones in the finals. Some of the champions are the ones

who do all the work, and the suffering and the promoting, organization, and the management and so for my money Charlie is another one of the super stars of handball. And, I would like to make it very clear here and now that all the years that Charlie and I battled, it was all an act. We just love each other! Charlie, I want you to know the inscription on here says — 'Charlie O'Connell . . . GRATITUDE . . . From All of Handball'."

Charlie: "I just want to say one thing, Bob, and I have had many, many arguments on many, many things. You have been very gracious and listened to me and I can assure you I never won one. You are very kind tonight and you are right! I appreciate it."

'Handball Meant To Be Simple'

FINAL WORDS

Father O'Connell: "God's power is wondrous to behold; one evidence that a tanglefoot, one-armed handball pusher would be asked to talk at a Handball Hall of Fame dinner. Another indication is that God has been so good to me over the years in so many ways; very markedly through sports — basketball and handball.

"Handball helped me physically recover from a very serious back problem. But more it helped me spiritually. New friends in many places. Oddly enough I started playing at the Hebrew Educational Society in Brooklyn and got a rousing reception by the top m.c. of handball, Sam Silvers. I received so much help from top players with my Cathedral Prep — Joe Rispoli, Artie Reyer, Winfield Balance, the Oberts . . . of course, Oscar had them backhanding between their legs, behind their backs . . . drove me crazy.

"Every playing brings his personality to the game. I am sure Jim Jacobs must have talked to his right hand, and then to his left — as good and evil.

"Players like Jacobs and Obert make handball look simple. God is one, simple, as is handball with a man, glove, and a ball. You and I make it complex with a lack of skills, neglect and misunderstanding. Handball is humbling game but it wasn't meant to be. I'm grateful to the game and its players for kindnesses and friendships."

Thanks from Jim

Dear Bob:

I wanted to drop you a line and express my gratitude, and appreciation, for the very complimentary sentiments you expressed at the New York Athletic Club.

It's a fascinating experience to attend a function where all of your friends rise to say kind things, or make charming observations. I can't speak for Oscar, but I can tell you that I am quite unaccustomed to it. — It was fun listening though!

In particular, Bob, when I saw the condition you were in, after your accident, I was overwhelmed that you would consider making the trip to New York for our dinner. I couldn't fathom your not cancelling out when you were in obvious physical distress.

I can only express how grateful I am for what you did, and for the warm friendship we have had for the past twenty-two years.

May I send two special hugs to Evie, and Mort, for making the trip with you and making the evening that much more special!

I am, as always, your devoted friend,

JIM JACOBS



SCRANTON, PA. CHAMPS. JCC crowns '72 house champions. Kneeling (l to r) — Joe Salvatori, athletic director; Howard Jaffee, repeat singles winner in A class; Jack Robinson, B winner. Standing (l to r) — Dave Propper and Jeff Diamond, doubles runnersup; Emil Laster, Paul Friedman, singles B runnerup; Al Mann, singles A runnerup.

—Tribune Photo By Tony Sandone.

WESTERN INTERCOLLEGIATE

For players from Washington, Oregon, California, Arizona, Nevada, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, and British Columbia and Alberta provinces.

DATES: Jan. 19-21, 1973. DEADLINE: Jan. 18 — 12:00 noon.

COMMENCES: Friday, Jan. 19, 7 p.m.

SITE: U. of Montana, Missoula, MT 59801.

ELIGIBILITY: See eligibility rules.

ENTRY FEE: \$5 per participant.

TROPHIES: Will be awarded.

EXPENSES: Housing can be provided, if desired; but all other expenses are the responsibility of the participants.

OFFICIAL BALL: Spalding ACE.

TO ENTER: Send entries to:

Jud Heathcote

Athletic Dept., U. of Montana

Missoula, MT. 59801.

PLEASE ENTER (College)

PLEASE ENTER as an individual in the Western Divisional USHA Intercollegiate Tournament.
A Singles.... B Singles.... Doubles...
Partner's Name

TEAM ENTERING

A Singles

B Singles

Doubles

INVITATIONAL SINGLES

(From page 13)



STUFFY BEATS AUGUST . . . Singer takes 'form' shot to right corner in successful semi-final win over fellow Californian, Dr. Steve August.



SHOOTS WITH OFFHAND . . . Southpaw Dr. Gary Rohrer pounds in kill against Chicagoan Denny Hofflander in torrid first round battle that went route.

next March . . . and he should be even more stabilized as far as his healing knees are concerned.

In essence the national invitational singles is a Farmer's Almanac type of thing to come.

—**Gordie Pfeifer . . .** should have gained confidence and knows with proper pacing he has the game to do it.

—**Stuffy Singer . . .** Should be satisfied that he can once again cope with any of them and work toward the full condition necessary for the week-long test.

Terry Muck . . . Has to work on a better serve to battle the physically stronger foe, with his superior speed and shooting ability.

Lou Russo . . . must shed that "10 pounds of lasagna", play with his known skills rather than with his mouth.

Fred Lewis . . . as defending champ will have the coveted No. 1 seed but must be aggressively ready to show he isn't a once-in-a-lifetime flash. He has to have everything going for him.

Paul Haber . . . the constant "upset" category will soon be a thing of the past. He can in no way be installed as the man to beat at Austin . . . his is the task of beating them. At 36 years of age he must be extremely hungry and put condition and the effort foremost.

Steve August . . . free of physical ails I know he must realize his game can stand up against the best. He's got to be ready to be "up" for three or four big matches to go all the way.

Gary Rohrer . . . No. 3 two years in a row indicates he is not a fluke top four man . . . the week-long test appears his cup of tea . . . he need only get in there and throw caution to the winds.

Key match of the first round was the Hofflander-Rohrer three-gamer. In retrospect Denny tended to overuse his

left and as Lou Russo put it, "Actually what happened is that Hofflander chooses too many balls lefthanded and on in addition to that he takes them offensively rather than going defensively on some of them. With the last game in the balance he tried to bury Rohrer's serve and made errors and then wasn't looking for Gary's reverse serve."

Of course, the upset first round loss of Haber to 28-year-old Luis Marquez of San Bernardino had to be the talk of the day. We talked with Luis: Gary, who have you beaten in the 'name' category before Haber? "Oh, I guess Harold Price and Gary Ryan." Have you ever played Singer before, or August? "No, never played Singer . . . August once . . . he clobbered me . . . in San Francisco." Luis, in that third game today, you piled up a big lead (15-3) and then when the gap closed to 17-15 you missed a few shots . . . were you getting anxious? "No, it was just that I was trying to shoot as much as possible and just missed on some." Did you get tired at all? "Yes, for sure" . . . Did you feel it was coming? That you could beat him? "No, not actually . . . I just made up my mind to play as best I could . . . just won . . . he had to beat me at my best . . . he just didn't seem to put out." Oh, he was putting out . . . he was just physically exhausted. I thought you were getting a helluva lot of key shots when you needed them. Now you go against Stuffy in the second round with a big lift in getting such a victory. "Yes, I'll try and go the same way . . . play my best. I know Stuffy is up for it and has been playing real well for the past two weeks."

Bill Peoples, the fine young potential from Montana State University, had a badly bruised leg and couldn't play up to par. "I just came over here to watch, more than anything else." Bill told us he has a young brother who will join him

on their intercollegiate tournament team and they expect to be one of the stronger national representatives.

In the first game of the Haber-Marquez match, Paul started slowly, going to the ceiling time and time again in an effort to tire his opponent, but let the score get away. Marquez was tenacious, able to return everything and when the ceiling shots were not pinpointed he took over the offensive. It appeared Haber was using the match as a tuneup and his strategy backfired when he had to pull out the stops to win the second game and then didn't have the petrol to assume control in the deciding third game.

The previous two nights Haber had played exhibitions against Terry Muck in Billings, Montana, and in Spokane, losing both, and obviously wasn't at his best game coming into Seattle.

It's "old hat" to keep repeating that Haber lost because of the bright lights, etc. It is simply a case where he doesn't bounce back under such conditions at age 36 as he did three to five years ago. The other top-ranked players rankle at the headlines given Haber in the various media and also in **HANDBALL Magazine**. Some have openly stated, "When are you going to realize that Haber is now just another of five or six top players and is not the man to beat?"

Well, we are inclined to think that Paul, if he disciplines himself and really is hungry for the open nationals in Texas next March he will be very tough to beat, and could very well quote from the famed Mark Twain, "Any reports of my passing are grossly exaggerated."

Marquez was in the right spot at the right time. Other players of like skill might have wilted under the pressure. Luis is a fine athlete, who once placed fifth in the California college decathlon. He went for broke and came up with the jackpot.

Jack Greenwood of New Westminster, British Columbia, kept statistics on the first round Al Drews-Gordie Pfeifer match. Gordie had eight aces in the first game and seven in the second and that's like birdies on almost every hole. Pfeifer concentrated on the power serves, going to the right in the first game, switching to the left in the second game. Drews played real well when he could get a volley going but the combination of 15 aces and some weak returns off other strong serves simply kept him from keeping the score close. Al has good ceiling shots, kills flat.

Cliff McCorkle was a bit disappointed in having to meet Steve August in the first round as he had met Steve in a couple of previous California area tournaments and would rather have come up against a new opponent. However, the Reno rep. showed well. He tried to power serves that Steve was able to shoot off and might have done better had he stuck with a strong cross court as he is left handed. Cliff is improving and should show well in divisional competition.

Dennis Hofflander was a crowd pleaser with his two-handed whip strength, but he displayed glaring weaknesses that would keep him from beating top eight performers. He overshoots with his left, especially from deep court . . . and, possibly because he was not used to the glass back wall, cut off most balls at three-quarter court, playing as he would in three-wall. With deep court kill attempts and pounding from deep court he set too many balls up for Gary Rohrer, and even at that almost came out a winner. Denny is starting to take more balls out of the air and with his strength utilizes pass shots very effectively. When we posed the supposition, "Denny, if there were pro handball you could really get into the tournament swing." And, Denny replied, "You know it, but right now I have to work as much as possible (electrician apprentice) and just can't spend the time on the court."

In the second round we found Marquez again surprising the onlookers, going three games with Stuffy Singer. John Bowen refereed in this one. Stuffy got off to a big 13-2 lead and it looked like a breeze as he dominated front court and used either the lob to the left serve or cross court serve to the left . . . and then went to 16-2 over an obviously worn Marquez.

Marquez came back to 9-17 as there appeared to be a visible letdown by Singer. Luis passed to the right for 10-17. But, Marquez couldn't muster another run and Stuffy ran it out. It was a fine tournament for the likeable San Bernardino player and could give him the confidence to do better in upcoming Southern California Association tournaments.

Steve August never looked better as he rushed out in overpowering fashion



JUST AN ACT . . . Gordie Pfeifer does an exaggerated faint after opponent Fred Lewis 'flubbed' in a kill during their quarter-final round match.

against Terry Muck in their quarter-final confrontation. Like Pfeifer, Steve got a rash of aces plus weak returns on other wicked serves and was able to employ the "serve and shoot" quick point tactics. The score went to 11-zip before Muck could get one on the board.

Actually, the high referee's post at the right side of the glass back wall on the WAC championship court is not the best position to call the play, especially on some of the close power serves. It was suggested that a linesman be placed in the gallery on the other side behind the back wall but there is a difficulty in coordinating efforts. There are no doubts that some calls were missed but as is the usual case they are pretty much evened up in the long haul.

The conventional seeding draw was used in this national invitational due to the shuffling necessary in the 9-16 seeds when we had five declinations due to one reason or another. Bob Bourbeau of Reno just isn't playing. Cliff McCorkle told us Bob is now strictly a jogger, as much as 15 miles a day . . . Dave Graybill wrote that he had national guard weekend duty . . . Buzz Shumate declined . . . Ken Fusselman decided not to enter . . . and Ray Neveau came up with a bad shoulder.

So, instead of the "tennis seed", we went the usual route . . . No. 1 playing No. 16 in the first round — Haber vs. Marquez . . . No. 8 playing No. 9 with Singer against Randy Essel. We weren't sure of Stuffy's mobility after two knee operations but he showed real well against Randy and with the Marquez win over Haber it gave Stuffy the quarter-final, semi-final ideal position . . . playing

Marquez and then the winner of the August-Muck match.

Dr. Steve August, plagued with a series of injuries . . . the latest, a pulled hamstring, looked like the one who would command the top bracket after he overpowered Muck. His bullet-like serves, flat kills and seemingly fine stamina impressed all of us.

However, Stuffy was able to keep the ball to his left hand, neutralizing that power with lob serves and his own fine offhand and then when Steve came up with a crippling muscle pull (probably brought on by favoring the hamstring injury) he just couldn't move to the right and defaulted after falling behind 13-6 in the third game, thus propelling Singer into the finals.

TOURNAMENT NOTES: Veteran Seattle sports scribe *Vince O'Keefe* wrapped up the Haber loss: "Paul Haber has found Seattle to be a disaster area." . . . Haber picked up where he left off with back to back upsets — to Fred Lewis last March, and now to Luis (Who?) Marquez . . . a loss the next morning in the consolation to Bill Reel was expected.

A NEW APPROACH — by LOU RUSSO . . . "I just didn't have the enthusiasm" . . . **STUFFY SINGER** was a point premature in requesting the **HANDBALL** Magazine cover picture. **FRED LEWIS:** "If I only had Terry Muck's speed." **MUCK:** "If I had Gordie Pfeifer's power." **STEVE AUGUST:** "If I could only steer clear of the injury bug".

Al Schelling, as usual the man in motion, a roving floor manager . . . (to page 75)

SASKATCHEWAN

The Saskatoon, Sask., YMCA, in conjunction with O'Keefe Brewery, sponsored the first annual Saskatoon Invitational Handball and Racquetball Tournament, Nov. 16-18.

The purpose of this tournament was twofold: Primarily, because they are a 'young' club, (two years old), they have very few A caliber handball players. They have invited A players from other centers in Western Canada to expose the local players to a better brand of handball. They also hoped that this tournament would become an annual affair, serving as a warm up for the larger more established tournaments that occur in other centers at a later date.

Regina and Edmonton countered to send 4 players each, with Regina sending "Elephant" Heard; "Hammer" Rollins; "Mole" Perkins; AND "Parrot" McAvoy. Edmonton sent "Baluga" Gordon; "Elmer Fudd" Haines; "Lawnmower" Hovind, and "Barney" Smiley. Calgary unfortunately could not supply any A caliber players.

Doug Balsden and his crew in Saskatoon did a magnificent job in providing great hospitality to the out-of-towners. O'Keefe's offered the hospitality room on Friday nite, with Brian Morporgo providing the entertainment for the evening. Saturday nite was wound up with a great reception, with presentation of trophies and awards at the brewery, along with a dance and further entertainment. Needless to say the enthusiasm shown by the local handballers is just great, and I am pleased to report the following results:

Saskatoon Invitational Singles: It was an all Edmonton final with Gord Hoving defeating Phil Gordon in two straight games, with the first game ending 21-19 and Phil showing the local crowd some excellent killing from all over the floor, and Gord using excellent ball control in the last half of the first game and just wearing Phil out in the second.

In the Invitational Consolation: Art Perkins bowed to local Doug Balsden 21-12 and 21-18 in the first round and Skip Smiley going down under Art McAvoy's power, with Balsden and McAvoy meeting in the final and scores of 21-12 8-21 and 21-14 for McAvoy.

B Singles went to Bob Caswell over Denny Gilbert 18-21, 21-3, 21-15. B Singles Consolations went to Paul Cocks defeating Brian Morporgo, 21-20, 21-18. C Singles were won by Gene Sturby over Ron Riffel 21-18, 21-12. C Singles Consolations: Rich Buckwold over Dave Morporgo 21-14, 22-10.

SKIP SMILEY

Laud Bruce Collins For Leadership

Since the early 50's we in Canada and Edmonton have had the pleasure in working with and playing with, one of the greatest contributors to the game of handball, Bruce Collins. Bruce was not only a competitor in the game, on the court and off the court, but also one of the finest administrators. Bruce was instrumental in bringing the Canadian Nationals to Edmonton in 1968, but also again in 1972, and although we who worked with him, really didn't get to see him that often, he was the man that ran the whole show from behind the scene, and when the accolades were being handed out, Bruce preferred to see others accept them. Bruce has stepped down as president of the Canadian Handball Association, but the Edmonton native of 54 years is as active as ever in his semi-retirement; He finds the game of handball has given him the rewards of a life-time friendship. Thanks, Bruce for a job well done.

SKIP SMILEY

NOTE FROM USHA Hqs.: During Bruce Collins' tenure much was accomplished to cement relationships between American and Canadian handball. We have established a reciprocal agreement on both the national juniors and open national tournaments. We are sure that the groundwork set up by Bruce will continue to develop the game in both countries.

EDMONTON . . .

The Edmonton YMCA held their first Doubles Handicap Tournament, for the 1972 Handball year. Needless to say that it was one of the best ever to be held at the local Y in a number of years. With the help of our expanded Junior program and a large number of new handball players, it was a complete success with 18 teams entered in the three day event. The finale was held at Wally "one arm" Kondrosky's with everyone enjoying Margaret's hospitality and fine chili, along with the best refreshments in town. The results are as follows; in the semi's Wiley and Frickey defeating Garlough and Hovind and Kondrosky and Johnston being defeated by Yarenko and Gordon; with Yarenko and Gordon defeating Wyley and Frickey in two games.

* * *

A number of things have happened on the Edmonton handball scene over the past number of months since the Capital city hosted the Canadian national championships. First, the very fine private Royal Glenora Club, announced the construction of four new handball/racquetball courts, two of which will have glass wall construction on the back wall; as well as four new squash courts. These courts were necessitated by the growing membership of handball players, as well as the influx of this a University town in players picking up racquetball and continuing to play the game. A very welcome addition, to the needs of the handball and racquetball players in Edmonton and Western Canada.

Secondly, we in Edmonton have been very fortunate in obtaining a real worker

in the "behind the scenes", of handball. Stan Fisher has decided to make his home in Sherwood Park, Alberta, bustling town 8 miles from Edmonton. He has taken up the post of recreation director of Sherwood Park, and his presence has already been felt in his approach to budgeting for the inclusion of 4 courts in a town of 20,000 people. A great competitor and friend, to all in Western Canada; best of luck in your new position Stan!

All handball players fear the day that we have to give the game up, because of bad "wheels", heart conditions, or the ever present arm and shoulder problems. But how many of us ever contemplate the day when, we are forced to give it up because of "BLINDNESS". We in Edmonton are very fortunate that we have a number of top notch handball players, playing the game; luckily Ken Shearer will be on the courts again to play the game. Ken was caught up in a doubles match, when he turned as usual shielding his face to follow the ball from his opponent, when he was floored by a fist shot. His eye immediately hemorrhaged and he was rushed to the hospital, where for 6 days he lay on his back, with bandages over both eyes, unable to move. Three days after the original hemorrhage, the eye hemorrhaged again, however with the expert attention from the doctors, Ken is now out of danger, but unable to play until well into next year. Needless to say, he is now a walking, talking advertisement for "EYE GUARDS". Let's all stop and think about that for a moment, and then consider starting where it is easiest . . . at the Junior level, and enforce this as a compulsory action in preventing further injuries of this nature.

Wes Yee Posts Chicagoland Contenders Singles Victory

Wes Yee, pound for pound, the hardest hitter in handball, posted a most important victory in the Central Illinois Handball Association Contenders Dec. 2, beating Tony Reiting, Duncan YMCA, 19-21, 21-3, 21-9. The week-long play took place at the Northwest Suburban YMCA in Des Plaines, Ill.

Wes, who learned the "serve and shoot" style in the Bob Davidson school of handball tactics, and then became the bellwether of Mike Dau's Lake Forest College team, winning two national inter-collegiate A singles crowns, playayed clusters of power serving aces and volley ending kills for this win. He also gains the special Community Builders' round trip to the USHA nationals in Texas next March.

Reiting has been one of the Chicago area's top performers the past half dozen years and was No. 1 seed in the 95-player field. After getting unexpected trouble in his first match against Joe Johnston, North Suburban Y, Tony had to meet an improved John Leinweber and had to go all out to win that one, 21-15, 21-18. Another up-and-coming youngsters, Paul Matic, U. of Illinois Circle Campus, pushed him to three games in the quarters. Another Duncan Y stalwart, Tony Paris, couldn't get his shooting game alive and lost to Reiting in the semis.

Yee, expected to make a strong showing in the recent Chicago Park District open singles, disappointed against Denny Hofflander. But, in the Contenders little Wes put it all together. Albeit, at times he became erratic, the booming serve always came to his rescue. Against Vern Roberts Jr., the Cincinnati youngster, who is now a freshman at Lake Forest College, Wes had more than his share of competition. Losing 8-14 in the third

game, he proceeded to pour in 13 straight points to take that game and the semi-final match.

In the finals against Reiting, Yee was indeed ragged for much of the first game. Tony took advantage of the miscues that were partially offset by 7 ace serves. The score went to 20-12 for Reiting and then Wes made his belated move with a series of aces, weak returns on serves that he was able to put away. At 18-20 he took a time out, went back in and closed the score to 19-20. Tony finally put him out on a corner kill off the serve but Reiting couldn't take advantage and Wes had still another chance. Wes missed on a shot, Tony went in and won the game.

From then on it was no contest. Wes rushed to a 11-0 lead in second game, then 18-2 . . . in the third he again came on fast and never let Tony get a real offense going.

There are no doubts that Wes can climb to higher heights if he will gain more consistency in volleys to go with his "big league" serve and shooting skills.

SCORES FROM THE QUARTER-FINALS: Tony Reiting, Duncan Y, def. Ken Eby, Duncan Y, 21-10, 21-12; Tony Paris, Duncan Y, def. Jim Cashmore, Northwest Suburban Y, 19-21, 21-10, 21-6; Vern Roberts Jr., Lake Forest College, def. Fred Kummer, Lake Shore Club, 21-9, 21-20; Wes Yee, Lake Forest College, def. Hiles Stout, Peoria Y, 21-3, 21-11.

SEMI-FINALS: Reiting def. Paris, 21-14, 21-10; Yee def. Roberts, 21-12, 13-21, 21-14.

FINALS: Yee def. Reiting, 19-21, 21-3, 21-9.

THIRD PLACE: Paris def. Roberts, 21-6, 21-20.

Seek New York Metro Association

Prime Objective to stimulate new courts, Increase 4-Wall action in Nation's No. 1 City

By KEN SMOLACK

Attention All Handballers . . .

A new organization, The Metropolitan Handball Association is being formed to revitalize the game in the New York Metropolitan area.

Handball has been stagnant (in fact, has gone backwards in recent years) in an area that boasts some of the nation's top players — one-wall, three-wall and four-wall. There have been more courts closed in this area in the past ten years than have been built. There are less tournaments in this area than ever before.

The Metropolitan Handball Association will endeavor to turn the tide of court and tournament shortages.

Under the Association auspices the following goals will be sought:

(A) Open tournaments. (B) Inter-Club competition. (C) Inter-State competition. (D) Annual Banquet. (E) Strive for new Court Club facilities (which are booming throughout the U.S. and Canada).

Item E is probably the most important for the Association. Metropolitan New York has a critical shortage of court facilities and we hope to enlist the support of all you court-starved handballers in this venture. These proposed new court facilities would preferably be located in the suburbs — Nassau, Westchester, and Bergen Counties.

Membership will be open to all interested in revitalizing our game. Membership fees will be determined upon response to this message. The new MHA's immediate need is singular; it needs members. Only you can solve that problem by joining and getting your handball buddies to do likewise.

Thanking you in advance for your interest.

Committee for the formation of The Metropolitan Handball Association:

Jim Jacobs	Ken Smolack
Lou Kramberg	Mike Meltzer
Marty Decatur	Larry Dolan
Tom Ciasulli	Dr. Jordan
Bill Kennedy	Tom Natale
Fred Munsch	Frank Cataldo
Lou Russo Jr.	Artie Reyer
Rudy Riska	Howie Eisenberg

SOUTH DIVISION INTERCOLLEGIATE

Feb. 16-18, 1973

SITE: Memphis State University. Send fees and entry to: Lige Turman, Tournament Director, Dept. HPER, Memphis State University, Memphis, TN 38152. Phone: 321-1811. **ENTRY FEE:** \$5. See inter-collegiate eligibility rules. Meeting of all participants Feb. 16, 5 p.m., Physical Education Bldg. Play begins Feb. 16, 7 p.m. **HOUSING:** Central Towers, 2 per room, connecting bath, \$5 per person. **ENTRIES CLOSE:** Feb. 16, noon. **AREA COVERED:** Puerto Rico, Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Arkansas, Kentucky, Virginia, West Virginia, North and South Carolina, Maryland, Washington, D.C.

Please enter: () A Singles () B Singles () Doubles

Name _____ Partner's Name _____

College _____

3rd Annual Bill Noel Invitational

'Mighty Mite' Muck Over Singer at Odessa

by JOE DE PASQUAL

"*Awesome!*" commented Jerry Covington, a Masters' doubles player from Midland, Texas, as he left the gallery after watching the St. Paul bullet, Terry Muck, defeat Stuffy Singer in the finals of the Third Annual Bill Noel Invitational Tournament. The comment was directed primarily to Muck's fantastic speed on the court. How does he dig up all those "flat" shots? How does he return those "long gone" pass shots . . . and so on? Early in the tournament, Paul Haber offered a concise answer saying, "*He's got eight legs.*" While not factually correct, the remark does get the message across. Terry Muck is a very quick . . . if not the quickest handball player around. Although Singer could not get his shots in during the first game, he played superbly in the second, and only a tremendous effort by Muck, coming from behind to win, kept the finals from being a three-game match.

En route to the finals, Muck bested Joe DePasqual (your humbled reporter), Dallas, 21-7, 21-4; Jeff Barnes, U. of Texas, 21-12, 21-3; and Bob Lindsay, El Paso, 21-17, 21-19. The semi-final match between Muck and Lindsay was a real battle. Lindsay has not been playing to level competition lately due to an elbow operation; however, he was very sharp in this match and appears to be on his way to a strong season. Note that the USHA nationals are going to be in Austin this year giving Lindsay the advantage of playing where he learned the game.

From the other end of the bracket, Singer defeated Dick Cramer, San Antonio, 21-6, 21-9; Gene Craft, Austin, 21-16, 21-6; and Paul Haber (theatrics, ceiling ball, and all) 21-14, 5-21, 21-19.

This semi-final match, while not as aggressive as the Muck-Lindsay fray, was no less as entertaining. Singer is coming back from a knee operation and is playing smoothly. The first game was simply good handball with Singer coming out on top. The second game was all Haber as the score indicates. Now, the third game was something else entirely. It was close up to 9-8, Singer's favor, then Haber began to "show his stuff" by going ahead 18-10. At this point, the four-wall theater guild aspect of the game got under way. Haber's feathers were still ruffled from an encounter with the referee when comments from the gallery promoted Singer to take a popularity voice vote by holding his hand over Haber's then his own head.

The gallery was decidedly in favor of Singer. Haber fumed. Singer narrowed the gap to 15-18 and they traded service six times. The referee displeased Haber again and Singer went to 20-18. Haber managed one more point for 20-19. Next came a new delay tactic . . . Singer was in the service zone, Haber was in back center court, and the ball was on the floor close to the right wall. Everyone waited. It became clear that the ball was not going to move of its own accord. Everyone waited. Haber maintained that Singer, as server, should pick up the ball. Singer decided, with a grin, to comply, for during the time Haber spent arguing and complaining, he did some serious resting. He served and shortly thereafter made the match point.

Singer was not the only player to give Haber trouble. In the *First Round*, Haber met Nati Alvarado, Juarez, Mexico, the national junior champ. This 17-year-old is a prize pupil of Bob Lindsay and came back from a 21-3 first game rout to take the second game 21-19. Haber went out of his way to intimidate his young opponent in the third game and won 21-11. We might note a definite conflict of temperments here, but Haber did not have to shadow his shots, refuse to pick up the ball, and complain to win. Seems that a strong display of handball talent is only part of the Haber production. Alvarado went on to win the consolation singles crown defeating Lyle Lewter, Lubbock, 21-12, 21-13.

Muck, Singer, Haber, Lindsay? Lindsay, Haber, Singer, Muck? It's anybody's guess how these four are going to fare on any given day. Off hand, this reporter feels that this foursome could be the top four this coming March. Lindsay and Singer appear smoother than ever after their operations and both are shooting the ball very well . . . seemingly with care born of their recovery period. Looks as though we all eventually wait until we are injured to learn something.

In the open doubles finals, a sound team from Austin, Gary Bernhard and Gary Loiben, beat the host team of Dr. Tom Heiting and Bob Sumter, Odessa, 21-19, 21-9. Unfortunately, Heiting and Sumter were taking their host role too seriously, for they gave up 13 points in the first and 11 points in the second game before getting on the score board themselves. Their gallant effort to 19 in the first game would have paid off without that deficit. On the other hand, Bernhard and Loiben played very well throughout the tournament and were only seriously threatened once in their semi-final match

against Jay Fikes, Lubbock, and Dan Galvin, Dallas. The 21-19, 21-17 scores do bare justice to a tough two game match.

A strong group of "older Guys" showed up for masters doubles play this year. Tito Arrencibia and Ray Thomas, Big Spring, won a long three-game semi-final match against Jerry York and Shelby Stanley, San Antonio, 15-21, 21-16, 21-19. Their hard work almost paid off in the finals, but a strong team from El Paso, Oscar Villareal and Al Torres had other ideas. Villareal is no stranger to tournament play, and his patented "bolo" shots, especially in front court, make him a constant threat in any doubles class. Playing against him, Arrencibia is perhaps one of the most under-rated players in the area. An ex-baseball pitcher, Arrencibia is smooth and an excellent court tactician. Thomas and Torres are both very steady right side players complementing well their play-making partners. The 21-19, 21-18 final match scores show the narrow margin of victory for the El Paso team.

This West Texas invitational consistently features some of the finest handball talent in the country. Past winners include Jim Jacobs, Paul Haber, Bob Lindsay, Steve August, Stuffy Singer, Pat Kirby, Terry Muck, Billy Yambrick, Dave Graybill and a whole host of other ranked players who have come to the Midland/Odessa flatlands to play handball to the enjoyment of a very dedicated bunch of enthusiasts led by Bill Noel, Odessa, the patron of this tournament. While held in Midland, the tournament was known as Bozo's Invitational, named after Neal "Bozo" Franklin who moved to El Paso three years ago. Since then, Mr. Noel, who is responsible for the fine four court facility in the new Odessa YMCA, has extended his support to continue having top players participate. It is a testimony to his generosity that his support is evident even though he often cannot attend. This reporter is fortunate enough to know Mr. Noel personally and can without reservation say that handball has no finer friend.

Along with top nationally ranked players, this tournament attracts strong young talent. This year's group included Jeff Barnes and Terry Hankins, University of Texas national intercollegiate doubles champions (both playing singles); Nati Alvarado, Juarez, Mexico, national Under-17 singles champion; and Gene Craft, University of Texas national intercollegiate B singles champion. Barnes is probably the strongest of the group and

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NOEL INVITE

should move into contention nationally soon (a good one to watch in Austin next March).

After the Saturday matches, the West Texas hospitality continued at the home of Dr. Don Naylor whose gracious wife, June, played hostess to players and friends. The gathering was catered by doubles finalist, Bob Sumpter, who outdid himself providing excellent food and service.

In summing up the weekend, your reporter, who lived in Odessa for two years and worked with tournament co-chairman Tom Heiting at the time, would like to commend Tom and co-Chairman Clark Howard for conducting one of the best invitational going. Their ingredients for success are direct and hard to beat: sound backing, enthusiasm, planning, hard work, excellent handball talent, and a spark of good fellowship.

CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE

Feb. 9-11, 1973

SITE: Lake Forest College, Ill. Send fees and entry to: Mike Dau, Athletic Dept., Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, IL 60045. ENTRY FEE: \$5. See Intercollegiate eligibility rules. Play begins 5 p.m., Feb. 9. HOUSING: Contact Mike Dau for information. ENTRIES CLOSE: Feb. 8, noon. AREA COVERED: North & South Dakota, Minnesota, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Missouri, Ohio.

Please enter: () A Singles () B Singles () Doubles

Name _____ Partner's Name _____

College _____

Lewis vs. Muck at St. Paul A.C.

"National Championship Rematch" exhibition will be staged Jan. 11 at the St. Paul Athletic Club between Fred Lewis and Terry Muck. As remembered the scores of the USHA finale at Seattle were 21-17, 21-19 Lewis and the rematch is expected to be just as exciting.

Both players are the same age — 24, and both have two national intercollegiate championships — Lewis representing the University of Miami (Fla.) and Muck, Bethel College, St. Paul.

Ticket information — Neal Nordlund, 445 Cedar St., St. Paul, MN 55101. Tel. No. 222-5881.

Bill Peoples Wins at Boise

The Boise YMCA (3-year-old-facility) had a weekend of the finest matches on its new courts.

A large group of players from Montana and Oregon, along with Idaho and Utah players fought through a thirty-two man singles bracket with Collegian Bill Peoples finally walking away with first prize after outlasting Wally Palmberg, Portland, 21-13; 16-21; 21-17.

Palmberg had moved through the quarter-finals by defeating second seeded Chuck Walters, Salt Lake City, 21-18; 21-2 and then defeating Tom Thorum, Salt Lake City, in the semi finals, 21-8; 21-16. Palmberg moved with ease as his pass shots were on the wall throughout the quarter-finals to the finals. He made very few mistakes and gave the spectators quite a show.

Bill Peoples was No. 1 seeded and steadily moved through his matches without losing a game and not being tested too severely. Peoples met Larry Jansen, Portland, in the semi-finals after defeating a fellow Montanan, Damon Schlenski 21-6; 21-13. In a match that some players thought would be the one he could lose, Bill ran through Larry Jansen 21-8; 21-9 and moved into the finals.

The finals were played on Sunday morning with doubles finals to follow soon after the completion of singles. Palmberg had teamed with Jansen to move into the finals against a formidable team of Terry Ball and Jerry Bone, Portland.

After losing the first game of the finals 21-13; Palmberg immediately dropped behind 16-7 and looked as if he had conceded and was saving himself for the doubles finals. But after running four straight points to pull to 11-16 deficit — Palmberg got his game on and evened the serves with a 21-16 win, with accurate ceiling and pass shots that suddenly began eluding Peoples.

The third game saw a fired up Palmberg jump to a 13-7 lead and increase it to 15-9

before Peoples came alive. In the second game leading 16-7 it seemed Bill had let down and hadn't put it back together again. In championship style he did come back and won exciting 21-17 final that drew a standing ovation from the gallery.

Bob Lund, Portland, and Tom Zderick, Missoula, moved through the consolation bracket after first round losses and met in the finals with Zderick winning 21-12; 21-17.

Ball and Bone played Boiseans, Mike Addy and Bob Oakes in the semi-finals. Ball and Bone defeated their opponents 21-19; 21-13. In the other bracket, Palmberg-Janssen defeated Thorum-Walters in three tight games. In the finals the Palmberg-Janssen team defaulted when Janssen injured his knee attempting to dig a kill shot. It was unfortunate because of the closeness of the two teams.

We were proud of the tournament, the conduct of players, the caliber of players that participated and the atmosphere of fellowship that prevailed.

We look forward to hosting this tournament next October.

We are proud to have players such as Bill Peoples as our current champion, Terry Ball and Jerry Bone as our doubles champion, and trust that these players will be severely challenged next year in defending their titles.

Handball play has come a long way in Boise and is now developing a good corps of young players that have been missing to insure good competition. Local Kurt Meis, bowed to Janssen but really put on a show 21-18; 21-20. Nick Hansen, another local also drew a top opponent in Ball and lost in two but this was his first tournament other than local. By the way Terry Ball was just great; he brought films for instruction and his presence on helping coordinate was fantastic. Boise was very proud to have this man from Portland work with us this year.

TOM JONES

2nd Poppler Invite at Billings Jan. 26-27

Invitations have been issued and arrangements are being made for the Second Annual Lou Poppler Invitational Handball Tournament in Billings, Montana.

Montana's champion, Bill Peoples, Butte, currently attending the University of Montana in Missoula, will join Dr. Gary Rohrer, Terry Muck and Ray Neveau in a four man round robin tournament scheduled for Jan. 26-27, 1973, at the YMCA. Terry Muck and Dr. Gary Rohrer of the St. Paul Athletic Club finished number 2 and number 3 respectively in the 1972 United States Handball Association Tournament, and recently won a USHA round robin doubles classic held at the St. Paul A.C.

Ray Neveau, Oshkosh, Wisconsin, considered one of the best national doubles players has won the USHA national doubles championship (with Simie Fein). In addition, he has finished as high as number 2 in the national singles (1968).

In addition to the four-man round robin with nationally-ranked players, invitations are being issued to 16 states and regional players to compete in a satellite tournament. Eight matches are scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 25 with the championship to be decided Jan. 27. Limited seating puts a premium on tickets; however, there are a few available and interested fans who may contact Bill Osborne, P.O. Box 1655, Billings, MT. 59103. Phone — 252-4623.

Plans are being made to offer close circuit TV to the fans not able to get seating accommodations.

It is the intention of the hosts to continually improve the Lou Poppler Tournament to the point where we will make Billings the "Handball Capital of the West." The Northern Hotel has again been designated as headquarters. Social activities will be held at the Petroleum Club in the Northern Hotel.

We hope you can become as excited about this tournament as the Committee.



BILL PEOPLES (l) and WALLY PALMBERG

Unique Martini Bowl Trophy

Seattle's 'Good Padre' Runs Second Best

STAN MENDES MARTINI BOWL HANDBALL CHAMP, FATHER McGLOIN RUNNER-UP; FATHER McGLOIN TENNIS CHAMP, PAULINE MENDES RUNNER-UP

Pictured are (l) Stan Mendes, representing the Santa Barbara YMCA, and Father Joseph McGloin, S.J., representing the Washington Athletic Club, finalists in this year's Martini Bowl Handball competition held at San Francisco's Olympic Club at the end of October. (Pauline Mendes, runner-up to Father McGloin in the tennis competition, was not available for photographs since, due to a misunderstanding, she had been restricted to the Olympic Club's Ladies' lobby at the time.)

The Martini Bowl has become an annual classic, unique in that the trophy is presented for both tennis and handball. When Mr. Martini first gave birth to the trophy, he felt that Father McGloin would easily take both the handball and tennis titles, and so he foresaw none of the confusion that could result from a split decision.

The Martini Bowl trophy is a thing of rare beauty: On a base of pillars vertical surrounding mixed tennis and handballs symbolic, surmounted by Michelob pillars couchant, surmounted in turn by the trophy and plate proper with its "Mixed Singles" (Tennis) and "Unmixed Singles" (Handball) categories inscribed, the whole surmounted by a martini glass clear containing a Viking with spear rampant.

The competition was initiated by Mr. F. Fieder Martini, originally from Minneapolis (hence the Viking) and a cousin of one of Minneapolis' great handball stars, Mr. Wally Kolrud. Mr. Martini always has had a dry wit, and hence the single trophy for both handball and tennis. He was, in fact, one of three brothers, known respectively as Ein, Zwei and Drei, with only Drei Martini (B. Fieder) ever becoming really famous. Drei had many years on the rocks, but is presently up, although he was unable to be on hand to present the trophy this year. Mr. Mike de la Pena, assistant athletic director at the Olympic Club, did the honors.

Although this year's handball decision is still under some dispute, the handball division was declared won this year by Stan Mendes, since Father McGloin, with his usual graciousness, waived all legitimate and illegitimate complaints. Father McGloin won the first game handily, 21-15, but then Stan Mendes, coming back with a dead ball and, in the third game, with oiled, slippery gloves, and constantly complaining about the glass wall, won the next two games 21-20, 21-19, the latter when Father McGloin blew an easy layup, an event he apparently followed up with a short prayer.

In the tennis competition, Father McGloin won out over



DO IT YOURSELF TYPE AWARD . . . Stan Mendes (l), Santa Barbara YMCA, bested Washington A.C.'s Father Joseph McGloin, noted author and handball buff, in a specially-arranged match recently on the neutral San Francisco Olympic Club court.

the elements and a stubborn Pauline Mendes, 6-2, 5-7, 6-4, despite some very distracting sound effects at strategic moments from her relative by marriage, Stan Mendes, still smarting, no doubt, from his questionable handball victory.

Because of the timing of this tournament and its grueling play, both Stan Mendes and Father McGloin were unable to take part in the champions' invitational tournament at the Washington Athletic Club in November.

(Editor's note: Certainly no one would ever accuse a priest of lying. However, since Father McGloin, who sent in the above news release, is known for writing fiction as well as occasional fact, we will not vouch for the complete truth of all the details. We do know the scores are correct.)

Exhibition Info.

Anyone interested in staging exhibition-clinics can contact USHA hqs. and we'll be happy to coordinate. Available: EAST — Lou Russo. SOUTH — Fred Lewis. NORTH-WEST — Gordie Pfeifer. WEST — Stuffy Singer and Steve August. Full particulars: USHA, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, ILL. 60076. Area Code 312, 673 4000.

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each and every day of the coming
New Year bring health and good cheer
in abundance.

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Drews Over Essel in Ross Open

Cleveland Central YMCA hosted 144 participants in the Julius Ross Open, Nov. 2-5. The singles action, which included a record 58 entrants, was highlighted by an anxiously awaited "showdown" match between Randy Essel, currently 9th ranked by the USHA, and Al Drews, three-time winner of the Ross and current national USHA doubles champion (with Ken Fusselman). When the smoke cleared, Drews captured his fourth Ross title, 21-17, 21-17. In another all-Cleveland final, the doubles team of Len Hershman and Jim Saunders defeated Gil Singerman and Dick Argen, 21-17, 21-11.

Essel reached the finals by disposing of Youngstown's Chuck Sammarone, 21-17, 21-10, and Warren's national doubles champ, Ken Fusselman, 21-13, 21-4. Fusselman advanced to the semi's when Rochester's Dave Pasternak defaulted because of a pulled leg muscle. En route to the finals, Drews eliminated fellow Clevelanders, John Kresse, 21-17, 21-18, and Herman "Goose" Panigutti, 21-20, 21-9. Panigutti, former two-time Ross champion, defeated Sharon, Pa.'s, Jack Godfrey in the quarters, 21-16, 21-9.

The finals proved to be a very exciting and interesting match for the Cleveland gallery. A great deal of interest was created due to recent progress both

players had made on the national level. It also marked the first time these two played four wall singles against each other since Randy's return from Birmingham in June. Many observers believed that both players performed very well with the difference being Drews' ability to keep the pressure on Randy. As a result, Randy made a few more errors which Drews was able to capitalize on. Both players had excellent shooting percentages.

In the doubles final, Hershman and Saunders came from behind in the first game and took charge in the second game with a lead that was never seriously threatened. Hershman's control and Saunders' power provided the formula that resulted in their first Ross tournament win.

Tournament Highlights:

Souvenir yellow knit shorts awarded to all participants. Amazing fact that these shorts fit heavyweights. *Bob Biederman, Tony Felice, Gil Singerman, and Rudy Snable.*

Randy Essel's warm-up outfit . . . *Al Drews' "python" warm-up shirt.* . . *Bob Van de Veer's "ten minute breaks" across the street.* . . *Wally Yeager's* door prize donations . . . The return of class guy, *Ronnie Annotico*, to Ross tourney action.

The noticeable absence of shouting matches between refs and participants . . . *Eddy Albrecht's* courtesy to female guests . . . *Norman Hills'* soothing voice over the P.A. system . . . *Goose Panigutti's* superb officiating of doubles finals.

Rich Caruso's "big win" over *Eddy Colin* . . . *Frank Pecora Jr.'s* beautiful job as floor manager . . . Super hospitality room which included a plentiful supply of Pepsi, Italian cold cuts, (what did you expect?) fruit, home baked pastries, pizza, and doughnuts . . . All you could eat dinner at the Loser's Lounge (appropriately named) on Saturday night . . . Surprise guest visit at the banquet of shooter from the past, *Benny Zwick* . . . Luggage awards to winners and runners-up.

A special mention of appreciation goes to all of those who contributed to make this year's tournament a big success. Especially, the Cleveland Central handball committee (*Randy Essel, Tony Felice, Goose Panigutti, Frank Pecora Sr. and Bob Van de Veer*) who really made the tournament possible. Further appreciation is extended to all those who were pressed into action the weekend of the tournament.

AL DREWS
Tournament Chairman

Fleming-Solin Take South End Doubles

The South End Rowing Club of San Francisco completed their annual doubles tournament in November. A field of almost 100 handball players including many nationally-known players entered in one of four classes. High ranking Mike Kelly and Mike Dunne were knocked out in the first round by Don Birrer and Dennis Moser who won out in their third game 21-19 after splitting two 21-20 games. In the finals, Tom Fleming, former national consolation winner, teamed up with Hal Solin to breeze through national master singles champion, Rudy Stadlberger, and Ron Earl in two games, 21-15 and 21-11.

The Jr. Champ. class was won by Bob Nedd and John Tarantino over the Mexican championship team of Raul Muniz and Felipe Resondo. Youth and speed helped Tom McGee and Rich Calkin win the First class trophy against S.F. fireman Ed Arias and Bill Engler. Experience and placement shots by a team of "Masters" doubles consisting of Frank

Spiller and Handball Commissioner Al Masyk proved too much for Ed Dunne and George Luna, with Masyk and Spiller winning in two games 21-14 and 21-13.

By the way, with S.F.'s Olympic Club hosting the USHA Divisional in February, we at the South End Rowing Club extend an invitation for out-of-towners to drop in for some practice sessions. Try out our new lighting system.

In the past month, The South End Rowing Club defeated the Sacramento Elks 4 doubles matches to 1 to bring back the perpetual trophy. This series started in 1960 and the winning team (best out of 5 doubles matches) retains possession of the trophy for one year.

Don't forget our annual Memorial Day week-end tournament coming up in May, 1973.

Al Masyk, Handball Commissioner
South End Rowing Club,
San Francisco, Cal.



SOUTH END ROWING CLUB . . . (1 to r)
— Tom Fleming and Hal Solin, championship doubles class winners; Ron Earl and Rudy Stadlberger, runnersup.

Hofflander Blasts Way Thru Chi. Park District

Two-handed Power Holds All Opponents Under 'Double Figures'

Jim DiVito's Second Annual Chicago Park District open singles tournament, Nov. 6-10, proved to be a runaway for the ever-respected power hitting Denny Hofflander, Lake Shore A.C. Denny, once the "boy wonder", holder of six national titles in USHA Juniors, Contenders, and YMCA, didn't partake of the University of Illinois Circle Campus shindig last year but came from his No. 3 seed in this outing to roll up six match wins without a game loss and never allowed an opponent to get into "double figures"!

This edition of the Park competition was condensed into five days with two consecutive days of two rounds leading to the finals. Don Ardito, Irving Park Y, and defending titlist, found himself physically unable to continue after his quarter-final three game win over Tony Reiting, Duncan Y, on Thursday, and defaulted to Tony D'Andrea, Duncan Y.

D'Andrea, in turn, was simply unable to cope with the bombasting Hofflander in the Friday finale. Denny played the "serve and shoot" game and rolled to 20-0 in the first game before Tony could score. D'Andrea "rallied" to four points. With a giant momentum going, Denny confidently poured in passes and kills from all parts of the court and never let Tony get righted. The second game was also onesided, ending up 21-7. The entire match took no longer than 25 minutes to play.

Among the more promising youngsters who appear on the city area's threshold are: Northwest Suburban's Jim Cashmore, who stopped Tony Paris, 21-20, 21-20, before losing to D'Andrea in the quarters; Joliet's Stan Morris, who took Don Ardito to a close match; Wes Yee, recent graduate of Lake Forest College and an ex-New Yorker, who went to the quarters before getting shellshocked from Hofflander. Denny rolled to 16 straight points against Wes in that first game. Ken Eby, now playing at Duncan Y, showed improvement and lost to veteran Zeke Zaletel in the quarters, in three games. Young Vern Roberts of Cincinnati, a freshman at Lake Forest College, also went the three-game limit with Zaletel before going down.

As was the case last year, Joe Ardito

of the USHA Hqs. and his aide-de-camp Ben Costello gave DiVito able assistance with the floor management of the tournament. A fine hospitality suite, well staffed with goodies, was tendered officials and players after the Friday finals at a nearby Holiday Inn.

SCORES FROM THE QUARTER-FINALS:

Don Ardito, Irving Park Y, def. Tony Reiting, Duncan Y, 14-21, 21-17, 21-12; Tony D'Andrea, Duncan Y, def. Jim Cashmore, Northwest Suburban Y, 21-18, 21-11; Dennis Hofflander, Lake Shore A.C., def. Wes Yee, Lake Forest College, 21-3, 21-7; Zeke Zaletel, Joliet Y, def. Ken Eby, Duncan Y, 8-21, 21-9, 21-17.

SEMI-FINALS: D'Andrea over Ardito, default, Hofflander def. Zaletel, 21-4, 21-6.

FINALS: Hofflander def. D'Andrea, 21-4, 21-7.



THE MAYOR DALEY TROPHY . . . William Bararo, director of recreation for the Chicago Park District, presents Denny Hofflander with Mayor Richard J. Daley winner's trophy.



AFTER THE FINALE . . . With runnerup Tony D'Andrea (l) and Denny Hofflander . . . standing (l to r)—Mort Leve, USHA executive secretary; Joe Ardito, Illinois Handball Association president; Jim DiVito, Chicago Park District tournament chairman; John Tardi, Pete Klein, assistant director of recreation; William Bararo, director of recreation; Ed Kazak, area supervisor.

HALL OF FAME

(From page 54)

the USHA classic at Denver with a bad leg and wound up third.

In 1962 and 1963 Jacobs started the doubles supremacy with Marty Decatur, stamping themselves as one of the all-time best. In 1964 it was back to singles in St. Louis and the grand opening of the Jack Srenco Memorial Court at the JCCA. Marty got married the first day of the tournament and so they did not defend in doubles. The first network television portrayal via NBC-TV saw Jacobs beat two-time defending titlist, Oscar Obert. Jacobs gained his sixth USHA national singles in 1965 at the University of Texas, this time beating Dave Graybill. After skipping the 1966 tournament, Jacobs again teamed with Decatur in 1967 to win a 5th doubles, and then followed with No. 6 in 1968.

A plaguing back problem has kept Jacobs from going at his best for more than two or more days and one more thrust in 1971 when he met Paul Haber in the first round of the USHA national invitational ended in an injury default in the second game. Jim had lost the first game 21-12, was leading in the second 9-7 when a severe leg cramp forced him out.

In 1970 the United States Handball Association made a special award to Jim Jacobs as "Greatest Handball Player of the Generation". In this modern era of the greatest boom the game has known Jacobs has led the way to the "chessman's approach", a revolutionary, scientific brand of championship performance that has brought forth an excellence of national tournament competition.

Truly, the Jacobs career is one that is both star-studded and frustrating. We could compare his rise to the pinnacle and heartbreaking setbacks to that of baseball's Mickey Mantle. There's just no way of determining what records of achievement Jim Jacobs might have posted had he enjoyed a physical peak from age 24 to 40.



JIM AS THE CHAMPION . . . Pictured at St. Louis JCCA when he won over Oscar Obert in 1964 network NBC-TV final showing.

INVITATIONAL SINGLES

(From page 65)

Randy Essel finding a niche as a referee . . . Bud Simpson showing Dan Callahan how to play early morning handball . . . Callahan showing Mort (I can't win on the road) The Sport how to play at 7 a.m. (handball, that is) . . . Rudy Harris, a young 69-year-old who makes points with his hop serve and competitiveness . . . good to have him aboard.

Chris Kelly doing all the paper work for boss Schelling . . . Tooy bouncing back after physical exhaustion . . . Palmer Arzo, No. 1 fan, foreseeing the Haber downfall . . . Mike Chace on "how to train for a tournament" with pupils Trayham and Haber.

NATIONAL INVITATIONAL SINGLES

FIRST ROUND: Luis Marquez, San Bernardino, def. Paul Haber, Chicago, 21-5, 17-21, 21-17; Stuffy Singer, Los Angeles, def. Randy Essel, Cleveland, 21-18, 21-12; Dr. Steve August, Los Angeles, def. Cliff McCorkle, Reno, 21-13, 21-14; Terry Muck, St. Paul, def. Jack Scrivens, Portland, 21-12, 21-5; Lou Russo, New York, def. Rick Christian, Eugene, Ore., 21-10, 21-7; Dr. Gary Rohrer, St. Paul, def. Dennis Hofflan-

Note: Losers of first round of Top National In- vitational move into

der, Chicago, 21-16, 16-21, 21-19; Gordie Pfeifer, Seattle, def. Al Drews, Cleveland, 21-10, 21-10; Fred Lewis, Miami Beach, def. Matt Kelly, Long Beach, 21-9, 21-6.

QUARTER-FINALS: Singer def. Marquez, 15-21, 21-11, 21-10; August def. Muck, 21-4, 9-21, 21-16; Russo def. Rohrer, 21-6, 11-21, 21-8; Pfeifer def. Lewis, 21-19, 21-9.

SEMI-FINALS: Singer def. August, 20-21, 21-16, 13-6 (injury default); Pfeifer def. Russo, 21-1, 21-14.

FINALS: Pfeifer def. Singer, 15-21, 21-20, 21-19.

* * *

TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS:

FIRST ROUND: Bill Reel, White Center, def. Bill Peoples, Missoula, Mont., 16-21, 21-9, 21-18; Ken McQueen, Portland, def. Dick Aguirre, Seattle, 17-21, 21-4, 21-14; Steve Mills, Kent, def. Mel Brown, Vancouver, B.C., 15-21, 21-20, 21-15; Bud Miller, Bellingham,

second round of T of C with their eight winners of first round

def. Jerry Traynham, Spokane, 14-21, 21-14, 21-19; Glenn Carden, Bremerton, def. Ron Patricelli, Seattle, 21-8, 18-21, 21-18; Terry Ball, Portland, def. Lea McMillan, Tacoma, 13-21, 21-17, 21-14; Bob Blanco, Oakland, def. Bud Simpson, Seattle, 21-16, 21-15; Jim Douglas, Seattle, def. Dick Patricelli, Seattle, 9-21, 21-13, 21-20.

SECOND ROUND: Reel def. Paul Haber, Chicago, 21-13, 21-17; McQueen def. Randy Essel, Cleveland, 21-17, 17-21, 21-17; Cliff McCorkle, Reno, def. Mills, 21-4, 17-21, 21-6; Jack Scrivens, Portland, def. Miller, 21-8, 21-6; Carden def. Rick Christian, Eugene, 21-2, 21-9; Ball over Dennis Hofflander, Chicago, default; Blanco def. Al Drews, Cleveland, 21-20, 21-14; Matt Kelly, Long Beach, def. Douglas, 21-4, 21-11.

QUARTER-FINALS: McQueen def. Reel, 21-16, 21-16; Scrivens def. McCorkle, 21-15, 21-3; Carden def. Ball, 21-11, 21-5; Kelly def. Blanco, 21-8, 21-8.

SEMI-FINALS: Scrivens def. McQueen, 21-17, 16-21, 21-8; Carden def. Kelly, 21-5, 21-20.

FINALS: Scrivens def. Carden, 21-12, 21-5.

Seventeenth Annual
USHA NATIONAL JUNIORS
Singles Tournament

Dec. 28-30, 1972

Site: DENVER YMCA

Call collect - area code 312-673-4000 up to Dec. 25th.

Housing and Food: Provided.

Eligibility: Under 15, under 17; under 19. Player cannot reach 15, 17, or 19 in respective age brackets prior to Jan. 1, 1973. Limit of three players from any one organization. Current (1972) member of USHA.

Partial Travel Allowances from USHA: (based on one-way mileage)

Under 500 miles	\$ 0.00
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More than 1200 miles	\$50.00

Entry Fee: \$10 per player. Player can participate in one event only.

Trophies: To first four places in all events.

Full details on housing, food and schedule will be sent to all participants prior to start of tournament.

Deadline for Entries: Wednesday, Dec. 23, 1972

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RACQUETBALL NEWS

By CHUCK LEVE

The 1972-73 Racquetball season is soundly progressing, both in tournament competition and growth of our new-born RACQUETBALL Magazine. Comments on the first (November) issue were well-received and subsequent issues promise to be bigger and better.

The January, 1973 issue of RACQUETBALL will deal with October's National Invitational Doubles tournament, held at the Louisville Jewish Community Center. The tourney was won by top-seeded Charlie Brumfield and Dr. Bud Muehleisen, who together kept their unblemished record intact of never having lost a competitive game of racquetball doubles.

Brumfield-Muehleisen topped the surprise team of the tournament, Roger Souders and Dave (D.C.) Charlson in the finals. Both teams are from San Diego. Souders-Charlson knocked off some excellent teams coming from their unseeded position in the bottom bracket, including the Louisville tandem of Ken Porco and Mike Zeitman, and Steve Keeley-Charlie Drake. Keeley and Drake were responsible for the elimination of the current I.R.A. doubles titleholders George Rudysz and Mike Luciw in the second round.

* * *

Elsewhere last month, Brumfield boldly attempted to go both ways in the Canadian National Open tournament in Vancouver, British Columbia. Charlie hoped to nail down the Canadian singles and doubles to go along with his I.R.A. open singles crown.

He grabbed first spot in singles, besting I.R.A.'s number two, Ron Rubenstein of Chicago in a thrilling three-game match. Ruby, after capturing game one, had the serve at 20-20 in game two, but Brumfield managed to recapture the service, win the game and go on to sweep the third. But Rubenstein gained some measure of revenge in the doubles as he and Drake topped Brumfield and 15-year-old Craig McCoy in two close games for the Canadian Open doubles title.

The Canadian Nationals was, as usual, a tremendous tournament, with hospitality the finest this reporter has ever seen at a major tournament. The influx of U.S. players stimulated the competition in Vancouver and the I.R.A. has pledged to do as much as possible to continue the fine relations between Canadian and American racquetball interests.

* * *

Dr. Bud Muehleisen, who captured the Master's singles in Canada, chalked up another Masters title, the Invitational doubles, with fellow-San Diegan, Carl Loveday, as his partner. Bud and Carl lost nary a game in out-dueling the nine other Masters teams in the three-day round robin event at the New Castle, Pa., YMCA.

Second place fell to former I.R.A. Open doubles champs (1970) Don Wallace and Bob Yellin (New Britain, Conn.) whose only loss was to the champs. The closest anyone came to Muehleisen-Loveday was a thrilling match (all matches were 31 points) against local hero Sam Caiazza and his partner Earl Dixon, Indianapolis. Leading 7-1 and 22-10, Caiazza-Dixon kept the pressure on the San Diegans, but finally fell 31-27, to the great disappointment of the howling New Castle fans.

This tournament also left nothing to be desired in the way of hospitality as the New Castle Racquetball Association and Y.M.C.A. welcomed all players with open arms.

The only sad notes of the tournament were two injuries, the most serious to Dr. Vince Cutshall, former I.R.A. Masters doubles champ (1971) with Don Erickson. Vince, in true hard-nosed racquetball fashion, attempted to move the side wall and, as happens every time, the wall just wouldn't move. The result was a severe shoulder separation and possible fracture. Similar injury, although just a major bruise, was suffered by Herb Frank, forcing he and partner Tom Stidham out of the action on the tourney's second day. We send our sincere hopes that both men are recovering nicely.

* * *

The I.R.A. Invitational Singles tournament will be the middle of this month and the players are all primed and ready to go. Tune-up tournaments in Phoenix (December 1-2-3), Winona, Minn. (December 1-2-3), State College, Pa. (December 8-9-10) and Champaign, Ill. (December 8-9-10) have given all the top 16 a chance to get their games in the groove.

Defending champ Charlie Brumfield will pit his skills against all the top players in the game including Rubenstein, Muehleisen, Schmidtke, Keeley, Finger, Porco and many, many more.

Billed as the second most prestigious tournament of the year (to the International Championships) the Invitational Singles will also host an I.R.A. Board of Directors meeting after the tourney. So it will be all business for many of the players.

The tourney will mark the grand opening of The Court House, a new private court club catering to racquetball and handball. The men behind The Court House, Malin Greenberg and Richard Lurie have hired Bill Schmidtke to manage the facility and in our opinion, couldn't have tabbed a better man. Bill should find the relocation in Minneapolis a pleasant one.

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Paddleball divisionals will be in two places, East Lansing, Michigan, for the Midwest (December 8-9-10) and San Diego for the West (January 5-6-7). Winners of paddleball divisionals will receive round trip air coach transportation to the National Paddleball Championships February 1-4 in Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

Speaking of the paddleball championships, Diz Kronenberg and his able corps of workers are promising a great turnout in Eau Claire with all the top paddleballers expected to be on hand. With two strong divisions operating (we hope for five next season) the assurance of top players from at least wide ranging areas of the country is here. The N.P.A. tourney will be a good one.

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Private court clubs continue to be the hottest item in the racquetball-handball circles. Interested owners and builders never seem to stop inquiring of our offices about costs, planning, and possibilities of court clubs.

Latest information comes from New Orleans, where The Jefferson Court Club has broken ground and plans ten court clubs, holding six courts in each. Each facility will feature tournaments, women's as well as men's play and even some mixed doubles. Initially the Jefferson Court Clubs will be constructed in the Deep South, with plans to branch out after that.

Y'all Come—Austin, Texas—March 3-10

Full Information On Coming Nationals

A special meeting was held at Austin, Texas, Nov. 21 with Mort Leve coming into coordinate tournament planning with host chairman, Pete Tyson.

Because this is our third nationals at the University of Texas, with Pete Tyson a veteran administrator of all three, the discussions proceeded smoothly.

TICKETS: \$25 and \$12.50 each. There has already been a brisk sale but with 1100 seats available there are still some choice \$25 seats behind the back wall, with the \$12.50 seats on the sides. Send check or money order: Pete Tyson, #36, Gregory Gymnasium, University of Texas, Austin, TX. 78712.

ENTRY FEES: It was decided to charge a \$20 entry fee per player for the one event. If a player goes in two events he pays \$10 for that second event.

HOUSING: 200 rooms have been blocked off at the Villa Capri Hotel, located within walking distance of the Gregory Gymnasium. Address — 2400 N. Interregional, P.O. Box 1906, Austin, TX 78767. Telephone No. Area Code 512, 476 6171. Rates: Singles — \$15, \$14, \$13. Doubles (one double bed) — \$20.50, \$19.50, \$18.50. Twins: (two double beds) — 2 persons, \$20.50, each additional person, \$3.00. Duo (1 double bed & 1 single bed) — 1 person, \$15; 2 persons, \$20.50; 3 persons, \$23.50. Suites — \$30 to \$100. Office hours for reservations — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS: Saturday and Sunday, March 3-4 — Open singles to cut the field to 64. Singles draw will be made Thursday night, March 1. No notices on singles draw or time of play will be mailed out because of time factor. Players can call to get first match time from Friday morning, March 2. Either Pete Tyson at Gregory Gymnasium physical education office, or Mort Leve at Villa Capri Hotel. Masters singles, Masters doubles and Golden Masters doubles draw to be made Friday, March 2. Draw will be made late Sunday afternoon, March 4, for open doubles. All losers of singles play down to 64 players are eligible to play in con-

solation singles.

Play will start in open doubles, Masters singles and Masters doubles on Monday, March 5. Play will start in Golden Masters doubles on Tuesday, March 6.

CONVENTION NIGHT BANQUET — for all USHA members. Tuesday, March 6, at Villa Capri Hotel.

AWARDS NIGHT BANQUET — For all USHA members and guests, Thursday night, March 8, at Villa Capri Hotel.

HOSPITALITY ROOMS: During day at Gregory Gymnasium. From 7 p.m., March 3, 4, 5, 7, and 9, at Villa Capri.

FOR THE WOMEN: Special tours will be arranged plus "Dutch Treat" dinner at Red Barn, Tuesday, March 6. The new Lyndon B. Johnson Library, which includes an exact replica of the White House Oval Room, is only a block from the Villa Capri.

AVAILABLE COURTS: 13 at Gregory Gym, which includes the 1100-seat "Championship Amphitheater Court". Eight new courts are now ready for play at the University Stadium, within walking distance of both the Villa Capri Hotel and the Gregory Gymnasium.

REGISTRATION: Starting Friday afternoon, March 2, at Gregory Gymnasium. All information will be available, along with souvenir T-shirt, schedule of events, additional housing data, available tours, sightseeing points of interest.

PICK-A-PARTNER: As is the tradition with USHA "Players' Fraternity" tournaments players who seek a partner in the open doubles or Masters doubles events will be given every consideration and the tournament committee will cooperate in making up teams.

National Commissioner Schneider Seeks Referees

For ever so long a time we have tried to improve our refereeing, particularly at the National Tournaments. The task of refereeing has always been a thankless one, but a most necessary function.

For our next Nationals (to be held in Austin, Texas) we are going to attempt to develop in advance a so-called "corps of referees". This group will function under the direction of our national rules

and referees chairman, Dan Callahan. Dan will use this referee roster in an effort to assign particular referees in advance of all matches. If any of you who will be attending the national tournament, next March 3-10 at the University of Texas in Austin, wish to be considered in this referee group, please submit your name to me at our national headquarters, 4101 Dempster st., Skokie, Ill. 60076.

If you do, please let us know the date you expect to arrive and also some particulars as to your refereeing experience. Dan Callahan will have the final say as to who he will use, but upon your arrival in Austin I would suggest you contact him immediately for further details and possible assignments.

We have no idea how successful this might be, but at least we are trying.

23rd Annual National U. S. Handball Association Four-Wall Championships University of Texas, Austin March 3-10, 1973

IMPORTANT: All entrants for these events must present current USHA 1973 membership cards. Renewals and new memberships may be obtained at the time of registration at the tournament site, or by mailing \$3 for one year; \$7 for three years to: USHA, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, IL 60076.

EVENTS: Singles, Doubles, Masters and Golden Masters Doubles, Masters Singles, Consolation Singles. If preliminary round play is necessary in any of these tournaments it will precede first round scheduling. Consolation Singles is for those eliminated in preliminary and first round of Singles (64-player bracket).

DEADLINE FOR SINGLES, MASTERS SINGLES, MASTERS DOUBLES, GOLDEN MASTERS DOUBLES ENTRIES:
6 p.m., Wed. Feb. 28. Deadline for Doubles, Sunday, March 4.

OFFICIAL BALL: Spalding ACE.

TROPHIES: One set of trophies, designating champion, 2nd, 3rd, 4th places; first place Consolation.

ENTRY FEES: \$20 per man for first event. If player competes in second event, fee for that event is \$10.

Please enter me in the events checked. Enclosed is the sum of \$ for entry fee. Payment of fee must accompany entry forms. MAIL TO:

Pete Tyson, Chairman
#36, Gregory Gymnasium
University of Texas
Austin, TX 78712

() MASTERS DOUBLES with (partner need not represent same affiliation). One player, 40 or older; partner, 45 or older.

NAMES
or a player to be named prior to entry deadline.

ENTRY FEE \$20.00 per man

() GOLDEN MASTERS DOUBLES (partner need not represent same affiliation). Both players must be over 50.

.....
prior to entry deadline.

.....
per man

Bob Brady—A True Competitor

Dear Bob:

I am sorry I didn't write this letter sooner. Now I don't know where to send it. So we'll publish it, — just in case St. Peter reads Handball Magazine. I want him to know how proud we all are of you and how grateful we are for the many marvelous matches you played for both us and the Olympic Club.

The first time I thought of writing you was the day you won the National Championship in Houston in 1953. Your match with Ken Schneider was the greatest I ever witnessed. Ken looked like a sure winner when he beat you the first game, 21 to 3. Boy, how you dug in for the second game! Before it was over you matched his sensational shots with even more sensational retrieves. Your deceptive left began rolling them out and before long you were on the offensive, getting stronger by the minute. With the luck of the Irish, you pulled out the second game and then showed what a fierce, hard-nosed player you were in the third game. From that day on you were regarded as one of the greatest players of all time. You proved it in the years that followed by beating many of the all-time greats in tournament competition.

The history of handball is full of your victories over the best . . . Joe Platak, Walter Plekan, Gus Lewis, Jim Jacobs and Vic Hershkowitz. Funny thing about you, — you asked no quarter and gave none. You had only one thought in mind and that was victory.

In your years as the champion from San Francisco you built the image of the area to its highest point. With the Banquets, Marbles, Kellys, Clements, de la Penas, McGuires, Keays, Judnicks and others, your teams brought a shudder in every national tournament. Knock down, and drag-out handball was the order of the day in the Bay area and woe to the visiting handballers that challenged the bare-handed fist ball specialists of the West. Mayhem in the court was invented by your gang and nowhere else was your brand of ball played.

Again after your three-wall win in Detroit, I promised myself I would write and tell you how much I admired your fierce competitive zeal . . . and that's a bland way of describing it. It was always hard for me to understand how you could be so ferocious in the court and so friendly off it. That you were. The most ferocious I ever met. I hope I have done your heart justice.

before a match with you.

You would have loved the stories they told about you. How they plotted to beat you. No one ever apologized for losing to you. The regard in which you were held was something akin to hero worship. With all your viciousness, they preferred a loss to you than a win from someone else. That's because you were a man in the court. A great man.

You would never have made it as a ballet dancer. But in a pier six brawl, I would rather have you as a partner than anyone I know. Fellows you beat in the court were whipped both mentally and physically. You outfoxed them, you outshot them, you outfought them. Nothing fancy, — no grandstanding, — no stalling, — no baiting, — you played just for the pure joy of beating the hell out of someone. You were always Brady in the court, honorable, sincere, dedicated and a credit to the game.

One time I was walking through the gallery during a college tournament. I saw a couple of kids battling away. Suddenly startled, I stopped and looked again, "My God, — is that Brady?" The referee said, "No Bob, — that's his son." Bob, he had your stance and skill, the Brady style was beautiful to watch.

I stood there a long time thinking about all the great things you have done for handball, — how you would go to our tournaments in spite of restrictions because as you put it, "I just want to play handball." I thought of your quiet persuasion, — your sincerity, — your genuineness, — those clever wisecracks that distinguished your personality. Your wars with Lewis and Schneider, — oh how they admired you. Especially that masters title you and Keays stole from them in Los Angeles in 1970. On and on I went through pleasant memories that have made my life in handball something to be envied.

Wherever you are Bob — I know you are thinking of us. Wherever we are, Bob — we will be thinking of you. It's a shame that I can't see you anymore. But I hope you're happy.