



# RACQUETBALL



VOLUME II  
NUMBER 1 • JANUARY, 1973  
INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

50¢

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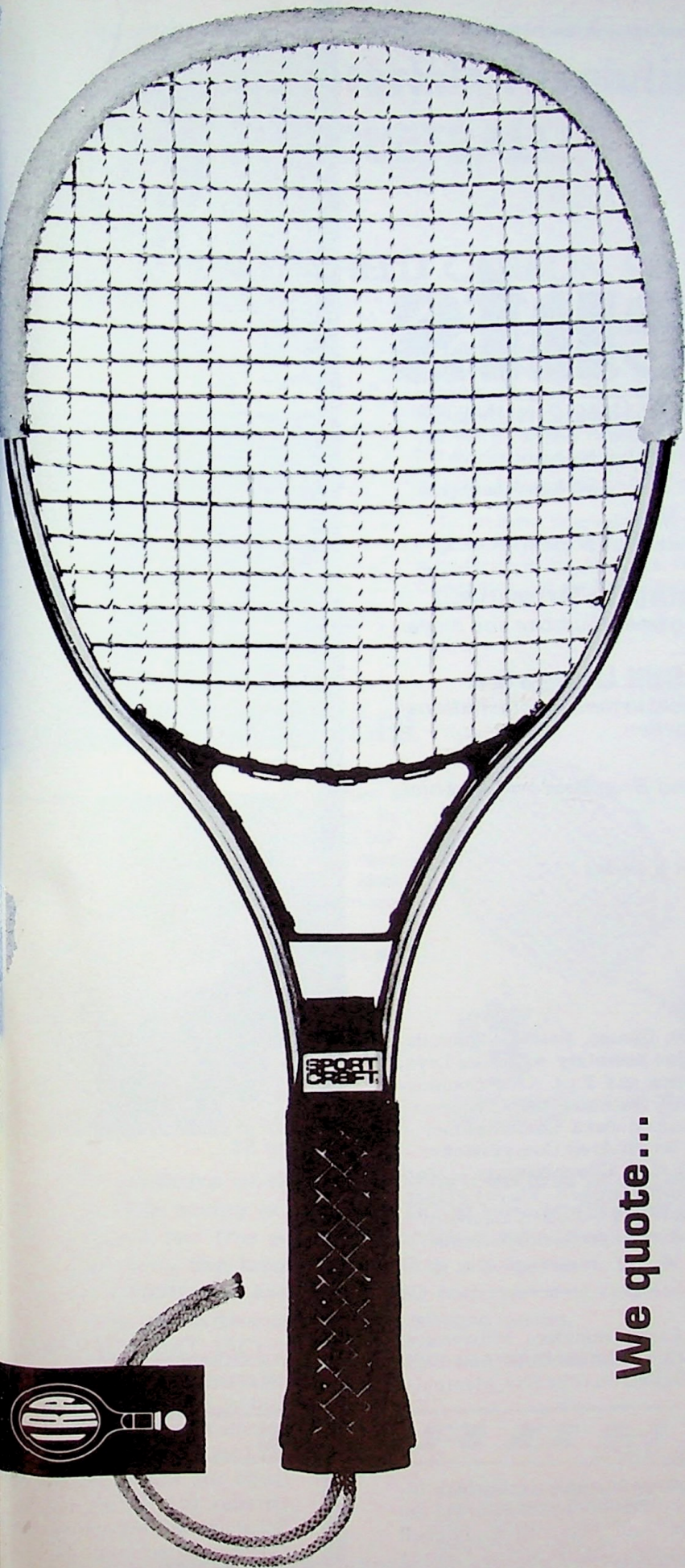
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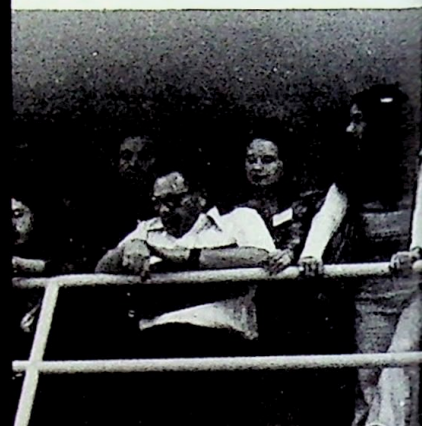
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## Racquetball Magazine, Volume 2, Number 1, January, 1973;

The official voice of racquetball and paddleball, published bi-monthly at 4101 Dempster Street, Skokie, Illinois 60076 by the International Racquetball Association and National Paddleball Association. Subscription-membership rates United States, Canada and Mexico, \$3.00 per year, \$7.00 for three years. For all other foreign countries add \$1.00 per year. Entered as second class matter November 1, 1972, Chicago, Illinois and additional mailing office.

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## ON THE COVER

Bud Muehleisen (r.) shooting his patented dump kill in the Masters Doubles Invitational tournament (page 16), won by he and Carl Loveday (c.). To the left is A. Schattner, who with partner Gene Grapes placed third. As usual the New Castle Racquetball Association put on one of the finest shows ever.

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## From the editor . . .

With the first issue of *Racquetball Magazine* behind us, we can truly look forward to a banner Volume II as we embark on the new year. Comments on the November issue have come from many racquetball areas and all seem to say the same thing: "Thanks. We needed that."

This January issue has many exciting features. First off, is the beginning of an instructional series by current International champ Charlie Brumfield. The initial segment is on service and grip, to be followed in future issues on service returns, offensive and defensive shots, strategy and all other aspects of the winning racquetball game. At the culmination of the series, expected to run approximately nine to 12 issues, the complete text with additions will be published by the International Racquetball Association. So, for top instructional reading, the first article appears on page 36.

The past two months have been filled with many outstanding tournaments, including the I.R.A. Invitational singles, and Invitational doubles, the Canadian National Championships (all of which Brumfield took first place) plus the Masters doubles Invitational and highly competitive Illini Open. We have provided what we consider top notch reporting and excellent photographic journalism to let everyone know just how the nation's best players progressed.

Tournament information again is a vital part of this issue, with entry forms for both Divisional play and the International Championships. All Divisionals are scheduled for March 2-3-4, with the exception of the Southern tournament to be March 16-17-18. These

tournaments have grown tremendously in the last few years and have raised the level of competition throughout the continent. For entry info and to check which Divisional you qualify for, see page 44.

A big highlight coming up is the first I.R.A. Intercollegiate tournament to be April 16-19, 1973 at the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana. Following their great success with the Illini Open, the Illini Racquetball Club has indicated a great eagerness to host this tournament. They have been given the go-ahead from the University and the tournament should be a significant first step toward the I.R.A.'s promotion of the game on our college campuses.

This year's International Championships promise to be the biggest and most exciting in history as we move back to the facility of our origin, the St. Louis Jewish Community Center. The J.C.C.A.'s eight courts, including their glass walled spectator court will be the site April 3-8 for the Big Daddy among racquetball tournaments. Chairmen Milt Harris, Sam Goldman and Bruce Hendin have been planning for months to give all entrants the very best in tournament conditions and hospitality. Further information and entry forms appear on page 10.

And for those of you interested in the political and administrative doings within the Association, minutes of the first real I.R.A. Board of Directors meeting (with Executive Committee on hand) is included on page 38. This meeting was held December 17 in Minneapolis and truly shows the concern we all have for the insured growth and prosperity of racquetball in the future.

*Charles S. Love*

## Racquetball Magazine

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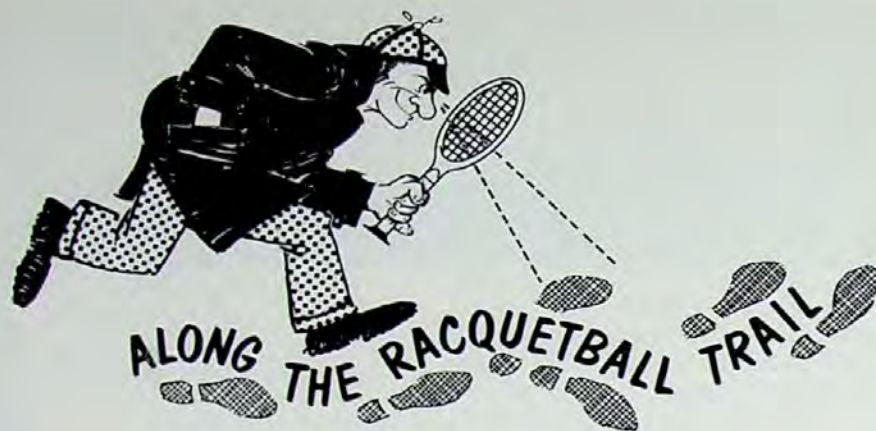
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## Florida

Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida held its first annual Racquetball Tournament in October 1972, under the sponsorship of Commander Curt Brotherton. This was the first Racquetball Tournament played in western Florida and as such brought forth a group of enthusiastic players. Although the overall experience and caliber of play may not have equaled other tournaments, southern hospitality and the comradeship of engaging in a new, dynamic sport were most evident.

Gary Schulke of the Naval Air Station, and Dr. Jim Wright, an Air Force Captain, also assigned to the Naval Air Station, Pensacola performed heroically. Schulke earned awards as Singles Runner-up and Doubles Champion, and Dr. Wright was the other Doubles Champion.

Neighboring Eglin Air Force Base, Florida supplied formidable competition, with Sergeant Bobby James of Eglin's Recreation Department winning as Singles Champion and Doubles Runner-up, and Sergeant Dennis Moore taking honors as Doubles Runner-up.

This first Racquetball Tournament in the Northwest Florida area brought to light a small but wildly enthusiastic corps of racquetball players, and NAS Pensacola plans to make the tournament an annual event. Invitations will be issued not only to nearby military installations, but to all the colleges in the area.

## Sioux Falls

A racquetball tournament was held by the Sioux Falls YMCA on November 10-12. Players from Wisconsin, Minnesota, Nebraska and South Dakota competed. Men's singles and doubles were played and a new bracket was added to the list with a singles women's round.

The men's doubles were won by John Rude and Mark Hegg over Dr. Vince

Cutshall and Don Erickson, all from Sioux Falls, South Dakota. A blistering two games were played with scores of 21-17 and 21-13. Rude and Hegg combined to defeat David Lien and Jerry Hoff of Wisconsin, Dr. Russ Orr and Don Grebin of Sioux Falls, and John Raducha and Dick Hamlin of Omaha, Nebraska.

The men's singles was won by Dr. Charles Schafer of Winona, Minnesota. Schafer defeated Jerry Hoff of Wausau, Wisconsin in the finals 21-14 and 21-15. Schafer worked his way through the bracket by defeating Bob Moreland, Sioux Falls and Paul-Ikier, defending champion from Mankato, Minnesota.

Kathy Frank won the women's bracket with four wins and no defeats. Kathy defeated Ellen Drewes, Katy Blancher, Donna Sponberg and Val Gonser. Drewes placed second with a 3-1 record and Blancher captured third with a 2-2 record.

## Chicago League

The two and one-half year old Illinois Racquetball Association has added another dimension to its racquetball promoting repertoire this year with the incorporation of the Chicagoland Racquetball League.

The League, which began this fall, sports eight facilities with each fielding one team. The League is two rounds (14 matches) on a home-and-home basis, with play being conducted every Monday night.

Fred Blaess, I.R.A.'s Central Area Commissioner, and president of the Illinois Association, is really happy about the way things have worked out for the League. But as for its incorporation, he refuses to take the credit.

"It was really the brainchild of Art Michaely, the physical director of the Northwest Suburban YMCA (Des Plaines)," said Blaess. "Art was anxious to get the League off the ground and he did most of the preliminary work."

Michaely was awarded chairmanship of the League from the Illinois Association and the League's instant success leads all to believe that expansion is due for next year.

"We know that racquetball is played in many more than just eight facilities," said Blaess. "But some of them were a little leary about going into competitive play at this time. However, they have seen the great excitement, interest and camaraderie generated by the League and they are now eager to join."

The actual mechanics of such a League are simple and can be set up in any racquetball town. Each team is assessed a \$50.00 entry fee for a roster of 10 men. In some cases the facility paid the fee, in other cases each man chipped in his \$5.00.

A match is made up of five players on each side, — three singles players and one doubles team. A player may only play in one spot on any given week. Points are allotted in this way: 10 points for number one singles and doubles; seven points for number two singles; and five points for number three singles. Scoring in the League is a cumulative total of all points, not match victories, the only part of the League's operation than Blaess feels is bad.

"Unfortunately, it has turned out that only three teams really have a shot at first place," he said. "And since every single point now becomes a necessity, none of these teams are willing to use their second line players."

Blaess feels that the ideal scoring system, and one which he will push for next year, would be to have the standings determined on a won-lost percentage. In case of a tie, the head-to-head competition between the two tied teams would determine the winner.

"In that way," said Blaess, "the very strong teams would be able to use all of their players, even if it might mean losing a number three singles once in a while."

"We didn't set this thing up to bring blood and guts competition to the Chicago area. That's been here long before us. What we do want to promote, and I think we're doing it, is friendship and fun within the sport of racquetball."

Blaess also announced the January 19-20-21 Illinois state (closed) doubles tournament and the February 16-17-18 Illinois State singles tourney, featuring an open women's bracket for the first time in Illinois State tournament history.

"We have noted the tremendous increase in women players in Illinois," said Fred, "so it was only natural that we give the gals a chance to play competitively. If there is good representation in February, then we might expand our league to allow women to compete."

## Janesville, Wisc.

Ron Haisting of Madison captured the 1st Annual Janesville, Wisc. YMCA Open Racquetball Tournament defeating Don Gemoll of Madison in the finals 21-17, 21-12.

It was the biggest and best racquetball tournament ever in Janesville. The tournament was highlighted by such players as Paul Nelson, Bill Schultz, Bill Clark, Ron Haisting, Joe and Tom Wirkus, Paul Ikier, and Don Gemoll.

In their first game Haisting and Gemoll played even making some great shots. Then tied at 15, Haisting seemed to take command of the game and match. In the second game Haisting anticipated Gemoll's moves and took an early lead after which Gemoll wasn't able to put any kind of a game together and was defeated 21-12.

Haisting in the semi-finals defeated Tom Wirkus of Fond du Lac in one of the finest matches of the tourney, 19-21, 21-19, 21-11. Haisting had a 19-15 lead in their first game, but Wirkus just kept coming back. The second game found a repeat of the first, but this time Haisting was able to overcome a late surge by Wirkus. In the third game Haisting was in command and was never in trouble winning 21-11.

Haisting defeated Everett Eiken of Winona, Minn. 21-5, 21-12, Paul Ikier of Mankato, Minn. 21-14, 21-12 and Jim Cripe of Janesville 21-4, 21-5.

To get to the finals Don Gemoll defeated Galen Johnson of Oshkosh 21-13, 21-19, Jerry Huff of Wausau 21-8, 16-21, 21-3, Bob Drengler of Mankato, Minn. 21-10, 21-7, and Fred Vetter of Milwaukee 21-9, 21-7.

The other fine exhibitions were Paul Ikier and Bill Clark's first round match which saw Ikier winning 21-19, 12-21, 21-19. Also Paul Nelson against Tom Wirkus in a quarter-final match as Wirkus won 21-19, 21-20. Galen Johnson defeated Joe Wirkus in the quarter-finals 20-21, 21-18, 21-18.

## Raleigh

Second Annual Carolinas' YMCA Racquetball Championship Tournament was held at the Raleigh, N.C. YMCA on Friday and Saturday, October 27-28. The tournament boasted a field of 42 players representing six Associations including Wilmington, Winston-Salem, Greensboro, High Point, Rocky Mount and Raleigh, the host.

The favored Raleigh Y captured the Team Championship by amassing 87 points in the two-day event; High Point was runner-up for the second time with 17 points.

Norman Chambers, defending Open Singles Champion, successfully held off

a second game rally by teammate Ed Whitehurst of Raleigh to retain the coveted title (21-8, 21-19). Hard-swinging Jim Kenny and powerful Ed Wheelless of High Point teamed up to take the measure of a strong Raleigh combination of Jack Hogan and Terry Smith (17-21, 21-4, 21-15) and claim the Open Doubles title.

Diminutive Luther Green, a Raleigh spark plug, came back after a first game defeat to wrestle the Master Singles trophy away from teammate Larry McGee (15-21, 21-14, 21-14) in a match filled with amazing recovery shots. Two Raleigh duos battled it out for the Master Doubles crown with Bill "Boo Boo" Gilliam and Jim Lovett topping Carolinas' YMCA Racquetball Commissioner, L. T. Wadsworth and Jay Johnson 21-7, 19-21, 21-19.

In the 50 and over age group, Raleigh main stay, Bill Wilson bested Glen Yopp, also of Raleigh, 21-14, 21-13 in two hard fought games. The Golden Masters Doubles was an all Raleigh event with Jarvis Lawrence and Dr. Hugh McManus stopping Bob King and Joe Green 21-14, 21-17.

After two highly successful Carolinas' championship tournaments, racquetball has been firmly established a major YMCA competitive sport in the area. Since the sport was first introduced a few short years ago, racquetball has grown to such proportions that it now rivals the popularity of handball.

## Northwest Open

Prior to the Vancouver B.C. National Open, the Bellingham Association held a Northwest Open Racquetball tournament to aid in preparation for the national event in Canada. The tournament hosted 54 entries among the open singles, open doubles, "B" singles and "C" singles divisions.

In the open singles finals, Dr. Peter James of Bellingham beat Gene Altman, also of Bellingham, in a well played match 21-7, 21-11. James, through excellent control, did not allow Altman to get untracked, although many good shots and rallies were exhibited. To get to the finals, Gene bested Steve Murata of Tacoma in three beautifully played games, 16-21, 21-17, and 21-14. Dr. James in his semi-final match, beat Doug Clark, also of Bellingham, 21-4, 21-14. This was Clark's first experience in the open division, but he demonstrated a good use of the ceiling and wall game even in defeat to the experience and well-rounded play of Peter James.

There was a good response and a great amount of enthusiasm in the open doubles competition where Doug Clark and Gene Altman teamed together to take home the trophies in a hard fought, point-for-point finals match over Sid Williams

of Tacoma and Doug Moore of Aberdeen, 21-18, 21-13. The scores are not totally indicative of the doubles games, as there were excellent rallies on almost each and every point. The open doubles match drew a large crowd, which was a pleasure to watch due to the excellent play displayed and the friendly sportsmanship exhibited by all four of the individuals.

In the B division Don Gessel from Olympia beat Tevie Smith from Vancouver B.C., 21-6, 21-7. In the C final Ron Condratow of the Vancouver B.C. Jewish Center won out over Jim Dahl from Aberdeen 21-7, 21-17.

The tournament by general consensus was a great success. The tournament ran October 20, 21, and 22. On Saturday evening there was a huge spaghetti feed and beer and wine fest at the home of Dr. James.

Further information of the 1973 NORTHWEST OPEN will be sent in the near future.

Congratulations and good luck on the issuance of the new *RACQUETBALL*.

DOUG CLARK

Bellingham Racquetball Assoc.

## Saskatoon

"A" players from Lethbridge, Edmonton and Regina converged at Saskatoon for the first annual O'keefe Invitational Handball-Racquetball tournament, which was held at the local YMCA, November 16 thru November 18.

The combined Racquetball-Handball tournament committee did an excellent job of organizing this rather unique tournament. The committee ran off their local B and C events the week before the invitational tournament, then invited out-of-town A players to compete in the invitational A singles events. The entry fee was dropped for the A players but they had to play doubles with a local B or C player. The idea being that the A players take time and teach the more inexperienced B and C players, thus hoping to improve the calibre of local racquetball. The singles and doubles were both fiercely contested although most of the A players did take time to help their partners improve their game.

Wayne Bowes of Lethbridge defeated Howard Rankin of Edmonton 21-10, 21-17 in the finals to take the A singles title. Rankin advanced to the finals by defeating Roal Thompson of Regina 21-9, 21-10. In the other half of the draw Bowes defeated Dale Aasen another Lethbridge player 21-10, 21-12. In the consolation singles Tim Filuk of Lethbridge defeated George Bell of Regina 21-17, 21-12. Filuk advanced to the finals after beating Ray

Continued page 44

# Internationals Slated For St. Louis, April 3-8

The I.R.A. International Championships will be in St. Louis this year, for the third time in I.R.A.'s five year existence. The tournament will again be hosted by the St. Louis Jewish Community Centers Association (J.C.C.A.). The tournament is expected to draw the biggest entry in I.R.A. history, probably surpassing the last year's record of 314 entries in Memphis.

Bruce Hendin, physical education director at the J.C.C.A., is planning on 400 entries in the seven brackets of play. The usual men's singles and doubles, men's masters singles and doubles, and women's singles and doubles will be included along with a brand new bracket, men's golden masters doubles, for men 50 years old and over.

"We feel the golden masters doubles will give the older guys a chance to play competitively," said Hendin. "Our racquetball committee approved the idea for the International tourney, and the I.R.A. agreed."

Four years ago, the same committee requested permission to inaugurate a women's singles bracket in International play, and the idea was overwhelmingly favored. It has led to a much greater participation in racquetball for the gals, and the hope is the same will occur for the older men.

The J.C.C.A. has eight courts, including one with glass side walls with spectator space for about 225 persons. Tickets will be administered in such a way that as many people as possible be able to see the matches.



Those present at recent committee meeting for the Internationals: (Standing l. to r.) Steve Serot, Dan Hilecher, Milt Harris, Oscar Klayman, Steve Funk, Chuck Leve, Bruce Hendin. (Seated) Sam Goldman, Ann Hilecher, Joan Zuckerman, Sheila Siegel, Marsha Funk, Chris Ackerman and Lou Meyers.

"The entry fee includes a general admission ticket for each participant," said Hendin. "That means that if seats are available, the player who entered can have a seat for whatever match is going on."

"For the semi-finals and finals, this will be a pretty big gamble, though, because reserved seats will be sold. If there is a sell-out, we can only honor those persons with reserved tickets. Reserved tickets for the entire tournament will be \$15.00 for the first two rows and \$10.00 for the last three rows."

Other aspects of the tournament include hospitality and souvenir t-shirts. There will be consolation play in all singles events, thus assuring those players who play singles only, at least two matches.

Along with Hendin, tournament chairmen are Milt Harris who aided greatly in the organization and running of the first two I.R.A. Championships held in St. Louis, and Sam Goldman, chairman of the J.C.C.A.'s racquetball committee.

Play will start Tuesday, April 3 in men's singles and master's singles. All other brackets of play will commence on Wednesday, April 4. No schedules will be sent out in advance, so players in those brackets should be ready to play at 8 a.m. Tuesday. The draw will be posted at the J.C.C.A. and tournament headquarters motel.

The headquarters will be the Sheraton Airport Motor Inn where 75 rooms have been put aside for tournament use. There will be a banquet one evening and player's convention meeting another. Send reservations to Bruce Hendin.

The entry fee is \$20.00 per player for the first event, and \$10.00 per player for the second event. As explained, the entry fee covers that first event, hospitality, t-shirt, banquet and general admission ticket.

For further information on the tournament contact Bruce Hendin at the J.C.C.A., 11001 Schuetz Rd., St. Louis, MO 63141 (314-432-5700) or Chuck Leve at I.R.A. headquarters, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, IL 60076 (312-673-4000).

## Upcoming Tourney Information

For further information on upcoming tournaments contact the following people:

**Cornell Open**, Richmond Virginia YMCA, Bill Buckman, Central YMCA, 2 West Franklin St., Richmond, VA 23220. There is open singles, open doubles and Masters doubles at the Cornell Open. Entry fee is \$8 per player per event.

**The Cleveland Open**, February 9-11, Bob Vanderveer, Cleveland Central YMCA, 2200 Prospect Ave., Cleveland, OH. There is open singles, open doubles and Masters singles at the Cleveland Open. Entry fee is \$8 per player per event.

**The Chicago Open**, March 23-25, Jim DiVito, Sheridan Park, 910 South Aber-

deen, Chicago, IL 60606. There is open singles only at the Chicago Open. Entry fee is \$5 per man.

**The Oregon Open**, Multnomah Athletic Club, Portland, Sandy Weinstein, 700 N.E. Multnomah, Portland, OR. There is singles only at the Oregon Open for Masters, open, B and C, plus a closed Oregon tourney at the same time. The tournament is limited to the first 100 entries.

**The Kings Court Invitational**, March 16-18, Kings Court, Minneapolis, Wendell Ottum, 7001 Cahill Rd., Edina, Minnesota 55435. There will be men's singles and doubles, women's singles and doubles and masters singles and doubles. Entry fee is \$10 per player per event.

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## FIFTH ANNUAL

DATES: April 3-8, 1973.

ENTRY FEE: \$20 per person, first event; includes one event, hospitality, banquet, and general admission ticket. Second event - \$10.

OFFICIAL BALL: Seamless 558.

**TROPHIES:** To first four places in each event.

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I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the International Racquetball Association, St. Louis J.C.C.A., or their respective agents, representatives, successors, or assigns for any and all injuries which may be suffered by me in connection with my competition in said tournament.

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HOUSING INFORMATION AVAILABLE

## Who Will Ever Beat Him?

Too good? Invincible? Devastating? Unconquerable?

Charlie Brumfield, the 24-year-old goateed San Diegan appears to be rapidly accruing the reputation of all of the above. What little doubt there was in the minds of avid racquetball observers was probably dispelled December 16 and 17 as Brumfield ripped through his bracket and on to the championship of the second I.R.A. "top 16" Invitational singles tournament.

Second seeded Ron Rubenstein lost in the first round. So did third seed Bill Schmidtke. Ditto fourth seed Paul Lawrence and number eight Craig Finger. Ex-champ Bud Muehleisen succumbed in round two as did sixth seed Steve Keeley.

When the smoke had cleared, it was Brumfield, top seed and current International singles titleholder who was again on top of the heap. He blasted 16-year-old Steve Serot in the finals by identical 21-6 scores and was never extended to three games the entire tournament.

Third place went to Mike Zeitman, Louisville, who dropped his semi-final match to Brumfield 21-10, 21-6. He knocked off teammate Ken Porco an 21-18, 21-11 loser to Serot, 21-11, 21-11 for third.

Hosts for the tournament was The Court House another in the ever-increasing number of racquetball-handball court clubs, this one featuring eight courts, in the St. Louis Park area of Minneapolis.

The final match, featuring Brumfield and Serot was the best display of racquetball skills ever seen by this reporter. Charlie methodically overwhelmed Steve, never letting the youngster gain any momentum and neutralizing Serot's bullet-like kills and passes with intense anticipation and resulting blanket-like court coverage.

And not only did Brumfield emerge victorious in the physical ability level of the game, he also clearly dominated his foes mentally. This was apparent in his semi-final match with Zeitman, whose intensesness and courage on the court is second to none. The key to beating Mike is to break his concentration, which Brumfield managed to do with outstanding serves and a non-distinguishable pattern of shots on the court. But the primary method used by Charlie was his dry humor directed to the gallery. By making the spectators laugh with his comments, Charlie managed to keep Mike's mind on everything but that little black ball.

Against Serot it was more intimidation. At one point Steve attempted a backhand kill off one of Charlie's lob serves. The

*The I.R.A. Invitational Singles tourney was all Charlie Brumfield, who convincingly scored his fifth major tournament victory of the year.*



# SEMI-FINALS

## GAME 1

|           |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| Zeitman   | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | — | 10 |
| Brumfield | 0 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 2 | — | 21 |

Kills — Brumfield 14, Zeitman 14. Passes — Brumfield 3, Zeitman 2. Errors — Brumfield 2, Zeitman 13. Aces — None. Hinders — 8. Time outs — Brumfield 1, Zeitman 2.

## GAME 2

|           |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| Brumfield | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 3 | 4 | — | 21 |
| Zeitman   | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | x | — | 6  |

Kills — Brumfield 13, Zeitman 8. Passes — Brumfield 6, Zeitman 3. Errors — Brumfield 3, Zeitman 10. Aces — None. Hinders — 3. Avoidable hinders — 1 (Zeitman). Time outs — Zeitman 2.

## GAME 1

|       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |
|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| Serot | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | — | 21 |
| Porco | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 1 | x | — | 18 |

Kills — Serot 13, Porco 19. Passes — Serot 10, Porco 4. Errors — Serot 10, Porco 11. Aces — None. Hinders — 2. Time outs — Serot 1, Porco 1.

## GAME 2

|       |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |
|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| Porco | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 2 | — | 11 |
| Serot | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 | — | 21 |

Kills — Serot 15, Porco 20. Passes — Serot 12, Porco 2. Aces — None. Errors — Serot 4, Porco 11. Hinders — 8. Time outs — Serot 1, Porco.

# FINALS

## GAME 1

|           |   |   |      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |
|-----------|---|---|------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| Serot     | 0 | 0 | 0    | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | — | 6  |
| Brumfield | 0 | 1 | (10) | 1 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | — | 21 |

Kills — Brumfield 19, Serot 6. Passes — Brumfield 1, Serot 0. Errors — Brumfield 7, Serot 11. Aces — None. Hinders — 2. Time outs — None.

## GAME 2

|           |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| Brumfield | 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | — | 21 |
| Serot     | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | x | — | 6  |

Kills — Brumfield 22, Serot 5. Passes — Brumfield 2, Serot 4. Errors — Brumfield 8, Serot 8. Aces — None. Hinders — 2. Time outs — Brumfield 2.

ball appeared dead in the right front corner, but Brumfield not only saved the ball he re-killed it in the same sport. As the ball rolled off, he spun around, and glaring Serot like a father catching his kid coming home after hours, almost screamed, "Don't ever try that again!"

Early in the first game Charlie had run five straight points in the third inning and it was obvious Steve was struggling. He had no momentum, and no appreciable control of the rallies. Brumfield, from the service zone, in a trying to be helpful tone of voice, said, "Call a time out." Of course Steve didn't and Charlie ran five more before the lanly southpaw could put him out.

The ten point frame boosted Brumfield's lead to 11-0 and a six pointer in the sixth inning made it 18-1 before Serot could relax and tally a few of his own.

Game two was equally as overpowering. Brumfield controlled the rallies to a point where he tallied on 22 kill shots to only five for Serot. He scored in each of the first five innings, running up another big lead of 15-2 and coasted from there.

A full gallery had been treated to almost perfect racquetball, but were somewhat disappointed in their hopes for a close, exciting match.

"I was lucky," said Brumfield, flashing a hint of uncommon modesty. "I'm usually very good and when I'm lucky

on top of it, it's all over."

If it was exciting matches the fans expected, they got a great number of them in the early rounds.

One of the best was Charlie Garfinkel's first round upset of Rubenstein 21-20, 12-21, 21-20. Garfinkel, the 6'6 school teacher from Buffalo, New York was given little chance against Ruby for two main reasons. First, in their last meeting Ron had destroyed the Gar 21-3, 21-5 in the semi-finals of the 1971 Cleveland Open. Secondly, a blizzard forced the shutdown of Buffalo's airport, forcing Garfinkel to take a morning flight to Minneapolis. As a result, he stepped off the plane, was driven to the courts, rested for 15 minutes and played.

Winning the first game was a tremendous lift for Gar, and although it appeared Rubenstein was not "on", it was apparent that the New York State champ definitely was. Showing a devastating backhand, highlighted by side-wall, front wall pinch kills, Garfinkel stayed with Ruby the entire way, finally picking up game point.

After Ruby took game two, Gar came back from a 20-18 deficit to capture the third game.

"I knew I had been playing well," said Garfinkel, "but I also knew that I would have a tough draw. I was mentally prepared to play one of the top players and was confident I could win."

Rubenstein was at a loss to explain the defeat. "I felt I had control of the games," he said. "I honestly felt I could score a point at almost any time. Yet he won and I lost."

But Rubenstein wasn't the only shocked player after the first round. Former (1971) International champ Bill Schmidtke, now managing the Court House facility, was eliminated by Zeitman 19-21, 21-18, 21-10. After squeezing by the first game, in which he had an 18-11 lead and almost lost it, Schmidtke held a seemingly commanding 18-10 advantage in game two. But Zeitman came back strong to take the second game and the third easily.

Schmidtke, although hampered by the flu and the pressure of being the host tournament co-ordinator, would make no excuses, and actually none were necessary. Zeitman played his best matches in recent memory, serving notice that he is over a serious back injury and will definitely be a key figure in the International tournament later this month.

Another ex-champ, Craig Finger was upset in the shocker of the tournament by sixteenth seed Bob McNamara. It was a battle of former paddleball standouts but Finger figured to be the easy victor. After a 21-3 first game triumph Finger seemed to have things well in hand. But McNamara came back, keeping Craig on the move with drives down the walls until Craig wilted. The result was 21-7, 21-10 second and third games wins for McNamara.

Lawrence fell to Ken Porco in his first match, as the I.R.A. National Commissioner showed a much steadier game than in recent tournaments. Ken's strength and power were too much for Lawrence, who has not had his game "on" for some time. Scores were 21-15, 21-7.

In other first round action, Steve Keeley, East Lansing, Michigan defeated Ken Wong, St. Louis 21-14, 21-12 in an exciting display of top racquetball. Serot knocked off Charlie Drake, San Diego 21-10, 21-18 in a match that very nearly went three games, in other first round action. Bud Muehleisen defeated Jim Austin, Houston 21-9, 21-13 to round out the first round.

Two of the four quarter-final matches ended up in surprises. After Brumfield routinely did away with McNamara, 21-10, 21-2, Zeitman and Porco the Louisville tandem, each pulled upsets to reach the semis.

Zeitman, seeded eleventh, came up against number six Keeley and an anticipated tight Keeley victory ended in an overwhelming Zeitman triumph. Mike used outstanding lob serves to the backhand and great front court control to completely eliminate Keeley's usually strong shooting game. Keeley, seemingly in the doldrums of no, or at least an erratic game plan, never could get his game on track. Zeitman was handed set up after



Brumfield moves into forehand against Mike Zeitman in the semi's. Mike, who emerged from probably the toughest quarter, just did not have the consistency to defeat Charlie.



Serot catches Porco on his heels as he shoots his backhand into the front right corner. It was the second year in a row in which Steve eliminated Ken in the Invitational Singles.

CHARLIE BRUMFIELD, San Diego

JERRY HILECHER, St. Louis  
BRUMFIELD  
21-14, 21-13

BOB MC NAMARA, Minneapolis  
MC NAMARA  
3-21, 21-7, 21-10

STEVE KEELEY, East Lansing  
KEELEY  
21-14, 21-12

MICHAEL ZEITMAN, Louisville  
ZEITMAN  
19-21, 21-18, 21-10

PAUL LAWRENCE, Ann Arbor  
PORCO  
21-15, 21-7

JIM AUSTIN, Houston  
MUEHLEISEN  
21-9, 21-13

STEVE SEROT, St. Louis  
SEROT  
21-10, 21-18

CHARLIE DRAKE, San Diego  
GARFINKEL  
21-20, 12-21, 21-20

RON RUBENSTEIN, Chicago

BRUMFIELD  
21-10, 21-2

ZEITMAN  
21-10, 21-13

PORCO  
5-21, 21-15, 21-18

SEROT  
21-11, 21-13

BRUMFIELD  
21-10, 21-6

BRUMFIELD  
21-6, 21-6

SEROT  
21-18, 21-11

3RD PLACE  
ZEITMAN  
21-11, 21-11

CONSOLATION  
HILECHER  
11-21, 21-19, 21-9

## Top 16 Draw



Porco (left), in deep court follows through with his forehand. In the gallery can be seen I.R.A. Executive Secretary Chuck Leve (r.) and to Chuck's right, Garfinkel and Zelson. (Above) Brumfield looks to the heavens after one of his few errors. C'mon Charlie, we're all human.

set up and he graciously accepted 21-10, 21-13.

Porco was up next against Muehleisen, matching two of the tournament veterans, who, strangely enough had never met in major tournament competition. Bud dominated game one 21-5 never letting Ken get anywhere near front court and hardly working up a sweat.

But Ken, the I.R.S.'s national commissioner came back strong taking game two 21-15 and then salvaging the match with a spine tingling comeback in the third game for a 21-18 victory.

Serot then met Garfinkel in the last of the quarter final matches and Charlie really ran into a buzz saw. Steve threw in forehand and backhand photon kills, many so hard and so low that spectators couldn't determine if they were kills or passes.

Steve was so "on" that during one time out when Serot was asked if he wanted a towel Garfinkel remarked, "Towel, hell, he needs a saliva test." The Gar was definitely fatigued after his punishing three game win over Rubenstein, so tired in fact that someone commented, "He's almost too tired to talk." Someone else said, "He's never that tired."

The semi-finals were interesting and unexpected match-ups, with the first, seventh, 11th and 12th seeds left. Brum-

field rode Zeitman errors to a relatively easy win in the top bracket, as it appeared Mike's game had peaked in his win over Keeley the day before. Zeitman committed 23 errors in the two games to Charlie's five.

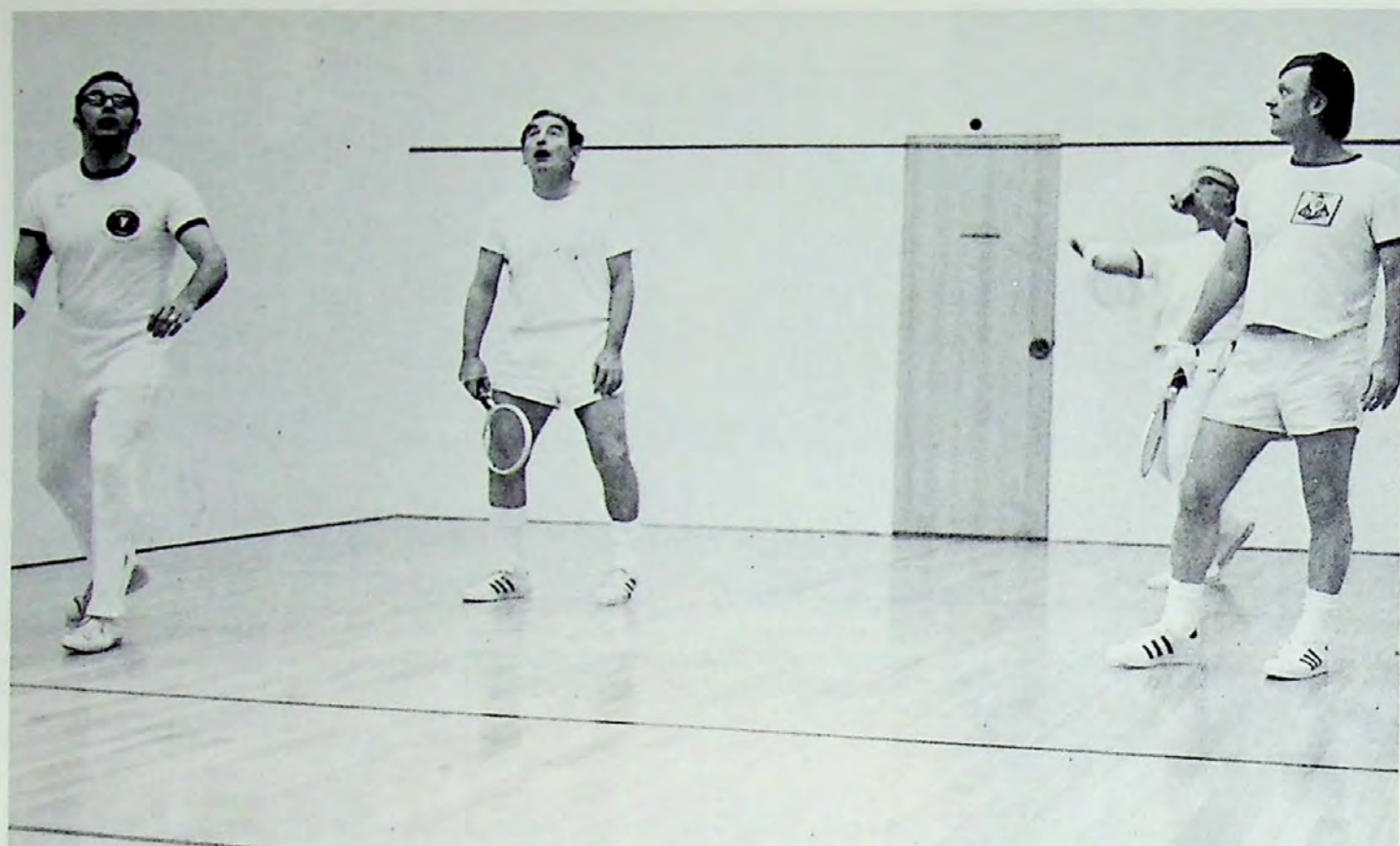
Porco, in the lower bracket played possibly the gutsiest match of the tourney in losing to Serot. Steve again came out of the chute smoking, running up a tremendous 15-1 lead in the first game. And just when it appeared that Ken would let him have the first game, he himself got hot running four points in the seventh inning and eight in the 10th. When Ken pulled to within 18-19 Steve called time out and came back in with the needed two points.

"I never intended to give him anything," said Porco. "I felt I could win the first game, but just fell a little short."

In game two Serot again raced to a big lead, shutting Porco out in either of the first nine innings, amassing 9-1 and 12-3 advantages. Ken pulled back to within 9-16 but never got closer.

**TOURNAMENT NOTES** . . . Many, many thanks to Malin Greenberg and Richard Lurie, owners of the Court House, for the use of their beautiful facility. The eight court club is an outstanding display of what can be done with the court sports and Malin and Dick did a first class job . . . Thanks too to Bill Schmidtke who seems to have found a home in the Minneapolis area. Bill did much of the leg work and all of the worrying that Malin couldn't handle in readying the club for the tournament . . . Pro athletes Jim Kaat and Rich Reese of the Minnesota Twins baseball club, both inves-

tors in the club, did yeomans service in construction of stands and making the runs to the airport for players. And as Kaat put it, "With a few lessons and practice with me, we might get a few of these guys playing a decent game." . . . Other Twin Cities sports celebs making the scene were Alan Page of the Vikings, Tony Oliva of the Twins, and hockey stars Lou Nyzanne and Barry Gibbs of the North Stars . . . Players and their wives were treated to the North Stars-New York Rangers hockey game Saturday night (won by Minnesota 5-1) followed by a downtown Cantonese dinner compliments of Lurie . . . Special thanks to Wendell Ottum for the many hours he and his wife put in, Wendell refereeing and his better side taking tickets . . . Also to Joe Zelson who made the trip up from St. Louis to take in the action and was pressed into service as referee and statistician. . . . Al and Dave Steinberg up from Michigan State where they teach, in the attempt at selling an angle of the tournament to a nation publication . . . Also in attendance were the I.R.A. Board of Directors who had a lengthy meeting after the finals Sunday . . . The Robert Kendler "Spirit of Racquetball Award" handed out each year at this tournament was awarded to Ken Porco. The award, donated by the Pacific Racquetball and Paddleball Association, was presented to Ken by Bud Muehleisen last year's recipient and Kendler, the I.R.A.'s president . . . Consolation bracket champ was Jerry Hilecher, 21-14, 21-13 first round loser to Brumfield. Hilecher knocked off Finger, Wong and Drake in route to the title.



# Who Let Them In Anyhow?

*Bud Muehleisen and Carl Loveday (right) swept through the I.R.A. Masters Doubles Invitational with only one scare while other teams were eliminating themselves.*



Maybe they should stop inviting him. After all, there have been three I.R.A. Invitational tournaments in the Masters division in the past two years, and Bud Muehleisen has won them all. He twice won the Masters Invitational singles and has yet to lose his first game. November 17-19 he and Carl Loveday, both hailing from sunny San Diego, captured the first annual Masters Doubles Invitational held at the New Castle, Pennsylvania Y.M.C.A.

As expected Muehleisen and Loveday went undefeated, winning each of their nine 31-point matches for a perfect 82.8 score. Runners-up were former I.R.A. open doubles champs Bob Yellin and Don Wallace, New Britain, Connecticut, boasting a 76.0 total. The only loss for Muehleisen-Loveday 31-12. Third place was grabbed by Gene Grapes and Al Schattner, Pittsburgh with 71.0 points.

*(Top opposite) Gene Grapes hits from deep court against Yellin-Wallace, while partner Al Schattner watches at left. (Bottom opposite) Schattner uses his doctor's experience to tape the separated shoulder of Vince Cutshall, injured in the tournament's last match.*

Points are accumulated on the basis of 1 point for every five scored (two-tenths per one scored) plus three additional points for winning a match. Thus the perfect score for one match was 9.2 with 6.0 (30 times .2) the best a loser could manage.

Local hero Sam Caiazza and his partner Earl Dixon, Indianapolis finished fourth, barely edging out the Memphis team of Bailey Prichard and Jack Doyle, 63.5-63.2. Vince Cutshall and Don Erickson, former I.R.A. Masters doubles champs were sixth with 60.6 points followed by Jerry Pace-Ron Salvador, Cleveland 48.2, Joe Zelson, St. Louis and Fred Rizzo, Hawthorne, N.J. 42.0, Ivan Bruner-Chet Howard 31.0 and Herb Frank-Tom Stidham, Clearwater, Florida 24.0.

Injuries became a major factor in many of the later matches. Frank and Stidham, third place finishers in the Masters doubles in the International tournament, were forced to default their last four matches when Frank attempted to move the left side wall with his shoulder. Unfortunately, the wall did not move, and the resulting severe bruise forced this fine team into early retirement from the tourney.

Vince Cutshall tried the same trick in his last match pitting he and Erickson against Grapes-Schattner. However, the bruise in Frank's case became a shoulder

separation in Cutshall's experience. Fellow M.D. Schattner taped big Vince together and he was rushed to a nearby hospital. Surgery and an inserted pin will keep Vince out of action for a few months.

"It's almost the exact same injury that Charlie Garfinkel had," said Vince by long distance phone, referring to Gar's shoulder separation in Cleveland a year ago (*Racquetball*, November, 1972). "I should be able to play in another eight to ten weeks."

Ron Salvatore entered the tournament with what he described as "a sore back" and as the tournament wore on, his back wore down. Ron underwent surgery for a ruptured disc upon his return to Cleveland. For him to even have competed was a display of immense courage, and to have performed well a great tribute to Ron.

The first day's round one activities found only one close match, Frank-Stidham's 31-25 win over Bruner-Howard. The two teams with unfamiliar partners, Caiazza-Dixon and Rizzo-Zelson, both took it on the chin. Yellin-Wallace destroyed Joe and Fred 31-8, while Doyle-Prichard beat Sam and Earl 31-19. Loveday-Muehleisen drew Cutshall-Erickson in this round and it was a hard fought and exciting event. But the San Diegans had just too much control for the burly Sioux Falls men.



(Above) Earl Dixon backhands toward the front left corner as Muehleisen looks on. (Top right) Sam Caiazza, New Castle's finest, shows his "other self" to the laughter of participants.

Score was 31-19. In the other first round match Grapes-Schattner, riding Gene's tenacious forehand backwall kills beat Pace-Salvador 31-14.

Round two began with two "routine" matches, Loveday-Muehleisen easily defeating Pace-Salvador 31-11, and Doyle-Prichard doing the same to Howard-Bruner 31-15. Then after Grapes-Schattner had knocked off Frank-Stidham 31-13, there were two real battles.

First Yellin-Wallace against Caiazza-Dixon turned out to be a beauty. With Dixon's backhand letter perfect and little Sam's front court coverage outstanding, the two hustlers gave the New Britainites fits. But the eventual key to the match was the better teamwork displayed by Yellin-Wallace as they rode out the tight battle 31-26.

The third round really had no hotly contested matches. Bruner-Howard could manage only 15 against Yellin-Wallace, and Rizzo-Zelson only 9 against Caiazza-Dixon. Pace-Salvador scored 17 against Cutshall-Erickson, as did Doyle-Prichard versus Grapes-Schattner. Loveday-Muehleisen actually had the closest match of this round defeating Frank-Stidham 31-20.

So the tally after one round's play

found three teams tied at the top, all undefeated. Muehleisen-Loveday, using Bud's superior left-handed game and Carl's deft overhand kills and surprisingly good court coverage made them unbeatable. Yellin-Wallace had been expected to be tough, and they were. The gutty, scrambling, physical style the New Britainites displayed made things tough on their opponents. That Grapes-Schattner should be undefeated at this time was a bit of an eyebrow raiser. But Gene had been red-hot all day, especially off the back wall and Schattner was holding his own against each right side opponent.

Other things were taking place by this time. For one, it was obvious that Zelson and Rizzo were having a difficult time adjusting to each other's style of play. Zelson, originally was scheduled to play with fellow St. Louisian Marlowe Phillips, with whom he shares the current I.R.A. Masters doubles title. However, Marlowe was unable to attend, and Fred and Joe teamed up. Unfortunately, Rizzo, although a right-hander, usually plays left side and the right was an unaccustomed position for him. And against such outstanding competition, this was a distinct disadvantage.

Another significant factor was that by the intensity of play displayed over the first day's action, it was obvious that conditioning would become a major factor before the tourney's end. Three 31-point matches, although not seeming like much on paper, is a truly punishing test. There would be sore and cramped muscles before this one was over.

The tournament's second day began with a couple of good 9 a.m. matches. Pace-Salvador topped Rizzo-Zelson 31-

22 for their first victory, which they celebrated on the court with whoops of joy amidst hugs and embraces. At the same time on the other court, Yellin-Wallace were in the process of knocking off Grapes-Schattner in the battle of unbeaten to this point. It was a slow moving, meticulous match, which ended up 31-16 in favor of Yellin-Wallace. It appeared their game strategy was to keep the ball away from the power shooting of Grapes, and when not able to achieve that, give Gene as little as possible to shoot for. And although it cost them many, many ball bruises ("The ball don't hurt, only the racquet hurts," -Bob Yellin) and a few avoidable hinders, the strategy did keep Grapes off his game.

Caiazza-Dixon kept in the running with a 31-20 win over Bruner-Howard, who, surprisingly were still looking for their first win. Usually a very tough team, the Madison, Wisconsin natives just were not able to put anything together. Muehleisen-Loveday topped Doyle-Prichard 31-18, primarily on their ability to keep Doyle on the move on the right side and not allowing Prichard any forehand kills on the left. Cutshall-Erickson easily defeated Frank-Stidham 31-11 to round out the fourth round.

The big match of round five was the Muehleisen-Loveday win over Yellin-Wallace, who were proving to be one of the toughest teams in the tourney. In this one, the San Diegans seemed to "turn it on", with both Bud and Carl on their sharpest game.

"We tried to frustrate them," said Bud. "That's what we felt would enable us to overcome their aggressive and physical style."



*(Left) Dan "Spider" DeVitto counts the money while Bob Yellin (right) counts the seconds before exploding.*

Using well-placed ceiling balls and v-passes cross court, the eventual champs kept Yellin-Wallace off balance and often out of position.

The first of two 31-30 matches of the tournament came in this round, with Pace-Salvatore topping Frank-Stidham by that narrowest of margins. Again, the Clevelanders went through a victory celebration right on the court, deservedly so, after making a great comeback.

Another good match in round five was Cutshall-Erickson's 31-22 victory over Doyle-Prichard. Doyle was back to his unorthodox play on the right, which consisted primarily of taking ceiling balls on the first bounce on the ball's way up, and driving cross court. This, rather than leave front court position to retrieve the ceiling ball on its way down. But Erickson found the range with his powerful left handed deep court kills and the South Dakotans held a safe margin to victory.

Grapes-Schattner had a relatively easy time with Dixon-Caiazza, probably the most puzzling of the tournament teams. One time looking like world beaters, Sam and Earl would come out the next time and play as if they had never met before that day. Rizzo-Zelson broke into the win column with a 31-17 triumph over Bruner-Howard.

The last round of the second day produced the most exciting match of the tournament, between Muehleisen-Loveday and Dixon-Caiazza. This was one time Earl and Sam put it all together, racing to a 7-1 advantage and molding it to a 22-10 lead. The partisan home town

fans were howling with delight on each point as Sam was all over the court retrieving and Earl's steady backhand was deadly. But slowly Bud and Carl came back. Agonizingly slow. Finally they caught them at 25, wavered a bit and rode home a 31-27 victory. It was the closest anybody got to Muehleisen-Loveday during the weekend.

In other action of the sixth round Bruner-Howard were destroyed by Grapes-Schattner 31-8 in a combination of Grapes and Schattner both being "on" and the lack of concentration of Bruner-Howard, depressed at the fact that they were not playing up to their usual level.

Doyle-Prichard knocked off Pace-Salvatore 31-22 and Yellin-Wallace ripped Cutshall-Erickson 31-14, while Frank-Stidham forfeited to Rizzo-Zelson.

The third day was played amid slight confusion, due to plane schedules, snow and the hour's ride necessary to reach the Pittsburgh airport from New Castle.

Caiazza-Dixon came from a 30-28 deficit and beat Cutshall-Erickson 31-30 in one of the 9:00 a.m. matches. Grapes-Schattner destroyed Rizzo-Zelson 31-11 in the other. After Doyle-Prichard received their forfeit win from Frank-Stidham, Muehleisen-Loveday topped Bruner-Howard 31-12 and Yellin-Wallace beat Pace-Salvatore 31-19.

By round eight, sore bodies were roaming the halls of the New Castle Y.M.C.A. Grapes-Schattner still had a shot at first place, if they could hold Muehleisen-Loveday under 12 points. They didn't, as

Bud and Carl rang up a 31-17 win, assuring them of the top spot. Yellin-Wallace moved into second place at the same time with a forfeit from Frank-Stidham, while Caiazza-Dixon vaulted into fourth with a 31-20 win over Pace-Salvatore.

In other action of the eighth round Cutshall-Erickson still held an outside chance for third and a good shot at fourth by topping Bruner-Howard 31-15. Then Doyle-Prichard erased Rizzo-Zelson 31-25.

Going into the last round, places one through three were pretty well settled. With Muehleisen-Loveday ringing up a 31-17 triumph over Rizzo-Zelson it made first place theirs. Grapes-Schattner needed a win to hold onto third against Cutshall-Erickson, and a Yellin-Wallace loss would move them into second. They got the win, 31-10, when Cutshall suffered his injury. But Yellin-Wallace held on to second with a rousing 31-29 victory over Doyle-Prichard. Caiazza-Dixon received their 9.2 with a default win from Frank-Stidham, who were by this time basking in the Florida sun. And Pace-Salvatore beat Bruner-Howard 31-18 to round out the play.

**TOURNAMENT NOTES . . .** Not enough can be said about the wonderful people of the New Castle Racquetball Association and Y.M.C.A. Led by their president Jim Scarazzo and hard workers Dan "Spider" DeVitto and Len Perretti, the hosts performed tremendously . . . Entertainment was not lacking in the evenings for players and hosts alike, with the treats at seafoodery one evening and

# IRA INVITATIONAL MASTERS DOUBLES RACQUETBALL TOURNAMENT, NEW CASTLE, PA.

GAME SCORES

READ DOWN TO

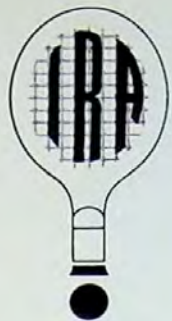
FIND THE WINNER

| GAME SCORES        | BRUNER-HOWARD | DOYLE-PRICHARD | YELLIN-WALLACE | DIXON-CAIAZZA  | RIZZO-ZELSON   | GRAPES-SCHATTNER | SALVADORE-PACE | LOVEDAY-MUEHLEISEN | FRANK-STIDHAM   | CUTSHALL-ERICKSON |       |
|--------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------|
| READ DOWN TO       |               |                |                |                |                |                  |                |                    |                 |                   |       |
| FIND THE WINNER    |               |                |                |                |                |                  |                |                    |                 |                   |       |
| BRUNER-HOWARD      |               |                | 31-15          | 31-15          | 31-20          | 31-17            | 31-8           | 31-18              | 31-12           | 31-25             | 31-15 |
| DOYLE-PRICHARD     | 15-31         |                | 31-29          | 19-31          | 25-31          | 31-17            | 22-31          | 31-18              | LOSS<br>FORFEIT | 31-22             |       |
| YELLIN-WALLACE     | 15-31         | 29-31          |                | 26-31          | 8-31           | 16-31            | 19-31          | 31-12              | LOSS<br>FORFEIT | 14-31             |       |
| DIXON-CAIAZZA      | 20-31         | 31-19          | 31-26          |                | 9-31           | 31-16            | 20-31          | 31-27              | LOSS<br>FORFEIT | 30-31             |       |
| RIZZO-ZELSON       | 17-31         | 31-25          | 31-8           | 31-9           |                | 31-11            | 31-22          | 31-17              | LOSS<br>FORFEIT | 31-26             |       |
| GRAPES-SCHATTNER   | 8-31          | 17-31          | 31-16          | 16-31          | 11-31          |                  | 14-31          | 31-17              | 13-31           | 10-31             |       |
| SALVADORE-PACE     | 18-31         | 31-22          | 31-19          | 31-20          | 22-31          | 31-14            |                | 31-11              | 30-31           | 31-17             |       |
| LOVEDAY-MUEHLEISEN | 12-31         | 18-31          | 12-31          | 27-31          | 17-31          | 17-31            | 11-31          |                    | 20-31           | 19-31             |       |
| FRANK-STIDHAM      | 25-31         | WON<br>FORFEIT | WON<br>FORFEIT | WON<br>FORFEIT | WON<br>FORFEIT | 31-13            | 31-30          | 31-20              |                 | 31-11             |       |
| CUTSHALL-ERICKSON  | 15-31         | 22-31          | 31-14          | 31-30          | 26-31          | 31-10            | 17-31          | 31-19              | 11-31           |                   |       |

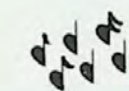
a help yourself Italian cuisine, catered to the players likes Saturday . . . Bud Muehleisen received the highest honor ever bestowed upon an outsider in New Castle, — "Soup of the Year Award." . . . Sam Caiazza was a big hit in his silver wig. Such a contrast to Sam's mirror-like cranium that when he introduced himself to another player as "Sam's brother," he received a, "Nicetameechya, but I got a match to play," in return . . . Thanks to the Y.M.C.A for a wonderful time and Art Haas, Ed Van Dusen and Bob Phillips for their help . . . Carl Cialella for his support, although business forced Carl out of town later in the weekend. Due to his efforts, however, local radio station broadcast a 20 minute interview with Chuck Leve, I.R.A. Executive Secretary and Dr. Muehleisen. However, Chuck was unable to make any of the festivities . . . Many, many thanks to Tom Sweeney up from Penn State University to take in the action and get his feet wet in refereeing. Tom needed the experience in preparation for the Eastern Divisional to be hosted by Penn State in March. And despite a few rough times, he performed admirably with the general consensus being he'll make a very good ref . . . Dr. Schattner brought out the latest aid for tennis elbow, a self adhesive arm band applied on the forearm just below the elbow, thereby relieving pressure on the elbow joint itself . . . The players showed their appreciation by donating \$200 to kick off a major drive for two more courts at the Y.



Sam Caiazza's Hall of Fame sweatshirt. The tacks were not necessary.



# OFFICIAL UNIFORMS



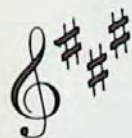
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W A R E S

# All Dreams End In The Finals

*Roger Souders and Dave (D.C.) Charlson became the Cinderella team of the I.R.A. Invitational doubles. Only Brumfield and Muehleisen didn't have a shoe that fit.*

Louisville, ah yes, beautiful Louisville, once again unraveling the racquetball red carpet for the I.R.A. Invitational Doubles Championships. And once again, for the fourth year in a row, Louisville was the plaything of Charlie Brumfield and Bud Muehleisen.

Competing with the other 15 teams making up the top 16, Charlie and Bud never came close to losing a match and only once were extended in a single game, leaving their perfect record intact, having never lost a doubles match in tournament play.

Who, you may ask, did they beat in the finals? I.R.A. International champs George Rudysz and Mike Luciw? No. Former champs Ken Porco and Mike Zeitman? No. Maybe it was Steve Serot and Biron Valier, I.R.A. runners-up the last two years? Nope. Who then, pray tell? Finger-Lawrence? Keeley-Drake? Schmidtke-Trost? Answer: none of the above.

The team that made the finals, coming through the difficult bottom bracket unseeded was Roger Souders and Dave (D.C.) Charlson, the righty-lefty combo from San Diego. Amazing? It was.

First the young San Diegans defeated Tom-Kutas-Robbie Abrams, Cincinnati 21-16, 20-21, 21-7, putting them in the round of eight against Porco-Zeitman who had knocked off the Wisconsin duo of Schmidtke and Trost in the first round. The match-up was no surprise but the outcome definitely was.

Porco-Zeitman looked very well in the early round match, feeling comfortable on their home courts and thriving on the local cheering section. They were acting and playing like the third seeded team of the tourney. After taking a hard fought first game 21-15 a jovial atmosphere existed in the partisan gallery. Such joy did not last long.

Golf-capped Charlson on the left and red-haired Roger on the right were fired up and shooting hot in the second game. They ran up a sizeable lead and then had to hold on to withstand the Louisville charge 21-18. Game three promised fireworks.

There's something about a 20-20 third game. Perhaps as a spectator we can sympathize with the combatants, realizing ourselves the tremendous pressure under which they play. Perhaps it is the suspense of wondering who will have the courage to make the kill attempt on match point. Well, there were plenty of cold and sweaty palms in the Louisville J.C.C. gallery when Souders and Charlson served at 20-20 the third game.

Finally, it was Roger, putting the ball away in the right corner and in the same motion leaping into the arms of D.C. Simultaneously, dejection marked the expressions of Porco and Zeitman, faced now with the consolation round which was becoming much too familiar for their liking.

In the bottom quarter strange things were happening. Steve Keeley and

Charlie Drake teamed up to defeat the Buffalo, New York entry of Charlie Garfinkel and Chuck Wurzer 21-4, 21-18. Drake, showing a much steadier game than ever before held down the left and gave partner Keeley plenty of set ups. The Gar was just not back in top form following a shoulder separation recovery.

Keeley-Drake then faced Rudysz-Luciw in another outstanding match. It developed routinely with George and Mike showing the tremendous power and aggressiveness that marked their 1972 I.R.A. title. Game one to Rudysz-Luciw 21-10.

The second game was a turning point. Rudysz started slowly on the left and then got worse. His usual power was gone, his quick backhand almost methodical and his kills were skipping. Partner Luciw did what he could but it was all Keeley-Drake from the mid-point on 21-12. Game three was a rather non-competitive 21-6 for Keeley-Drake.

In the upper bracket things were much more calm. Muehleisen-Brumfield easily defeated Bill Clark and Tom Wirkus, Oshkosh Wisconsin 21-13, 21-7 and then swept past Bill Evans and Fred Michels, Louisville, 21-8, 21-9.

Serot and Valier, the tourney's fourth seeded team, knocked off Finger and Lawrence 21-17, 21-12 and then topped Alan Hyman and Don Rigazio, Louisville 21-16, 21-16 to reach the semi's.

The semi-final match featuring Serot-Valier against Muehleisen-Brumfield gave the tournament champs their closest game, which they won 21-15 in the initial game of the match. The San Diegans never trailed after grabbing a 5-4 advantage in the third inning. Four more in the fourth made a quick 9-4 lead which they nurtured throughout the game.

Using outstanding control and great patience, Bud and Charlie really put the pressure on Serot and Valier. Biron was "off" in game two, missing many of his short front court digs and with Serot holding a cold racquet, the second just caved in on the St. Louis team. The result, spurred primarily by a whopping 11 point third inning, was 21-3 for Muehleisen-Brumfield.

Keeley-Drake then did battle against

## FINALS

### GAME 1

|                      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |
|----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| Brumfield-Muehleisen | 1 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 3 | — | 21 |
| Souders-Charlson     | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | x | — | 11 |

Kills — Brumfield-Muehleisen 9, Souders-Charlson 12. Passes — Brumfield-Muehleisen 4, Souders-Charlson 2. Aces — None. Errors — Brumfield-Muehleisen 11, Souders-Charlson 20. Hinders — 13. Time outs — Souders-Charlson 1.

### GAME 2

|                      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |
|----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| Souders-Charlson     | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | — | 7  |
| Brumfield-Muehleisen | 4 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 5 | — | 21 |

Kills — Brumfield-Muehleisen 19, Souders-Charlson 8. Passes — Brumfield-Muehleisen 2, Souders-Charlson 2. Aces — Brumfield-Muehleisen 1. Errors — Brumfield-Muehleisen 10, Souders-Charlson 10. Hinders — 6. Time outs — None.



(Above) The Brumfield secret weapon. (Top right) Souders (l.) and Charlson head for a collision course at mid-court. Brumfield and Muehleisen (far right) seem to be content just to watch the end result. (Center right) A surprise birthday "cake" (bagel and candle) was presented to Muehleisen after the finals. Bud acknowledges the catcalls. (Bottom right) Ken Porco huddles with (l. to r.) Bruce Kranz, Andy Hyman and Steve Zeitman.





(Above) A view from the gallery.  
(Right) Muehleisen sets to go to the ceiling as the other three watch.

Souders-Charlson in a much more exciting, if not technically sound, exhibition. This match had more shooting, more errors and many more hinders than the other semi-final. But it sure was interesting.

After being down 8-2 early in the first game, Keeley-Drake came back to tie at 11-all. Then an amazing thing happened. Souders and Charlson took the serve and never lost it, tallying 10 consecutive points for the win. The only things that slowed the drive to 21 was a few hinders and one Keeley-Drake time out.

In game two Souders-Charlson again grabbed the early advantage, 6-3, and then boosted it to 15-9. Four Keeley-Drake points in the tenth frame closed the gap to 15-13, but Souders-Charlson held on for a 21-17 victory.

So the two teams travelled all the way to Louisville, Kentucky to meet in an all-San Diego final. It would have taken a monumental hot streak by Souders-Charlson, coupled with an identical cold streak for Bud and Charlie for an upset to occur. Brumfield-Muehleisen just had too much experience and finesse and had been playing together for too many years.

But Roger and D.C. didn't roll over and die. In fact, game one was highly competitive for a while. When Muehleisen-Brumfield jumped ahead with 6-2 and 8-3 leads, Souders-Charlson came back strong to 7-8 and then wrestled the lead at 11-10. It was the last point they scored, though, as Bud and Charlie put innings of 2-6-3 together while shutting off the point faucet for D.C. and Roger. Final score: 21-11.

When Souders-Charlson started game two with three quick points their spirits were boosted as were those spectators rooting for the underdogs. But Muehleisen-Brumfield came right back



with four markers in their half of the first inning, dashing any big early lead hopes of Roger and D.C.

Soon afterwards seven unanswered points over the third and fourth innings made the advantage 12-4 and the champs actually coasted to a 21-7 second game and match victory.

Third place was determined by a combined consolation round giving each team not only another match to play, but a real shot at third place. First round losers played to a winner and that team (which turned out to be Clark-Wirkus) met the winner of the second round losers (Porco-Zeitman). Mike and Ken came out on top 21-17, 21-15 and then played the winner of the semi-final losers for third place. Serot-Valier defeated Keeley-Drake 15-21, 21-9, 21-6 for the right to meet Porco-Zeitman for third place.

It was a good match for one game as Porco-Zeitman played sound percentage

racquetball and squeezed out a 21-17 win. The match was then awarded to Ken and Mike when Serot came up with a severe muscle cramp and could not continue.

**NOTES OF THE TOURNAMENT** . . . As usual, the hospitality at the J.C.C. was outstanding, with Kentucky fried chicken again the hit of the weekend . . . Nice to see old friends again, the Ike Gumers, Bruce Kranz, Joe Goodman, Steve Zeitman, Andy Hyman, et. al . . . Beautiful inscribed watches were awarded top finishers along with selected racquets and Converse gym shoes . . . Cocktail party one evening, compliments of Billy Simon . . . All were sorry to see Ken Porco leaving the J.C.C. but same wished him luck as athletic director of the new Louisville Athletic Club . . . Rumor spreading around the tourney was that this was the last appearance of Muehleisen and Brumfield as a team. Neither would confirm nor deny.

# **RACQUETBALL** **ROOM** BY *Chuck Leve*

The recent I.R.A. Invitational Singles tournament was the most outstanding event this reporter has witnessed in his short tenure within racquetball. All of us speak of top competition, and vainly hope that a few of the "name" players will make it to our tournament or our exhibition. Well, they all made it to Minneapolis for the Invitational singles and it was a sight to behold.

Every match was exciting. Every game thrilling. And every outcome in some manner of doubt.

After the unforeseen upsets in the first round, spectators really did not know what to expect when two of the combatants took the court. In fact, the only expected thing that occurred was the triumph of Charlie Brumfield, his second consecutive victory in this particular tournament.

But in other brackets impossible dreams were coming true. Garfinkel over Rubenstein, with a 21-20 third game; Porco over Lawrence, handily, and then over Muehleisen, barely. McNamara over Finger, another three-gamer; Zeitman over Schmidtke wow, and then topping Keeley!

But the beauty of the tournament certainly did not begin nor end on the courts. Our gracious hosts at the Court House, Malin Greenberg and Richard Lurie, along with new club manager Bill Schmidtke, really gave the guys a pleasureable time.

It was great to meet investors in the club like Jim Keat and Rich Reese of the Minnesota Twins, Barry Gibbs and Lou Nanne of the North Stars and Alan Page of the Vikings. What satisfaction to see these great professional stars themselves marveling at the skills possessed and shown by the top 16.

But it goes even farther than that. The fact that these men have put over \$400,000 into an eight court facility that is billed as a RACQUETBALL/handball (in that order) club, is proof enough that racquetball is on its own two feet.

Everything about the Court House is first class. A beautiful design coupled with plush interior gives the player or spectator a truly warm feeling that cannot be matched in any YMCA or JCC

around. Spacious men's and women's locker rooms with saunas and a beautiful whirlpool in the men's locker room only add to the club's beauty.

It was only fitting, then, when the top 16 racquetball players converged to do battle at the Court House. For two days kills, passes, ceilings and Z's bounced around the glass side-walled court one, and brand new court two giving those who watched the pleasure of seeing racquetball as it should be played.

\* \* \*

Another feature of the tournament was a serious business meeting held at the club by the I.R.A.'s Board of Directors and Executive Committee. Numerous topics were discussed, but the primary achievement was the agreement by all that it is about time the Board of Directors become involved in the policies and future of the International Racquetball

Association.

Rather than attempt to reproduce all that was discussed, the pertinent information can be found in the minutes of the meeting, contained on page 38. From these official minutes you players can judge for yourself that the men entrusted with position of Members of the Board are ones who are dedicated to the achievement of a prosperous and competitive future.

How can such lofty goals be insured? Through continued promotion of racquetball in all areas, — not only Y's, J's and colleges, but with a juniors program, increased benefits for women, and endorsements. This game can be and is being played by the youth of North America, and therein lies our future. We must get the youngsters involved in the sport, so that they will willingly carry it with them throughout their entire adult lives.

At the other end of the spectrum, we cannot ignore the elder statesmen of racquetball. We must offer the players in the 50 and over age bracket, of which there are thousands, a chance at continued competitiveness. To make them compete with the 40-year-olds is pure folly. We have to keep everyone active in racquetball, not just the champions.

This is vital for another reason. Because this sport is so young, many of these Masters had no chance of ever attaining national stardom, no matter how great their skill. The game just came along too late for them. We cannot afford to leave a taste of bitterness in the mouths of these men and women, who can do so much to aid the growth of racquetball.

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# The St. Louis Method

By JOE ZELSON

If you're a regular reader of Racquetball Magazine, you've probably gotten to know some of the players who are written about, and their accomplishments, attitudes, and outlook — Kenny Porco, Charlie Brumfield, Ron Rubinstein, Steve Keeley, etc. You've also read articles on some of the shots, their names, and descriptions — the "Z"-ball, the ceiling ball, the "V"-ball, etc. In St. Louis, though, there are some balls that you probably haven't heard about, even though we don't think they're unique to St. Louis.

First, we have the "Gooberman ball", named in honor of the fellow who perfected it, Scott Gooberman. The Gooberman ball always ends the volley, since it skips about 8 feet from the front wall.

Another little known ball outside of St. Louis is the "Wong ball." This is the ball developed and used consistently by Kenny Wong — his name was Wongstein before he changed it — recently moved from Indianapolis. The "Wong ball" is typically hit with a lot of force, and is hit from about two feet from the floor, the height at which it remains. As a shot, the "Wong ball" rarely accomplishes anything, particularly in doubles.

Another shot is what we call the "Serot Pick-up." This is a ball which bounces two, three, or four times, before you pick it up, but if you've got it properly shielded with your body, your opponents are unable to see those bounces; and if you continue to play, in 50% of the cases your opponents, too, will continue playing; and by the time that the volley is over, they may forget to ask about the tainted pick-up — and if they should, you can always get an air of wounded innocence that they should question your integrity and honesty. The "Serot Pick-up" was first developed in a doubles game with Steve Serot and Jerry Hilecher against Charlie Brumfield and myself, and Steve has taught the "Serot Pick-up" to a number of other people.

Another shot which is very effectively used by some people, but not previously written about, is what we call the "Semi-Hinder." There are other variations — the 1/4 hinder, the 1/3 hinder, the 2/3 hinder, etc., and some players use it most effectively — we all know some for whom it's one of their most effective weapons. Richard Walker from Dallas has put it very well — "Some players are able to move at a velocity of 30 feet per second to get to the ball — but to get out of the way so their opponent has room to see and/or swing at the ball, their maximum velocity seems to be about 1-1/2 feet per second."

Another good shot is the "Option

Play." This is a shot where you're crowded by your opponent, but you have enough room to swing and hit the ball. As you hit you make an instant evaluation of whether the shot will be pretty good; if so, you let it be played; if not, you cry out "Hinder." It's important that you do not wait more than a second or two after you've hit the ball so that you don't give your opponent the impression that you're waiting to see what the ball does. Successful use of the "Option Play" requires that you make a quick evaluation and call your hinder early. Once again, it's frequently helpful to use the air of humility and innocence previously talked about under the "Serot Pick-up."

As you know, there are various methods of holding the racquet — some people change their grip slightly to hit a back-hand, using what's known as a tennis grip. Others use a grip which is

the same for both forehand and back-hand. One of the most unique grips, though, that we've seen is the "Frye grip", developed and used by Denny Frye, formerly from Louisville. This grip is a takeoff on the Louisville grip which has been refined by Denny — it's somewhat difficult to describe.

Perhaps the best way to describe the "Frye grip" is for you to hold up your hand as you would if you were going to push a revolving door open, then bend your fingers down as if you're holding a ball. As you can see, then, using the "Frye grip", only the tips of your fingers are holding the racquet handle. This results in the ability to reach balls that are further away from you, since you have the entire length of the racquet to stretch. Unfortunately, the "Frye grip" has somewhat of a deficiency in control — but then, you can't have everything.



*The Birmingham (Alabama) Racquetball Association has just completed its fall tournament. It was a week-long tournament and each of the players was responsible for contacting his opponent for matches and obtaining his own referee.*

*The matches were played at the Downtown YMCA, and were divided into an A and B division. The consolation round was played all in one bracket, giving the B players a five-point advantage if they played someone who was in the A division.*

*Pictured are, from left to right: Dr. Bernie Bildman, winner of the consolation round; Jim Jordan, Tournament Director, holding a plaque which was presented to him for his outstanding job; Ken Wallis, runner-up in the B division; Herman Dean, runner-up in the A division; Bill Gaulden, champion in the B division; and Andy Smith, champion in the A division. Not pictured is Sol Kimerling, consolation runner-up.*

*The trophies and plaque were presented at an awards party held at the Birmingham Press Club on November 10th.*



## One Upset Too Few

Top-seeded Ron Rubenstein of Chicago captured the first place trophy at the Illini Open, but it was runner-up Ken Wong who captured the hearts of the spectators.

The tournament, hosted by the University of Illinois Racquetball Club was played on six of that school's 23 courts. Play was conducted in singles only with open, Masters and women's brackets.

Rubenstein, as expected, had little trouble reaching the finals. No opponent scored more than six points against the Illinois state champ, until the semi's when Gordon Kelly, Grand Rapids, Michigan tallied nine and nine in a losing effort.

But in the bottom bracket, little Wong was really stirring up a storm. After two easy early matches he faced third-seeded Mike Zeitman, Louisville, in the quarters. It appeared that Mike never really got his game going and before most people realized what happened, it was Wong with a 21-12, 21-18 victory.

Using the slow, deliberate serve, that has marked his game over the last year, and a combination of drive passes, ceiling

and backhand kills, Wong just out-and-out beat Zeitman.

It seemed that Zeitman underestimated the prowess of Wong, now transplanted in St. Louis, after several years in Indianapolis. Kenny has always been known as a great passer and retriever, due to his college squash background. But the move to St. Louis has aided his killing game. And if you don't kill in St. Louis, you don't win.

*"I had a great deal of confidence,"* said Wong. *"I had been playing very well up to the tournament. In fact I even took a game off Steve Serot just prior to leaving."*

The confidence showed well and boosted Wong into the semi-final match against fellow St. Louisian Jerry Hilecher, the second seed. Hilecher, the 18-year-old University of Missouri freshman had finished in the top eight in the 1972 International tournament.

Game one went as most people expected,—Hilecher was red hot and he buried Wong, 21-9. It was perhaps the best game Jerry had played since he took game one from Bill Schmidtke by the same score

in Memphis. Wong was hitting outstanding ceiling balls down the left side and Hilecher was killing them, flat. When a shooter gets hot there is really nothing one can do, and this was the case in game one.

The second game was a complete reversal. The low percentage shots that Hilecher was hitting in the first game were not connecting in the second, to a point where Jerry stopped shooting. Wong held big leads, 19-13 and 20-15 when near disaster struck the underdog: a leg cramp.

Slowly Hilecher crept back. He picked up his points one at a time edging toward the magic 21. Wong regained the serve four times and each time was unable to hit on the game winner. Finally, at 20-20 the hobbling Wong hit a solid pass down the right side wall for 21, forcing a third game.

Early in the third game, Wong was hit by another muscle cramp, again in the calf of his right leg. He was tired, but a look at Hilecher indicated that Jerry was not springing around either. And after a tumble in the deep right corner

making an unsuccessful attempt at a pass, Jerry was hit by cramps, both in the left thigh and right forearm.

It was the third match of the day for both men, both were cramped up, and neither was willing to give up the game. Methodically they progressed toward 21, never letting more than three points separate themselves. Time outs were used sparingly, as each man knew the other was as bad off as himself.

At 18-18 Wong's final cramp hit his legs. Referee Earl Dixon called time to check each player's condition, which was critical. But after some coaxing, both agreed to finish. At 20-20, with both men near exhaustion, Wong hit another pass right, for game and match point and the right to meet Rubenstein the next day for the title.

One could have received great odds that Ruby would easily do away with Ken. Ron was well rested and on his game. Ken was tired, very tired. When Ruby ran up a 6-0 lead it appeared that all was going as expected. Wong pulled within 6-10 and 8-14, before Rubenstein boosted the advantage to 20-8 and a final 21-10 victory.

The feeling at this point was that Wong would be happy to go home with the number two trophy and the knowledge that he had done a good job. Only nobody told Wong.

Down 7-4 in the second game he came back to 7-all, 11-all and then got hot. Seven straight points on three kills, three Rubenstein errors and a pass made it 18-11 as Ruby called time out. This game was now Wong's. He scored once for a 19-13 advantage, and after two side outs again for 20-13. Ruby fought back to 15-20, but a Wong left side pass forced the third game.

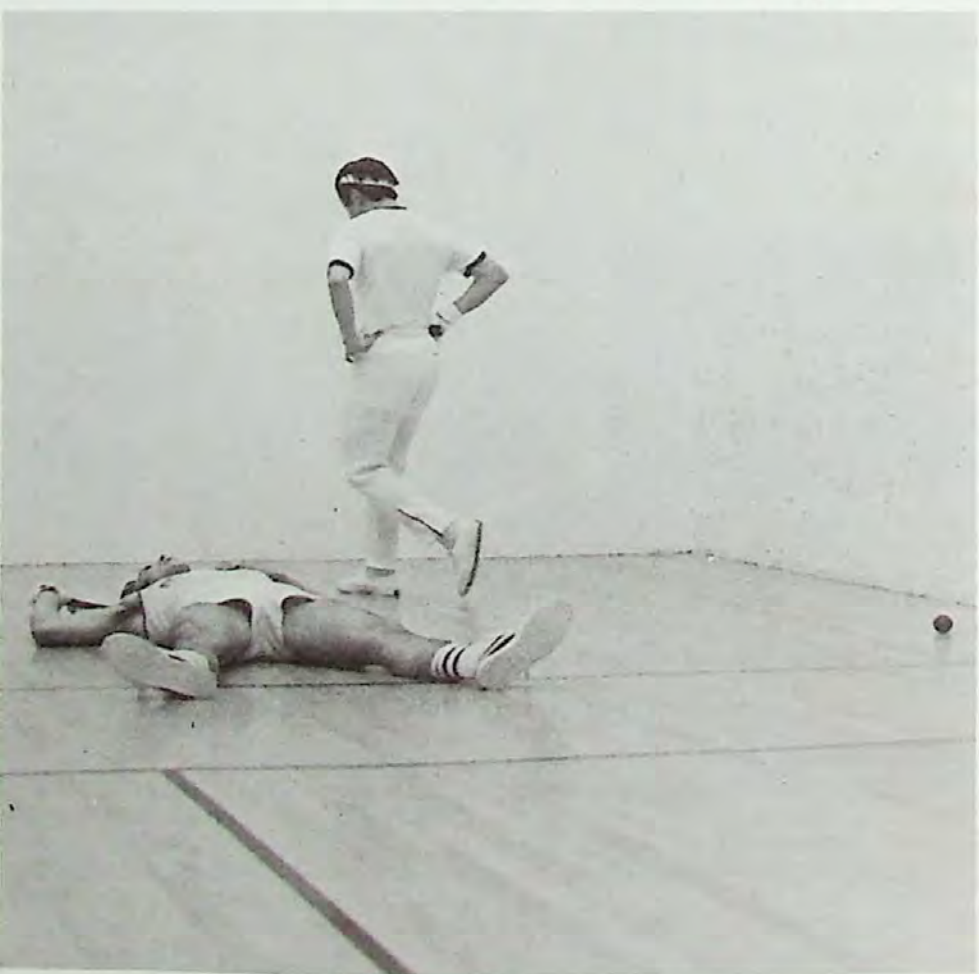
"I guess I must have eased up a little," said Rubenstein. "Every time you let up, even the slightest bit, it seems your opponent gets hot. And Wong did it to me."

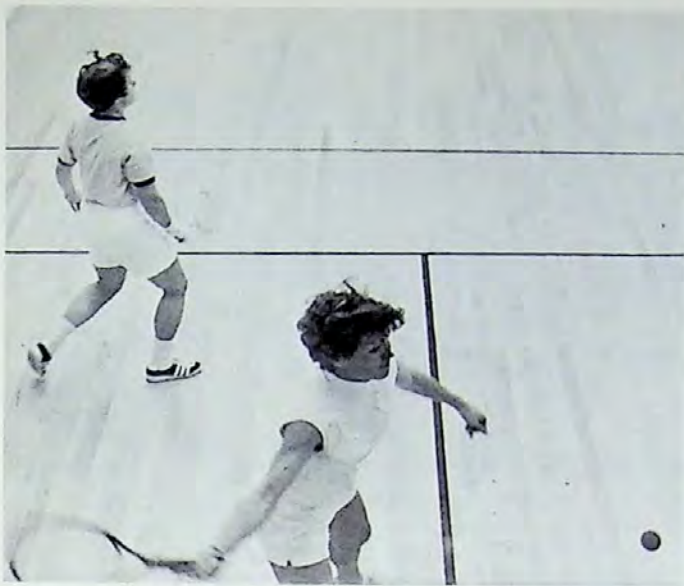
There was no letting up in the third game.

Hitting beautiful kills, passes and ceiling balls and using the patience that marks his number two ranking Internationally, Rubenstein tallied eight points at the outset of the game, finally being put out on an avoidable hinder of all things.

Wong fought back to 5-9 but he was through. There's only so much a human body can take, and the weekend tournament had taken it all from Kenny Wong. Rubenstein scored almost at will from this point, hitting 11 points over three innings for a 20-5 lead. After a point and traded service exchanges Wong succumbed 21-6.

The Masters bracket was small in numbers but quite difficult in competition. Earl Dixon, Ray De Pue and Dan Hilecher made the scene from Indianapolis, Knoxville, Tennessee and





(Above) Mary Slaughter prepares for a forehand off the back wall against Peggy Pruitt. Peggy topped Mary for the gals title. (Top Right) A worried Ann Hilecher (c.) watches son Jerry in the exhausting three game match against Wong. (Right) The winners! (Standing) Don Webb, tournament chairman, Gary Green, consolation 1st, Hilecher, 3rd, Rubenstein (and son) 1st, Slaughter, women's 2nd, Camille McCarthy, women's consolation, Dixon, Masters 1st, Shirley Lind, women's 3rd. (Kneeling) Dziuk, Masters 2nd, Wong, open 2nd, Pruitt, women's 1st.



(Bottom, opposite) Mike Zeitman gives it the Bogart routine after a Wong sensational kill. Ken seems to take it in stride.

(Top, opposite) Rubenstein glares at pumpkin ball as he moves in to put it away. Opponent is Gordon Kelly in the semi's.

St. Louis respectively, and three of Illinois' top Masters players, Bob Troyer, Phil Dziuk and Frank Hinds joined the fray.

Troyer eliminated Hilecher in the quarters 21-13, 21-13, while Hinds did the same to DePue 15 and 12. It was Dziuk, easily in the semi's against Troyer, the stocky southpaw from Lake Forest College, 21-11, 21-8. Dixon handled Hinds about the same 21-12, 21-6.

The finals was a great match. Dixon used his lanky reach and ferocious backhand to grab a 21-15 first game win, but the stubborn Dziuk came back to win the second game by the identical score.

Game three was a battle all the way. With the partisan U. of I. students urging

professor Dziuk on, Phil stayed with Earl the whole way. But Dixon hung on and captured the third game 21-17.

The women's bracket was made up primarily of gals from Illinois and Indiana. Peggy Pruitt, the top seed bested U. of Illinois instructor Mary Slaughter in the finals 21-12, 19-21, 21-11. Shirley Lind, Chicago, competing in her first tournament captured third.

Tournament chairmen, Dziuk, Hinds and Don Webb did an outstanding job and hope the Illini open will serve as a good prelude to the first I.R.A. Intercollegiate tournament to be held later this year at Illinois.

The Illini Open will become an annual fixture along the racquetball trail.



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# You Can't Play the Game Without a Thesaurus

*To have a complete racquetball repertoire, one must be able to speak the language, but maybe not fluently. Part II*

By STEVE KEELEY

In the last issue of *Racquetball* a dictionary type list of racquet and paddleball phraseology was presented. What follows is the second half of those words and expressions which players might familiarize themselves with. Again, any additions known to readers may be sent to the "IRA Letters" section of this magazine.

**PINCH** - The pinch is also commonly known as the side wall-front wall shot. It is a kill which is propelled first into the side wall, bouncing then to the front wall for the roll off. Ron Rubenstein of Chicago and Paul Lawrence of Ann Arbor, Mich. are more adept at this shot than anyone I know. (See also "superpinch" below.)

**RAW BALL** - A personal innovation - at least I was the first to tack a name on this shot. R-A-W ball represents Run-Along-the-Wall ball and it does just this when hit properly. It is a pass shot struck with top spin which passes up and down either side wall (i.e. it is not a cross court pass). The top spin imparted by the racquet causes the ball to "hop" and run parallel to the side wall without ricocheting off it, much as a tennis ball hops upon striking the floor. This is an especially effective shot against the opponent who is playing you tight to the front wall to cover kill shots.

**ROOKIE FACTOR** - In short, this is when a novice does something which a veteran would not. It may pertain to expending one's energy early in the match, continually diving for the ball, attempting to kill too much, attempting to kill not at all, etc. The best example of the rookie factor I can offer is a personal one from the national paddleball tourney of 1970. This was my first big tournament and I played Bud Muehleisen in the second round. Fortunately I was able to defeat him the first game. Between games "Mule's" doubles partner came down to the court to inform me that the good doctor had never been beaten in a three game match, especially by such a novice as myself. This completely psyched me out (rookie factor) as I made a fair showing the second game and was annihilated in the third.

**ROUTINE** - Something which is

extraordinarily easy, child's play, effortless, a one hundred percent, a piece of cake and so on. Example: He "routined" the beginner off the court.

**SUPERPINCH** - This is the racquetball player's hole in one. It occurs but a few times in a player's career and even then it is generally by accident. It is the side wall-opposite side wall-front wall kill shot. It is something like a pinch (see above definition) with an extra side wall thrown in. The superpinch is especially beautiful when hit off the back wall, a shot which I have practiced hundreds of times and now claim success on about one out of twenty attempts.

**TOUR OF THE COURT** - Also known as showing your opponent the court facilities. This phrase, now is frequent use in Charlie Brumfield's hometown San Diego area, was made popular by the "Brum" while en route to the International Racquetball Championships this year in Memphis. Charlie was able to send his opponents scurrying after the ball from corner to corner, from side wall to side wall and from front wall to back wall, while he conducted the tour by taking very few steps himself. End result: exhaustion for the touree. The tour of the court requires the ultimate in ball control by the conductor.

**TWEAK BALL** - The freakiest of the freak balls, the tweak ball is a kill shot which hits the crotch between the front and side walls and the floor all at the same time. In other words it hits in the corner of the corner. The ball then trickles or dribbles out of the corner making a noise that some players say sounds like "tweak".

**VETERAN HINDER** - This is a hinder which is actually an avoidable one, but will usually not be called as such. In essence you are interfering with your opponent's shot at the ball. To utilize this strategy: when your opponent has a routine set up you trip in front of him, bump him or screen the ball from his sight in a naive manner. Then throw up your hands in innocence and apologize. The referee cannot but note your obvious accidental bumping and will call for a replay of the point. Bud Muehleisen is the veteran at veteran hinders. Charlie Garfinkel of Buffalo is one of the few persons who never has and probably never will pull such a stunt to save a crucial point. Charlie is much too honest; and when he stumbles in front of you he is in truth off balance.

**VETERAN INJURY** - The faking of an injury in order to gain time for rest or to upset your opponent's mental state and game. One of today's top ranked players utilized the veteran injury factor very effectively a few years ago in national competition. This individual had won the first, lost the second and was losing the third game of an important match. I cannot recall the score exactly, however this player was down about 16-8 in the final game when his back became injured (he claimed) after colliding into the side wall. The full twenty minutes injury time out was utilized after which play resumed. The "hurt" player mysteriously sprang to life and went on to win over his enraged and mentally discomposed opponent. The veteran injury tactic is guaranteed effective but not recommended among hostile audiences. In the illustration above, the third game (post injury time out) was played amidst booing and a shower of pop cans, broken balls and other available refuse aimed in the general direction of the injury recovered contestant.

**WALLPAPER BALL** - This self-descriptive term applies to a shot which hugs or seems to cling to the side wall after rebounding off the front wall. As it travels from front to back walls, the perfect raw ball (see definition above) should hug the side wall. A well hit ceiling ball may be a wallpaper ball. Attempts to even get a racquet on the wallpaper ball are usually fruitless and have resulted in cracked and bent racquets.



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## Fun, Games and Racquetball Too

Sometime between November 7 and November 12 the Canadian National Racquetball Championships were held. For those who were there, it was difficult to tell. Interpreted this means that everybody had such a good, no, great time in Vancouver, that racquetball seemed almost secondary to the camaraderie that existed.

For those purists who keep track of such things, Charlie Brumfield, reigning International singles champion did indeed capture the Canadian singles title with an exciting 11-21, 21-20, 21-3 triumph over Ron Rubenstein, the man Brumfield defeated for the I.R.A. crown.

Rubenstein did gain some measure of revenge, however, by teaming with Charlie Drake to thwart Brumfield's bid to become the first player in history to hold "all National and International titles." Rubenstein-Drake topped Charlie and partner Craig McCoy 21-18, 21-19 in a fine exhibition of doubles.

Host for the National was Herb Capozzi, owner of the Men's Athletic Recreation Centre (MARC) in downtown Vancouver. Primary floor managerial duties were delegated to Bob Challenger at the MARC whose neverending battle with courts, balls and referees won him the respect of all in attendance.

The beautiful Vancouver Athletic Club also held many of the matches, including the semi-finals and finals on their glass backwalled spectator court. The V.A.C. and MARC were located only a block away from each other.

But the play, as outstanding as it was, nevertheless took second fiddle to the best racquetball hospitality ever witnessed. The MARC holds not only three courts, but Sneaky Pete's discotheque and the Top of the MARC steak and lobster restaurant. Add to that the vivacious personalities of Capozzi, Challenger, B.C. Racquetball prez John Chambers, Tevie Smith, and the entire Edmonton group and you have yourself one super tournament.

There were other winners in other brackets, too. And this does not include raffle champs. But Muehleisen, as usual, butchered the Masters division and went home with the singles top prize for men 40 and over. He topped Peter James in the finals 21-9, 21-2.

Wes Hadikin, Edmonton, the Alberta provincial champ, captured the closed Canadian championships with a 21-12, 21-14 win over Bob Bear, also Edmonton,



(L. to r.) McCoy, Brumfield, Rubenstein, Drake. All the top spots.

in a repeat performance of the Alberta Provincial championships. Ivan Velan, Montreal took third.

The B singles title came down to a local match between two Bellingham, Washington players Doug Clark and Gene Altman. Clark endured the toughest of battles 21-17, 13-21, 21-19. C singles was won by Bill Condratow, Vancouver with a 21-8, 21-17 victory over Rusty Goepel, also Vancouver.

The Canadian Nationals is rapidly becoming one of the outstanding tournaments along the racquetball "circuit." Top American players coupled with the vastly improved Canadian entries have combined to make this tourney one of the top competition events yearly.

And even though all the semi-finalists were American (and seven of the eight quarter-finalists) the Canadians showed very well. In a rather unusual draw that saw the top Canadians meet the top Americans early in the tournament, Ivan Velan performed well against Brumfield (21-12 first game); George Morfitt did not do badly against Rubenstein (seven and 14); Howie Rankin pushed Bill Dunn to three games 21-9, 19-21, 21-5; and Werner Forster reached the quarters before bowing to McCoy 12-21, 21-15, 21-15.

In the semi-finals Dunn, from Hayward, California gave San Diego's Brumfield a real battle. Resisting Brumfield's tour game, Dunn hit great shots but came up short 21-15, 21-16. Rubenstein, after disposing of San Diegan Drake 21-8, 21-3 met 15-year-old McCoy in the bottom bracket semi's. McCoy, at 6'1 and size 13 shoe does not look like a 15-year-old and does not play like one either. He does much better. But Ruby, who more than doubled Craig's age, had much too much savvy and experience for his younger foe.

In the first game McCoy played brilliantly early, hitting nearly every shot and really carrying the play to Rubenstein. When his flurry was over young Craig was at 8-all and the realization that his best was not going to be good enough caused him to falter. Rubenstein raced

to a 21-10, 21-4 win.

What can one say about another Brumfield-Rubenstein match? Memphis, Norfolk, Chicago. All were Brum triumphs over Ruby, yet each seemed to draw closer. Vancouver was almost the long awaited Rubenstein triumph.

Playing perhaps the best racquetball of his career, Ruby came out smoking in the first game and literally buried Brumfield 21-11. Using his patented side wall-front wall pinch kills, both backhand and fore-hand, Rubenstein just outshot Brumfield, in fact over-all outplayed him.

At 5-all Ruby scored five times in two innings mid-way through the game to take a 10-5 lead he never relinquished. When Brumfield closed to within 9-11, and 10-12, Rubenstein tallied four big ones in the 10th inning which were answered by only one Brumfield tally. In the 12th Ruby hit five in a row for the win.

Spectators were on their chair edges as the second game began. The long awaited dethroning of Brumfield was near at hand. But it was not to be easy. Charlie raced to a 6-0 lead before Ruby marked the scoreboard. But the game changed dramatically at 8-3, when Rubenstein tallied six times in the eighth inning and three more in the ninth for a 12-8 lead. The murmurs grew almost to a roar. Could it be done?

Not if Brumfield could help it. Two in the 10th cut the lead in half and three in the 12th tied the score at 13. Each then traded points, with Brumfield as tired as anybody could recall, using long serves to salvage the much needed petrol. At 15-14 Charlie got the "plum" ball he had been waiting, and hoping for. But a Rubenstein break occurred as Charlie hit it into the floor with his backhand kill attempt.

Ruby then tied it at 15, Charlie regained the serve, and set the stage for a dramatic sequence of events. First, Brumfield took a back wall set up and skipped the ball into the front wall, causing a side out. But Rubenstein gave the serve right back, doing the identical thing during his

service. That each man should blow crucial set-ups only added fire on the pressure cooker.

A hinder began Brumfield's service in the 17th inning. He then hit two consecutive kills for a 17-15 lead, and Rubenstein countered with a time-out. Eighteen was a well-placed pass, and Ruby's backhand pinch fell short for 19. Brumfield then put a forehand kill into the right corner for a seemingly insurmountable 20-15 lead. But somehow, Rubenstein regained the serve, hitting a forehand pinch.

The feeling now was that if Rubenstein did not pick up the needed six points he would never get another chance. Both men were fatigued, but Ruby obviously the worse off. Two quick points made it 17-20 and the fans stirred as Brumfield called a time-out. A forehand kill straight into the right corner made it 18-20 and taking a page out of the Brumfield book of control, Rubenstein deftly connected on a dump kill for point 19. The 20th point was exceptionally skillful as Ruby maneuvered Charlie to medium deep left court and passed him easily down the right, 20-all.

Well, you couldn't have written a better script: the world's two top players, with number two just a point away from the biggest win of his career. It was not to happen.

Rubenstein, after a short rally, attempted to kill from three-quarters court with his forehand. It was not a bad shot to hit, but at 20-20 it was horrible. Ruby forced the shot stroking from almost waist high as opposed to his normal calf high swing. The ball stayed up and Brumfield re-killed into the right corner to regain the serve.

A beautiful lob serve by Brumfield forced a weak return by Rubenstein, who, in attempting to go to the ceiling with the return, missed the ceiling and the ball carried off the backwall. Brumfield put the ball away with his forehand making a third game necessary.

It really wasn't necessary. Brumfield held back, allowing the rallies to continue, even to the point of passing up a kill opportunity, and Rubenstein just

wore down. After 3-all in the seventh inning Rubenstein was through. Charlie scored nine points in the next two frames and shutout Ron the rest of the way, taking the Canadian Championship's final game 21-3.

"I knew if I could take the second game I would win," said Brumfield. "But he had me in the second and just missed the shot. It happens."

In the doubles finals, Rubenstein did not miss very many, making only seven errors in two games on the right side. Drake played superbly on the left bringing the play to McCoy as he and Ruby stayed away from Brumfield as much as possible.

Each game's unravelling was almost identical. Brumfield-McCoy would take a slight early lead, ride it to about the three-fourths point in the game, lose it, regain it again and then a final Rubenstein-Drake blitz would seal the win.

"Drake is a really great left side doubles player," said Rubenstein. "I seldom play doubles, yet they (Brumfield-McCoy) were playing to Drake. That was fine with me."

It was fine with Drake, too, who used a "first cabin" ceiling game and rough physical aggressiveness to outplay McCoy on the left, while Ruby and Charlie balanced each other on the right.

Both games were won by Rubenstein-Drake 21-18.

The closed Canadian section was a

hotly contested bracket of the tournament and served to crown a truly Canadian champion. Outsiders were expecting the top spot to come out of such well-known names as "20-20" Rankin, Forster, or Cristall. Instead it was Hadikin, who established himself as Canada's numero uno.

Playing in the tough upper bracket, Hadikin was forced to face the winner of the Forster-Ivan Velan match, pitting perhaps Vancouver's best on the west with Montreal's best on the east. Velan won, 21-17, 2-21, 21-9, in his first major tournament endeavor. Hadikin then topped Velan 21-8, 21-17 to reach the finals.

In the lower half, Rankin, seeded second, met Bob Bear in the semi's after a tough quarter-final match against John Spitz-Spencer, Montreal. In the Bear-Rankin match, which will go down in Canadian racquetball history, somewhere, Rankin, the jovial Edmontonian, had the serve at 20-all, third game and promptly hit himself with an attempted z-serve. Bear went in and came out, with 21.

The finals were clearly a case of Hadikin being on and Bear off. An anticipated close match never materialized and Wes took the title 21-12, 21-14. Velan was awarded third place when Rankin defaulted when his toes began to peel off (blisters to you Americans).

NOTES OF THE TOURNAMENT

... How can you thank people enough? Herb Capozzi let it all hand out, keeping glasses and plates full at the Top of the MARC ... Tevie Smith conducted raffles, tours, shopping guides and limousine service and us American midwesterners got a good taste of Canadian sea food complete with octopus ... Weather was beautiful, 40-ish with snow in the mountains for those who wished ... A rock and roll revival at Sneaky Pete's entertained early in the tournament for those still endowed with enough energy to dance ... I.R.A. Executive Secretary Chuck Leve had a very informative meeting with the Canadian racquetball Association. All areas of mutual interest were discussed and general agreements reached on keeping relations between the two Associations on an amiable and helpful basis ... Happy to note the Rankins, Kempos and Wilsons ... Disappointment of the tournament went to Bill Thurman, of Hayward California who had to default an early round singles match when he missed his starting time. Bill and partner Len Stream lost in doubles to Rubenstein-Drake in the Semi's 21-9, 14-21, 21-18 ... The Canadian Racquetball Association extends an invitation to all Americans to participate and be their guests at the 1973 Canadian Nationals in Edmonton, Alberta July 18-22. Hope to see you all there!



Canadian Racquetball Association prez John Kempo (l.) presents Bill Dunn with the annual "Racquetball Nut" award at the Canadian Nationals. Dunn took third place open singles as well.



Wes Hadikin (l.) Canadian Closed champ shakes hands with the man he beat, Bob Bear. Both Wes and Bob hail from Edmonton, where they finished one-two in the Alberta Provincial Championships.

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## The Brumfield Way

BY CHARLES BRUMFIELD

*This is the first in a series of instructional articles being presented by Racquetball Magazine and written by Charlie Brumfield. Brumfield is the current International Singles Champion and has an outstanding history in both racquetball and paddleball. He is recognized by internationally ranked players all over the country as a fierce competitor and supreme strategist. His control, timing, and ability to make the right shot at the right time has earned Charlie the reputation of being a player with a method.*

*The articles in this series will focus on the Brumfield way to racquetball and present in instructional form, discussion on opening play, the importance of court position and strategy, defensive play and volley control, pacing for tournament competition and conditioning.*

*How to play racquetball and how to win at racquetball often require complementary, yet very different skills. There are a number of players who can emerge the victor of any given match on any given day, but there are only a few men in the game who continue to emerge the victor in top competitive play. The "how to win at racquetball" is part of the Brumfield way and consequently an inherent part of this series. I am confident you will find the following to be informative and a valuable aid to your own racquetball needs.*

—Charlie Drake

### OPENING PLAY:

Positioning yourself on the court before putting the ball in play is as important as making the right shot when the ball is in play. Obviously the ideal court position is the one which minimizes the distance from any other point on the court, or what is referred to as the "center court position." It takes only a brief review of basic racquetball to realize the advantage a player has over his opponent if he can maintain the center court position. First, he is in a position to make most of his shots from a distance of less than half the court maximizing ball control. Second, regardless of how the ball is returned, there is less distance to travel in making the retrieve. How to maintain court position is a subject I will take up in a later article, but it should be kept in mind when putting the ball in play. Too often while serving a player is careless about his court position, a crucial error which often results in a swift side out.

*When putting the ball in play remain alert and maintain center court position at all times.*

Just as position on the court is a key to good play so is position on the racquet. Holding the racquet properly is essential to making the proper shot. Nothing is more frustrating than to set up for a shot only to have your performance spoiled by racquet slippage when making contact with the ball. Almost all such errors are the consequence of a poor grip. Therefore, I will describe in some detail the proper form for gripping the racquet.

#### Forehand:

1. Rest the throat of your racquet on the fingertips of your off hand. Turn the face of the racquet perpendicular to the ground, racquet pointing to the front wall.

2. Place the palm of your hand against the back of the grip so that the palm and face of the racquet are both in the same plane. The face of the racquet is now an extension of your hand.

3. Close your hand and "shake hands with your racquet". The grip is firm enough for control, but not too tight or rigid. Spread your fingers, making certain that the index finger is apart from the middle finger and is bent to form a trigger finger. Wrap the thumb around the grip until it touches the middle finger. The first knuckle of the index finger should be on the top right level of the grip; the "V" formed by the thumb and index finger is in the center of the top plate.

Holding the racquet in this manner, turn your hand and wrist over and under and note that the face of the racquet makes similar changes. Make a final adjustment of your hand on the grip so that it feels right, and you have taken the second step to improving your game.

#### Backhand:

1. With the racquet held by the fingers of your off hand, face of the racquet perpendicular to the ground, turn your racquet hand and wrist on the grip so that your hand moves on top of the grip, palm facing the top plate.

2. Close your hand on the grip and see that the first knuckle of the index finger is on the center of the top plate. The "V" formed by the thumb is diagonally across the back of the grip. Later, you may want to wrap the thumb around the grip. The fingers are spread slightly, with pressure exerted by the last three fingers.

The change from forehand to the backhand grip is made simultaneously with the beginning of the backswing and must be practiced until it becomes automatic. And remember, relax the grip between shots to avoid tiring the hand and arm.

*Remember, make sure the racquet is being held properly before putting the ball in play.*

### THE SERVE:

The serve in racquetball is the most efficient, yet most missed, weapon for capitalizing on the all-important center court position. When serving, you automatically have possession of the center court. By making an effective serve, you will most probably force a weak return. Given a weakly returned ball you are now in a position to control the remainder of the rally, or end it immediately with a point earning kill shot.

The serve, then, is probably the single most significant play of any rally. A good serve leaves the server well on his way to scoring a point, while a weak one allows his opponent to move him out of center court and gain control of the rally. Most players, including some very advanced tournament performers, allocate far too little thought and preparation to the time they will spend in the service box during a match. When they step up to serve the ball, their only thought is to get the ball across the short line and into play. Such an attitude is a disservice to the player. His failure to expend the necessary amount of concentration in the service box can make his serve less effective and strip him of the game's most potent weapon.

Let a word to the wise be sufficient — a strong serve is imperative. A conscientious player should work hard to learn such a serve and take the time and effort necessary to incorporate it into his game plan.

#### THE HIGH SOFT LOB:

Just as the name indicates, this serve is to be executed by directing the ball as softly as possible to a pre-determined

spot, high on the front wall. The ball should be aimed at such an angle that it carries off the front wall and "dies" in either the back right or left corner.

There are two basic variations of the lob serve: first, start the serve from near the center of the court. Contact the ball off the apex of a fairly high bounce and strike it so the angle of rebound sends the ball in a soft arc, making sure the ball brushes the side wall on its descending flight. When the ball touches the side wall it will have a gentle dampening effect causing the served ball to slow up and angle in slightly toward the center of the court. The big factor with this serve is to keep it deep to either corner and yet still catch the side wall enough to keep it from bouncing off the back wall for a routine set-up. If this serve is executed properly, it will slide along the wall and force your opponent to make an extremely difficult "flip" of the wrist in trying to return the ball to the front wall.

Second, the lob serve may be initiated by positioning the body and feet very close to one of the side walls. The ball is then dropped and struck so as to travel right along the side wall. The closer the serve is to the side wall the more effective it will be. Since, this variation of the lob serve is not designed to touch the side wall, there will be no dampening effect to make the serve die short of the back wall, therefore, the server must be extremely careful to keep the ball sliding like wallpaper along the side wall. If it doesn't stay near the wall, it probably will come off the back wall allowing your opponent to take a full swing.

The side wall lob serve may be executed with either the forehand or the backhand stroke. Most players, however, use only the forehand when serving the center court lob. The key to the lob is to keep it as high and as soft as possible. This is most easily accomplished by employing a smooth stroking motion rather than a jerky, abrupt, punching one. Another tip is to make sure you pick out a spot on the wall to aim for — ball mark, etc. — once you find the proper spot and learn to hit it again and again, you will be well on your way to developing an effective serve.

#### THE HARD, LOW DRIVE SERVE:

The common denominator of all drive serves is that they should all be struck with a substantial degree of force and not over three feet in height. The reason for keeping the ball low is to prevent it from bouncing and flying off the back wall where it loses all its pace and hangs there like a pumpkin to be blasted by your opponent.

There are two variations of the drive serve. First, the center court V drive. Start this serve by achieving a position in about the center of the service area. Drop the ball from about knee high, on the rebound when the ball is six to twelve inches off the ground, take a firm forehand stroke making sure to use a lot of wrist snap. Aim the serve for a spot on the front wall not more than three feet off the ground so as to angle the ball directly toward either of the back corners. This serve is particularly effective as it will end up either on the far left side or the far right side of the court. This means that your opponent, assuming he has taken up a normal returning position near the center of the court, must run the entire distance to the side wall in an attempt to flag down your serve.

#### THE HARD V DRIVE:

The second variation of the drive serve, is essentially a gamble type serve and should be used sparingly. The starting position for the serve is exactly the same as the normal V drive serve. The only difference is that you want the ball to rebound off the front wall and contact the side wall "crotch" as close as possible to the point where the short line meets the side wall. This involves a simple adjustment to a wider angle. If this hard V serve is perfectly executed, it will squirt off the side wall for an ace. However, if the serve is struck with less than the requisite amount of control, it is likely to pop out to the center of the court for a routine pumpkin for your opponent. Therein, lies the gamble.

#### Z-SERVE:

The Z-serve is one that is designed to rebound out of either front corner and travel diagonally across the court. This serve should be aimed near enough to the exact front corner to prevent the angle on the ball from being so weak that the served ball "hangs on a string" in center court to be blasted out of the air by your opponent's forehand.

Z-ball right: in order to serve the Z-ball serve to the right back corner, you should attain a stance near the left/center of the service zone. Try to remain as close to the front service line as possible. This will give you a sharper angle to your serve automatically and will give you a little more leeway on exactly how close you must hit to the corner crotch. This leeway is really important because if you hit the side wall first on your serve it is an illegal serve and results in a side out.

Once you have set up in the general area described, turn your body sideways to the corner toward which you are aiming. Thus, if you're serving the Z-ball to the right, the ball must be served toward the front left corner. As a check point, make sure your body is facing the front RIGHT corner. If you are doing that, then you are automatically sideways to the left front corner toward which you are aiming.

It is extremely important when employing the Z-Ball serve to control the height of the served ball. If the ball is served too high with too much angle, it will fly across the entire width of the court and strike the other side wall in the air. This is an illegal, short serve. If the ball is served too high and with a rather weak angle, it probably won't reach the far side wall, even on the bounce, but instead will bounce and then fly off the backwall for a plum ball. If the ball is served too low, it will strike the ground for the first time very close behind the short line, allowing an alert player to step up from his returner's position and smash the ball right back by your head. However, if the Z-ball is served with the correct angle and about five feet high, medium speed off the front wall, it will come out of the left front corner, and end up dying in the back right corner.

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BRUMFIELD

# Minutes of Board Meeting—Dec. 17, 1972

Those present: Robert W. Kendler, Director and president, Robert McInerney, Director, DeWitt Shy, Director, Myron Roderick, Director, Larry Lederman, Director, Dr. Bill Sellars, Director, Charles Garfinkel, Director, Ken Porco, National Commissioner, Chuck Leve, Executive Secretary, Dr. Bud Muehleisen, Rules Chairman, Robert Challenger, Canadian Rep.

The meeting was called to order at 4:20 p.m. by National Commissioner Ken Porco. Meeting site was the Court House, Racquetball-Handball Club, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Minutes of the previous meetings of the Board were asked for, however no minutes were available. The first Board of Directors was set up in 1970 in St. Louis as reported in the June, 1970 issue of ACE Magazine. At the first meeting, to have been in Salt Lake City in 1971, there was no quorum. A short, unofficial meeting in 1972 was held in Memphis, at which time it was decided that because of the time element, a meeting would be set up for later in this year.

It was suggested that minutes of this meeting be sent to each member present.

Mr. McInerney then requested a point of order to determine if this was, in fact, an official meeting of the Board of Directors, in that there were present persons other than the acknowledged Members of the Board. It was determined that this was not a meeting of the Board, as such, but a meeting of the Executive Committee. However, only the Members of the Board would have voting privileges.

Mr. Kendler then indicated some proposed changes in the by-laws of the Association, pointing out that some of them were archaic and therefore needed revision. This included changes in sections, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 17, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25.

It was also asked that a definition of cumulative voting as used in section 27 be provided.

It was agreed that Mr. Kendler would submit the proposed changes in writing to the other members of the Board for their approval, and/or recommendations. The proposed changes would then be voted on at the next meeting.

Mr. Roderick next asked for a definition of the Board's function and a discussion followed deeming it necessary for a chart to be drawn up indicating the organizational structure of responsibility within the Association's governing body. Such chart was to be drawn up at the International office and a copy sent to each person present.

It was agreed that some mutual problems existed along with confusion as to the duties of the Board and the Executive Committee and that it was in the best interests of all for these problems to be discussed and out in the open.

Mr. Kendler commented that it was his opinion that the Association had to this point been highly successful, quoting financial statement figures of 1969, 1970 and 1971 that show total receipts of \$2,141.00 in 1969 to \$11,091.39 in 1970 to \$34,391.77 in 1971. Mr. Kendler also pointed out that estimates for 1972 indicate total receipts of more than \$65,000.00.

Mr. Roderick pointed out that it was essential for the future of the Association that new blood be kept coming into the governing body. If not, he felt, we would fall into the same pattern as the Amateur Athletic Union.

Dr. Sellars asked if an expanded Board of Directors (one of Mr. Kendler's proposed changes,) would include the Association's President and Executive Secretary as voting members. A discussion followed regarding possible Board expansion and the consensus was that it was a favorable idea.

Mr. Roderick was of the opinion that the Board be made up with geographical considerations so that a group of local players in the city of the host of the Internationals would

not be able to dominate the governing body with local people. A discussion followed regarding the differences between area commissioners and Members of the Board, if the expanded Board were to be geographically representative. Mr. Kendler pointed out that there *are* differences and that the Members of the Board should be concerned with the running of the Association and that the area commissioners should be concerned with the development of the game in their particular area. It was agreed that in some cases certain overlapping could occur.

Mr. McInerney requested that Members of the Board be notified as to the length of their term and its expiration date. He also pointed out that legally Mr. Kendler was, in fact, a current Member of the Board and all present agreed to same.

Mr. Shy requested that all pertinent information discussed at this or any meeting be distributed to all Members of the Board so that knowledgeable determination of policy can be made at subsequent meetings.

Mr. McInerney requested that a list be drawn up and distributed indicating what persons would become Members of the Board under the proposed expansion.

The next item was a determination as to the date of the next meeting. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed that the Board would meet on the Monday prior to the International tournament (April 2, 1973), and if necessary, again after the player's convention meeting.

Continued page 39



I've decided I want to learn how to play"

# Minutes of Board

12/17/72

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The next point raised was the actual step-by-step method of making rule changes. It was pointed out by Mr. Lederman and agreed to by those present that the final vote on rule changes should be made by the members of the Association attending the player's convention meeting. Prior to that, proposed rule changes should be presented to the Executive Secretary, who will forward them to the National Rules Chairman for his recommendations, then back to the Executive Secretary who will send such recommendations and proposals to the Board of Directors who will make final recommendations to the members of the Association at the player's convention meeting.

A re-vote was then requested on those proposed rule changes of the current year that ended with close or tie votes. The results were:

Foul tip or fluke ball:  
for a change 2 (Roderick, Garfinkel)  
against a change 5 (Sellars, Kendler, Lederman, Shy, McInerney).

Out of court ball:  
for a change 2 (Roderick, Garfinkel)  
against a change 5 (Sellars, Kendler, Lederman, Shy, McInerney).

Age groups of 35-45-55:  
for a change 5 (Sellars, Kendler, Roderick, Garfinkel, McInerney)  
against a change 2 (Lederman, Shy).

It was pointed out that these votes, if a change vote was carried, meant that these were the recommendations of the Board of Directors to the general membership, who will then vote at the Player's convention meeting.

Mr. Roderick then proposed a rule to incorporate an age group of 18 and under. The proposal was amended to mean that an 18 and under International tournament would be separate and apart and held at a different date than the present International Championships.

Age group of 18 and under: passed unanimously.

Mr. McInerney then proposed a rule that would make a player eligible for play on the basis of a calendar year birth date determination.

Calendar year determination:  
for 1 (McInerney)  
against 4 (Sellars, Kendler, Lederman, Shy)  
abstain 2 (Roderick, Garfinkel)

A motion was made for an age eligibility to be determined as of the first day of the tournament.

First day of tournament determination:  
for 4 (Sellars, Kendler, Lederman, Shy)  
against 1 (McInerney)  
abstain 2 (Roderick, Garfinkel)

It was requested that each Member of the Board be supplied with the name and address of other members and that same be published in Racquetball Magazine.

Mr. Roderick pointed out that as the by-laws governing the Association now are written, the Board of Directors must approve all contracts of the Association with various manufacturers.

Mr. Kendler indicated that he was presently negotiating with Leach Industries on a racquet contract and same would be presented to the Board for their approval. He also indicated that he was talking with certain health food processors on a vitamin deal.

Mr. Roderick made a motion for a proposed budget to be drawn up for 1973. Dr. Sellars seconded. Mr. Leve pointed out that he felt the proposed budget should be made on the basis of the financial statement of 1972 and it was agreed upon. It was also agreed that such proposed budget and such financial statement be sent to each Member of the Board.

A discussion on an incorporation of standard method of draw and seeding was followed by a motion by Mr. Roderick that such method be drawn up by Dr. Muehleisen, the Rules Chairman, sent to Mr. Leve the Executive Secretary, who would then forward it to the Members of the Board for their recommendations and/or changes.

Mr. Kendler instructed Mr. Leve to

send each member present one dozen of the "new" racquetball for their comments and criticisms.

Mr. Challenger then addressed the Board as the Canadian representative to confirm his discussions with Mr. Leve of the previous month regarding:

financial aid to Canadian Racquetball Canadian divisions of the I.R.A. in which the winners of singles and doubles would receive air transportation to the International tournament.

That the winners of open singles and doubles at the Internationals would be sent to the Canadian Nationals.

Mr. Challenger also commented on the great rise in popularity of racquetball in his country and that he hoped that for better communications and general relations between the International and Canadian Racquetball Associations that a Canadian representative be made a member of the Board of Directors.

All points above were agreed to unanimously.

Mr. Challenger requested that Mr. Leve serve as the representative of the International Association on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Racquetball Association. No vote was taken.

Mr. Challenger also stated that the Canadian Racquetball Association would determine the person to represent Canada on the I.R.A. Board.

A proposal was made to prohibit mixed doubles in tournament play. It was agreed to unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

CHARLES S. LEVE



"My goodness! . . . are you using your birthday present already?"

# Confessions of a Tournament Referee

By TOM SWEENEY

"Reffing" in the I.R.A. Master's Doubles Invitational in November has caused a complete change in my perspective. For one thing, I am writing from the third floor of the New Castle Mental Health Clinic which has been home since Nov. 18. Read on and I'll tell you why Gentleman Sam Caiazza and Chuck Leve are both scoundrels.

The first day at 8:45 a.m. Gentleman Sam and three mesomorphic giants called me aside and made me an offer I couldn't refuse.

"Ref on court one (Yellin-Wallace v. Zelson-Rizzo), that will be a good match to begin your reffing." This was the beginning of what the doctors call my catatonic-schizoid condition. Right off I took charge and explained the local court hinders. A good-sized gallery immediately recognized my superior visual skills. I'd yell "skip" and they'd groan (in unison) "What a kill!" I'd yell "point" and they'd yell "You could hear it skip at mid-court."

I'd yell "screen" and they'd yell "beautiful pass." Well, I thought I'd show 'em and when Yellin's toe was 1/16th of an inch out of the box I proclaimed "foot-fault!" That got 'em. All four players looked up at me (with malice). They called time out and had a conference at mid-court — all the while looking up at me and shaking their heads. I survived that match.

Another match now and I quickly called "point" on a pass shot nobody human could possibly get. Meep-meep. Ya, Earl Dixon got it. "Sorry (gulp) guys, I called it too soon." By this time I was pulling an Eagleton (sweating profusely). Some players were kind. They lifted my spirits: "Hey mister, are you even watching this game? Are you going to ref all weekend?"

At the end of the first day, half the doubles teams loved me, half were strangely silent. At the end of the second day I was requested to eat lunch in the kitchen instead of with the players.

Now, about this Chuck Leve cat. Second day at 1 p.m. Yellin-Wallace v. Muehleisen-Loveday, and Chuck (I thought) pretty much agreed to ref it to give me practical help on the elusive avoidable hinder (which I called twice in the tourney and was stared down both times!). At 1 p.m. nobody from the New Castle reffing staff was in sight, nor was the dishonorable Executive Secretary. Dr. Bud asked for the coin flip and I was S-T-U-C-K. Six seconds after I start reffing, Leve slips in through the gym entrance (sneaky) and winks as he gets a ring-side seat. Nice guy. Well I

called an avoidable anyhow and suddenly it was the fourth of July: "You gotta be kidding! Are you for real? Do you know what an avoidable is Sonny?"

And so it went. The immersion in reffing was complete and my tolerance was tested in every possible way (Sam and Earl bought me lunch while Pace-Salvadore looked like I was going to be their lunch). After most matches I'd gamely seek out the players who gave me various tips: "Leave town as soon as possible" or "want some money for a movie or something?"

Actually, I learned a lot about reffing and about racquetball. Do seek out the players and, as they cool down, you will get reinforcement about your reffing

skills. Do take charge, letting the players know you are responsible for the reffing. Do call hinders so as not to give a player an option, and before an accident occurs. Do call out the score clearly each serve so both players and spectators are informed. Do not be stubborn about answering players' questions but don't get into too much conversation. Do not be afraid to disagree with the gallery since you have your head hanging into that court and are watching with keen participation.

Consider that reffing is an opportunity to "get up in the world." As I said at the beginning, I've made it all the way to the third floor and strait jackets aren't all that bad.

## I.R.A. Tournament Schedule

### JANUARY, 1973

- 12-13-14 Cowboy Open, Okla. St. Univ., Stillwater, OK, Tom McKie
- 19-20-21 Illinois State Doubles, Evanston YMCA, Lee Duda
- Pennsylvania State Singles, Penn. St. Univ., Tom Sweeney
- 26-27-28 Cornell Open, Richmond, VA YMCA, Bill Bolton
- Niagara Falls Open, Niagara Falls YMCA (NY), Paul Traver
- Woodson YMCA Open, Wausau, Wisc., physical director

### FEBRUARY, 1973

- 1-4 Paddleball Nationals, Eau Claire, Wisc. YMCA, Diz Kronenberg
- 8-11 Oregon Open, Multnomah A.C., Portland, OR, Sandy Weinstein
- 9-10-11 Cleveland Open, Central YMCA, Bob Vanderveer
- 16-17-18 Illinois State Singles, N.W. Suburban YMCA, Des Plaines, Art Michael
- Pennsylvania State Doubles, Golden Triangle YMCA, Pittsburgh, James O'Malley

### MARCH, 1973

- 2-3-4 IRA Central Divisional, Milwaukee HBRC, Bob Keenan
- IRA Eastern Divisional, Penn. St. Univ., Sweeney
- IRA Western Divisional, Chabot College, Hayward, CA, Bill Dunn
- IRA Southwestern Divisional, Tulsa Family YMCA, Gary Merryman
- 3-----10 (HANDBALL NATIONALS)
- 9-10-11 Wisconsin State Singles, Woodson Y, Wausau, physical director
- 10-11 JWB Midwest Regional, Cincinnati JCC, Rod McKinley
- 16-17-18 IRA Southern Divisional, Clearwater, FL YMCA, Tom Stidham
- Kings Court Invitational, Minneapolis, Wendell Ottum
- 23-24-25 Chicago Open, U. of Ill. Chicago Circle, Jim DiVito

### APRIL, 1973

- 3-----8 IRA International Championships, St. Louis JCCA, Bruce Hendin
- 13-14-15 New York State Open Doubles, Downtown YMCA, Buffalo, Chuck Wurzer

### MAY, 1973

- 4-5-6 Paterson Open, Paterson, NJ YMCA, Fred Rizzo
- 26-27-28 Norfolk Invitational, Norfolk, VA JCC, Bob Taylor

## Racquetball Trail

Lambert of Saskatoon, while Bell advanced after his opponent, Roy Rudichuk, pulled a muscle in the semi-finals with the score 16-16 in the first game.

Lorne Hutton won the local B championship defeating Barry Frost 21-17, 21-11 in the finals. In the C finals, Ted Napper, after a bad start, went on to defeat Nick Standnyh in three games by scores of 13-21, 21-8, 21-9.

In the A-C doubles event Thompson and his local partner Al Tyson defeated Sid Bylsma and Al Morrison both of Saskatoon by scores of 6-21, 21-9, 21-2.

The local players were very enthusiastic about the tournament, and most thought that it was quite a learning experience. The only bad comment was that some of the inexperienced players felt bad when they missed a shot, that they knew their partner could have made. However, that's the way the game is learned.

Doug Bolsden the tournament organizer said that the tournament committee and the sponsors were quite pleased with the turnout (45 racquetballers in all). He said, in fact, that everything went so well that they are planning on making it an annual event.

## Milwaukee

Joe Carini, a Wisconsin State squash champion, put his knowledge and ability to work and fashioned a winning series to upset two time Milwaukee racquetball champion, Dan Trost, 21-20 and 21-15 for the Milwaukee crown at the Jewish Community Center.

The canny Carini used his own type of "drop" shot to score repeatedly as he moved the power killing Trost around the court with a mingling of pass plays. Carini proved that squash players can take to the racquetball game with equal success.

Dan Davis placed third defeating Rocky Felger, 21-7, 21-18.

In doubles play, Dan Trost and Mike Mullins of the Milwaukee Athletic Club, annexed their third city crown by turning back club mates Dick Wisniewski and Roger Braun, 21-5, 21-15. Dan Davis and Gerald Hock placed third beating Tom Sanicola and Larry Altman, 21-10, 21-10.

Taking a page from the IRA form, Milwaukee JCC is holding an eight man invitational tourney to be held on Jan. 7th. All of the players will play one game of 31 points up to the final round which will be two out of three games. The invited players are Milwaukee's best: 1. Joe Carini, 2. Dan Trost, 3. Dan Davis, 4. Rocky Felger, 5. Henry Krause, 6. Cary Nusslock, 7. Mike MacKedon, and 8. Howard Spector.

## Racqueteering With Ray and Lois



*Look who wants to play hands against racquets!*

## Hammer-Bruschi Capture Fourth Straight A.P.A. Doubles

The American Paddleball Association held its fourth annual one-wall tournament at Brighton Beach Baths in Brooklyn, N.Y. on three consecutive weekends in October.

The tournament, limited to doubles competition exclusively, attracted the biggest entry roster in the history of the game. Over 120 teams competed in the seven rounds. Clear, sunny weather produced an attractive setting at the ocean-side club for both competitors and spectators alike. The brisk temperature readings during the finals accelerated the lively pace of the play.

The title match came down to the defending champions, Howie Hammer and John Bruschi vs Bob Schwarz and Andy Krosnick. The champs retained their crown by winning in straight games,

21-11, 21-16. The Schwarz-Krosnick team made APA history by being the first team comprised of two right-handed players ever to get past a quarter-final round in the four years of the tournament. In getting to the finals, they defeated the team of Henry Bader and Paul Fromer, the runner-up team in the last three APA tournaments.

By winning the title, Hammer and Bruschi have kept their undefeated record intact. They have won all four of the APA doubles tournaments held since the event's inception, as well as winning all the United States Paddleball Association tournaments that they've entered as a team. In fact, the Hammer-Bruschi team has lost only two individual games in tournament play, never having lost a match.

# Nittany Open Gets the Garfinkel Treatment

Charlie Garfinkel (Buffalo, N.Y.) ate a minimum of a dozen chocolate chip cookies at the first Nittany Lion Open Singles Tourney at Penn State Dec. 2-3 and still held off fellow New Yorker Paul Smaldone in the finals 21-17, 21-19. The finals illustrated excellent racquetball with deep pass shots by the Gar and good right corner kills by Smaldone.

Though Smaldone suffered some leg cramps after a super duel (21-20, 21-20) against Charlie Shapiro (Butler, Pa.) earlier, the scrambler pushed Garfinkel all the way. Smaldone even falls down in the middle of the court so he can roll onto an elbow and continue the volley!

En route to the finals, Garfinkel dumped Al Bloch (21-7, 21-2 the eventual consolation winner), Paul Donahue (21-12, 21-1), Dick Snyder (21-4, 21-8), and Tom Sweeney (21-13, 21-6) all of the host club. Meanwhile Smaldone beat Tom Carpenter (21-1, 21-5), Larry Cramer (21-2, 21-9) both of Penn State and Larry Freedman (21-8, 21-12) Harrisburg.

In the finest racquetball tradition, the out-of-town participants shared tips with host club members participating in their first tourney. Gentlemanly conduct on and off the court was of the highest calibre. Suggestions made to improve the viewing area were made directly to Dean Robert Scannell (Dean of College of Physical Education, Health, & Recreation) who presented awards and showed interest in the possibility of viewing



Garfinkel (l.) gets congratulations from runner-up Paul Smaldone after triumph in the Nittany Lion Open.

stands.

Al Bloch defeated fellow club member Mitch Albert in the consolation round 21-16, 21-5 picking up his second trophy in a three-week period having won the B finals at the Williamsport YMCA.

Garfinkel was not the most beautiful player at the tourney by any means! In the women's division (a five gal round

robin affair) Penn State's Ronnie Haeberlen grabbed first with Karen Sweeney, PSU; Mary Cammisa, Slippery Rock College; Neil Donahue, PSU; and Ellen Edvar, State College High School—finishing in that order. The gals displayed excellent conditioning and sound racquetball skills with ceiling balls, pass shots, and a kill now and then.

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# Talbot, Miller-Buckman On Top Of Virginia State Tournament

The Virginia State Racquetball tournament was highly successful again this year with 60 entries at the event held at the Richmond Central Y.M.C.A.

The tournament's open singles bracket was thrown wide open when last year's champ, Bill Morecock, Norfolk decided to enter doubles only. This left last year's runner-up Pete Talbot as the number one seed and number three Bill Buckman moved up to number two.

And the seeding proved correct as Talbot and Buckman met each other in the finals. Talbot had a slight advantage of more rest as he and his doubles partner (Don Kocher) were knocked out in the

first round. However, Talbot's game was certainly in top form and he rode it to a 21-15, 21-7 victory over Buckman.

Only an hour and a-half earlier, Buckman and Tim Miller, defending champs from Richmond, retained their open doubles title with a 21-10, 11-21, 21-15 win over Morecock and Bill Moulton, Norfolk. After splitting games one and two Morecock-Moulton held a 13-5 lead in the third. At this point Buckman-Miller called a time out to re-group, which they apparently did, outscoring the Norfolks 16-2 the rest of the way.

Third place in open singles was taken by Ernie Allen, Springfield, who topped George Long, Dahlgren 31-21, 21-6, 21-

12. Allen had been eliminated by Talbot and Long by Buckman.

Third place open doubles was captured by Herb Perlin and Glenn Allen, Virginia Beach in a forfeit win over Red Martin and Steve Melgaard, also Virginia Beach.

In the B brackets Jim Bishop, Norfolk took first place defeating Don Piercy, Virginia Beach 21-10, 21-15. Third place went to Harry Fentress, Ft. Eustis 21-4 over Jack McSweeney. B doubles was won by Ray Gordon and Bill LaTouche 21-20, 21-9 over McSweeney and Andy Roupas. All four men are from Richmond. Third place went to All and Tim Lough, Richmond.

## Austin Retains State Fair Crown

Jim Austin from Houston, Texas repeated as singles champion of the fourth Annual State Fair Racquetball Tourney held at the downtown Dallas YMCA, Nov. 3-5. Racquetball is growing rapidly and the total number of events this year was increased by about 1/3 to 104. Although the YMCA has 5 courts, it was necessary to play some of the B. tournament at the Richard Walker Athletic Club, about 3 miles distant, where 2 additional courts are available.

The tourney was well represented by players in the Southwest, although Myron Roderick of Stillwater, Oklahoma, a strong rival to Jim Austin for the #1 open singles spot, was unable to attend. Although Austin clearly dominated the open singles, there were some good matches. Luther Bernstein of Dallas, was third, and Dr. William Sellars of Dallas won consolation Open A singles.

Open doubles featured the liveliest action. Luther Bernstein and Walter King of Dallas edged Richard Speer and Dr. Bob Hill of Houston for the championship. Tom Faris and Dr. William Sellars of Dallas placed third.

Masters singles division was hard fought. Probably the most entertaining match of the tourney was the finals of

Masters singles between Milton Karp of Houston and that jolly friar of Dallas, Rev. E. L. Terry. In a marathon match it was clear that Karp had physically outlasted Terry, however, when it was all over somehow the score indicated a close win for Terry. Terry is an ex-professional boxer, and someone remarked that his physical exhaustion was just an act to throw Karp off. If it was an act, Terry deserves an academy award nomination. Rufus Higgabothum of Dallas placed third in the Masters Singles. Bill Reese of Dallas won consolation.

Masters Doubles was won in another close match by Rev. Terry and Harold Cooper of Dallas, who slipped by Karp and Warren Finn of Houston. Bob Heath and Bill Reese of Dallas won third.

B Singles winner was Bill Hearon of Houston. Marvin Keener of Oklahoma State University was runner up. Larry Linton of Oklahoma City placed third. John Jobe won B Singles consolation.

Sponsors of the tourney were Richard Walker and Dr. Sellars of Dallas, and the downtown YMCA, Jim Hamby, Physical director. On Saturday night, the players were hosted to a barbecue dinner with a three piece band at the Richard Walker Athletic Club.

WILLIAM A. SELLARS, M.D.

### PLEASE! PLEASE!

Notify IRA in advance when you change your address. Second class material is not forwarded. Be sure to get every issue of RACQUETBALL. IRA—4101 Dempster St., Skokie, Ill. 60076.



Pete Talbot, number one in Virginia racquetball.

# Divisional Critiques

**NOTE:** Obtain full information on your own particular divisional from the rundown below. The International Racquetball Association's special award of air coach transportation to the International tournament for winners of open singles and open doubles at each divisional still is in effect. If any of such winners have already qualified for such award through other tournament victories, runners-up shall inherit the trip.

**EAST**—Penn State University, State College, Pennsylvania, March 2-3-4, 1973. Play will start Friday, March 2 at 1 p.m. Entries are due no later than Friday, February 16.

**ENTRY FEE:** \$12 per player per event. Players are limited to no more than two events.

**TOURNAMENT CHAIRMAN:** Tom Sweeney, 341 Toftrees Ave., Apt. 316, State College, PA 16801. Make checks payable to Tom Sweeney.

**HOUSING:** Best spot to stay is Nittany Lion Inn, Penn State Univ., State College, PA 16801. Rooms at the Nittany Lion Inn have been blocked off until February 16. Make your reservations by then! Other motel information is available upon request.

**AREA COVERED:** Maine, Delaware, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Ohio, Maryland, West Virginia, District of Columbia, Quebec, Eastern Ontario, and New Brunswick.

**CENTRAL**—Milwaukee Handball/Racquetball Club, 2930 N. 117th St., Wauwatosa, Wisconsin 53222, March 2-3-4. Play will start Friday, March 2 as early as necessary. Entries are due no later than February 16.

**ENTRY FEE:** \$12 per player per event. Players are limited to no more than two events.

**TOURNAMENT CHAIRMAN:** Bob Keenan, 2930 N. 117th St., Wauwatosa, Wisc. 53222. Make checks payable to the Milwaukee Handball/Racquetball Club.

**HOUSING:** Best spots to stay are Holiday Inn, 201 N. Mayfair Rd., Wauwatosa, \$14 and \$16; Midway Motor Lodge, 251 N. Mayfair Rd., Wauwatosa, \$16 and \$22.

**BANQUET FOR ALL COMPETITORS.** Please state whether you plan or do not plan on attending the banquet.

**AREA COVERED:** Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Indiana, Nebraska, Western Ontario, Saskatchewan.

**SOUTH**—Clearwater, Florida YMCA, 1005 South Highland Ave., Clearwater, FL 33516, March 16-17-18. Entries are due no later than March 1. Play will begin as early as necessary on Friday, March 16.

**ENTRY FEE:** \$12 per player per event. Players are limited to no more than two events.

**TOURNAMENT CHAIRMAN:** Larry Lieving, YMCA, 1005 South Highland Ave., Clearwater, FL 33516. Make checks payable to the Clearwater YMCA.

**HOUSING:** Housing information will be sent with time of first match.

**AREA COVERED:** Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, Puerto Rico.

**WEST**—Chabot College, Hayward, California, March 2-3-4, 1973. Play will start as early as necessary on Friday, March 2. Entries are due no later than Friday, February 16.

**ENTRY FEE:** \$12 per player per event. Players are limited to no more than two events.

**TOURNAMENT CHAIRMAN:** Bill Dunn, Chabot College, 25555 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward, CA 94545. Make checks payable to Bill Dunn.

**HOUSING:** Housing information available upon request. Will be sent upon receipt of entry form.

**AREA COVERED:** California, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Wyoming, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Washington, Alaska, Hawaii, British Columbia, Alberta.

**SOUTHWEST**—Tulsa Thornton YMCA, 5002 S. Fulton, Tulsa, OK 74135. Entries are due no later than February 16. Play will start as early as necessary Friday, March 2.

**ENTRY FEE:** \$12 per player per event. Players are limited to no more than two events.

**TOURNAMENT CHAIRMAN:** Larry Patrick. Make checks payable to Thornton YMCA and send to Gary Merryman, physical director, Thornton YMCA, 5002 South Fulton, Tulsa, OK 74135.

**HOUSING:** Best place to stay is Quality Courts Motel, 51st and Harvard, Tulsa, OK.

**AREA COVERED:** Missouri, Arkansas, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Mexico.

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## The Brumfield Way

from page 37

### GARBAGE SERVE:

The garbage serve is racquetball's equivalent to the changeup in baseball. You want to start this serve on the left side of the court, about five feet from the left side wall. The ball should then be stroked so as to cling near the side wall, yet never touch. You should direct the served ball so it makes contact with the front wall about eight or nine feet high. It will then carry over the back service line and bounce in a rather high soft arc toward the back wall. If properly executed, the garbage serve will just die at the back wall. Because of the high soft arc, however, at three quarters court, where your opponent will be forced to attempt a return, the ball will be at least shoulder high. This makes it very difficult for the returner to do anything offensive.

Once you have mastered the technical mechanisms of the drive lob, Z and garbage serves, you have the tools to make serving one of the strong points of your game.

You now have the basic fundamentals of good serving. Practice these serves in the next few weeks. The March issue of *Racquetball* will include the second installment, including the return of serve.

(Fill in appropriate division)

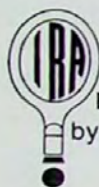
|                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| DATES:          | See rundown of your division on opposite page.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| ELIGIBILITY:    | Open to current (1973) I.R.A. members. \$3 a year covers membership and subscription to RACQUETBALL Magazine. Entrants can send in fee along with entry fee, or cover upon arrival or show current I.R.A. card. Players must reside within area covered by specific division.                       |
| ENTRY FEE:      | \$12.00 per player per event.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| OFFICIAL BALL:  | Seamless 558.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| TROPHIES:       | As described in rundown.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| SPECIAL AWARD:  | To ALL division winners of open singles and open doubles, round trip air coach transportation to I.R.A. International Championships at the St. Louis J.C.C.A., April 3-8, 1973. No duplicate awards. Winners must participate in event they have won divisional, and in doubles, with same partner. |
| ENTRY DEADLINE: | As described.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

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

I.R.A. NO. \_\_\_\_\_ CLUB/Y \_\_\_\_\_ I.R.A. NO. \_\_\_\_\_ CLUB/Y \_\_\_\_\_

45

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Tournament tested for more than two years by top players all over the country!



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Seamless, a division of Dart Industries, Inc., New Haven, Connecticut 06503.

# 1973 IRA NATIONAL INTERCOLLEGIATES

SITE: University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, IL

ELIGIBILITY: See accompanying Official IRA Intercollegiate Rules.

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

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

HOUSING AND FOOD: Information to be published in March issue of Racquetball Magazine.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: April 1, 1973

OFFICIAL BALL: Seamless 558.

TROPHIES: First three places in each event. First two places, team. First place consolation.

Send entries to: Don Webb, Illini Racquetball Club,  
295 Natural Resources Bldg., Univ. of  
Illinois, Urbana, IL 61801

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 IRA Intercollegiate Rules

### RULE I — MATRICULATION

No one shall participate in any intercollegiate racquetball 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 racquetball 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 racquetball.

4. Transfer students or graduates from a junior college may continue their racquetball 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.



## He Loved It

Dear Chuck:

Just finished reading Volume I, Number I of the Racquetball magazine from cover to cover. Congratulations. Your layout and writing style were very professionally done. Each year that passes brings with it a certain number of improvements for racquetball and its players. This new and complete magazine is in my judgement our biggest step forward.

I felt a tremendous sense of pride and belonging after reading the first issue. The I.R.A. members now have the "tie that binds" and a separate identification that can only enhance an already growing family.

I enjoyed reading every article, but some actually were written so well, that on several occasions while reading Steve Keiley's account of racquetball terminology, I laughed aloud. I can't wait to read his next resume of the racquetball alphabet. Charlie Garfinkel also showed his talent for humorous writing in his article.

The article that will be the most helpful to me will be the one submitted by the Washington Racquetball Association stating certain guidelines for newly formed associations to follow. The Kentucky Racquetball Association will hold its first organizational meeting on Sunday, December 3rd with the hopes of bringing together many of the state's players. I'll keep you informed of tournament dates, etc.

I just received a copy of *Racquetball for Men and Women* by Johy W. Resnick, David O. Matthews and James Peterson. I haven't had a chance to read it entirely as yet, but what I've read so far looks pretty good.

Keep up the good work and I hope to see you sometime soon.

KEN PORCO  
Louisville, KY

## I protest

Dear Chuck:

In response to Mr. Marcus, I must strongly protest that he claims to be number two in the state of Illinois. Shawn has yet to beat me in anything but a brush match and certainly not in a tournament. Therefore, I throw out a challenge to settle the issue.

I would hope he would respond directly to me to arrange the details.

Regards,  
T. E. PLUM  
#2—Illinois

Dear Chuck:

Our annual Memphis Racquetball Association meeting was a great success. You wanted to know how we handled it so here goes.

We have nine men serving on the Board of Managers. Each one represents a different organization, club, center, etc., and these nine really got involved and turned out the new members. There were in attendance some 150 members and the meeting took place in the UT Medical Center Auditorium, where the films of the first and second Haber-Muehleisen matches were shown. All memberships were checked at the door and those that had not joined did so last night. They were given a ticket for the door prizes (21 in all) and we served sandwiches, potato chips, and lemonade, which we got for about a dollar. The total charge was \$5, which included \$3 for membership in the I.R.A. and \$2 for the M.R.A.

Among the many things discussed were the arrangements for the City Championship, which we will run like the Nationals over a 5-day period, beginning play at 3:30 in the afternoon and continuing through 8:30 at night. The events will be Open Singles, Open Doubles, Masters Singles, Masters Doubles, Ladies Singles, Consolation Open Singles, Consolation Open Doubles, Consolation Masters Singles, and Consolation Masters Doubles. A grand total of 33 trophies will be awarded. As you can see, we are adding the Ladies Singles competition, and I will let you know what kind of turnout we had. Our total membership is now approaching the 250 mark.

Official M.R.A. jackets with the I.R.A. logo were awarded to 16 members who had done an outstanding job in the National Tournament, Gene Boyte (our executive secretary) received a television set, and the past president (me) received a gorgeous and practical Value-Pack. Twenty-one door prizes included 12 official Seamless balls, 3 1972 I.R.A. tournament shirts, 3 tote bags left from last year's tournament, and the main door prizes were three Brumfield Swinger racquets from Leach Industries. Judd Williford presided and Smith Schippers, I.R.A. Commissioner, was in charge of the entertainment.

It was a great meeting.

DeWITT M. SHY  
Memphis, Tenn.

## The Hard Way

Dear Chuck,

Congratulations on your new magazine. I am looking forward to more informative articles about racquetball, especially data concerning types of shots and the strategy of the game.

We are trying to promote interest in racquetball here in the Florida "Panhandle" but it is difficult primarily due to the shortage of courts within the area. This has prevented many athletically inclined individuals from even having the opportunity to try the game.

There are a few devotees of the sport here at NAS Pensacola who compete regularly with each other, and are now looking for outside competition. So if any of your readers happen to pass through Pensacola, please have them call and I shall arrange a game or two.

CURT BROTHERTON  
Comptroller  
NAS Pensacola

## All Right!

Dear Chuck:

I have read through the inaugural issue of *Racquetball* and cannot resist sending my comments.

This is a most welcome and pleasant surprise. I have felt that we needed our own magazine because of the growing popularity of our sport. We were just too confined within the pages of *Handball*.

With this first issue I feel you have the right idea in presenting racquetball in a first class manner, because, after all, we are a first class fraternity.

Specifically, let me start with the cover. Very attractive design and a color picture of play action is far from mediocrity. I thought the coverage of the Masters Invitational Singles was informative, well written, properly titled and well documented pictorially. I especially enjoyed the comparison chart on page 20.

Another good feature is the I.R.A. tournament schedule on page 37. This is most essential to planning for most participants and a welcome service from your office.

The photo coverage is vastly improved over even a year ago. Keep up the good work and continue to provide excellent pictures (how about some color pictures on the inside also?).

The instructional articles are one of my favorites and really help me understand racquetball and its many intricacies.

Well, so much for now, Chuck, as I am not a very patient letter writer. My thanks to *Handball* for allowing us to occupy some space with them. But, man, its good to be on our own.

GORDON KELLY  
Grand Rapids, Mich.

## The A.P.A.

Dear Mr. Kendler:

The new format of your magazine — monthly issues alternating between handball and the racquetball/paddleball games — recently came to my attention. It occurred to me that I might be able to contribute to the new publication devoted to the racquet/paddle games.

Over the past three or four years, I have been following the one-wall paddleball game in the metropolitan New York area. My involvement in the game centers around a close, personal relationship with the current national champion (both singles and doubles) of both the American Paddleball Association and the United States Paddleball Association.

Not only is Howard Hammer a great athlete and champion, he is a great personality and a strong proponent of the advancement of the game. Howie and his doubles partner, John Bruschi, have never lost a tournament which they entered as a team. Hammer has won more singles and doubles titles than any other player in the history of one-wall paddleball.

More impressive than his outstanding skills, I believe, are the efforts he has expended in promoting an interest in the growth of the sport. Hammer has written the only definitive book ever published about the game, an instructional manual entitled, "Paddleball, How to Play the Game." He has designed a fine paddle which is now on the market. Also he sits on the Board of Directors of both the APA and USPBA, and he was responsible for bringing together a joint committee of both associations to formulate a unified set of rules for the one-wall game.

Howie Hammer presently teaches the only recognized college-level course for credit on the game. This is part of his instructional assignment as a member of the physical

education staff of Queensborough Community College in Bayside, New York. He has conducted many clinics, instructional sessions and exhibitions throughout the New York area.

Hammer was also instrumental in establishing the annual Inter-college Paddleball Tournament which has been held twice to date; participation is limited to students enrolled in an accredited college, and the entry rosters have been gratifyingly large. Trophies each year, through Howie's influence, have been donated by the APA.

Your readers may find an article on this fascinating person and outstanding athlete to be good and informative reading. It will also serve to acquaint them with the one-wall game with which Howie is so closely associated. I would be happy to contribute to a feature-length article on this subject for an appearance in your new magazine.

Please let me know if you would be interested in such an article, and if so, what length it should be. I will waive any fee or compensation for this article. I await your response.

JEROME KOFFLER  
North Woodmere, NY

## Canada Sez

Dear Bob (Kendler):

My sincere thanks for the kind personal reception you extended to me at our recent meeting in Minneapolis.

Chuck has a copy of my report to the Canadian Racquetball Association which reflects my opinion of what a worthwhile meeting it was and my considered privilege of being part of it.

I can certainly appreciate the problems you have had in nursing this fledgling Association into being. You have done a great job and will always be remembered for it Bob. However, I find myself in agreement with you in your expressed wishes to get your Officers and Directors more involved and to delegate the responsibilities to others. With just a little bit of your expert guidance it looks like the baby can walk and run by itself now.

Once again Bob, my personal thanks go along with the best wishes of your friends in Canada.

May joy and peace be yours at this Festive Season.

BOB CHALLENGER  
Vancouver, B. C.

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☐ \$3 for 1973    ☐ \$7 for 1973-75

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Send check or money order to:

IRA, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, Ill. 60076

# Handball

By MORT LEVE

The preliminary response to the proposed NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of COURT CLUBS has been overwhelmingly receptive. As outlined in the December HANDBALL Magazine this organization is being formed to mutually benefit the fast-growing number of private handball/racquetball clubs and our USHA/IRA.

There was much criticism leveled at the national USHA office back in 1968 when we volunteered to unify six or seven "splinter" groups who played racquetball with varied balls and rules. "We have a lack of court time now," lamented the handballers, "and with a concentrated move to boost racquetball the situation will go from bad to worse."

We countered with the view that the increasing demand for court time could only lead to the building of more facilities. This has now been borne out. Right now we can list more than 50 so-called Court Clubs now operating in United States and Canada, with at least that many more under construction or blue print planning.

The challenge in handballdom is to keep apace with racquetball in this accelerated growth, and we realize it can only be done through proper introduction to the neophyte . . . more and more clinics . . . more and more exposure.

Through it all we have disdained any "cold war" atmosphere, emphasizing a need for co-existence and the realization that the dual purpose court paves the way to a sound business feasibility for the Court Club.

This is one most important venture where USHA and IRA can combine forces and can only gain dividends. Next March 23-25 our two national associations will sponsor a seminar-meeting at the Chicago Marriott, located within minutes of O'Hare Field. All owner-management personnel of Court Clubs are being invited to attend. USHA/IRA will co-host a Friday night reception-dinner, and then set up a full-day schedule of seminar talks in a meeting room covering such subjects as: Court construction, financing, promotion, public relations, reciprocal arrangements . . . and any other topics of vital interest to all. An election will be held to select a president of the NACC, coming from the Court Club management.

Hopefully, this will be the first of annual meetings with sites to be selected by the assemblage.

Right now USHA/IRA are compiling as complete a list as possible of Court Clubs. You can assist, if you will, by dropping us a line and telling us of any such facilities you know of: USHA/IRA, 4101 Dempster st., Skokie, IL. 60076.

\* \* \*

Mulling over a general format for our bi-monthly allotted page we feel its contents should be of interest not only to the handball fraternity but to the racquetball readers as well. Therefore, rather than short note results of late hour tournaments we can best serve by writing of items of mutual interest.

Chicagoland has four combination indoor tennis court-handball/racquetball facilities. The Treborshier Tennis Club, located in Glenwood, Ill. (25 miles south of Chicago's Loop) has four 20x40s, all with synthetic Sport Tred floors. The McClurg Court Sports Center, part of the Jupiter Corp. high rise complexes on the fringe of Chicago's downtown area, has three handball/racquetball courts and is jammed packed with membership. And, recently opened: Tam Tennis Club, located on the site of the former nationally-famed Tam O'Shanter Country Club on the northwest side of Chicago, has two courts for handball/racquetball with eight tennis courts. In the western suburb of Elmhurst their park district has opened a complex with four handball/racquetball courts along with indoor tennis. Court rental time at \$4 an hour prevails in Elmhurst.

Just a fortnight ago we spent some time with Alan Schwartz, president of Mid-Town Tennis Club, the world's largest indoor facility (14 courts). Alan's group is building another facility in Rochester, N.Y. to include two courts. Originally, these were to be squash courts. We tried to impress upon him the impact of racquetball and the dual purpose advantage of 20x40s. We hope they will heed the plea. We even went into a squash court and played some racquetball with him, but the game in such confined quarters is a far cry from the real action. He also argued for the fully enclosed court to keep the noise out of a proposed adjacent lounge. The reverberation sounds to the players with such conditions are indeed rough . . . and, an intercom system would be necessary to referee any matches. Add — spectators like to hear the sounds of the game as well as see them.



HELMS HANDBALL HALL OF FAME SELECTEES . . . Oscar Obert (l) and Jim Jacobs are officially ushered into select group at New York Athletic Club reception-dinner. Jacobs, chosen "Four-wall Player of the Generation" in 1970, has won six national USHA open singles and six national USHA open doubles four-wall titles in addition to many other national tournament honors. Obert, eldest of the three nationally-ranked brothers (Ruby and Carl), has won a record 20 open USHA national championships in one-wall, three-wall and four-wall.



## A NEW TIGER IS BORN!

### New Racquetball Racquet By Champion

The new Champion Tiger racquetball racquet is constructed in one piece from a special nylon compound. It's durable and light. Twisted nylon strings offer extra wear. And the no-slip rubberized grip and nylon wrist thong offer a more secure feel. By the same company who makes the great Champion Super Tiger handball glove and the popular new racquet glove.

Ask a Champion Representative or write or call.

*Champion* GLOVE MFG. CO.  
2200 E. OVID, DES MOINES, IOWA

## Welcome Aboard . . . To a Wonderful Board

We finally sat down and put our house in order. From all over America the Directors of the I.R.A. gathered for their first official meeting, — and it took place after the finals of our National Invitational Singles tournament at the Court House in Minneapolis. Needless to say, it was rewarding and revealing.

All of us learned that racquetball needs a lot of help if it is to continue its great growth upward. I learned in Minneapolis that we have a Board that can provide such help. I am fortunate to be associated with the caliber of men who now hold the destiny of racquetball in their hands. They are an outstanding group.

Frankly, we never found time before this to collectively exchange ideas. What a mistake this was! Every man on the Board is dedicated, knowledgeable and creative. Many are top flight players, and who better can administrate the sport than the fellows who play it? We are fortunate, indeed, to have their time and thought. We certainly could not afford to pay them what they are worth.

That is the message this editorial should bring you, — that we can be very thankful for the intelligent leadership this Board will give our Association. When you combine some of the best players in the country with some of the best thinkers, — you have an asset that is hard to match. All of us should be grateful for the sacrifice that these men will make to give us a better sport.

In case you are wondering why this didn't happen sooner, let me apologize that situations beyond our control made it impossible to bring the full Board together before this. But now it is done and we would like you to know the strength that is behind this organization. If there are better men anywhere in the country, I don't know them. I do know these men and I want you to know them too.

*Charles Garfinkel:* the 33-year-old educator from Buffalo, New York. Charlie combines seven years of racquetball experience with tournament tennis and squash to form valid opinions on all aspects of this racquet game. His heady style of play is a good indication of his ability off the court, to think out problems

concerning the administration of racquetball.

*Myron Roderick:* 38-years-old and currently Executive Director of the U.S. Wrestling Federation. Myron's invaluable experience in amateur sports organizations, plus his high ability as a player make the perfect combination for a top man on our team. His leadership qualities are unapproachable, having led Oklahoma State University to seven national wrestling championships in his 12 years as coach there.

*DeWitt Shy:* 50-years-old and a highly successful investment advisor from Memphis, Tennessee. As tournament chairman of the 1972 I.R.A. International Championships, DeWitt received a crash course in the running of a racquetball event from the top. He was instrumental in the organization and development of the Memphis Racquetball Association, the biggest and most successful local organization in the nation.

*Dr. Bill Sellars:* 55-years-old and practicing physician (allergy specialist) in Dallas, Texas. A four year racquetball veteran and one of the top Masters players around. He is a patient man, who soundly thinks out all questions and then acts swiftly and courageously.

*Bob McNerney:* the tall San Diegan has been a long advocate of racquetball, dating back to his participation in the very first I.R.A. tournament in St. Louis in 1969. He has been a member of the Board since its inception and brings excellent experience with him from tennis, badminton and several amateur sports organizations.

*Larry Lederman:* As physical education director of the Milwaukee Jewish Community Center, Larry was the one man responsible for the true beginnings of the I.R.A. It was Larry, in 1968 who asked the U.S. Handball Association for their help in promoting racquetball on an International level. For his efforts Larry was rewarded the first National Commissioner's post, which he held until this year when he was elected to the Board.

These truly are men of whom we can be proud.

BOB KENDLER

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