12th Annual Pro-Am Continues Success

The 1989 Davison Pro-Am drew over 400 entrants proving itself a continued success As usual, this 12th annual event attracted the nation's top players including fourtime tournament winner, Bret Harnett, Ruben Gonzalez, Jack Newman and Mike Ray

This year's edition of the tournament catried a new brand of excitement as home town boy Jim Floyd made an appearance in the Pro final. To do this, Floyd defeated top seeded players, Gonzalez and Newman Although Floyd was defeated in three straight games of 11-5, 11-6 and 11-2, the Pro-Am proved to be a true career milestone for the 19 year old Davison native.

Living up to past years, the

tournament again provided entertainment as well as competition. The annual banquet and dance at the Davison Country Club provided a forum for presentation of the Racquetball Association of Michigan's Player Awards (See related story on pages 6-7) The banquet was also highlighted by a surprise appearance by Jim Hiser, winner of this year's Outstanding Contribution Award

Hiser, who left Michigan in June, is now the Assistant Executive Director of Programs for the AARA Throughout his years spent in Michgan, he donated much of his time, ingenutiy and effort into racquetball by holding

positions on the RAM board and creating the longest running tournament series,

just to name a few Ihe influence Hiser has had on the sport still remains tangible as his students, Jim Floyd, Chris Cole and Mike Johnston prove themselves constant winners

In its twelfth year, the event has depended on the support of many sponsors to make it a continued success. The tournament would like to thank its major sponsors, The Fourmidable Group, Jiffy Lube, Footjoy and Head Sports, Inc.

Besides Harnett, other tournament winners were: Chris Cole, Men's Open; Darin Bryce, Men's A; Elan Raffael, Men's B and C; Dave Halvorson, Men's D; Bob Denam, Men's Novice; Mike Anderson, Men's 30A; Don Hlavaty, Men's 30B; Stu Hastings, Men's 35A; Fred Hartman, Men's 35B; Wayne Gunkle, Men's 35C; Ken Bonnett, Men's 40A; Ron Rusch, Men's 40B; Gary Phipps, Men's 45A; Charles Wheelihan, Men's 45B; Lynn Hahn, Men's 50; Albert May, Men's 55B; Joetta Hastings, Women's Open; Sharon Huczek, Women's A; Valarie Springer, Women's B and C; Nicole Zigila, Women's Novice; Lori Troszak, Women's Ages A; Lorraine Jatvis, Women's Ages B; Brian Garrow, Junior Boys 14A; Gavin Tanner, Junior Boys 14B and Rashid Neighbors, Junior Boys 10 & under Congratulations to all

For Seniors/Masters Only

Michigan Holds First Regional

by Jim Easterling

The 1989 AARA Region 9 Seniors/Masters Open was held on October 7-8 at the Coliseum II Racquet Club in Taylor, Michigan As a first of its kind in Michigan, the tournament had over 50 players in age divisions of 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60 and was a huge success. The tournament was a round-robin format where players competed against everyone in their division, guaranteeing five matches during the weekend

The tournament drew three of the 1989 AARA National Champions: Bob Sanders

(OH) in Men's 50, Otis Chapman (OH) in Men's 55 and Fintan Kilbribe (CAN) in Men's 60. Also in the draw were such players as Lynn Hahn (MI), Duane Russell (MI), Ross Stevenson (CAN) and Jerry Davis (OH) Needless to say, their was excellent competition available for all:

Each player received a collared shirt, an Ektelon gym bag and a pair of socks, as well as a banquet Saturday night at the Holiday Inn The chicken and ribs banquet also featured an auction to support the United States National Team Chris Cole, acting auctioneer, did an

excellent job with cups, sweatshirts, racquets and many other miscellaneous articles donated by AARA Chris, with the support of the tournament players, raised a total of \$502 52 for the team

I would like to thank the management of the Coliseum II Racquetball Club and the sponsors, PENN and Sports Plus, for their support Without such backing, tournaments such as this would not be possible I would also like to thank the players who came from Michigan, Ohio, Indiana and Canada to support the event Plans are

Continued on page 2

INE RACQUETBALL REPORTER 321 Villago Drive Lansing, MI 48911

View of the President

by W I Blakeslee Welcome back to the racquetball season and "Merry Christmas."

The first two major tournaments of the season were very exciting Jimmy Floyd was in the Pro Final at Davison Chris Cole won Men's Open, and National Champion Stu Hastings won the Seniors Randy Minto did a fine job without Jim Hiser, who made a surprise appearance.

In the Backwall Super Seven, Chris Cole, Jim Floyd, Joel Bonnett, and Nick Rallis made the semi-finals All are former #1 Junior players and the best four players in the State. Chris showed the boys he still has what it takes. Stu won again, but our other National Champion, Johnny Northern decided to return to

action.

Our Adult Regional Director, Jim Easterling, had a Seniors/Masters Regional Tournament His 45-plus entry was as good as any national tournament could hope The tournament was very successful and hope next year's will be even better

The AARA Board has accepted our grant proposals and will provide almost \$4,000 of funding. The funds will be used to promote Juniors and membership expansion, specifically YMCA, and membership drives in Michigan's top tenclubs. If you have any questions contact a board member.

One final note; one of Michigan's finest clubs, the MAC, is planning a sister club in Lansing, just a rumor, but great news

Above, Women's 40/45 winner Brigette Hartz (MI) and her opponent, second place winner Marilyn Perna at the Region 9 Seniors/Masters tournament

Region 9 Tourney Successful

Continued from page 1 underway to host this event next season and we hope to

see everyone back. Listed below are the winners in the different age groups

MEN'S 35 1st John Molinero 2nd John Gervasc

MEN'S 40 1st Wayne Holman 2nd Preston James

MEN'S 45 1st Jerry Davis 2nd Ron Hutcherson

MEN'S 50 1st Bob Sanders 2nd Paul Becker MEN'S 55 1st Otis Chapman 2nd Lynn Hahn

MEN'S 60 1st Ross Stevenson 2nd Duane Russell

WOMEN'S 35 1st Lesly Kishigan 2nd Elaine Barch

WOMEN'S 40/45 1st Brigitte Hartz 2nd Marilyn Perna

Annual Season Opener Provides Competitive Fun

by Jim Skinner
The 1989 Fall Head Start
Tournament was a great start
for Michigan Racquetball
Women The women's only
tournament sponsored annually by Head Racquet Sports,
Inc was held at The Court
House Club in Flint, and was
again a huge success

This year's Open division saw Beth Gutowski, last year's second place finalist defeat Elaine Barch, last year's "A" champion. Backwall players, Mary Gisslander and Sandy White took third and fourth

The "A" division champion was last year's 2nd place "B" winner, Diane Kerr, from Windsor, Ontario Second place went to Claire Kruse who has been consecutively moving up to higher divisions each of the last four years Third and fourth place went to Laurie Eller and Paula Saad respectively

In 1988, "B" was dominated by Canadians, but this year the Michigan women regained control Champion
Paula Harkleroad, last year's
"C" winner, defeated Karen
Visgar while third went to
this year's RAM's Most
Improved Female Player,
Stacey Barbas Lorraine
Jarvis, a new comer to the
event, from Hamilton, Ontario took fourth.

Canton's Sarah Wolodkiewicz defeated Ontario's Lynn Bryce in the "C" division finals. Both women were new to this tournament and proved tough competition for challengers. Third and tourth place went to Denise McConnelee of Davison and last year's "D" finalist Carol Rogers from The Court House Club.

Competition in "D" was the best ever this year Jean St. John of Mt. Clemens defeated Peggy Wood of Canton for the top spot Joann Kastle from Canton captured third while Court House Club favorite, Donella Rak, took fourth

The junior girl's competition

had double playoffs with Lori Cockram defeating Ashley Eudy Hamilton's Mandy Jarvis took third while Eva Barch followed in fourth

This year was a first for doubles competition with twelve teams entered. In the "A" doubles, Elaine Barch and Shirley Vanderbrook teamed up to defeat Laurie Eller and Carla Teare Lynn Bryce and Lorraine Jarvis were "B" doubles champs with Claire Kruse and Rae McIntyre taking second

If you missed this special tournament, you missed the best women's event in the Michigan. Put it on your calendar for next Fall A special thanks to Head Racquet Sports, Inc for making the tournament a continued success

Michigan's Own Captures Olympic Gold

by Christopher Cole The Summer of 1989 will long be remembered by racquetball players and fans as the beginning of Big Time status for the sport. After being given Group A membership with the U.S. Olympic Committee, racquetball was included for the first time in the U.S. Olympic Festival, a competition staged during non-Olympic Games years in a large metropolitan city pitting the best amateur athletes in the country against each other to get them ready for international competitions like the Pan-American Games and the Olympic Games

The 1989 edition of the Festival took place in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and will be long remembered for the incredible level of racquetball played at this Festival as no less than five 11-10 tie-breakers were played Four matches that went only

et Polam

NORIH-GOLD MEDAL
M#1-Jim Floyd, MI
M#2-Tim Sweeney, IL
MDoubles-Tim Hansen, FL
Sergio Gonzalez, FI
W#1-Michelle Gilman, OR
W#2-Robin Levine, CA
WDoubles-Peggy Ludwig, KY
Jackie Paraiso, CA

two games ended up at an unbelievalbe 15-14, 15-14. All told, 48 matches were played amongst the four squads and half went to a deciding third game.

Jim Floyd was Michigan's representative and he did the state proud anchoring the North team's Gold Medal victory celebration. Jim played number one singles and went up against the nation's best in his division

Stu Hastings coached the North squad giving Michigan even more representation in the event Many of the North players noted that without Stu's help, the Gold Medal surely would have wound up someplace else.

The rosters for all four squads (each participant qualified at one of two tournaments, the Adult Amateur Nationals or the Amateur National Doubles) are listed below along with their place of residence

WEST-SILVER MEDAL
M#1-Michael Bronfeld, CA
M#2-Drew Kachtik, TX
MDoubles-Bill Sell, CA
Brian Hawkes, CA
W#1-Malia Bailey, VA
W#2-Cindy Doyle, TN
WDoubles-Lisa Anthony, CA
Chris Evon, IL

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Jim Floyd shares his Olympic moment with his personal cheering section. Surrounding Floyd, from left, Jim-Ed and Terri Floyd, Heather Masters and Tracy Floyd.

THE PARTY OF THE P

EAST-BRONZE MEDAL
M#1-Andy Roberts, TN
M#2-Jeff Evans, OR
MDoubles-Bruce Erickson, MN
Rick Bezousek, TN
W#1-Toni Bevelock, AZ
W#2-Cindy Baxter, PA
WDoubles-Dot Fischl, PA
Cheryl Gudinas, II

SOUTH-FOURTH PLACE M#1-Tim Doyle, OH M#2-Lance Gilliam, IX MDoubles-B Rodriguez, NV Jack Nolan, AZ W#1-Kaye Kuhfeld, IN W#2-Susan Morgan, FI WDoubles-Diane Green, FL Trina Rasmussen, FI



GOLD MEDAL COMBINATION: Above, Floyd shares his victory with long time coach and friend, Jim Hiser (left) and U.S. National Leam coach, Stu Hastings



National Doubles Results

Hartz, Hastings Take Top Honors

by Duane Russell

The United States National Doubles Championships were held at the Burnsville Racquet and Swim Club near Minneapolis, Minnesota on October 26-29 Michigan participants were: Chris Cole and Troy Hall, Jimmy Floyd and Mike Locker, Mike Johnston and Dave Wershay in Men's Open, Stu Hastings and Rick Vanderlind in Men's 35+, Paula Saad and Stacy Barbas in Women's 25+ and Women's 30+, Duane Russell and Jack Gushue in Men's 55/60+ Mike Stephens teamed with former Michigander Jim Hiser in Men's 40+ while Hastings teamed with New Jersy's Fran Davis in mixed competiton Floyd also teamed with Illinois' Cheryl Gudinas in the Mixed Open division while Bridgette Hartz joined another Illinois player, L Liau, in two divisions, Women's 40+ and Women's 45+:

The Michigan contingent

played hard but went down to defeat in first round competition with the following exceptions: The Hastings/Davis team captured the gold medal while the Hastings/Vanderlind team took third Johnston/Wershay were eliminated in first round Men's Open. Despite first round loss, Cole and Hall went on to win first place in Men's Open Consolation. Hartz and Liau finished first in 45+ and second in 40+

Play was intense and featured most of the best racquetball doubles teams in the United States It is an eye opener to see the excellent doubles played at various skill divisions where power, speed, agility, endourance, skill and experience come into play. To win requires lifting your game to new heights and reducing mistakes since the difference in talent and skill is very slight. In the past few years with new technology in racquet

construction, the emphasis has turned to the power game. The Open players tend to hit almost every shot as hard as they can leaving little time for finesse. This type of play requires strength and endurance especially in later rounds

The experience gained by the Michigan players certainly will be beneficial as the knowledge of what it takes to win at the national level is transferred into playing skills and mental toughness

Mental toughness is the key when you get to the national level of competition Billie Jean King said that basically "you have to ask yourself whether you're willing to pay the price It always comes down to that As you get older, age becomes inflation the price you have to pay goes up." (Christopher Cole contributed to this report.)

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RAM HALL OF FAME

Lynn Hahn 1984 Fred Lewerenz

Tom Brownlee 1985 Jim Hiser

Jim Eastorling 1986

Stu Hastings 1987 Bob Wilhelm

Denny Wood 1988

Flint Canusa Team Dominates

by Jim Skinner
Flint athletes compéted
August 11-13 in the 32nd
Annual Canusa games held in
Hamiltion, Ontario The Flint
Raquetballers maintained
their overall advantage over
the Canadians with a 23-12
victory The Flint players
have won five of the eight

years of racquetball competiton

Team members qualified by playing in a city wide competition in July The top three players from each division were invited to play on the International Traveling Canusa Team

Athletes represent Flint in 19

sports is Flint 15 and Hamilton 14, along with 3 ties
The athletes left Flint via
buses where they were
housed with a Canadian host
family Over 2,000 players
were involved and everybody

had a great time

sport areas Hamiltion won

the first competion over Flint

with the running total for all

1989 CANUSA IEAM

BOYS	#1 Position	#Z POSITION	#5 POSITION
12 & Under	Scottie McConnelee	Nathan Walker	Brent Oskey
13 & Under	Matt Burger	Robby Thompson	Peter Glomson
15 & Under	Brian Garrow	Jeff Cox	Kirk Skinner
17 & Under	Mary Riley Jr.	Aaron Johnson	Chris Panoff
18 & Over	Troy Altenberg	Gerald Tucker	Dwayne Parkhur
35 & Over	Lenny Chaltraw	Shanti Shartaram	Bob Rhodes
GIRLS		A LENT OF THE A	
12 & Under	Michele Palid	Ashley Eudy	Lori Cockram
13 & Under	Stacy McConnelee	Loma Klein	Julie Colthrop
15 & Under	Angie Gardner	Nicole Palid	Christine Skinne
17 & Under	Tera Flowers	Anoopa Shantarar	n
18 & Over	Pam Harkleroad	Kay Wright	Debra Winans
35 & Over	Carol Rogers	Linda Taylor	Kathy Caverly
7 E E E 2007		不被"一"一直不能	

Backwall Hosts Season Opener

by Lou Ellen Fecher
The Backwall Fitness and
Racquet Club was the host for
this season's first Michigan
Super Seven tournament on
October 20-22 There were
189 participants with 289
entries in 23 divisions. A
large draw considering only
seven courts were available

The tournament began
Friday with a full round of
play scheduled through
midnight Most players were
on the court by 12:30 with one
or two beginning a little later
Of course, several went to
tiebreaker which resulted in
the club not closing until 2:30
Good morning!

Saturday's play, although early, was for the most part, on schedule. Though there was not a court for the Stu Hastings clinic, arrangements were made for a question and answer session in the membership office. Hopefully, everyone was able to go out and immediately use the information to their advantage.

A few weekend highlights: Pete Ruhala and Todd Luethjohann (two players rarely seen at tournaments) beat Jim Floyd and Dave Werschay in the Men's Pro/Open doubles The Men's "D" division had 35 participants with Michael Ryan from Warren coming from a rat-tail to win the bracket. Although the women's brackets on the whole are down from last year, it was great to see 12 players in the Women's "A" divison and 10 in Women's "B"

The Men's 35A match between Stu Hastings and Dale Marshall was excellent to watch. At the Davsion Pro-Am, Hastings defeated Marshall in two games. Here, however, their match went to an 11-4 tiebreaker with Hastings again the winner.

Jim Floyd and Chris Cole were in the Pro finals and also went to an 11-4 tiebreaker with Cole capturing first. Unfortunately both felt the crowd was very quiet and small. No matter if these two play or meet at almost every tournament, they are excellent players and derserve some spectatorship

Overall the tournament was very successful. I hope everyone is looking forward to returning in March to Backwall when nine courts will be available. Special thanks to the Super Seven sponsor, The Fourmidable Group and also to Head Sports and Penn

Michigan's Youth Competes for Top Spot

by Christopher Cole
This season's tournament
schedule is about halfway
completed and if the first half
is any indication the race for
the best player is still up for
grabs Coming into this
season few would have
suspected such a tight race
for number one. However,
already this year we have
seen the emergence and
maturity of a number of
players near the top

Jim Floyd followed up his Men's Open State Championship last April with a 4th place finish at the Adult Amateur Nationals in Houston during June At Houston Jim also qualified for the US. Olympic Festival and helped his North squad win the Gold Medal as the team's number one player. With this kind of finish to the 1988-89 year Jim was hard-pressed to do better in 1989-90. True to his racquetball career, Jim showed right away he was ready to pick up where he left off in the summer by reaching the finals of the Men's Pro division at the annual Davison Pro-Am Along the way Jim

played outstanding ball defeating 1988 World Professional National Champion Ruben Gonzalez in three quick games, and Jack Newman, the #9 ranked professional on the Men's Professional Racquetball Association in a thrilling 11-9 tiepreaker

Another youngster making waves this season is Nick Rallis. Already this season Nick has won his first Super Seven Men's Pro division, defeating Chris Cole in barnburner 11-10 tie-breaker at Saginaw. He also took out Joel Bonnett in an 11-9 tie-breaker at the October Sports Plus Singles before losing to Canadian Mike Ceresia in the final.

Cole, despite losing to Rallis, has made some waves of his own At Davison he captured the Men's Open division and defeated Floyd in the final of the Backwall Super Seven. He also won the Riverview Grand Rapids Patrons Tournament over hometown favorite Joel Bonnett

Other players to watch out for this year will be Bonnett, Dave Wershay, Troy Hall, Mike Johnston, and Larry Meeusen Though not faring well in the first half Bonnett cannot be overlooked because of his great athletic and the very nature of his photon serve and splat game style. The only thing that might be able to stop Joel in the second half will be the onset of baseball season in March He is an All-State candidate at third base and pitcher Wershay is a Minnesota export attending Ferris State and is currently challenging Floyd for the number one position on the team. He has reached the semi-finals at Saginaw, (losing to Rallis 11-10), and has stretched Floyd to the limit of an 11-9 tie-breaker at a recent Ferris exhibition tournament He has, without a doubt, the most incredible drive serve in the state Hall, Johnston, and Meeusen are looking for that Big win to explode into prominance. Of the three, Hall has come the closest, almost pulling the upset of the year at last April's States Troy had Floyd down 10 4 in the quarterfinals and could not get that

final point. Despite that gutwrenching loss he has continued to improve and is beginning to challenge boys at the top.

It is interesting to note that none of the players mentioned is above 22. Cole, Floyd, Meeusen, Wershay, Johnston, and Rallis are all in college. Bonnett is a senior in high school and Hall works for Will H. Hall Builders in Flint and is the elder statesman of the group over Cole by a mere eight days. The youthfulness coupled with the immense talents bodes well for Michigan racquetball in the years to come. Look for an exciting second half of rivalries as these players beat up on each other vying tor number one. Don't be surprised though if some of the older guys like Mike Anderson, Stu Hastings, and recent ex-retiree Johnny Northern make life at the top altogether unpleasant. These crafty veterans have more tricks in their magic bags than Michigan has trees Watch for one of these fine gentlemen to have a say in who reaches the summit

RAM Honors Michigan'

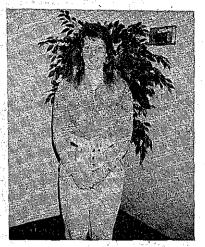
Joetta Hastings

by Christopher Cole JoEetta Hastings is the Racquetball Association of Michigan's 1989 Outstanding Female Player

Jo, one of the long standing players of Michigan Racquet-ball history, completed one of her best seasons in 1988-89 winning an incredible three state titles and two regional titles. At the States she captured Women's Open, Women's 19+, and Women's Open Doubles finishing a clean sweep of the three toughest women's divisions this state has to offer At the Adult Regionals Jo continued

her winning ways by taking the Women's Open and Women's 30+ crowns, stamping her as one of the best players in the surrounding three state area. Jo also competed at the AARA Adult Nationals and was a quarter-finalist in the Women's 30+ division going head-to-head with the toughest competition in the world.

Her game is a reflection of consistency, Jo continues to sparkle despite a game-style not suited for the highlight films on ESPN She lacks the power of fellow Pro players Nathalie Bernard and Lisa Ecker, and is not known around racquetball circles as the Road Runner of court coverage. What she does have is incredible tenacity and a mind-game capability equal to that of her accomplished husband Stu Hastings, known throughout the US as a perfect mind-game player What also keeps Jo one step ahead of the other ladies snapping at her heals is her fantastic attitude on and off the court Known as one of the fairest players in the State, Jo has found, and exhibits, that it is possible to be successful without cheating



Joetta Hastings



FRIENDS MAKE THE BEST WINNERS: 1989 Outstanding Male Player of the year, Jim Floyd (left) poses along with former award winner Chris Cole (right) after coaching Mike Johnston, Most Improved Male Player to his third place win at the Junior Nationals

Mike Johnston

by Christopher Cole Mike Johnston is the Racquetball Association of Michigan's 1989 Most Improved Male Player

Mike reached this award despite a two-year layoff from the game and achieved more in six months than a lot of players in six years. Beginning in December of 1988, Mike practiced and worked his way from Men's A(1st place finish in his second A tournament) up to Men's Open(2nd place at Super Seven Finale). He ended the Michigan season ranked third in Men's Open for the Super Seven series. From here Mike

took off like an albatross and played unbelievable racquetball at the AARA Junior Nationals in Indianapolis Unseeded, Mike proceeded to be the talk of the tournament quickly taking out the number three seeded John Gillooly and the number sixth seeded Robbie Walden. Both Gillooly and Walden are former junior national champions so neither win came cheaply. Mike ended up losing to the eventual runnerup Joey Paraiso in the semifinals Though disappointed, Mike displayed excellent demeanor after the match was over and had enough

by Christopher Cole

Gold Medalist Jim Floyd is the Racquetball Association of Michigan's Outstanding Male Player of the Year for 1989

Jim, who is an eleven year racquetball vetran, had his most successful season in 1989 In early April he won the Men's #1 singles at the World Intercollegiate Championships while also taking fourth in Men's #1 doubles with teammate Chris Cole At the Adult Amatuer Nationals, Jim took fourth place, earning nimself a spot on the United States National Racquetball Team As a member of the team, Jim also captured a gold medal at the United States Olympic Festival this past summer becoming the

first player in Michigan to bring home the gold

Locally, Jim earned his first ever Men's Open State Championship last April He also won two Men's Pro Super Seven divisions during 1988-89. Three months ago at the Davison Pro-Am, Jim perhaps had his finest hour defeating 1988 World Professional Champion Ruben Gonzalez in three quick games and Jack Newman, the #9 ranked pro on the M.P.R.A. tour, in an 11-9 tie-breaker

Currently, Jim is a sophomore at Ferris State University on a racquetball scholarship and the schools' number one player. He also is a member of the U.S. National Team and just finished an exhibition tour of four Mexican cities promoting our sport of racquetball.

mental toughness left to take the third place Bronze medal defeating Kelly Gelhaus in a hard fought contest (Gelhaus had beaten Michigan's other 18+under hopeful Joel Bonnnett in the quarter-finals so Michigan gained a measure of revenge)

During the summer, Mike attended the AARA National

Elite Training Camp and was given the prestigious award as Person Most Likely to Succeed in his/her racquet-ball dreams Following the camp, Mike began his freshman year at Ferris State University and has begun to be a consistant qualter-final finisher in the Men's Prodivision of the Super Seventournaments

Best Players of 1989

Stacey Barbas

by Christopher Cole Stacey Barbas is the Racquetball Association of Michigan's 1989 Most Improved Female Player

Stacey, a member of Team Hastings, began the 1989 season as a low Women's B player and steadily made the climb to the top. Her tournament highlights include a Women's B victory at the Backwall Super Seven, Women's B finalist at the AARA Adult Regionals, and a finalist at the State Championships in Women's 30B. Through her hard work and dilligence, Stacey finished the season as the number one ranked Women's B player and was already making headway in Women's A with 25 points accumulated.

Stacey has continued her drive to be the best this season. She recently competed in the AARA National Doubles. Championships in Burnsville, Minnesota with former Most Improved Female and fellow. Team Hastings player, Paula Saad. Though they did not win either division they played, the two earned in-



Stacey Barbas

valuable experience going up against the best teams in the country. This experience will go along way for both when they come back to the Michies gan ranks and get in those tough, gut-wrenching matches. It is all part of the learning process and Stacey will continue to get better and improve on her 1989 Most Improved success.

Join Now!

Travel Leagues Underway

by Jim Skinner Men's Tri-County Iravel League competition began December 3 with a few new teams added to the competition. The following teams are expected to participate: Cresent Lake (Pontiac), Court House Club (Flint), University (Pontiac), Waterford Hills (Clarkston), Fern Hill (Sterling Heights), Gateway (Sterling Heights), Backwall (Madision Heights) and Meadowbrook (Rochester) New teams are invited to

New teams are invited to join the league. All individuals or teams who might be

interested should contact one of the following people:
Bryan Turner, 313/624-4162,
Rufus Gage, 313/673-1725 or
Jim Skinner, 313/743-4510

Level of play includes players who have not won an "A" division in a level three sanctioned tournament or above in the last two years

The players had a great time last year with The Meadow-brook Racquet Club winning the overall championship. It is hoped that the league will expand during the season. Come join us!

Joel Bonnett

by W. I. Blakeslee
Seventeen year old Joel
Bonnett was the 1989 Racquetball Association of
Michigan Junior Scholarship
Award winner. The scholarship in the amount of \$1,000
is funded by Ron Slavik, Rick
Vanderlind and the RAM
Board

A senior at Forest Hills Central High School in Grand Rapids, Joel plays racquetball most weekends from September until March, then devotes his Spring to varsity baseball As a junior, Joel was an All-Conference, All-Area and All-Region third baseman for Forest Hills Central During this time Joel has been able to hold down a 3.4 GPA and plans on attending MSU next fall to pursue a degree in either Landscape Design or Mechanical Engineering

Joel plans to continue playing racquetball while in college pending any decisions that may be made with baseball Joel had his best year in racquetball this past season, starting out with a fine showing at the Bud Light Open, qualifying for the Pro Division and then defeating #9 Gerry Price During the Fall and Winter, Joel was a semifinalist or better in 17 of the 18 tournaments he played in, winning nine open events and finishing second three

At the World Juniors in Miami, Florida, he lost in the semi's in singles, and lost with his partner in the



Joel Bonnett

double's championship in an 11-10 tiebreaker. This past summer, Joel was a quarter-finalist in the 18 and under division of the Junior Nationals.

This season Joel plans to participate in most of the Super Seven tournaments and and as many other large tournaments as possible, including the Junior Orange Bowl and the Junior Nationals When he is not playing racquetball, Joel helps his dad work with the junior players at the Michigan Athletic Club He also enjoys attending school functions and working on his truck. Congratulations Joel

Note: If anyone is interested in becoming apart of the scholarship program, please contact W.T. Blakeslee

From the Rule Book

by W.I. Blakeslee

All racquetball players should be aware of the new rule changes effective September 1, 1989 Rule number 4 11(c) was changed to read: Missed Serve Attempt. Any attempt to strike the ball that results in a total miss or in the ball touching any part of the server's body. Also, allowing the ball to bounce more than once during a service motion

Rule 4 16(a) was also changed to read: Failure to Move. A player does not move sufficiently to allow an opponent a shot straight to the front wall as well as a cross-court shot which is shot directly to the front wall at an angle that would cause the ball to rebound directly to the rear corner farthest from the Continued on page 11

Reflections made as Super Seven Series Continues

by Lou Ellen Fecher

I hough Jim Hiser is no longer residing in Michigan, his presence is still felt at the Super Seven tournaments If everyone has not noticed their is a new ruling for the tournaments this year regarding the backwall of the court If the ball goes out of the court it is either a point or sideout For years Hiser has used the Super Seven tournaments as a testing ground for new rules and several have gone on to become part of the AARA rules.

With Jim's help the Michigan Super Seven series has a new sponsor in Ron Slavik and The Fourmidable Group He also lined up Head Sports and Penn sponsorship as well I think Hiser will be around quite awhile "spiritually"

Éveryone may have noticed that we had tee-shirts for the first tournament and collared shirts for the second. Thanks to Slavik, collared shirts will be continued. Extra shirts should be available at every tournament and can be purchased for \$10.

Though the tournaments for the first of the year have yet to be planned, we are trying to establish special events for each tournament Hopefully, the December juniors event will be successful and set the tone for the rest of the season.

Although I feel that Julian and I do a good job at running the tournaments I realize that we are not perfect. We have been able to move matches when necessary and have also listened to many complaints and have solved several However, one problem that occured at the Saginaw Super Seven regarded the double elimination brackets. In this particular case, the player taking second place felt it unfair that only a first place placque was awarded He felt that since he played four matches, including the finals, that second place also

deserved an award. However, there was only five people total in the bracket and our policy has always been to give only a first place plaque when there is a division with eight players or less. Before I make a final decision regarding this situation, I would appreciate input from both readers and players Please call 313/742-9531 and leave your comments and suggestions. I feel that people come to tournaments on the basic premise to play racquetball—no matter what In double elimination a player may naturally play a few more matches than they would normally play in a single elimination event

A second problem also arose at the Saginaw Super Seven when only three participants were in a division This particular bracket was played on a round robin format with total games and then total points as the deciding factor for the top two I did not think that there would be a need for a tiebreaker, yet there was a tie for second place Although I was directly involved in the situation, I still believe I made the right decision because in case of a tie. I feel that it is necessary to go back to the head to head competition for the outcome In this case, it was not a populat decision but I believe accurate and will hold true for future tournaments.

Though the hours are long and very hectic at times, I really enjoy running the tournaments I like being able to put names with faces and watch the outcome of each division I hope not too many toes get stepped on along the way, but if anyone involved with the tournaments steps on yours, please let us know

A very special thanks to out sponsors: The Fourmidable Group, Head Sports and Penn Thanks also to Stu Hastings and Chris Cole for their special contributions to the tournaments Hosts the

Michigan Super Seven Series

MEN'S PRO Nick Rallis def. Chris Cole MEN'S OPEN Gabe Zussman def. Johnny Northern MEN'S OPEN DOUBLES, M Johnston/D. Werschay def. J.Graves/A. Klann MEN'S A John Molinero def Mary Riley Jr. MEN'S B Lenny Chaltraw def Roger O'Connor MEN'S C Michael Ryan def Bill LaBarge MEN'S D Luke Gunn def. Roger Clauss MEN'S NOVICE Larry Panetta def. Rob Hempel MEN'S 30 B Mike Voorheis def Terry Lawlor MEN'S 30A/35A Johnny Northern def Tim Sigafoose MEN'S 35 B Ron Morse def. Ron Rush MEN'S 35 C Luke Gunn def Chuck VanHoose MEN'S 40/45A Mike Stepbens def. Charles Wheelihan

MEN'S 55+ J.D. Driver def. Albert May MEN'S C/D DOUBLES S. Calvo/J. Skinner def. M. Hardy/R. Clauss WOMEN'S A/B Stacey Barbas def Linda Eldred WOMEN'S C Sue Hoeft def. Felicia Mann WOMEN'S DOUBLES S. Vanderbrook/T. Fredrich def. L. Fecher/L. Ecker JUNIORS Aaron Fields def Rashid Neighbors



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TICIAL RANKING

REGION 9

DIVISION M OPEN

3 3

IJim Floyd 2Chis Cole 3Nick Ralls 4Joel Bonnett 5Larry Meussen 6Mike Anderson 7Jim Hamilton 8Dave Larry 9Troy Hall 10Curt Rozier

DIVISION M A

1Tim Sigafoose 2Tray Altenberg 3Scott Zimmerman 4Dennis Lechawicz 5Dan Veith 6Tam Blakeslee 7Mark Fitzpatrick 8Rob Garrow 9Mike Wagner 10John Brennan

DIVISION M.B.

1Gary Phipps 2Paul Richards 3Mike McPhersan 4Scott Bruce 5Bruce Williams

DIVISION M.C.

1Richard Woadcox 2Brent Zimmerman 3Tony Barra 4Bill Hein 5Ron Klicki 6Roger Culver 7.Jim Skinner 8.Jim Swain 9Dwayne Parkhurst 10.Ed Ray

DIVISION M.D.

1 Nichalds Wantuck 2Tim Sypula 3Tony Barra 4Gary Huizenga 5Jeff Pressier 6Bill-lein 7 Dwayne Parkhurst 8Bill Spence 9Gary Krantz

DIVISION M NOVICE

1 Carl Burton, Jr. 2 Michael Cansidine 3 Walter Gorican 4 Midnny Lawson 5 Mike Mancour 6 Jim McGrat 7 Jim Syoula

DIVISION M 19+

1 Jim Hamilton 2 Nick Rallis 3 Larry Meeusen 4 Dave Larry 5 Troy Hali

DIVISION M 25+

1Dan Dutcher 1R 28kaine Harris 2R 3Mike Hotra 3D 4Jack White 4C 5Al Tackett 5Dennis Lechowicz na

DIVISION M 30+

1Scott Worthy, 2Mike Anderson 3Dave Paskan 4Stu Hastings 5Mike Hatra 6Dan Verbeck 7Larry Longeliere 8Greg Hodges 9 Randy Anderson

DIVISION M 30+B

1Mike McPherson 2Gary Luczak 3Terry Lawlor 4Lenny Chaltraw 5Gerald Tucker 68il Hein 7Dave Lepceyk 8Mike Call

DIVISION M 30+C

1 Mark Zigilia 2 Rex Balch 3 Rip Steketee 4 Joe Chedrue

DIVISION M 35+

1Stu Hastings 2Rick Vanderlind 3Jim Hiser 4Tam Blakeslee 5Ken Bonnett 6Bob Gravelyn 7 John Molinaro 8Johnny Northern 9Ourt Razier 10Mike Stephens

DIVISION M 35+B

1Pancho Gutierrez 2Ed Śwca 3Ron Slavik 4John Molinaro 5Ron Lesczynki 6Rio Steketee

DIVISION M 35+ C

1 Mark Zigilia 2 Larry Cleyman 3 Paul Ingraham 4 Tino Ruiz 5 Jim Skinner

Division M 40+

1 Johnny Northern 2 Jim Hiser 3 Ken Bonnett 4 Doug Toth 5 Tom Brownlee 6 Bob Grovelyn

DIVISION M 40+ B

ÎRon Morse 2Ron Slavik 3Don Boone 4Chris Henry

DIVISION M 45+

17om Sharum 2Gary McClellan 3Leonard Clakajla 4Gary Phipps 5George Stec 6Jess Madden

DIVISION M 45+B

1 Charles Wheelihan 2 Morts Penner 3 Sixto Catvo 4 Vince Caliahan 5 Larry Cole

DIVISION M 50+

1 Jess Madden 2 Lynn Hahn 3 Milo Karha 4 Hank Gates 5 Dave Lund 6 Richard Sewell

DIVISION M 55+

1Lynn Hahn 2Hans Schaeter 3Duane Russell 4Richard Carretti 5Mary Paluch Wark Yanikan

DIVISION M 60+

1Richard Carretti 2Duane Russell 3JD Driver

DIVISION 65+

1 Art Burke 2Gerry Leone

DIVISION M 18

1 Joel Bonnett 2 Jim Floyd 3 Rob Garrow 4 Troy Attenberg 5 Gary Hall 6 Jeff Kummler

DIVISION M 16

I Ryan Covell 2 Mary Riley Jr. 3 Chad Visgar 4 Joel Bonnett 5 Rob Snell

DIVISION M14

1Scott Zimmerman 2Brian Garrow 3Chad Visgar 4Jim McGrail

DIVISION M 12

1Brent Zimmerman 2Jim McGrail 3Scott Zimmerman 4Aaron Oskey 5Nicholas Dorda

DIVISION M 10

1Nicholas Dorda 2Scottie McConnelee 3Robby:Thompson 4Brent Oskey

DIVISION M 8

TJack Huczek 2Rashid Neighbors 3Richard Biniecki 4Brent Oskey 5Eric Seidenberger

DIVISION W OPEN

1 Joetta Hastings 2 Lisa Ecker 3 Lori Troszak 4 Tracey, Troszak 5 Lisa Yackley 6 Kathy Stellema 7 Carol Collins 8 Shirley Vanderbrook 9 Natralie Bernard 108eth Gutowski

DIVISION W.A.

Trammy Friedrich 2Sharron Huczek 3Lou Ellen Fecher 4Julie May 5Sandy White 7Km Tucker 8Anne Fecher 9Welody Mattles 10Betty Ann Gilligand

DIVISION W B

1 Claire Kruse 2 Stacey Barbas 3 Chris Berg 4 Judy Watzak 5 Karen Visgar 7 Dawn Frankhouse 8 Vickl Gazayerlli 9 Diane Kerr

DIVISION W.C.

1Dkane McCauley
2Chris Suever
3Pam Harkleroad
4Donna Bullock
5Rae McIntyre
6Karen Standley
7Fran Morris
8Michle Gagnon
9Darothy Sypniewski
10Kathleen Motyka

DIVISION W D

IUsa Kokocinski 2Collenn Schmitt 3Nichole Zigilia 4Jean St. John 5Colleen Stratman

DIVISION W NOVICE

1Nancy Van Hoose 2Beth Acastic 3Dorathy Sypniewski 4Lori Tackett 5Nicole Zigilia 6Liz Aitken 7Sharon Effes 8Lisa Kokacinski

DIVISION W 25+

ILIsa Ecker 2Kathy Stellema 3Joetta Hastings 4Sandy White 5Chris Berg 6Lesley Kishigian 7Carol Colins

DIVISION 30+

1 Joetta Hostings 2Stacey Barbas 3 Lesley Kishiglan 4 Beth Gutowski

DIVISION W 30+B

1 Cheryl Kessler 2 Clarle Kruse 3 Judy Walzak 4 Laverne Highgate 5 Stracey Barbas 6 Paula Saad 7 Dorothy Syonlewski

DIVISION W 35+

1Elaine Barch 2Lesley Kishigan 3Julie May 4Shirley Vanderbrook

DIVISION W 40+

1Betty Ann Gilland 2Sharon Huczek 3Faye Cobb 4Laverne Highgafe

DIVISION W 19+

1Lot Troszak 2Kathy Stellema 3Sandy White 4Linda Cok 5 Km Fuller 6Joetta Hastings 7Lisa Yackley

DIVISION W 16

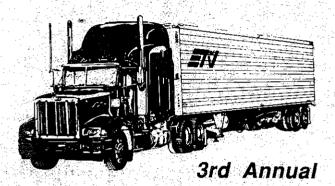
1Heather O Connor

DIVISION W 14

1NIcole Zigilia 2Christine Skinner



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GRANT FROM AARA: Jim Easterling said

For availability on seats & information on the tournament please call Mike Anderson at (616) 887-1558 during the day, (616) 453-6073 at night.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO ETV TRUCKING PRO-AM, AND MAIL TO: Anderson's ETV Pro-Am 142 E Division, Sparta, MI 49345

RESERVED SEATING AVAILABLE

ROWS 1 - 3 SOLD OUT

FIRST COME FIRST SERVE

ROWS 4 - 15 \$12.50 For the week or \$5 per day.

<u>ENTRY</u>	<u>FORM</u>					
lame			\ddress	<u> </u>	City	
State		Zip l	hone (day)		(night)	
artner's	Name (if playing dbls.)	S	hirt size (please circle) S	M L XL Seedi	ng Information	1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 -
		1 1 1 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2			VENTS (please check a	appropriate boxes)
	Mens		Wom		Juniors Boy	or Girl
	PRO Open	A/B Doubles 30 A	☐ Open ☐ A		□ 18	
	A	□ 30 B	□ B		□ 16 □ 14:	Diseleta Eta
	Ċ	☐ 35 A ☐ 35 B	□C □D		□ 12 □ 10	
뭄	D Novice	☐ 35 C ☐ 45	Novice		8 & under no bounce	•
	Pro Open Dbls	55	□ 30	OUDIGS		
EN	ITRY Pro	20.00	Dr. (O D	50.00%	Juniors	18 00
114 . 477	EES Open	60.00 48.00	Pro/Open Doubles Combo Pro/Open	50.00 (per team 95.00) All other Second event	38.00 18.00

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO ETV TRUCKING PRO-AM, AND MAIL TO: Anderson's ETV Pro-Am 142 E. Division, Sparta, MI 49345

Waiver Clause: I Hereby for myself, my heirs	executors and administrators waive and release any and all claims for damages I may have against the	he
nosi ciuo, tournament statt and their agents,	or any and all injuries suffered by me in conjunction with my participation in this tournament	16
Signature	dateSignature of Parent or Guardian	

RAM BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 11, 1989 Called to order by W T. Blakeslee at 7:00 p m

PI ACE: Residence of Jim and Dianne Easterling

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Blakeslee, Jim and Dianne Easterling, Lou Ellen Fecher, Duane Russell

REPORT OF THE TRESURER

Need to send report to AARA to satisfy the grant request.

REPORT ON THE NEWSLETTER

Jim Easterling indicated some newsletter problems. Region 9 labels were sent to West Virginia and Ohio by Jim who received all of the labels for the Region in addition to Michigan. We still need someone to take over the editorship of the newsletter Several options were discussed. The newsletter must be published by the end of December in order to qualify for rebates from the AARA. Jim Easterling is to contact Jerry Gray at Ferris State to see if their team would take over this task

REPORT OF PRESIDENT

GRANI FROM AARA: Jim Easterling said we should lock the grant since the monies will be available after January 1, 1990. Jim asked for \$2000 to be used at five sites across the state of Michigan. (\$400 per site.) Tom Blakeslee asked for \$2000 to sell memberships at ten clubs in the State. The chore would be to have a stall set up to push memberships and then tell the RAM BOARD how successful the program turned out.

Tom reported on the Olympics (summary) which he suggested be used as an article in the next edition of the newsletter

CONTRIBUTION AWARD: We have to select someone for this as a Board After discussion it was decided that it would be awarded to Jim Hiser and he can make the decision as to who will accept it on his behalf

AWARDS: Mike Anderson will do our awards again this year. It was decided to get the wording off the 1988 awards which were given to Chuis Cole and Lisa Ecker for this year's awards

Who will give out the awards at the Davision Iournament?

PRO: Outstanding Male
LISA ECKER: Outstanding Female
JIM EASTERLING: Contribution Award
TOM BLAKESLEE: Junior Award
DUANE RUSSELL: Most Improved
Male

LOU ELLEN FECHER:Most Improved Female

PROGRAM AT DAVISON: It was decided that it would be desirable to put the schedule for the upcoming year on the program.

DOUBLES: Lou Ellen Fecher will begin to work on the entry form. If participants have Canadian Racquetball (CRA) membership they will not need AARA Sign up for RAM of Michigan and can play tournaments but cannot play in our State Tournament.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES: Get these in as soon as possible

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the board of directors will take place on October 23, 1989 at Jim and Dianne Easterling's residence

Adjournment

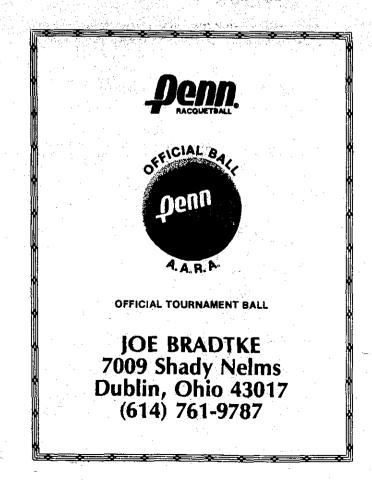
Respectfully Submitted by Duane Russell

CORRECTION

In the last issue of The Racquetball Reporter we did not include the winners of the Women's A division of the 1989 State Singles Championships and we apologize. Congratulations to first place winner Sharon Huczek and also to Julie May who took second

From the Rule Book

Continued from page 7
player hitting the ball Also,
when a player moves in such
a direction that it prevents an
opponent from taking either
of these shots.



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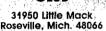
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