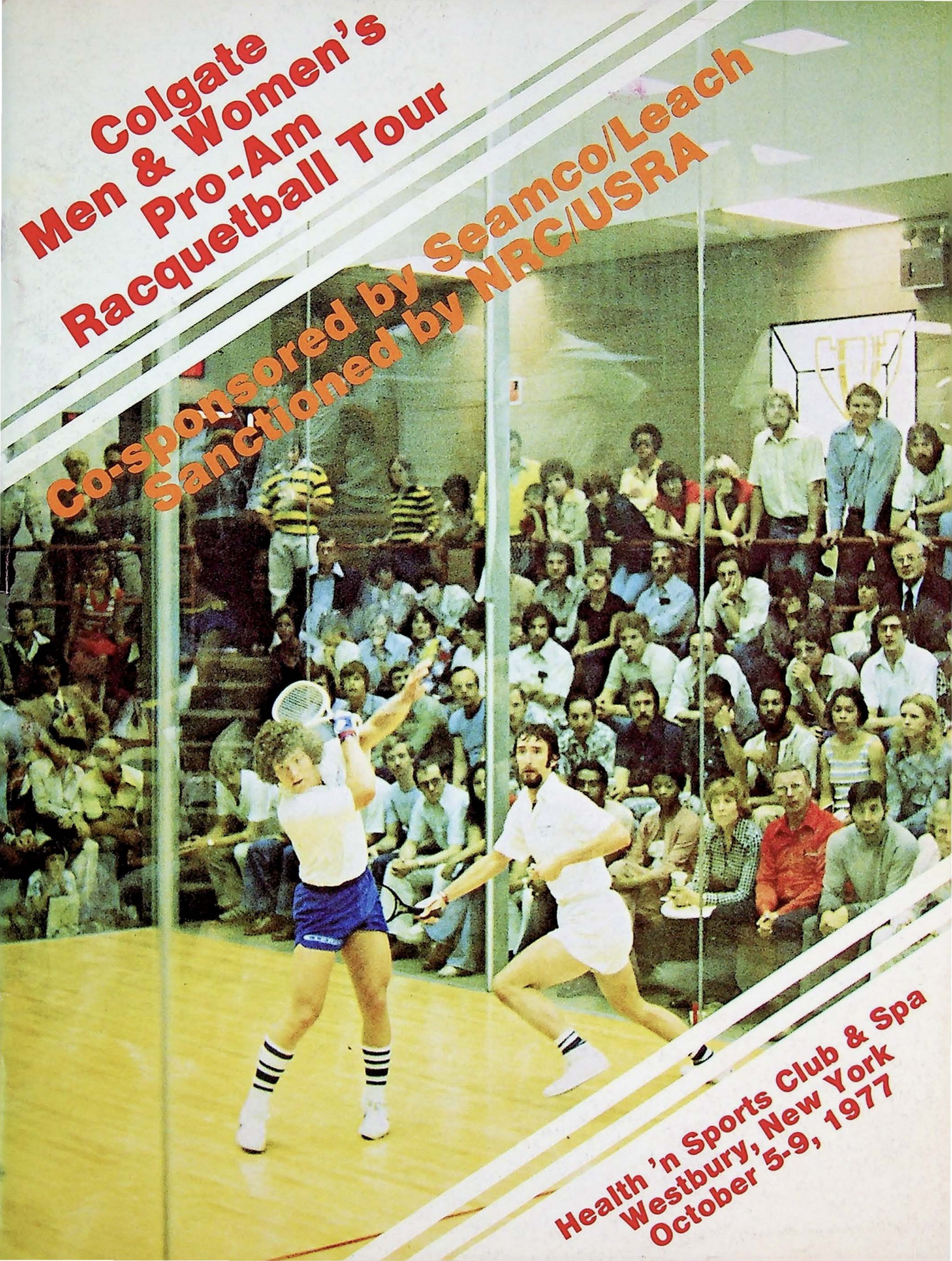


**Colgate
Men & Women's
Pro-Am
Racquetball Tour**

**Co-sponsored by Seamco/Leach
Sanctioned by NRC/USRA**



**Health 'n Sports Club & Spa
Westbury, New York
October 5-9, 1977**

shoot it  serve it  pass it 
 belt it  splash it  whack it 
 slap it  dunk it  bounce it 
 freeze it  spin it  cream it 
 chop it  wet it  dribble it 
 lob it  hit it  ace it  loft it 
 hang it  clobber it  bang it 
 center it  spike it  kill it 
 smash it  hook it  boot it 

buy it, Seamco

SEAMCO SPORTING GOODS COMPANY, DIVISION OF DART INDUSTRIES, LAGRANGE, GEORGIA 30240
 FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 1-800-241-8111 TOLL FREE.

Colgate Men and Women's Pro/Am Racquetball Tour

Upcoming Events

November 9-13

King's Racquetball Court,
Westminster, California (Los
Angeles).

December 14-18

Court House I, Marietta,
Georgia (Atlanta).

January 11-15

Gresham Court Club, Gresham,
Oregon (Portland), **Men Pro Only.**

January 19-22

Site to be announced, **Women
Pro Only.**

February 15-19

Arizona Athletic Club, Tempe,
Arizona (Phoenix).

March 15-19

San Antonio RB/HB Club II, San
Antonio, Texas.

March 30-April 2

King of Prussia Racquetball Club,
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania
(Philadelphia), **Women Pro Only.**

April 12-16

Aurora YMCA, Aurora, Illinois
(Chicago), **Men Pro Only.**

June 17-24

Sports Illustrated Court Club,
Belleville, Michigan (Detroit),
National Championships.

Colgate, Seamco, Leach Sponsor N.R.C.'s Pro Racquetball Tour

Colgate-Palmolive, the well known national firm that specializes in sports promotion, is the newest member of the National Racquetball Club's sponsorship group on the pro tour. Colgate joins Seamco Sporting Goods, in their fourth year, and Leach Industries, in their third season.

The aid given by these firms, in prize money, promotional dollars and consultation, has elevated the pro tour to its current status of a for-real, nation-wide sporting event.

Together these three firms have donated over \$250,000 in prize money, publicity funds, and promotional dollars to keep the pro tour on its annual upward spiral. It is due to this support that the N.R.C.'s tour continues to be one of the world's most exciting professional events.

Colgate has involved themselves in sports promotion seriously in recent years including major golf and tennis events.

"I think racquetball is the next big sport for this nation," said Colgate president David Foster. *"We are pleased to be able to support this young and dynamic sport."*

Seamco and Leach are old friends to the N.R.C.'s pro tour and have each donated over a quarter of a million dollars in prize money, souvenir shirts, racquetballs and other promotional items during the past few years.

Seamco is the largest manufacturer of racquetballs and Leach is the nation's number one racquet manufacturer. Together with Colgate-Palmolive, these three generous firms make up a strong, aggressive sponsorship trio of which racquetball can be proud.

The fact that these firms have been willing to invest part of their profits back into the development of our sport is indicative of people and businessmen who run these companies.

Al Mackie, president of Seamco, Charlie Drake, president of Leach, and David Foster, president of Colgate-Palmolive have done yeomans service to racquetball.

Often these people or their representatives are on hand at the pro tour stops. We invite you to say hello and discuss racquetball with them.

Souvenir Program Staff

Publisher • Robert W. Kendler
Editor • Chuck Leve
Business Manager • Joe Ardito
Director of Design • Milt Presler



ISN'T IT TIME YOU TURNED PRO?

With Saranac's R-70 PRO

Look for Saranac's PRO emblem on our famous racquetball glove acclaimed nationwide as the finest . . . "the choice of the pros!"

The PRO is crafted from Saranac's own native deerskin . . . hand selected to be naturally light and tacky. Designed with a snug-fitting elastic and fully adjustable Velcro closure, the glove offers extra comfort and a feel of confidence.



SARANAC GLOVE COMPANY

P.O. BOX 786 GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN 54305

PHONE: 414 / 435-3737

NOT ALL RACQUETBALLS ARE CREATED EQUAL.



Some are rounder than others. At Seamco, we inject superheated rubber into our molds. This gives us a uniform wall inside. And a roundness outside that nobody in the industry can match.

Technically, our racquetballs are within

seventeen one-thousandths of perfect roundness. Our next closest competitor is "out of round" more than twice that figure.

Calibrations aside, we give you a truer bounce where it counts.

Off the wall.

SEAMCO RACQUETBALLS
The official ball since the game began.

10 REASONS WHY OTHER PANELS SHOULD BE THROWN OUT OF COURT

1. One piece seamless panels up to 10' x 40'—but it is also available in any size such as 4' x 4', 4' x 8', 5' x 10', 5' x 20' and 10' x 20'
2. Outstanding strength-to-weight ratio
3. Tough, attractive Tedlar* surface requires no paint or other finish and does not peel
4. Consistent playing surface
5. Resists ball marks
6. Will not chip or crack when hit with a racquet
7. Will not shrink, warp or delaminate
8. Zero water absorption, non-sweating
9. Easy to handle and work with can be erected in any weather
10. Virtually maintenance-free and easy to clean

Exclusive and official panel of the United States Racquetball Association

NEW! NEW! NEW!

A complete unitized court construction system using Xentex panels is available through Devoe Systems, 800 Eastern Ave., Carlstadt, N.J. 07072, Tel:(201)935-2300. Call or write today.



What makes XENTEX so tough to beat?

Xentex, a product of Exxon research, is a highly structured composite thermosetting plastic reinforced with glass fibers. It combines the durability and toughness of a thermosetting plastic resin with the strength of glass fiber. Xentex is now being widely used in truck and trailer bodies, clean rooms, agricultural buildings, swimming pools, noise enclosures, partitions and walls.

Find out more about this ideal court construction material. Write or call today for more information including a sample.

XENTEX®

XENTEX COMPANY
DIVISION OF EXXON ENTERPRISES, INC.
23 INDUSTRIAL ROAD, LONDONDERRY,
NEW HAMPSHIRE 03053 (603) 669-9835

The National Racquetball Club

The National Racquetball Club (N.R.C.) actually preceeded the U.S.R.A., although they were both formed in 1973. The N.R.C. is the governing body of professional racquetball, and limits its efforts within this framework.

The best known function of the N.R.C. is to organize the yearly professional tour, that series of for-prize money events, usually one or two a month from September through June.

That tour, which began in the fall of 1973 with no sponsor and a total of \$20,000 in prize money, now boasts three major sponsors, over \$150,000 in prize money, and 12 events a season.

The N.R.C. began pro racquetball back in '73 because the organization's president, Bob Kendler, saw the need for professional promotion of racquetball. Kendler felt that if racquetball was to ever become the big time sport that he felt it could, a pro tour was of the utmost importance.

Since its inception, the N.R.C. through its sponsors, has given away over \$400,000 in prizes. Many of the players who were a part of the original pro tour have "graduated" to other age categories, making room for today's young stars.

One of the N.R.C.'s major goals, and one that could see its realization this season, is television coverage for one or more of the pro tour stops. The N.R.C. is constantly in communication with the major networks, as well as local outlets probing the media world in its efforts to see racquetball covered on television.

For each of the past two years, the N.R.C.'s National Championships have been carried over Cable TV. As the sport grows and with it our national audience, we draw closer to that day when we can sit in our living rooms and watch the best competition that racquetball has to offer.

The N.R.C.'s pro tour schedules its events geographically, for one, making at least one stop in every general area of the nation. Another consideration is which areas are racquetball "hotbeds" as we seek to bring the best of the sport to those who have developed an appreciation for it.

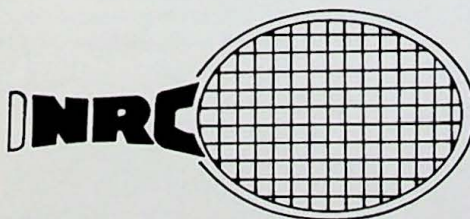
Host facilities on the pro tour put in months of preparation to see that their stop is well attended, hospitable and promoted to bring the gospel of racquetball to as many as possible.

Annually, facilities from all over the nation, bid on the tour stops with only the best clubs in the most desirable areas being chosen as tour stop hosts.

The N.R.C. shares the pages of *National Racquetball* magazine with the U.S.R.A. to keep racquetballers of all ages and persuasions abreast of the latest developments within the sport. Each tour stop is covered in detail, with current rankings and money winnings listed.

Although the pro tour is highlighted by the professionals, the tournaments are open to any player who desires to try his game against the best. Such players go through a qualification event prior to the tournament, and those who reach the pro level can match their shots, on the court, with the tops in the game.

For more information on the N.R.C., contact their national headquarters at 4101 Dempster Street, Skokie, Illinois 60076 or call (312) 673-4000.



WELCOME...



From the President, Abraham Shames

As President of the Health 'n Sports Club & Spa, the Host Club for *The Colgate Men & Women's Racquetball Tournament*, here in Westbury, I, along with Mr. Anthony Boccaccio, welcome you to our evergrowing family of racquetball participants and enthusiasts. I use the term "family" specifically, because, truly, that's exactly what we are. We join here as a family; we play here as a family; we build our bodies *and* minds here as a family. One has only to look at our child care center with its "mini-court" for informal play to learn racquetball, paddleball and handball skills. In this center, while we serve the youngest segment of our family unit, it is nevertheless an important and growing part of that unit. That's how we think; that's our philosophy, here; and that's the environment in which we sincerely host this most prestigious racquetball tournament!

Our health and sports club is a new industry on Long Island. It began here in Westbury with the cooperation and good will of the officials of the Town of Hempstead and will continue to grow as an integral part of our community. This present tournament brings us even

closer together as we share the joys of participation and viewing not only with the pros, themselves, but with the very fine sponsors of this tournament, the Seamco Sporting Goods Company and Leach Industries. And of course, as always, we enjoy the administrative help, counseling and brotherhood of the United States Racquetball Association and the National Racquetball Club.

We, the Health 'n Sports Club & Spa, as your hosts, welcome you with all the warmth of good times and good sportsmanship on these tournament days. Our professional staff, under the leadership of "Tony" Boccaccio, join in this welcome; Frank Dolan, Al Liberty, Phyllis Slater, Linda Ricci, Jackie Schwarze, Ruby Edwards, Ellen Logatto, Jeanne Rabinowitz, Wayne Barrentine, Ken Spero, Mary Fennechol, Barry Shames and Roger Kaufold. Mrs. Eileen Faye, private secretary to Mr. Shames and our bookkeeping staff Arlene Saleec and Lillian Weissman. These are the people of our club who stand ready to serve you. They are all part of our family. And now, you are too! Welcome.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Abraham Shames'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

Health 'n Sports Inc.
President



(Above) The women's staff at Health 'n Sports Club prepare for the tournament while (below) the club's control desk begins monitoring calls and requests about the tournament.

(Above) Happy with the prospects of hosting the Colgate Men's and Women's Pro tour are club president Abe Shames (l.) and manager Tony Boccaccio.



OFFICE OF THE
PRESIDING SUPERVISOR
TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD
TOWN HALL, HEMPSTEAD, N. Y. 11550

FRANCIS T. PURCELL
PRESIDING SUPERVISOR

September 19, 1977

Health Sports, Incorporated
1020 Old Country Road
Westbury, New York 11590

Attention: Mr. Abraham Shames

Gentlemen:

We are pleased to hear that you are hosting the Colgate Pro Am Racquet Ball Tour at your sports center, and want to congratulate you and the Colgate-Palmolive people for sponsoring this tournament.

It has been brought to my attention that this is one of the fastest growing games in the country, and we are pleased that this tournament will be held in the Town of Hempstead, and fittingly being dedicated to a great sportsman, Mr. George Morton Levy.

Best wishes for a very successful tournament.

Sincerely,

Francis T. Purcell
Presiding Supervisor

FTP:jt



Health 'n Sports Club & Spa

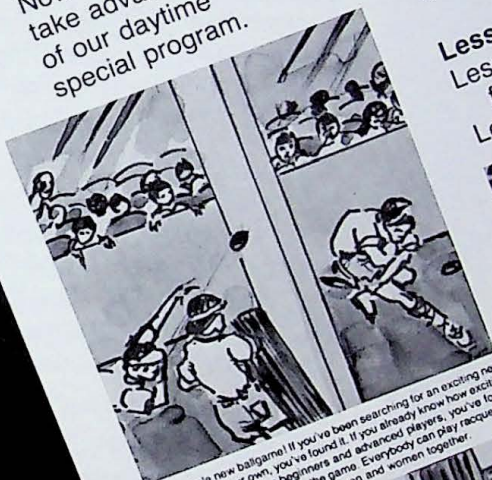
\$85.00 yearly membership
fee until Oct. 1.

LADIES

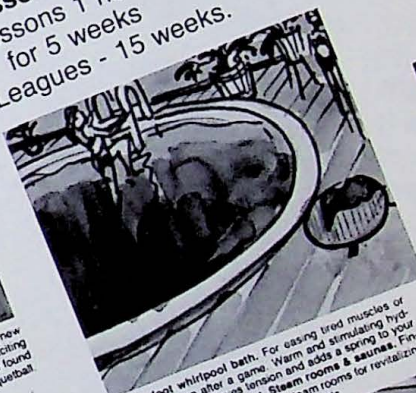
Now is the time to
take advantage
of our daytime
special program.

9 AM - 3 PM
Lessons and Leagues
Lessons 1 hour/week,
for 5 weeks
Leagues - 15 weeks.

COST OF LESSON IS
CREDITED TOWARDS
MEMBERSHIP FEE
UPON JOINING CLUB.
Please mention this Ad!



It's a whole new ballgame! If you've been searching for an exciting new game to call your own, you've found it. If you already know how exciting racquetball can be for beginners and advanced players, you've found the newest "in place" to play the game. Everybody can play racquetball. It's for men, for women, and for men and women together.



16-foot whirlpool bath. For easing tired muscles or freshening up after a game. Warm and stimulating hydro-massage relieves tension and adds a spring to your step on or off the court. Steam rooms & saunas. Finnish reduced sauna. Tiled steam rooms for revitalizing wet heat that melts off extra pounds.



Social lounge & library. Relax and meet your friends and fellow players in this spacious, designed lounge and library. Aging service here and thruout the club and spa.



Warmup rooms. Featuring modern equipment for your individual use, including jogging machines, wall pulleys, Roman board for sit-ups, ballet bar.

Now you can play America's
fastest growing sport...
RACQUETBALL!



Child care center with mini court. Child care services fully supervised to provide educational games and free play area. Mini court for informal court play to learn racquetball, paddleball, and handball skills.

Health 'n Sports Club & Spa

1020 Old Country Rd., Westbury
(Just west of Fortunoffs)
(516) 997-8500
or write for application.

The fun way
to fitness for
men & women!
A first for
Long Island!
Now day
& evening...
Indoor...
ALL YEAR

People You Should Know



Robert W. Kendler

Bob Kendler is president of both the United States Racquetball Association and National Racquetball Club. The founder of both organizations, Kendler is the one person who has been most responsible for the tremendous growth and improvement of racquetball.

A 73-year-old, Multi-millionaire, Chicago area real estate developer, Kendler began his court career before racquetball was ever imagined.

It was Kendler who formed the United States Handball Association in 1951, taking the national jurisdiction away from the Amateur Athletic Union and putting it in the hands of players.

The key issue then was antiquated amateur rules, and from that issue Kendler built a strong, national organization in racquetball's predecessor, handball. The U.S.H.A. publishes *Handball* magazine, the true bible of that sport.

When racquetball began its

initial movements Kendler was among the first to recognize the potential of this young sport. He formed the first racquetball association in 1968 and later formed the U.S.R.A. and N.R.C.

Due to his firm belief in health and well being for all people, Kendler paved the way for original racquetballers to exist harmoniously with handballers, by encouraging the usage of courts by both groups.

Using his real estate and building companies as pertinent background, Kendler and the U.S.R.A. have aided hundreds of court club developers with expert advice on the details of the racquetball/handball business.

A strong leader, Kendler has always maintained that the road to a strong Association is through fiscal propriety. He runs the U.S.R.A. and N.R.C. with one eye on finances and both eyes on principle.

"The key to our organizations," he says, "is to know what the right thing to do is, and then make sure we have the money to do it."

With a vigor that belies his age, you'll still find Kendler on the court three times a week.

Chuck Leve

The National Director of both the N.R.C. and U.S.R.A. is 29-year-old Chuck Leve, a 1970 journalism graduate from the University of Miami (Fla.). Leve joined Kendler's organization in 1970, four days out of college and has been there ever since.

Leve's two main responsibilities are the editing of *National Racquetball*, and the organization of the professional



tour each season. He works closely with each host club, coordinating the preparation work at each stop.

Leve has been the only editor of *National Racquetball* since that publication's first issue back in September of 1973. That magazine has grown from a 24 page near-pamphlet to current editions of 150 pages and more.

The growing size of *National Racquetball*, plus increased advertising and subscriptions led Leve to recommend that this publication become monthly which it will beginning January, 1978.

As for the pro tour, it is Leve who sets the dates of each stop, the tournament format, and does the entire ranking and seeding for each event.

In addition to all that, he is the tour's chief referee, calling almost all of the quarter, semi, and final round matches along with Terry Fancher.

Leve has been an innovator in racquetball, - constantly coming up with new ideas attempting to improve the game at each step. The 11-point tie-breaker was his idea, as were the abandonment of the three bounce rule, and clarification of the 10 second rule. Linesmen first became an integral part of pro matches under Leve's leadership.

Joe Ardito

The Business Manager of the N.R.C. and National Commissioner of the U.S.R.A. is the likeable Joe Ardito. Known by the players as "Papa Joe," Ardito is the man who hands out the checks after each money match.

An experienced tournament person in the highest degree, Ardito began his work in handball over 20 years ago and "graduated" to racquetball with the inception of the N.R.C. in 1973.

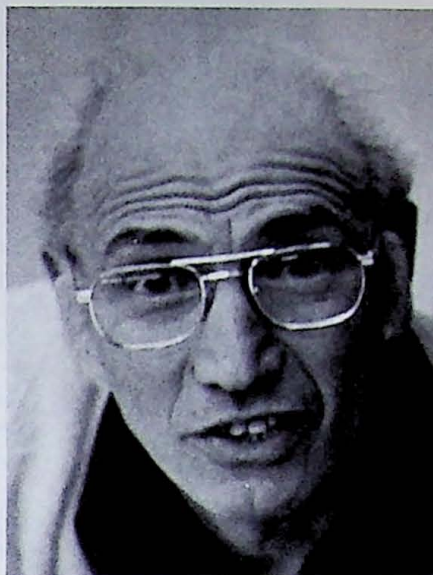
One of Joe's most important roles is the coordination of N.R.C./U.S.R.A. relationships with the manufacturers within racquetball. He is the Association's liaison between the various suppliers of all products within the industry.

An off-shoot of that is his responsibility to coordinate all advertising in *National Racquetball*. It is Ardito who works with advertisers and their agencies, ensuring that each is given the necessary attention.

With all that said and done, however, the "real" Joe Ardito comes out annually at "his" tournament, the U.S.R.A.'s National Junior Championships. Kids have always been Joe's first love, and this tournament, probably the highlight of the U.S.R.A.'s tournament season, is Ardito's "baby."

The pros know Ardito as a fair and firm enforcer of N.R.C. rules and policies. The kids know Ardito as a fair and firm enforcer of discipline and behavior both on and off the court.

We know him as the guy who works behind the scenes to make sure that the job gets done in racquetball.



Terry Fancher

When it comes to organizational ability, it would be hard to top Terry Fancher, the U.S.R.A.'s National Coordinator. Terry's first responsibility upon joining the U.S.R.A. in 1976 was to organize affiliates in the various states on behalf of U.S.R.A.

It took just over a year, but Fancher's never-say-die attitude brought in 46 affiliates by September, 1977. The job entailed contacting individuals

or organizations who desired to work with the U.S.R.A. to further promote racquetball in their areas.

A top 20 pro player himself, Fancher is a regular contributor to *National Racquetball* magazine in the instructional section, as well as coordinating the state affiliate section within the publication.

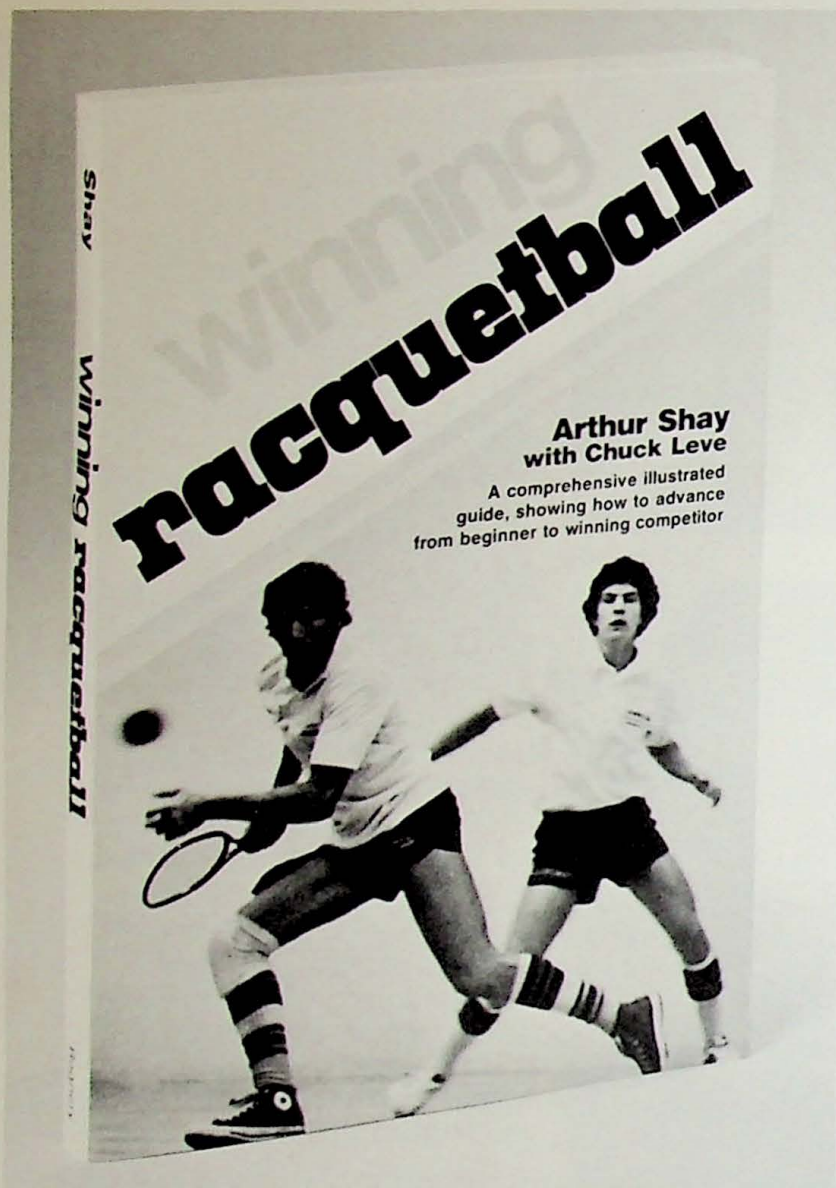
A racquetball fanatic from way back, Fancher first came to the U.S.R.A.'s attention in 1975 when he submitted his masters thesis (University of Wisconsin) on the history of racquetball to *National Racquetball*. That thesis has since been published by the U.S.R.A. and is available in pamphlet form.

Terry has incorporated his playing abilities and ideal understanding of the game to make himself one of the game's best referees. He, along with Chuck Leve, will usually call all matches from the quarters on.

It was at Terry's urging that the U.S.R.A. was able to provide free balls, shirts and other tournament materials to sanctioned tournaments throughout the country, a policy that still stands. Terry continues to work with all state affiliates, keeping his eyes open for trends and ideas, as well as making sure that each state receives their subscription funds each month.

A solid addition to the U.S.R.A. staff, check with Terry Fancher if you have any ideas concerning further promotion of racquetball in your area.

winning racquetball



Foreword by Robert W. Kendler, President, United States Racquetball Association

Arthur Shay with Chuck Leve

Winning Racquetball is intended for beginning players seeking shortcuts to racquetball competence as well as those who have achieved the competence required to enter local club tournaments and last at least a round or two.

Building on the basics, Shay and Leve cover such areas as the mental attitudes required to win tournaments; how to get into supershape for racquetball; how to use your limitations (fatigue, for example) as advantages; and how to play against someone who is trying to out-psych you. There are winning suggestions for every department of play.

Proven racquetball winners, such as Steve Keeley, Steve Serot, Sue Carow, Kathy Williams, Charlie Brumfield, Bill Schmidtke, Ron Rubenstein, and racquetball's 19-year-old superstar Marty Hogan, are photographed in action and quoted throughout to illustrate the points made in the text.

Winning Racquetball will lead the racquetball enthusiast to the level of competence and beyond into tournament excellence.

Arthur Shay is a former *Life* and *Time* writer and *Sports Illustrated* photographer. He is the author-photographer of thirty-one books. Chuck Leve is the author of *Inside Racquetball* and the National Director and editor of *National Racquetball* magazine, the official publication of the United States Racquetball Association and the National Racquetball Club, Inc.

Please send me _____ copy(ies) of WINNING RACQUETBALL at \$4.95 each plus 50¢ postage and handling for each book ordered. Illinois residents kindly add 5% sales tax; California residents please add 6% sales tax. NO CASH OR C.O.D.'s accepted—please send check.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Henry Regnery Company Publishers 180 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60601

Rankings and Earnings

Current Official Men's Rankings

1. Marty Hogan, St. Louis
2. Davey Bledsoe, Kingsport, Tenn.
3. Charlie Brumfield, San Diego
4. Jerry Hilecher, St. Louis
5. Craig McCoy, Riverside, Cal.
6. Steve Serot, San Diego
7. Mark Morrow, Los Angeles
8. Richard Wagner, San Diego
9. Steve Strandemo, San Diego
10. Ben Koltun, St. Louis
11. Steve Keeley, Lansing Mich.
12. Jay Jones, Los Angeles
13. Mike Yellen, Detroit
14. Paul Ikier, Minneapolis
15. (tie) Steve Chase, Phoenix
David Fleetwood, Memphis
17. John Lynch, Chicago
18. Jeff Bowman, San Diego
19. Bill Schmidtke, Minneapolis
20. Randy Stafford, Memphis

Current Official Women's Rankings

1. Shannon Wright, San Diego
2. Peggy Steding, Odessa, Tex.
3. (tie) Janell Marriott, Salt Lake City
Jennifer Harding, Portland, Ore.
5. Sarah Green, Memphis
6. Kathy Williams, Hazel Park, Mich.
7. Karin Walton, Oceanside, Cal.
8. Jean Sauser, Northbrook, Ill.
9. Martha Byrd, Gainesville, Fla.
10. Rita Hoff, St. Louis
11. Jan Campbell, San Diego
12. Pat Schmidt, Milwaukee
13. Sue Carow, Glenview, Ill.
14. Jamie Abbott, Great Falls, Mont.
15. Jan Pasternak, Houston

All Time Career Earnings Men

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Marty Hogan, St. Louis | \$33,190 |
| 2. Charlie Brumfield, San Diego | 30,100 |
| 3. Steve Serot, St. Louis | 17,350 |
| 4. Steve Keeley, Lansing, Mich. | 16,200 |
| 5. Steve Strandemo, San Diego | 15,110 |
| 6. Davey Bledsoe, Kingsport, Tenn. | 14,000 |
| 7. Jerry Hilecher, St. Louis | 11,470 |
| 8. Richard Wagner, San Diego | 9,765 |
| 9. Craig McCoy, Riverside, Cal. | 7,805 |
| 10. Bill Schmidtke, Minneapolis | 6,256 |
| 11. Mike Zeitmen, Memphis | 5,125 |
| 12. Ben Koltun, St. Louis | 2,925 |
| 13. Ron Rubenstein, Chicago | 2,885 |
| 14. Jay Jones, Los Angeles | 2,525 |
| 15. Ron Strom, Minneapolis | 2,080 |

All Time Career Earnings Women

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Peggy Steding, Odessa, Tex. | \$11,400 | 5. Jennifer Harding, Portland, Ore. | 1,850 |
| 2. Shannon Wright, San Diego | 9,050 | 7. Sue Carow, Glenview, Ill. | 1,825 |
| 3. Kathy Williams, Hazel Park, Mich. | 4,125 | 8. Sarah Green, Memphis | 1,400 |
| 4. Janell Marriott, Salt Lake City | 3,900 | 9. Jan Campbell, San Diego | 950 |
| 5. Jean Sauser, Northbrook, Ill. | 1,850 | 10. Jan Pasternak, Houston | 650 |



Marty Hogan

Date of Birth: 1-22-58

Home Town:

St. Louis, Missouri

Year on Tour: Third

Handedness: Right

Racquet: Leach

Career Earnings: \$29,190

Career Pro Victories: 11

1975-76 (2):

Vermont-October;

Milwaukee-February

1976-77 (9):

Edmonton-September;

Vermont-October;

Ft. Lauderdale-December;

Las Vegas-January;

Houston-February;

Denver-March;

Chattanooga-March;

Southfield-April;

Lombard-April;

Prize Money 1976-77: \$22,000

Game Style: Power; Serve and Shoot. Watch for power drive serves to both sides; He's the game's hardest hitter; Will go for the kill shot at any point on the court, with either forehand, backhand or overhead. Good anticipation, not afraid to dive. Note he gives plenty of room to opponent. Emotional on the court, doesn't mind mixing it up with referee, fans. Can actually mis-hit a ball for a winner due to velocity. He's the man to beat in any tournament. No lead is safe against him.

Davey Bledsoe

Date of Birth: 3-7-51

Home Town:

Kingsport, Tennessee

Year on Tour: Fourth

Handedness: Right

Racquet: Wilson

Career Earnings: \$13,500

Career Pro Victories: 2

1976-77 (2):

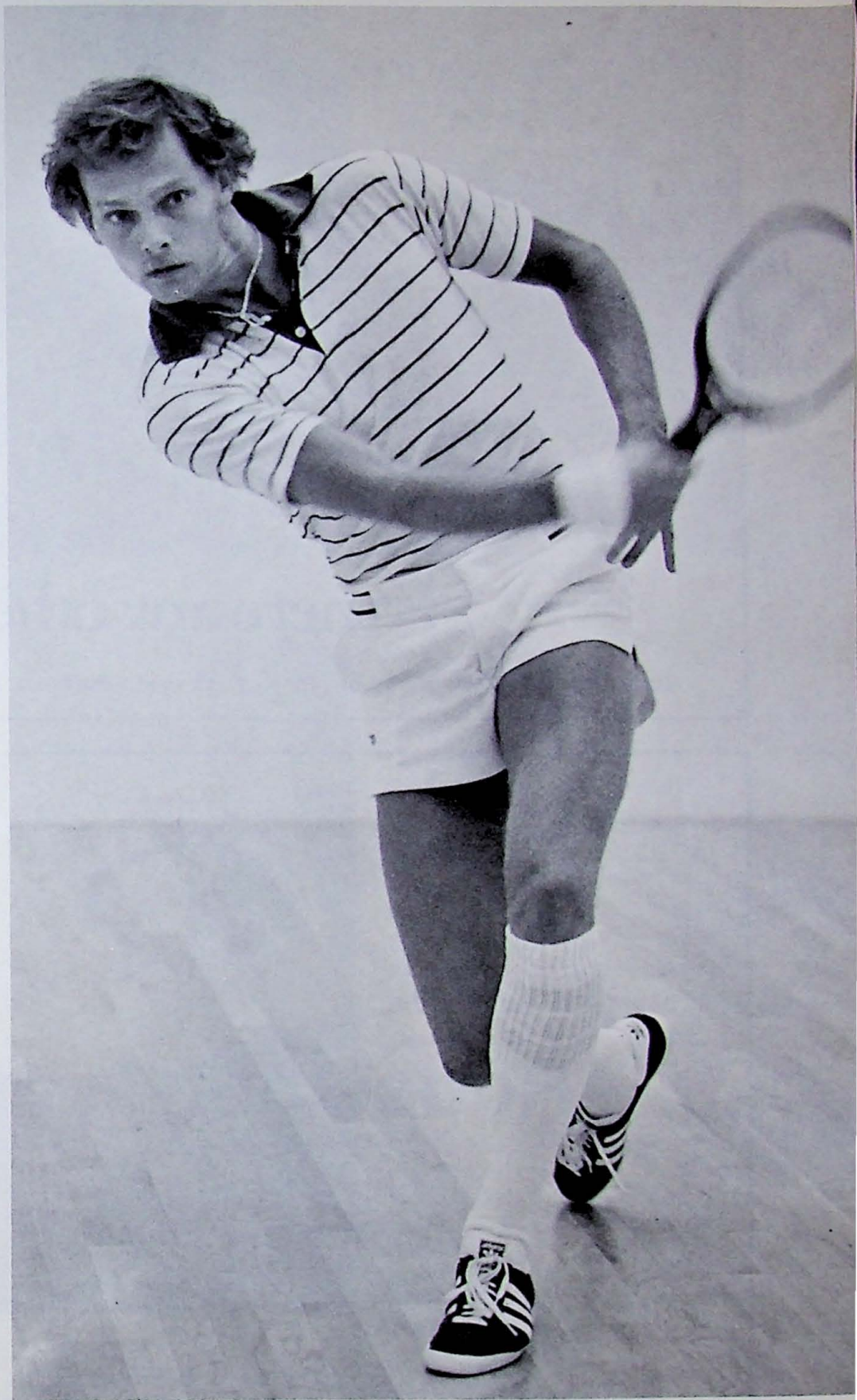
Newport Beach-May;

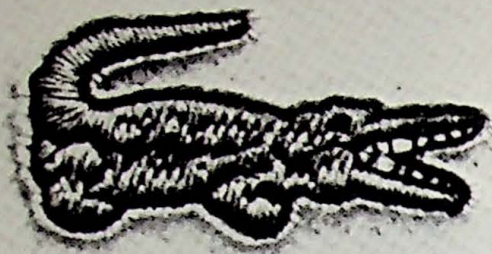
San Diego-June

(National Championships)

Prize Money 1976-77: \$10,175

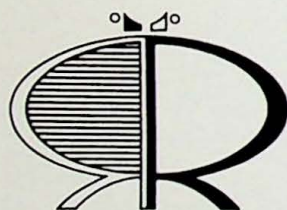
Game Style: Power; Serve and Shoot. Will generally use drive serve to both sides, mixed with hard Z-serves to the backhand; Power second only to Hogan. Speed and court coverage best in the game. Front court game can't be beat. Pet shot forehand right corner kills. Plays well under pressure. Will take seemingly low percentage, deep court kill attempts. Plays strictly offense. Was surprise winner of '77 Nationals.





Is there any other?

Izod, Haymaker, David Crystal, Izod j.g., Crystal Sunflowers. At fine stores and pro shops.



Roosevelt Raceway

**Welcomes
The Pro - Am Tour**

and

Extends All Best Wishes
To Health 'n Sports Club & Spa
For a Successful Tournament



Charlie Brumfield

Date of Birth: 6-9-48

Home Town:
San Diego, California

Year on Tour: Fifth

Handedness: Right

Racquet: Leach

Career Earnings: \$28,100

Career Pro Victories: 9

1973-74 (1):

Milwaukee-March

1974-75 (3):

Lansing-February;

Milwaukee-March;

Las Vegas-April

(National Championships)

1975-76 (5):

Denver-September;

Tucson-December;

Aurora/January;

Peoria-May;

San Diego-June

(National Championships)

Prize Money 1976-77: \$6,725

Game Style: Control. Not as hard a hitter as some, but still has the ability. Watch for medium speed drive serves with plenty of Z's. Will try and force ceiling ball rally. Likes to drive the ball cross court. Great rapport with fans, tries to get them involved. Can out-think anybody on the court. Still and always a player to watch.



Jerry Hilecher

Date of Birth: 7-20-54

Home Town:

St. Louis, Missouri

Year on Tour: Fifth

Handedness: Right

Racquet: Ektelon

Career Earnings: \$10,470

Career Pro Victories: 1

1976-77 (1):

Sacramento-September

Prize Money 1976-77: \$6,800

Game Style: Serve and Shoot.

One of the hardest hitters with a booming drive serve, his biggest asset. Will hit hard, drives to both sides, looking for aces or weak returns. Likes to shoot his forehand during the rally, uses the backhand for ceiling defense. Can handcuff opponent if serve is on. Not afraid to dive and does it well. Is tough in any tournament.



Richard Wagner

Date of Birth: 2-11-56

Home Town:

San Diego, California

Year on Tour: Fourth

Handedness: Right

Racquet: Leach

Career Earnings: \$9,765

Career Pro Victories: 1

1975-76 (1):

Buffalo-March

Prize Money 1976-77: \$4,975

Game Style: Primarily serve and shoot, with a hedge toward control. Doesn't have the big serve like most shooters, but kills off the back wall as well as any. Backhand tends to be more consistent than forehand. Runs with speed and quickness second only to Bledsoe. Matches well against control players, has trouble with big hitters. Watch for forehand right corner kills and straight-in backhand kills.



Craig McCoy

Date of Birth: 2-20-57

Home Town:

Riverside, California

Year on Tour: Fourth

Handedness: Left

Racquet: Leach

Career Earnings: \$7,305

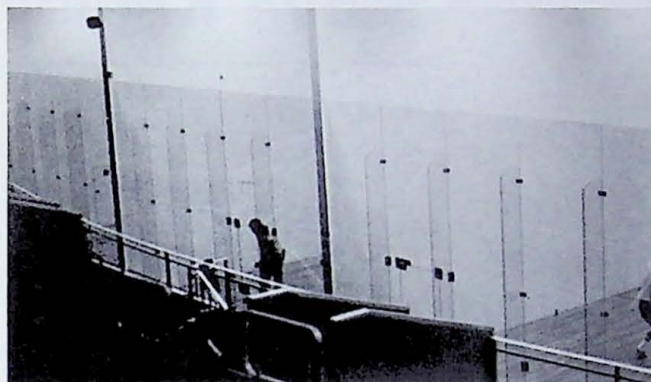
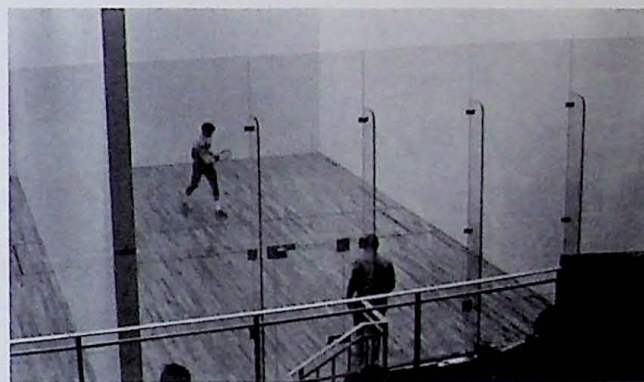
Career Pro Victories: None

Prize Money 1976-77: \$5,125

Game Style: Power. Serve and Shoot. Likes to hit the hard Z serve to both sides, has super Z to the forehand. Will mix in drives down either line. Fluid strokes make him look slower than he is. Can power near the top when he wants. One of the best tie-breaker players on tour. Needs that big win to be consistent semi-finalist. Can get hot, especially with forehand, left corner kills.

Rear & Side Wall Glass Systems

With Glass Support Stabilizers For Excellent Play
Total Visibility & Complete Safety.



DurasaFe Glass Walls • Ellis Pearson Glass Systems

**Distributed & Installed
Throughout North America**

by

W & W PRODUCTS INT'L., INC.
WALLS WINDOWS

100 AIRPORT EXECUTIVE PARK • SPRING VALLEY, N.Y. 10977
RONALD J. HABER, PRES. (914) 425-2777



Steve Serot

Date of Birth: 2-13-56

Home Town:

St. Louis, Missouri

Year on Tour: Fifth

Handedness: Left

Racquet: Leach

Career Earnings: \$16,350

Career Pro Victories: 4

1973-74 (2):

Houston-September;

Chicago-April

1974-75 (2):

Vancouver-November;

Aurora-January

Prize Money 1976-77: \$2,300

Game Style: Serve and Shoot. Although classified as a shooter, he doesn't have the offensive serve that most shooters do. Greatest retriever in the game, by far best diver. Tends to get banged up due to amount of time spent on floor. Can shoot from anywhere on the court. Regained confidence would be big help. Still a gallery favorite.



Steve Strandemo

Date of Birth: 3-4-48

Home Town:

San Diego, California

Year on Tour: Fifth

Handedness: Right

Racquet: Ektelon

Carer Earnings: \$14,860

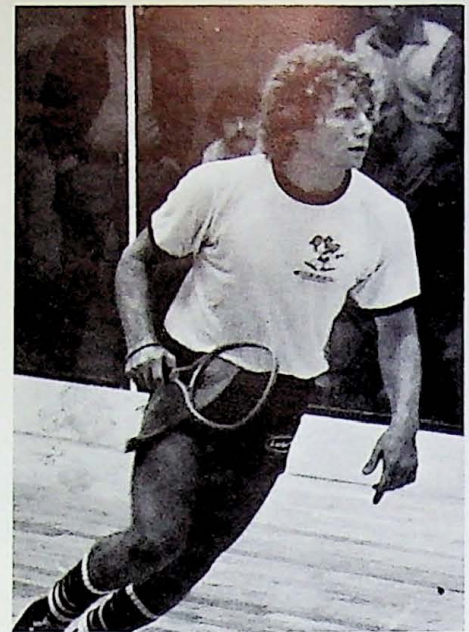
Career Pro Victories: 1

1974-75 (1):

Sunnyvale-January

Prize Money 1976-77: \$4,625

Game Style: Control. Plays the percentage game, uses steady Z serves to force ceiling rally. Likes to stay upstairs and take percentage shots. Tends to play closer than most. Will shoot his backhand off ceiling balls. Good retriever. Has history of good early seasons. In top physical condition. Outstanding student of the game.



Steve Keeley

Date of Birth: 2-8-49

Home Town:

Lansing, Michigan

Year on Tour: Fifth

Handedness: Right

Racquet: Leach

Career Earnings: \$15,950

Career Pro Victories: 3

1973-74 (1):

Long Beach-October

1974-75 (2):

Oceanside-September;

Livonia-December

Prize Money 1976-77: \$2,875

Game Style: Control. Another percentage player from the old school, Keeley does not have the power of most of the players ranked above him. Still has picture-book strokes, superb concentration, and great eye contact. Can shoot well when he wants to. Good retriever, heady player. Best shots are forehand right corner kill and backhand left corner kill. Watch for garbage and Z serves, even some backhand lobs. Will also hit around-the-wall balls to supplant ceilings.

Best Of Luck From The 175 Fine Stores and Services

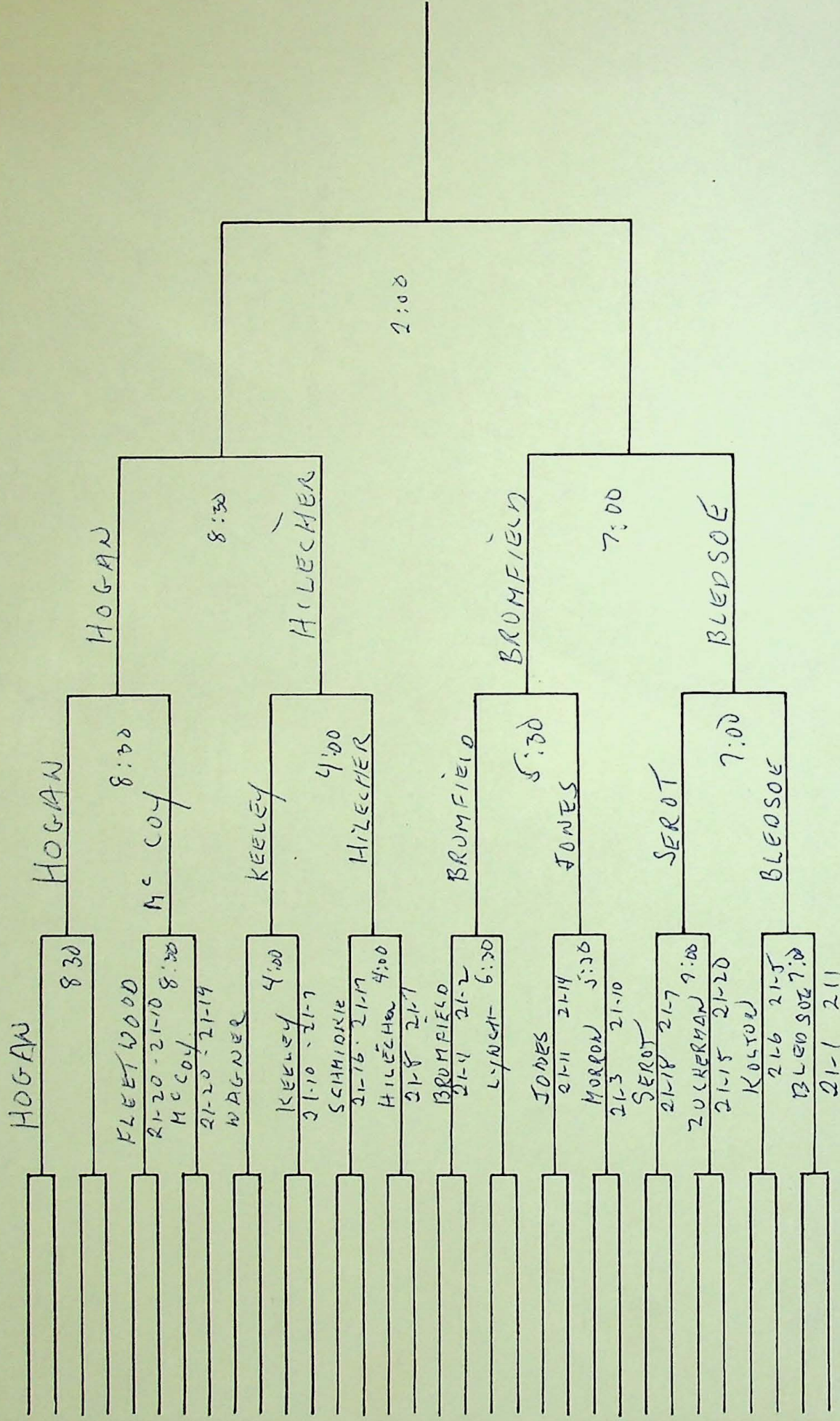
**At Roosevelt Field Mall.
Come On Over And
“Have A Field Day.”**

MEN'S PRO

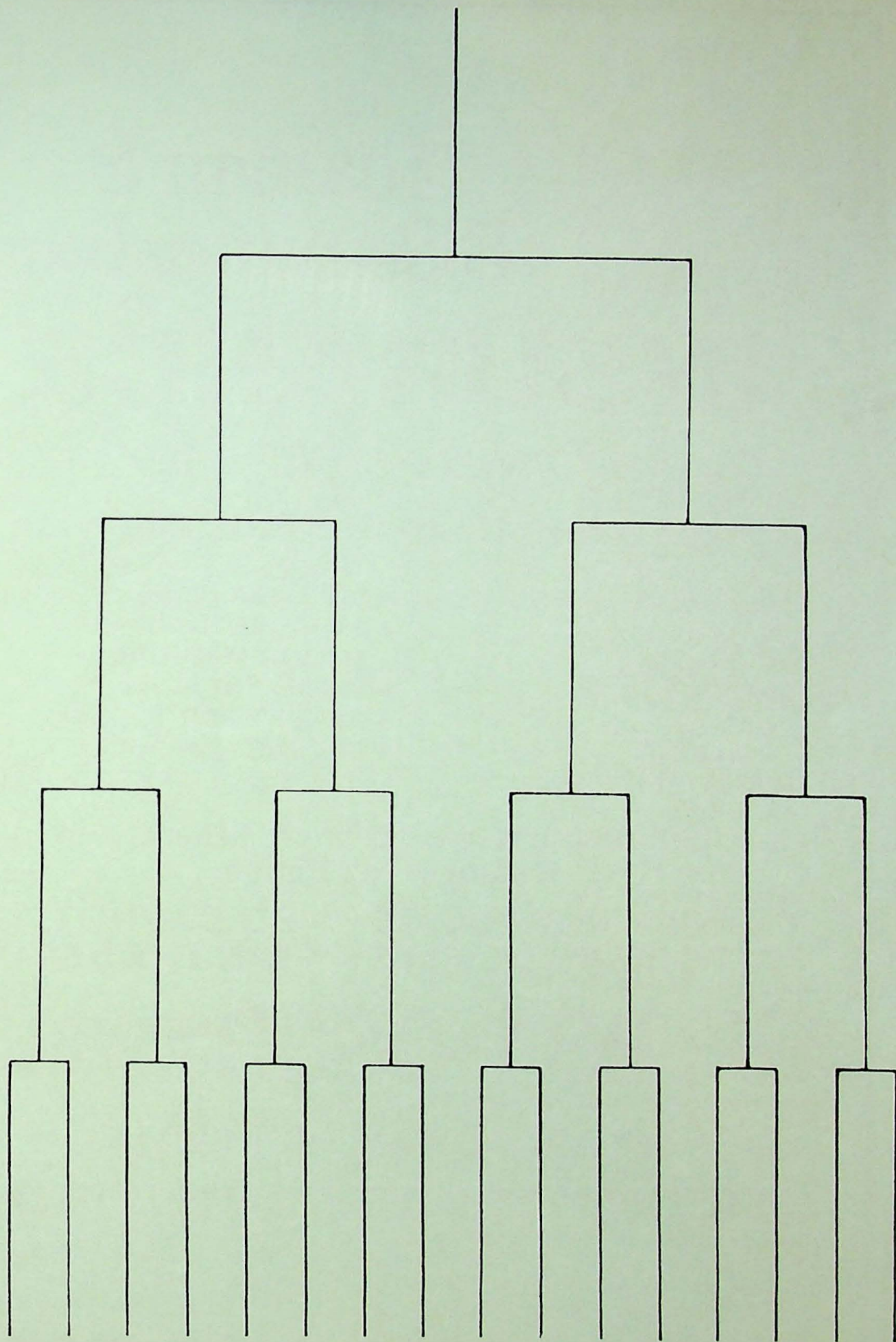
FRI

SAT

SUNDAY



WOMEN'S PRO





Seaman &
Eisemann, Inc.

INSURANCE

OUR BUSINESS SINCE 1889

Professionalism • Stability • Service

- HOMEOWNERS
- FIRE
- LIABILITY
- BURGLARY
- AUTO
- MARINE
- GROUP DENTAL
- LIFE -IRA PLAN
- ACCIDENT
- MAJOR MEDICAL
- GROUP HEALTH
- PENSION PROGRAMS
- EXCESS UMBRELLA -
BUSINESS & PERSONAL

All Forms of Home Owner, Tenant, and
Business Insurance

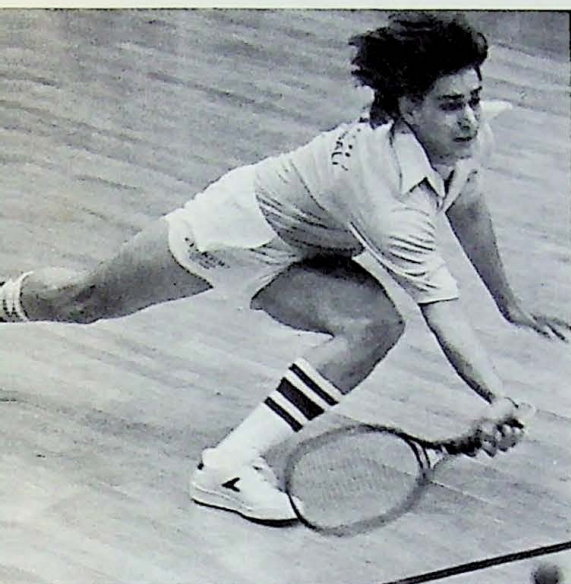
**WITH INSURANCE - YOU CANNOT
AFFORD TO USE LESS THAN THE BEST!**



931-0600 NEW YORK CITY
(212) 658-4992

167 BROADWAY, HICKSVILLE

UNDERWRITERS FOR ALL LINES OF INSURANCE SINCE 1889



Ben Koltun

Date of Birth: 2-3-58

Home Town:

St. Louis, Missouri

Year on Tour: Second

Handedness: Right

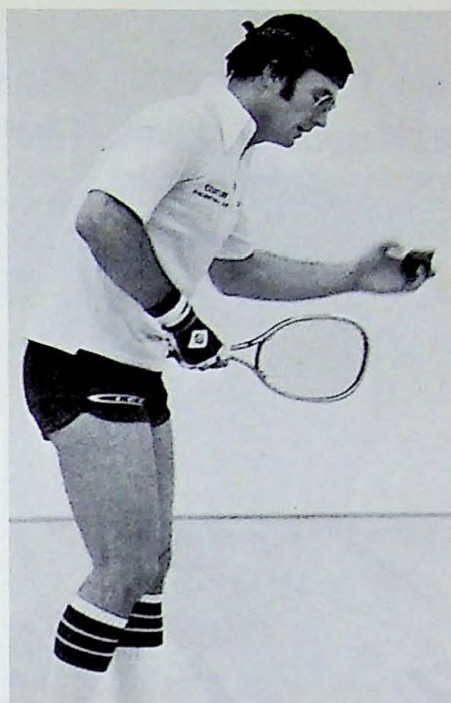
Racquet: Leach

Career Earnings: \$2,425

Career Pro Victories: None
(1975 National Juniors
Champion)

Prize Money 1976-77: \$2,175

Game Style: Serve and Shoot, mixed with control. Likes to go for the ace with drives serves to both sides, especially to the right. Retrieves well, and can shoot the back wall especially well. Lacks the offensive punch of those above him. Has plenty of ability, is smooth hitter. Needs confidence to move up. Plays the power players well.



Jay Jones

Date of Birth: 1-31-43

Home Town:

Los Angeles, California

Year on Tour: Second

Handedness: Right

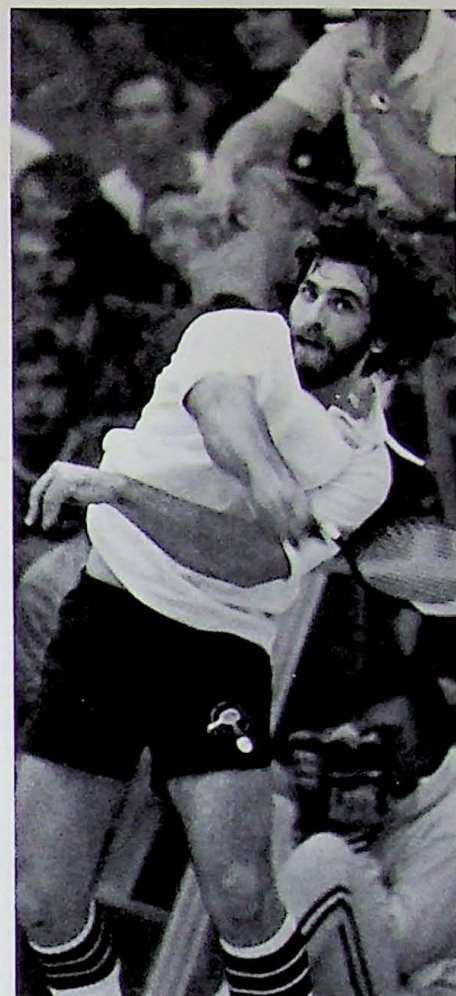
Racquet: Leach

Career Earnings: \$2,275

Career Pro Victories: None

Prize Money 1976-77: \$2,275

Game Style: Combines control with some serve and shoot. Likes to use the hard, drive serves and some Z's. Is offensive with his forehand and defensive with backhand. Likes to shoot forehand off the back wall. Excellent concentration, and knows the percentages. Will play conservative and wait for his shots. In superb shape due to rigors of off-the-court employment (professional stunt man).



Mark Morrow

Date of Birth: 6-21-52

Home Town:

Los Angeles, California

Year on Tour: Second

Handedness: Right

Racquet: Leach

Career Earnings: \$1,500

Career Pro Victories: None

Prize Money 1976-77: \$1,500

Game Style: Power, Serve and Shoot. Strong as a bull, he'll drive the ball both ways on serves, use Z's occasionally. Likes to shoot his forehand, sometimes backhand. Great desire, one of the more vocal players. A year under his belt should aid concentration and consistency.



John Lynch

Date of Birth: 7-4-54

Home Town:

Chicago, Illinois

Year on Tour: Second

Handedness: Right

Racquet: Leach

Career Earnings: \$1,475

Career Pro Victories: None

Prize Money 1976-77: \$1,475

Game Style: Serve and shoot. Makes no bones about it, - he'll live or die by the kill shot. Has ability to hit hot streaks and can be deadly with backhand left corner kills. Hits power drive serves to both sides and doesn't mind hard Z. Stamina has been problem in past. Tough off the back wall.



Mike Yellen

Date of Birth: 2-3-60

Home Town:

Southfield, Michigan

Year on Tour: First

Handedness: Right

Racquet: Ektelon

Career Earnings: \$200

Career Pro Victories: None

Prize Money 1976-77: \$200

Game Style: Control. A rookie who had some early surprises in pro action a year ago. Plays the percentage game, with emphasis on passing, cross court and wide angle. Hits drive and Z serves, varying speeds. Youngest player on tour which could hurt. Needs experience.



Steve Chase

Date of Birth: 8-25-51

Home Town:

Phoenix, Arizona

Year on Tour: Second

Handedness: Right

Racquet: Leach

Career Earnings: \$950

Career Pro Victories: None

Prize Money 1976-77: \$950

Game Style: Control. A year's experience should aid. Plays control, although not afraid to shoot, especially his forehand. Steady game, not prone to mistakes. Lacks the offensive punch to break into top 10. Can be tough when serving well.

Proud to have installed the finest Heating & Air Conditioning System in the Health 'N Sports Racquetball Club.

Featuring - Humidity, Temperature & Central Panel Remote Control for all Courts to insure efficiency under any circumstance.

“Tri-State Area”

**Most reputable Air Conditioning Contractor - 25 Years Experience -
Commercial & Industrial**

“Design - Build”

**Tri-State Heating & Air Conditioning
Milton Solomon • President**



OF JAPAN
Shiro
The Japanese Steak House



THE BEST STEAK THERE IS!

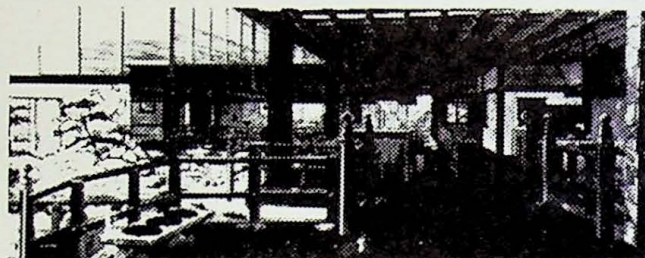
At Shiro we pride ourselves in Serving the Finest to the Finest! That's why every steak you enjoy at Shiro is U.S.D.A. PRIME—the very best grade of meat there is! Maybe that's why our patrons keep coming back. They know that there's more at Shiro than it's beautiful atmosphere!

If Seafood's your fancy...let Shiro tickle it with a mouth-watering array of hibachi-prepared dinners!

"As purveyors of fine meats for 4 generations, we know the juicy, tender, more flavor-filled steaks we supply Shiro to be certified U.S.D.A. Prime."

Raymond Shuman

President,
Manhattan Supply Inc.



OF JAPAN
Shiro

OPPOSITE
HEALTH & SPORTS
CLUB & SPA

401 Old Country Road
(at the Takashimaya Building) Carle Place, New York 11514

call: **(516) 997-4770**

CONTRACTORS

MFMA Associate Member

STAPLES FLOORCRAFT

212 567 7868

Handball • Racquetball
Squash Courts • GYM Floors
Horner STA-LOC Floor System

Representative Installations

UPTOWN RACQUET CLUB
HEALTH 'n SPORTS
PARK AVENUE SQUASH & RACQUET CLUB
SUNY @ Purchase
5 TOWN SPORTS COMPLEX
RICHMOND RACQUETBALL CLUB

Welcome Racquetball Enthusiasts

CitiBank, N.A.
1000 Old Country Rd.
Westbury, N.Y. 11590

Shannon Wright

Date of Birth: 9-11-56

Home Town:

San Diego, California

Year on Tour: Third

Handedness: Right

Racquet: Varies

Career Earnings: \$9,050

Career Pro Victories: 8

1975-76 (1):

Denver-September

1976-77 (7):

Ft. Lauderdale-December;

Houston-February;

Chattanooga-March;

Southfield-April;

Lombard-May;

Newport Beach-May;

San Diego-June

(National Championships)

Prize Money 1976-77: \$7,700

Game Style: The perfect blend of power, serve and shoot and control. Originally a control player, has added strong offensive game, including hard, drive serves both ways, and exceptional Z serves. Will shoot from any position on the court, yet when kill shots are off, can still go to the ceiling. Has fierce determination to win, can cover well. Took over number one spot late in '76-77 season and is the one to beat.





Kathy Williams

Date of Birth: 11-17-47

Home Town:

Hazel Park, Michigan

Year on Tour: Fourth

Handedness: Right

Racquet: Seamco

Career Earnings: \$3,975

Career Pro Victories: 5

1974-75 (4):

Aurora-November;

Livonia-December;

Lansing-February;

Milwaukee-March

1975-76 (1):

Aurora-January

Prize Money 1976-77: \$2,350

Game Style: Offensive, serve and shoot. For Kathy to do well she must have her offensive game going. Look for varying speeds on her drive serves, everything from hard drive to garbage. Superb eye contact and form. Backhand can get hot, especially in left corner. Streak player who rides the momentum. Can shoot from anywhere.



Jennifer Harding

Date of Birth: 7-6-51

Home Town:

Portland, Oregon

Year on Tour: Third

Handedness: Left

Racquet: Ektelon

Career Earnings: \$1,500

Career Pro Victories: None

Prize Money 1976-77: \$1,225

Game Style: Serve and shoot, with good power. One of most improved tour regulars. Will use drive serves to both sides and has learned to shoot well, especially forehand into left corner. Only lefty in top 10, a mild advantage. Good quickness and determination. Can retrieve, but is more effective shooting her forehand.



Jean Sauser

Date of Birth: 9-23-50

Home Town:

Northbrook, Illinois

Year on Tour: Third

Handedness: Right

Racquet:

Career Earnings: \$1,700

Career Pro Victories: None

Prize Money 1976-77: \$1,050

Game Style: Control. Short stroke made for accuracy, not power. Good quickness. Will serve almost anything, including drives, garbage and Z's. Is most comfortable on ceiling, but will shoot forehand. One of the more vocal women players, you'll note an abundance of energy, more than even the match can hold. Constantly fidgeting and talking.

You've either got,
or you haven't got



OLD COUNTRY ROAD
WESTBURY, N. Y. 11590
(516) 741-4500

style.

Headquarters Pro American Racquetball Tournament

...construction specialists in sports
court lining systems . . .

Donaldson Acoustics Co. Inc.

Seaman Avenue
Bethpage, N. Y.
681 - 7136

King Arthur's Restaurant and Lounge

1000 Broadway
Amityville, N.Y.
598-0181

Take Exit 32 South 500'
From The Southern State Pkwy.

Visit Our Sayonara Motor Inn
Across The Street

Owner: Ray Fellman



Jan Campbell

Date of Birth: 7-7-52

Home Town:
San Diego, California

Year on Tour: Fourth

Handedness: Right

Racquet: Ektelon

Career Earnings: \$950

Career Pro Victories: 1
1974-75 (1):
Sunnyvale-January

Prize Money 1976-77: \$450

Game Style: Power, serve and shoot. Another player who uses drive serves extensively, Campbell will go to either side. Can play the ceiling well, and most of her kills will go into the corners. Seems to play better against better competition. Knee problems have limited her appearances, but if healthy she could do well.



Sarah Green

Date of Birth: 1-14-57

Home Town:
Memphis, Tennessee

Year on Tour: Second

Handedness: Right

Racquet: Ektelon

Career Earnings: \$700

Career Pro Victories: None

Prize Money 1976-77: \$700

Game Style: Control. A good rookie season gave her a big boost. Likes to serve Z's to the backhand as well as soft drives. Will shoot her forehand, but plays defense with backhand. Good retriever, but must be more offensive to continue movement up the ladder.



Rita Hoff

Date of Birth: 12-15-50

Home Town:
St. Louis, Missouri

Year on Tour: Second

Handedness: Right

Racquet: Ektelon

Career Earnings: \$375

Career Pro Victories: None

Prize Money 1976-77: \$375

Game Style: Power, serve and shoot. One of the game's strongest players, will use drive serves to both sides, mixed with a few Z's. Power her biggest asset. Is trouble for control players, but lacks the control herself to stop other hard hitters. Had impressive rookie season.



Sue Carow

Date of Birth: 4-28-37

Home Town:

Glenview, Illinois

Year on Tour: Fourth

Handedness: Right

Racquet: Leach

Career Earnings: \$1,825

Career Pro Victories: None

Prize Money 1976-77: \$725

Game Style: Control. Relies mainly on control. Not a hard hitter, uses Z's and medium speed drive serves. Has more side-arm in stroke than most players. Pet shots are passes, both down-the-line and cross court. Will occasionally shoot from deep court. Lots of guts, goes all out.

Hogan, Steding Regain Form In Milwaukee

Marty Hogan and Peggy Steding, two unsuccessful seekers of the 1977 National Championship, both began the 1977-78 season on the right foot by capturing the men's and women's pro divisions at the first stop on this season's Colgate Pro Tour.

Hogan, who won 9 of his 11 starts last year, took the title of the Seamco/Leach co-sponsored event September 8-11 with a 21-16, 21-17 final round victory over former National Champ Charlie Brumfield.

Steding bested surprising Sarah Green in the ladies final of the National Racquetball Club sanctioned tour by identical 21-9, 21-9 scores.

Hogan showed his super power game while knocking off Jerry Hilecher in the semi's and Craig McCoy in the quarter-finals. In the lower bracket Brumfield stopped Steve Serot in the semi's and Mark Morrow in the quarters.

National champ Davey Bledsoe was stopped by Serot in the quarters 21-7, 21-16.

Women's National champ Shannon Wright was upset in the first round by rookie Karin Walton who went to the semi-finals before bowing to Green. Steding topped Jennifer Harding the other ladies semi-final.

The tournament was hosted by the Racquet Ball Club, West Allis, Wisconsin.

Men Results (Round of 16): Hogan d. Jones 21-8, 21-15; McCoy d. Bowman 21-11, 21-18; Koltun d. Fleetwood 21-6, 21-9; Hilecher d. Ikier 21-19, 21-10; Brumfield d. Chase 21-14, 21-8; Morrow d. Strandemo 21-12, 16-21, 11-7; Serot d. Yellen 21-8, 21-14; Bledsoe d. Keeley 21-20, 21-14.

(Quarter-finals): Hogan d. McCoy 21-9, 21-20; Hilecher d. Koltun 21-18, 21-16; Brumfield d. Morrow 21-14, 21-17; Serot d. Bledsoe 21-7, 21-16.

(Semi-finals): Hogan d. Hilecher 21-19, 21-14; Brumfield d. Serot 21-17, 21-9.

(Championship): Hogan d. Brumfield 21-16, 21-17.

Women Results (Quarter-finals): Walton d. Sausser 21-6, 12-21, 11-1; Green d. Williams 21-6, 21-8; Harding d. Marriott 21-17, 21-11; Steding d. Byrd 21-15, 21-9.

(Semi-finals): Green d. Walton 21-20, 21-11; Steding d. Harding 21-20, 15-21, 11-4.

(Championship): Steding d. Green 21-9, 21-9.

Rules and Regulations

Ranking The Players

The N.R.C. has devised an elaborate system of ranking the professional players. This system is based on a number of criteria, all of which are directed toward obtaining the most accurate reflection of the current skills of each player.

From this ranking the official draw for each tournament is conducted. Therefore, the key to a player's position in the draw in each tournament is largely dependent on his current ranking.

One of the goals of the N.R.C.'s ranking system is to accurately reflect the *current* abilities of each player. This conforms to the N.R.C.'s feeling that to allow players to build up tournament credentials over months and years would be unfair to those new players attempting to break into the higher ranks.

There are five categories, each counting 20% of the total from which the rankings are determined. These categories are labeled as follows: "Prize Money," "Total Points Earned," "Average Points Earned," "Percentage of Victories," and "Current Season." Let's explore each one.

Prize Money

This category is self explanatory. The amount of prize money earned by each player is added up after each event, and this cumulative total then represents each player's amount. The players are then ranked within this category, from highest amount of prize money earned to lowest, and each player is given his or her corresponding number, i.e. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc. depending on how much money has been earned.

Total Points Earned

The N.R.C. awards points based on performance, per round, in each tournament. The tournament winner receives 12 points, the runner-up 9, semi-finalists 7, quarter-finalists 5, round of 16 losers 3, and round of 32 losers 1. These points are then accumulated by each individual, similar to prize money and each player is given his corresponding number depending on where he ranks within this category.

Average Points Earned

In this category points are awarded similar to the "Total Points Earned" category except that the points are taken as an average per tournament played, rather than a cumulative total. In this way players who are forced to miss tournaments due to injury or illness are not treated totally without mercy by the system.

Percentage of Victories

Similarly, this category is an average, as all percentages are. Here the total number of matches played by each player (beginning with the round of 32 in men and round of 16 in women) is tabulated with the number of victories. These totals are then added together and the percentage is taken.

In each of the above criteria, only the most recent five N.R.C. tour events are tabulated.

With this in mind the overriding regulation concerning the ranking system is that only the most recent five tournaments are counted. In this way, a five tournament rotation system is established whereby those players currently playing well will be justly rewarded by a better

ranking by those not doing as well.

For an example, if Mr. Ace Serve was to win the first tournament of the season, he would be credited with that win throughout the first five events. When tournament number six rolls around, however, the credentials from tournament number one are not counted.

Current Season

The final category is a total of the first four, and is the only category not based on a five tournament rotation. Rather this category serves to put some weight on past performance and is a cumulative total of the first four categories throughout the season. After each event, the totals of each category are entered onto a master category which keeps a running total of each.

Finally, then, after each player is ranked within each category, the categories are then cross/added. For example, a player may be ranked 5 in "Prize Money," 4 in "Total Points Earned," 6 in "Average Points Earned," 5 in "Percentage," and 4 in "Current Season." This player's final ranking number (add them all together) is 24. All the players are added in this way, and wherever 24 fall in relation to the other players is the ranking.

The lower the number, the higher the ranking. For example, a perfect total would be 5. That player would be first in all categories and a series of 1's would add to 5.

Seeding and Draw

Due to the increasingly large number of entries in the professional divisions over the past few years, the N.R.C. decided to limit the professional rounds of each tournament this season to 32 players.

However, since N.R.C. policy still allows anybody to play who desires to do so, there will be qualifying rounds the day prior to the tournament for these players.

The N.R.C. ranks pro players on the basis of five criteria, - total points earned, average points earned, percentage of wins versus losses, prize money, and total for season.

Based on that ranking system, the top 20 players are given an "exempt" status, i.e., exempt from qualifying. These 20 players, plus four additional "at-large" exemptions chosen by the N.R.C. are automatically placed in the round of 32, once an entry is received from that player.

The remaining entrants play off Wednesday for the final eight spots in the round of 32, which is played Thursday along with the second round. The quarter-finals follow Friday, the semi's Saturday and the finals Sunday.

In tournaments where both men and women professional divisions are held, the women's draw is limited to 16 players, with 10 "exempt" based on the ranking system, and two "at-large" exemptions chosen by the N.R.C. A qualifying tournament on Wednesday decides the remaining four players to fill the 16 bracket.

Based on the N.R.C.'s ranking system, the top ranked player is placed at the top of the draw; the number two ranked player is placed at the bottom of the draw.

The third and fourth ranked

players have their names drawn from a hat to determine in which bracket they play.

The fifth through eighth ranked players have their names drawn from a hat to determine in which bracket they play.

The ninth through 16th ranked players have their names drawn from a hat to determine in which bracket they play.

The remaining 16 players (eight exempt and eight qualifiers) are drawn from a hat to determine in which bracket they play.

The method accomplishes three general goals. First, the better players are strategically separated, making the best matches later in the tournament. Second, new tour players and qualifiers have a better chance, rather than being forced to go up against the top seeds every time as in the past. Third, the recent problem of repetitive match-ups is virtually eliminated.

Sounds simple, doesn't it?

Tie-Breaker

Racquetball's tie-breaker, the 11 point third game, was initiated by the N.R.C. in the Spring of 1976 and has met with overwhelming acceptance on the parts of players, fans, and host facilities.

The brainchild of the N.R.C.'s national director, Chuck Leve, the tie-breaker serves to accomplish a myriad of goals for major tournaments. Among them:

- Matches are kept on schedule in tournament play. This allows for shorter working hours for directors, more accurate planning for spectators and players can now better plan their dietary and rest programs more efficiently.
- Everyday players have a better chance of finishing their match within the allotted

normal one hour time period rather than splitting two games and being unable to finish a third, thereby being unable to determine a winner.

- The excitement of the match is enhanced. Often the third game (when played to 21) would be a long, drag-out affair. With the tie-breaker players must be "on their toes" from the beginning of the third game or it's lost.
- Less pressure is on referees. Many volunteer referees would decline helping due to the potential long third game. With the tie-breaker, referees are more apt to call a potentially close match.
- Underdog players, if they reach the tie-breaker have a better chance at an upset, making for even better competition.
- Players are less apt to "concede" the first or second game, knowing the third game is only 11 points and anything might happen.
- Players will be fresher for the next round, thereby testing racquetball skills rather than conditioning.

A few rules regarding the tie-breaker that you should know:

1. The player scoring the most total points in the first two games combined serves first in the tie-breaker.
2. If the players scored equal numbers of points in the first two games then another coin toss is conducted by the referee to determine first server.
3. Players are allowed two time outs each during the tie-breaker.
4. As with normal 21 point games, a one point margin is all that's necessary for victory, and many exciting 11-10 matches have been played.

A Most Elegant Restaurant

MIMMO'S

of
WESTBURY

Italian and Continental Cuisine
511 Old County Road
(516) 997-6255



THE MAN FROM
MANUFACTURING

J.S. McHUGH INC.

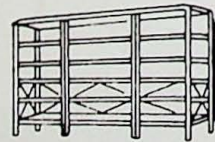
Republicsteel

- LOCKERS • SHELVING
- INSTITUTIONAL - INDUSTRIAL
- INSTALLED - DESIGNED
- ALL SIZES IN STOCK
- COLORS TO MATCH ALL DECOR

A Complete Inventory Of Storage
Facilities To Satisfy Every Need

222-2200

839 STEWART AVE., GARDEN CITY



Compliments of

Haywood - Berk Floor Co.

.414 West Broadway
N.Y.C., N.Y. 10012

Wood and Synthetic
Sports Floors
Racquetball Construction

212 - CA-6 - 4024

THE *Holidays* ARE HERE!

- Elegant Dining
- Entertainment
- Banquet & Meeting Facilities

- Convenient To;
Airports, Beaches, Coliseum,
Race Tracks & Fine L.I. Shops

FOR BUSINESS AND LEISURE

★ Hempstead

80 Clinton Street
N.Y. 11550
(516) 486-4100



● MEMBER ●
Nassau Convention
and Visitors Bureau

★ Westbury

369 Old Country Road
N.Y. 11590
(516) 997-5000



How We got Here

Racquetball was formally organized by Bob Kendler only as recently as 1968, but it is a game that has captured the enthusiasm of physical-fitness minded men and women throughout North America. Foundations of our present-day paddleball and racquetball games may be found more than seven centuries ago.

In an idle moment 700 years ago, two French monks began batting a ball around a monastery courtyard with crude wooden paddles. As a result, this impromptu game, which came to be known as court tennis, gained popularity with royalty and Louis X was so over-extended chasing balls that he became ill and died shortly after a match. Also, the Duke of Wellington and Napoleon were both reported to have played the game.

While paddleball is played with a wooden paddle, racquetball is played with a strung racquet, the frame of which is made of wood, aluminum alloy, fiberglass or a similar combination of materials. Since its origin, probably in the 1940's through the efforts of Joe Sobek, the popularity of the game of racquetball has spread and surpassed paddleball; players of all ages and both sexes can now be found playing racquetball. The increase in interest, facilities, and the addition of racquetball to the physical curriculum has done much for the promotion of the sport.

Racquetball probably got its earliest start in 1949, the year Sobek was credited with inventing the game. The original name of the game was "paddle-rackets." Prior to that

time Sobek had left his profession as a tennis and squash professional and was employed in an executive position in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Sobek had watched paddleball, using the wooden paddle, being played by numerous members of the Greenwich, Connecticut YMCA. Looking for a means to exercise, Sobek thought that paddleball would be a more interesting and entertaining game if a strung racket were used rather than a solid-faced wooden version. Sobek designed the kind of racket thought to be appropriate and took it to a New England manufacturer of tennis, squash, and badminton frames. With the new racket, Sobek started a group of men playing at the Greenwich Y.

The sport spread rapidly from the Greenwich Y as players moved to other towns and introduced the sport nationwide. During those formative years, "National Championships" were held at the Greenwich Y in Connecticut and identified as Paddle-Rackets Championships. After having played many racket sports, Sobek felt that paddle-rackets had more to offer than any of the others. It proved to be a stimulating winter activity. Additionally, it was fun, gave tremendous exercise, and was easy to learn. Another advantage was that anyone, young or old, could step into the court and play the game at his own pace. As the game prospered in the 1960's and spread throughout many geographic areas, many different types of balls were tried

in an experimental effort to discover which was the most satisfactory. Also, during the same time period the game was played under a variety of different names, such as "paddle-rackets," "paddle-tennis," and "paddleball."

After official adoption of the word "racquetball" as the name for the game, people were still referring to the "gut" four-wall court game as paddleball. It was stressed that the "racquet" spelling be used both for the game, racquetball, and the implement used, racquet, rather than racketball and racket.

* * * * *

The fast-moving "lifetime sport" of racquetball is rapidly becoming one of the most popular leisure time and conditioning activities. Players of all ages are participating in singles, doubles, cutthroat and mixed doubles play. Clinics, leagues, and tournaments are being conducted, and classes in physical education are giving credit in an attempt to satisfy the needs of the players. The almost instant success of racquetball has caused researchers to conduct experiments in an attempt to discover new knowledge and scientific data about the game.

In an attempt to explain why so many people have become interested in this sport, here are a few of the main reasons that have been observed:

1. **It is easy to learn.** The playing techniques, rules, and strategy are simple to

Credits:

"History of Racquetball," Fancher, Terry.

"Success of Racquetball—Here's Why,"
Alexander, R. and Matthews, Bill.

learn, to understand, and to put into practice. In a very short time span, the beginner can find himself successfully playing the game.

2. **Immediate success is possible and probable.**

Returning the ball to the front wall after it has already rebounded from the front wall is not a difficult skill. With a little experience and instruction, a person can easily acquire the ability to return a variety of shots to the front wall by means of the many different methods available to him.

3. **Conditioning benefits are excellent.** In a short period of time, an individual may be the benefactor of a vigorous physical workout which has positive results in cardiovascular endurance, muscular endurance, coordination, agility, and reaction and response time. Muscular strength, flexibility, balance, power and speed are also challenged by racquetball.

4. **Psychosocial values are high.** The opportunities for emotional growth are great in racquetball. One may experience opportunities to control or release outbursts of temper as well as being afforded opportunities to relieve emotional tensions. Self confidence and social interaction found in fellowship with one's companions can be very rewarding. In doubles, cooperation and teamwork are requisites to success.

5. **Skills are easily transferred from other sports.**

Handball, tennis, badminton, squash, table tennis and paddleball are a few of the sports which have many elements in common with racquetball. The skills, rules, and strategies are very similar and have common values.

6. **Safety hazards are few.** One must remember not to over-exert oneself initially, to "warm-up" properly and to wear a racquet safety thong around the wrist in order to avoid injuring the opponent by striking him with a loose racquet during play.

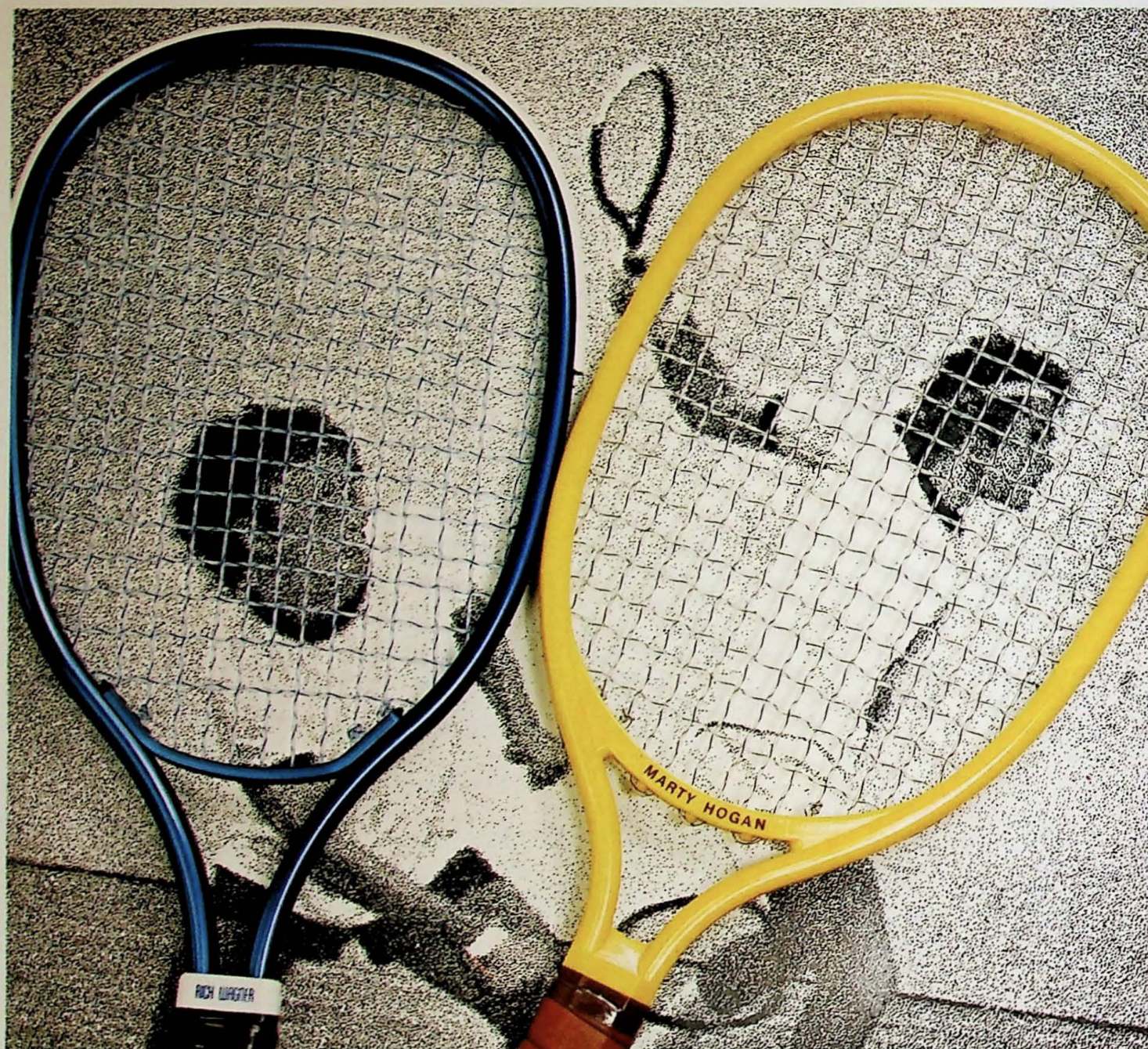
* * * * *

The statistical growth of racquetball is astounding. From a mere 50,000 players in 1970 the number of participants swelled to an amazing 5.5 million in September of 1977. With so many new people taking up the game, it is nearly impossible to keep up with the rise in popularity the sport is experiencing.

Five years ago, there were only two private court clubs in existence in North America. The

number grew to 80 in two years, then 220 clubs. Today, there are over 700 with almost as many in the planning stages. In addition, the YMCAs, JCC's, military installations and community recreation centers across the country have numerous courts for participation and are adding more.

The sale of racquetballs was a lowly 228,000 in 1970 and now 12 million are sold annually. Prize money on the NRC pro tour has doubled every year beginning with a \$25,000 limited tour in 1974. There seems to be a virtually limitless increase to the numbers of players and amount of equipment to be sold in the coming years. With expanded interest from television coverage, sponsorship and promotion, racquetball certainly seems to be the game of the next decade.



RICH WAGNER—the 1974 Eastern Regional Juniors Champion-ship; the '75-'76 N.R.C. Buffalo Pro-Am, prove he's a comer and perhaps the best back wall shooter in the game right now.



MARTY HOGAN—youngest pro in the country, fiery and dedi-cated, has some impressive wins under his belt and is one to watch. Winner of the '75-'76 New England Pro Am.

There's more to a racquet than meets the ball.

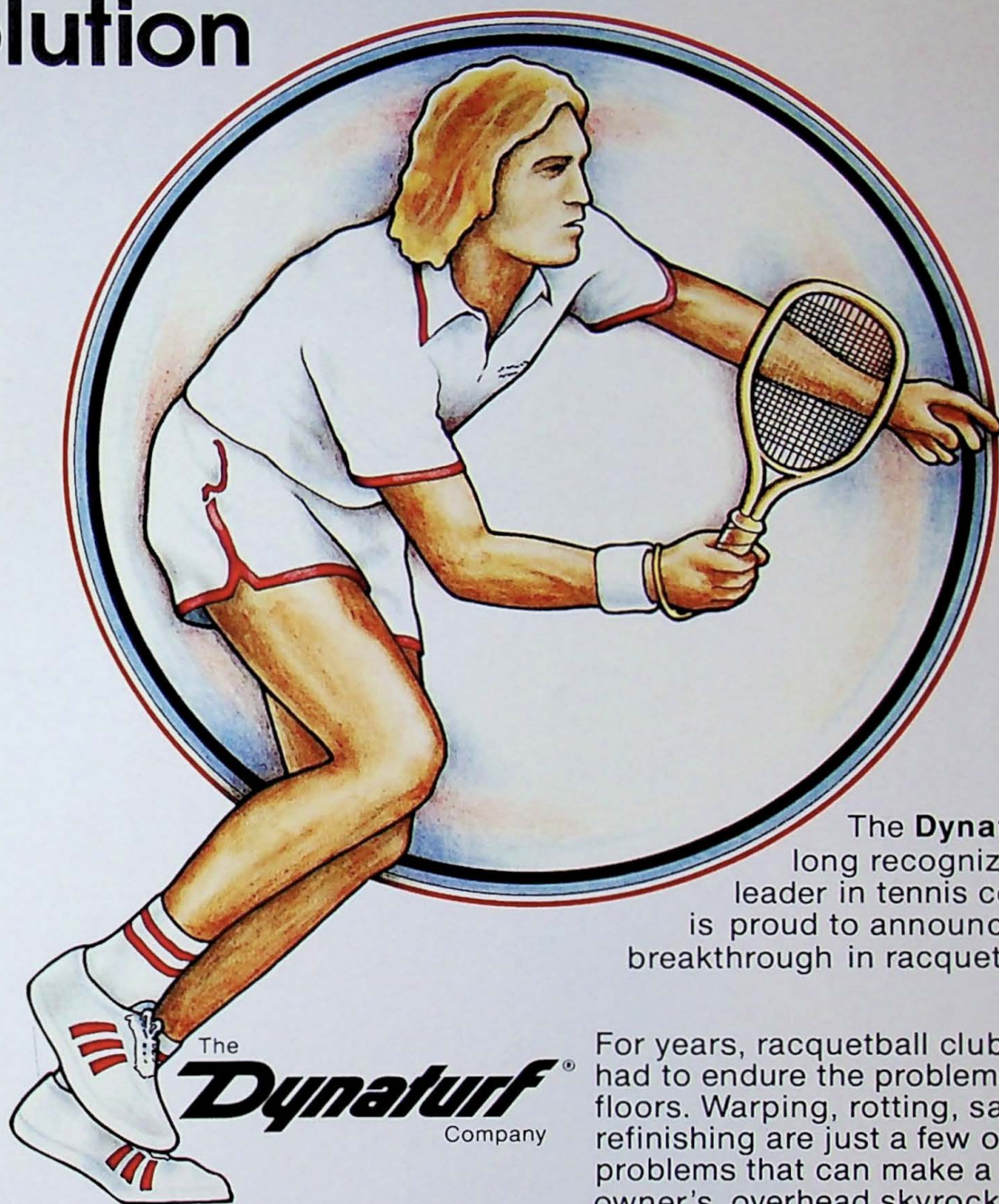
It's easy to produce a racquet, put it out on the market and hope for the best. SPORTCRAFT does it the hard way, and this time it's the right way. We asked our advisors, Rich Wagner and Marty Hogan, two new stars on the professional horizon, what they believe should be in a racquet and, obviously, there are some differences—so we have two new racquets and one has got to be the right choice for you. It all goes to prove there's more to a racquet than meets the ball.

**SPORT
CRAFT**®



GENERAL SPORTCRAFT CO., LTD. BERGENFIELD, N.J. 07621

the racquetball surface solution

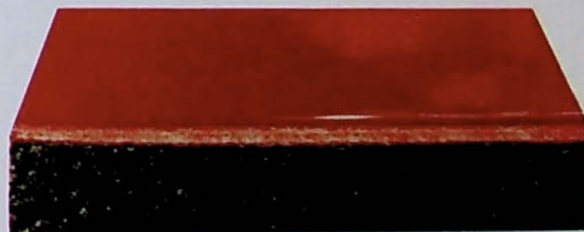


The **Dynaturf** Company, long recognized as the leader in tennis court surfacing is proud to announce a major breakthrough in racquetball surfacing.

For years, racquetball club owners have had to endure the problems of wood floors. Warping, rotting, sanding and refinishing are just a few of the major problems that can make a club owner's overhead skyrocket.

Maintenance free **Dynaturf** is a seamless synthetic elastomer sprayed in place and covered with a smooth urethane sealer. With twice the durability of wood, **Dynaturf** for racquetball is available in a full range of colors and color combinations.

Dynaturf for racquetball, the revolution begins now.



For more information call us collect or write us today.

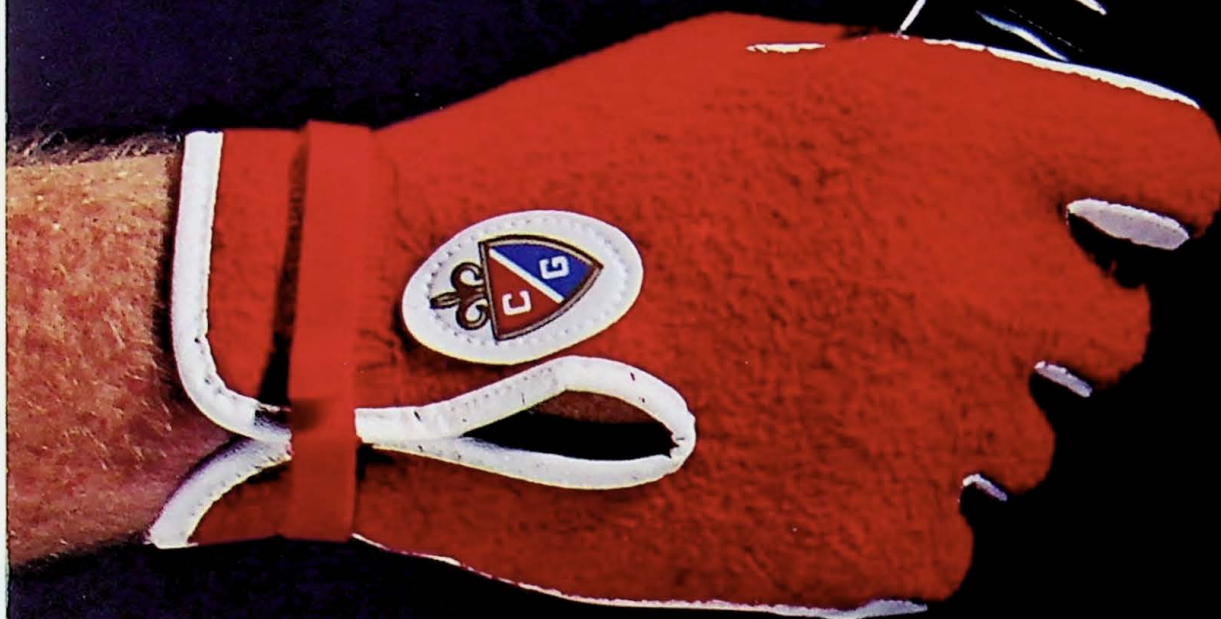
National Racquetball[®]

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE U.S. RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

**Welcomes
You
To
The
1977 - 78
Pro Tour**



NEW NRC OFFICIAL GLOVE!



**The Champion
Model 610 Is
Endorsed By The Professionals!**

Champion
GLOVE MFG. CO.
2200 E. OVID DES MOINES, IOWA 50313

The Model 610 racquetball glove by Champion features a "wrap around" wrist with adjustable Velcro fastener for perfect comfort. A thin selected doeskin palm gives you a confident feel. Eastman's Kodel terrycloth back and Helanca stretch finger inserts are included for extra comfort and style. So choose the glove of the professionals . . . the Champion Model 610 Racquetball glove.

THE FUTURE OF RACQUETBALL LOOKS GREY.

And it's called the Leach Graphite-Performer.™

First there was wood. Then aluminum. Then glass-filled. And now, graphite.

And no one needs to tell you what graphite can do for a sport. Or sales.

And in the hottest, fastest-growing sport in the world, graphite is bound to be dynamite.

It's priced and designed to move, both off your shelves and on the court.

For starters, the Graphite-Performer is an incredible 250 grams light. Yet still packs the power of a heavier racquet.

It's rigid enough to virtually eliminate vibration and excess

flexing. Yet still keeps the control of glass-filled.

Its unique narrow-throat, one-piece construction (you won't find anything like it anywhere else) actually turns the entire string area into the sport's biggest "sweet spot."

And it feels great.

All for a suggested retail price tag under \$35.

That's right. Graphite for under \$35.

You can't miss.

The sport's most innovative racquet from the sport's most

innovative name.

The competitively priced and

designed Leach

Graphite-Performer.

The future couldn't look brighter.



NUMBER ONE BY DESIGN