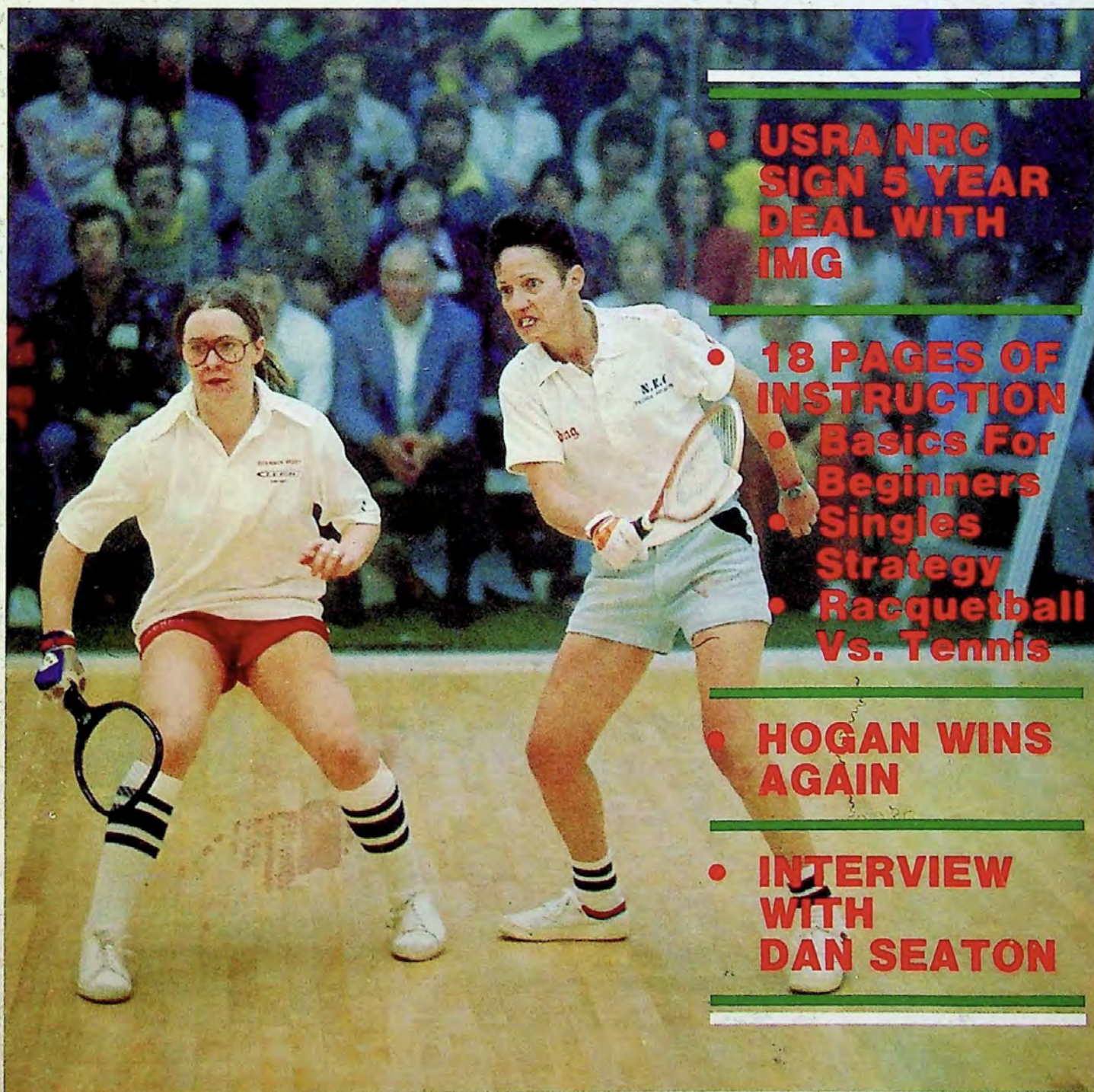


National Racquetball II

WILLIAM A. SCHULTZ
1314 Chandler St.
Madison, WI 53715

VOLUME 3E MARCH, 1977

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE U.S. RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION



- **USRA/NRC
SIGN 5 YEAR
DEAL WITH
IMG**

- **18 PAGES OF
INSTRUCTION**
 - Basics For
Beginners
 - Singles
Strategy
 - Racquetball
Vs. Tennis

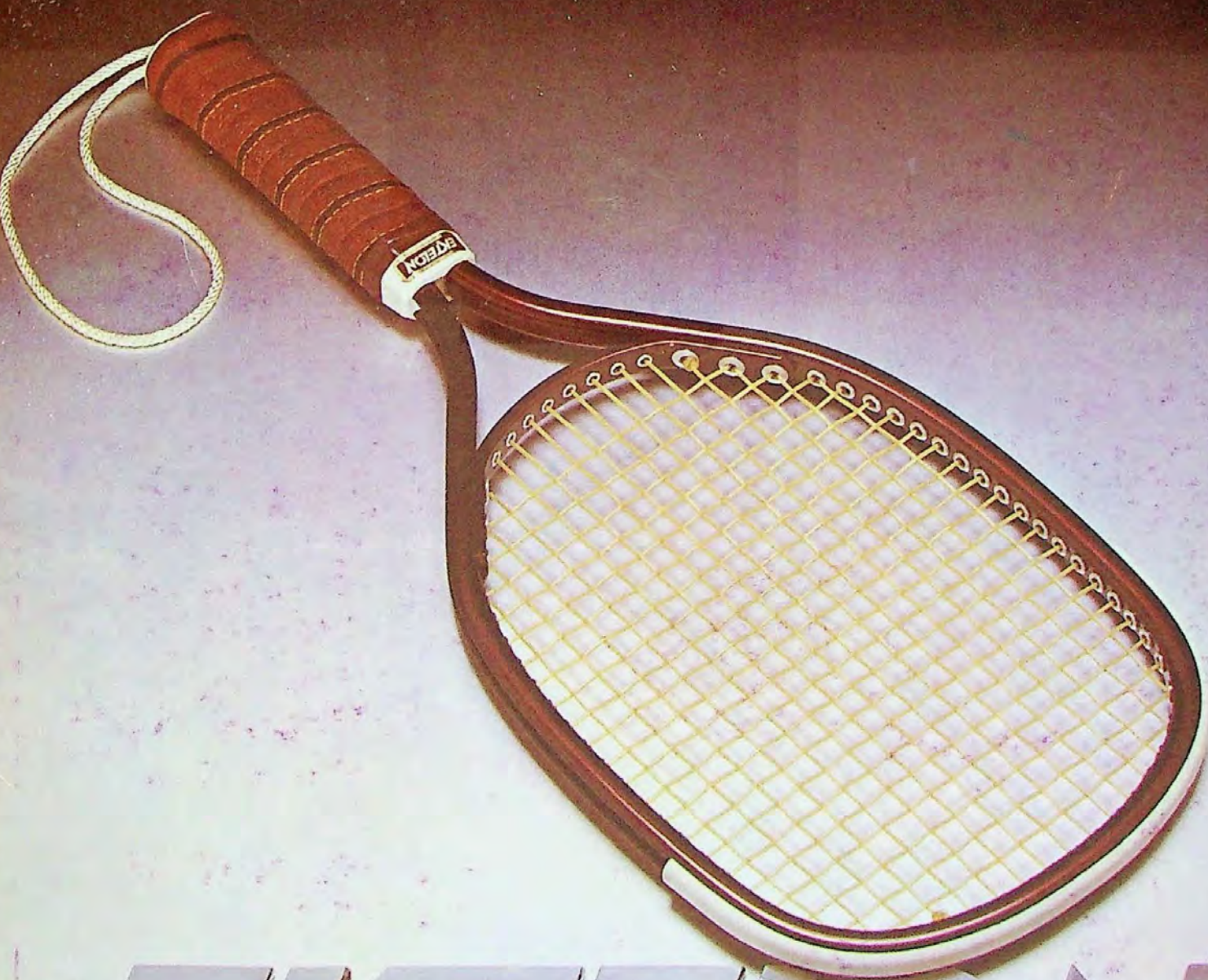
- **HOGAN WINS
AGAIN**

- **INTERVIEW
WITH
DAN SEATON**

THE MAGNUM

It's Ektelon's best!

Extraordinary balance and playing characteristics. Lightweight (270 grams) for maximum maneuverability. Extra length (18½") for increased reach and power. Exclusive patented milled extrusion for better control. Four grip sizes.



EKTELON

Ektelon, Dept. NR-01 7079 Mission Gorge, Rd., San Diego, CA 92120

Ektelon is a registered trademark of Ektelon, San Diego, California. Made in U.S.A.

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

Pro Racquetball Gloves

R-70 PRO — Already acclaimed nation wide as the finest glove for racquetball. Made from Saranac's own native deerskin — hand selected for its natural lightness and tackiness. Our supertite elastic and magic Velcro closure on the back gives this glove that added touch of class to make it the "choice of the Pros." Easily identified by Saranac's new Pro emblem. Colors: Bone deerskin with Red, Columbia Blue, Gold, Green, Orange, or White backs. Available in Left or Right hand. Sizes: Men's XS — S — M — ML — L — XL



**SARANAC GLOVE CO. BOX 786
GREEN BAY WISCONSIN 54305**

National Racquetball

VOLUME 5 NUMBER 2 • \$1.00 • MARCH, 1977

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE U.S. RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

CONTENTS

Editorial	
From Bob Kendler	4
From the Editor	6
National Commissioner	10
Letters	12
Health	18
Feature	
U.S.R.A./N.R.C. Sign With IMG	14
National Racquetball Interview	
Dan Seaton	20
Court Clubs	30
State Racquetball	44
Instructional	
The Serve by Jerry Hilecher	50
Basics For Beginners by Terry Fancher	57
Basic Singles Strategy by Steve Keeley	60
Racquetball Vs. Tennis by Chuck Sheftel	64
Instruction For Instructors by Lee Duda	68
Upcoming Events	
Leach-Seamco Southfield Pro Entry	81
Seamco-Leach Lombard Pro Entry	83
Leach-Seamco Newport Beach Entry	85
National Juniors	86
National Championships	88
Tournament Results	
Miscellaneous Results	69
Leach-Seamco Pro Tour 5 Las Vegas	92

On The Cover . . .

"Ferocious" Peggy Steding follows through with a forehand against Shannon Wright in the finals of the Las Vegas stop on the Seamco-Leach pro tour. Steding won this one, putting her one-up on Wright for the season.

—Photo by Arthur Shay

National Racquetball Magazine is the official publication of the United States Racquetball Association and is published bi-monthly by the National Racquetball Club, Inc., 4101 Dempster Street, Skokie, Illinois 60076, (312) 673-4000.

President and Publisher · Robert W. Kendler
National Director and Editor · Charles S. Leve
National Commissioner and Business Manager · Joseph Ardito
National Coordinator · Terry Fancher
Circulation Manager · Ellen H. Kendler
National Court Construction Consultant · Forest D. Wendt, A.I.A.
Photographic Consultant · Arthur Shay

National Racquetball Magazine is produced by Corporate Graphics, 330 West Frontage Road, Northfield, Illinois 60093, (312) 441-7250.
Executive Coordinator · Joseph M. Patten
Design Director · Milton W. Presler
Art/Production · Rand K. Kington

Advertising Representatives are Patten Publications, 330 West Frontage Road, Northfield, Illinois 60093, (312) 441-7250, Joseph M. Patten, President/Account Supervisor.

All editorial communications should be addressed to The Editor, National Racquetball Magazine, 4101 Dempster Street, Skokie, Illinois 60076. Manuscripts must be typewritten and double spaced. Color and black and white photographs are welcomed.

Subscriptions are \$5.00 for one (1) year and \$12.00 for three (3) years. Rates are for U.S., possessions, military and Canada. Foreign subscriptions add \$5.00 per year for postage. Second class postage paid at Skokie, Illinois and at additional mailing office. Postmaster send form 3579 to National Racquetball magazine, 4101 Dempster Street, Skokie, Illinois 60076.

Reach Your Full Potential

Tom Landry, coach of the Dallas Cowboys, was asked in an interview, "What makes a champion?" What one quality makes a great champion? His remarkable reply was, "Character makes a great champion." He added further that character is something you can't change at the professional level without a spiritual awakening.

What a wonderful challenge that presents for racquetball. Here we are, with a sport that has taken the teen-ager by storm! Virtually all of his character building is influenced by the example we set. What we do, — they do. So let's all do what we do better, — administrators and players.

We'll try hard to improve the tournaments and tours, — the facilities, scheduling and refereeing. We'll publish ways and means to improve your game like you've never read before. We'll better the balls, the racquets and all the amenities that go with professionally run tournaments.

From the players we are going to look for fair play. William James described the spirit of Americans as "the trained and disciplined good temper toward the other side when it fairly wins its inning." The idea of fair play is part of our American heritage, but in our time it seems to have been eroded both in sports and public life.

Winning is important, to be sure, but only on terms that are fair to both sides.

The importance of winning is diminished when the means to victory defy the cannons of decency and honor. It is better to lose with honor than to win with dishonor, — better to lose an inning fairly than to win unfairly.

We need to remember that our competitive system in sports, business or education is based on our belief in fair play. Cheating or deception serve only to undermine the trust that makes the system work. We betray our heritage when we violate the rules, resort to trickery, or indulge in unfair methods. The system works effectively only when there is a consensus of belief that fair play is an imperative, not an elective.

The undeniable truth is that "there is no right way to do a wrong thing," "no fair way to be foul." There is no honorable way to promise what cannot be delivered, or to agree to what cannot be accomplished. Foul means corrupt good ends, and dishonorable methods emasculate worthy goals. They betray the heritage on which our free society rests.

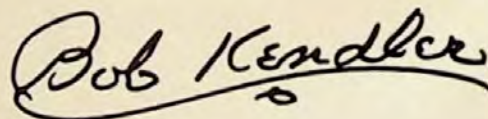
There is a tremendous temptation to ignore fair play on our pro tour where so much money is at stake. I look for the day when our players mature to the

point where the violent outbursts and the emotional reactions will pass into history. I like to think the pros theatrics are not designed to upset their opponent, — that they only reflect the unbridled fury of the occasion.

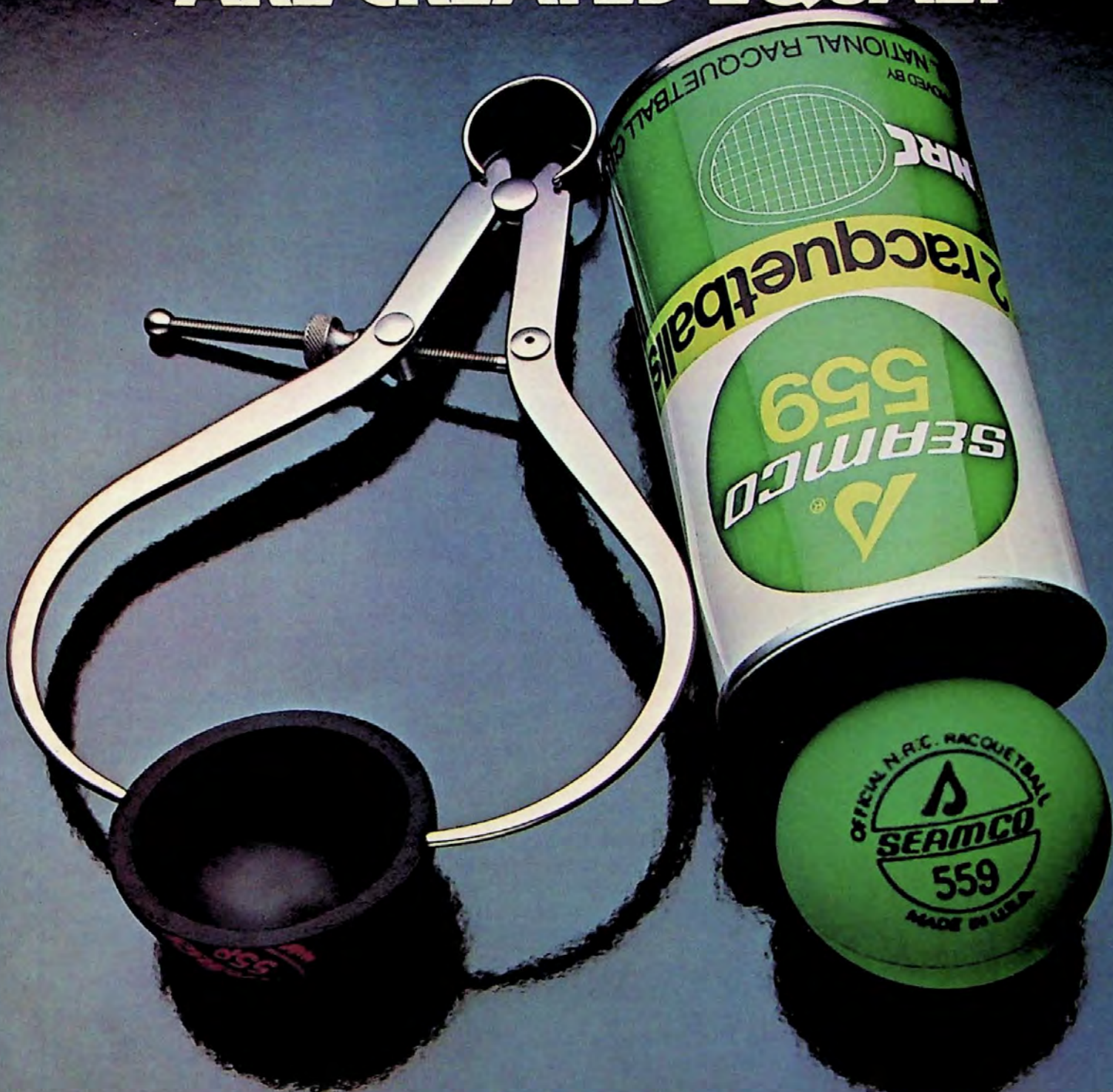
Not until all of us realize that "Character makes a great Champion," will we realize our full potential. Let us hope that day arrives before we reach the cesspool of gestures, obscenities and violence that currently undermines many other professional sports. The attitudes of players in these sports indicate a failure of "the trained and disciplined good temper toward the other side."

Let us, too, have a spiritual awakening so that we, — all of us, — can reach our full potential. ●

I Thessalonians 5:23



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.

Dear Readers:

This particular page of *National Racquetball* magazine is one on which my personal thoughts about our game are conveyed to you. Sometimes they provoke agreement, sometimes disagreement, sometimes anger, sometimes laughter, but the thoughts are always my own — except this issue.

I had intended to write an article discussing what goes into the making of a professional racquetball player. I didn't write the article simply because somebody else has, and he has put it much better than I ever could.

His name is Steve Mondry. Most of you have never heard of him. He plays professional racquetball, but has never won enough money to break out of the amateur ranks. He is a pretty good player, the kind that the Hogans and Brumfields use as cannon-fodder in the early rounds.

He is not a writer, and his article below is slightly longer than what usually occupies this page. And just so you know, — I didn't change a single word.

Chuck Leve

In this article, I am going to try to express my feelings as a first year professional racquetball player: what goes through my mind before, during, and after a pro racquetball tour stop.

Before the season begins, I look at the tournament schedule and pick out the tournaments I will be able to attend. I am not sponsored by any company, so a lot depends on how much money I can save between each tournament. Like most 20 year old guys, I manage to save very little and I often end up calling Mom and Dad for financial assistance. When I do, invariably the question, "Why don't you have a job?," enters into the conversation. I try to explain that I do give racquetball lessons, but that barely pays for rent, gas and repairs on my '56 VW, which breaks down every other day. Mom and Dad once again agree to help me out, but never really understanding why that son of theirs doesn't get a "real" job. Now that I'm going to enter the tournament we can get into the preparation aspect of tournaments.

The tournament is only five weeks away and if I expect to win it I have to be

in top shape. I get into shape first by running 4-6 miles a day down good ol' Mission Beach in San Diego—usually at about 7 a.m. Next it's on to the club to practice by myself.

A typical practice session consists of hitting 250 backhand set-up and kills. I stand at about 3/4 court, hit the ball against the front wall, and as the ball is rebounding, set up with my backhand attempting to kill it in the right corner. I then hit 250 backhand ceiling balls, once again standing in the right rear corner of the court (I'm left handed) hitting ceiling balls to myself just as I would do in a ceiling ball rally in a game. If a ceiling ball falls short or goes long, I try to kill it just as I would in a match.

This brings me to my forehand—another 250 set-up and kills, as with my backhand. And last but not least, I practice my serves—100 a day. I have four main serves, the low drive, the cross-court drive, the hard Z, and the half lob. I hit 25 of each, concentrating on three factors: 1) control, 2) deception in my serving motion and 3) proper technique of stepping into the ball and then hitting.

After a practice session like that I have so much confidence in my overall game I can't wait to play, and fortunately I have some of the best players in the country as friends—Strandemo, Brumfield, and Keeley. I try to play with at least one of them every day for one or two hours. I also try to play against the top local players at least two more hours a day.

When I'm through playing for the day, I take a nice long shower, jacuzzi and steam bath, and relax, first at the club then at home where I usually read. My reading consists mainly of racquetball literature, *National Racquetball* Magazine, instructional books, etc, as well as articles on nutrition. In doing this I stay on top of myself and I am always conscious of both racquetball and good nutrition.

Well, it's about 8 p.m. so it's down to San Diego State practice fields for my sprints and stretching exercises. That lasts about 45 minutes before I've had enough, so I go home to sleep and wait for tomorrow to come.

A lot of people ask me how I do it—practice, play, run, etc. If I've heard



those questions once I've heard people comment a thousand times, "When I practice alone I get bored after five minutes," or, "I don't need to practice alone; I play for an hour a day and get all the practice I need." It is very difficult to bring oneself to workout the proper way, so the logical way to practice and train is 1) to change the format and times of workouts and 2) make it fun by making a game of practice.

For example, if I'm practicing my backhand kill into the right corner, I put two or three cans in the corner (photograph) and play "kick the can." You would be surprised how all of a sudden your boredom disappears when you're concentrating on that corner. And invariably, the shots that miss the cans are kill shots as well as the ones that connect.

Another game is baseball. Place a square of tape on the right corner of the front wall and count the ball as a strike every time you hit it in the box and every miss is called a ball. You can see how many strike-outs you get as opposed to how many you walk and be sure to write it down. I keep a log of everything I practice in every practice session. This comes in handy because when I play well I can check back and see which training method works for me.

Another way to ward off boredom is to change your training schedule from day to day. For example, M-W-F, first practice then play, then run. On T-Th first run, then practice, then play. You can't get as bored because you never do the same routine daily.

Another schedule could be Monday—practice, play, run, Tuesday—practice and play,

continued on page 8

A DUNLOP IS MADE TO PLAY TOUGHER SO YOU CAN PLAY TOUGHER.

Dunlop rackets are designed for the toughest racket ball play there is: championship play. Because competition at the championship level is the ultimate test of a racket's worth.

That's why each Dunlop racket has a tough aluminum frame to generate the power a good player needs. Why each is precisely balanced. And why each has a sweet spot that's larger than any other racket's in the game.

So if you want to play tougher, play a Dunlop. The racket designed to take beatings. And administer beatings.

Dunlop Sports Co., Division of Dunlop Tire & Rubber Corp., Buffalo, N.Y.

DUNLOP

Wednesday—practice and run, Thursday—play and run, Friday—play and run. These different gimmick schedules always keep me going and it helps a lot in the way of practice and self-discipline on the court. I don't suggest you practice as much as I do. The following would be an ideal schedule for the average tournament player—practice one hour a day three times a week, play 1-2 hours a day four times a week, and run 1-3 miles twice a week.

The most important thing to remember is it's not *how much* you practice but *the way* you practice that counts.

With about three weeks left I send in my entry fee and take care of my plane reservations. Before you know it there's only one week left to go. I usually taper my training—if I've been hitting 250 backhands everyday I'll only hit 200, next day 150, day after that 100, 50 and finally only 25. I also taper my running from four miles to one mile much the same way. This allows my body to rejuvenate and gets me raring to go by the time the tournament begins.

I like to get to the tournament site two days early so I can be settled in by tournament time. Usually other pros are on the same flight. The last time I was waiting for take-off and the vacant seat next to me was taken by Charlie Brumfield, who kindly informed me that we were playing each other in the tournament. I nodded then quickly asked the stewardess if I could get a refund on my ticket—it was too late.

One of the highlights of each pro tournament has to be checking into the tournament hotel—undoubtedly the hotel farthest from the tournament itself. There you see all the pros and meet the local racquetball enthusiasts. Then I make my way down to the club to check out the courts—are they fast or slow, hot or cold; how true do the balls bounce off the walls, etc. After this ritual I play lightly, and get further into the tournament mood by checking out the draw.

I rest on Wednesday and start play on Thursday, at which time all the practice and running I've done doesn't seem to be enough. Nevertheless, I get onto the court and try my hardest to win, even if it does sometimes create problems. It's amazing to see the trouble a nice guy like me can get into trying to win.



Steve Mondry

Who would ever think a few harmless gestures (that would scare King Kong) directed to the ref or linesman could possibly result in a technical foul. Or when I *calmly* ask a question (about as calmly as a chicken is with his head cut off) or *subtly* voice my opinion (which some say can still be heard echoing through the walls down the Atlas Health Club) concerning a call by the man in charge, the result is near havoc with fans and foes alike, when all I'm trying to do is play racquetball.

Could it be that everyone else is over-reacting towards me? I'm sure about that. The only thing I am sure of is that when I play, I play to win and every call can cost me or my opponent the entire match. After training so hard for so long I've come to hate losing so every point is important. The Brumfield "Frenzie," the Hogan "Screams," the Serot "Zelmas," are other ways the great players show or disguise their tremendous desire to win. Vince Lombardi put it this way, "*Winning isn't everything, it's the only thing.*" That's just about how I feel.

When you see me and the pros on the court diving, yelling or cheering, think of all the time we've put in and all the training we've gone through to get where we are, and you'll understand why we want to win so badly.

For the time being I'm losing more than winning but after each loss I try to write down what I did wrong and I watch the other pro matches to see what the other guys are doing that I should be doing. By now the tournament is almost over and most everyone has gone but I usually stay to watch the finals on Sunday. When all the matches are over I fly back home and the next morning, in training again, I work on the things I did wrong. There are only five weeks till the next tournament. (Better call Mom and Dad or Milton Artz for you know what!)

It's not a thankful life as thankfulness goes. There's no million dollar salaries—nothing much but dedication and hard work, but the thought of being in the finals of a pro tournament keeps me going. It's hard, but I love it and I wouldn't be happy doing anything else. So the next time we are in your area, think of what most of us go through in preparation for the tournament and then wonder why we all want to win so badly. I hope this article has given you some insight into how dedication and hard work is the name of the game. Meanwhile, back at home, they're still wondering why that son of theirs doesn't get a job. ●

Steve Mondry

Especially for women
the new **ESPRIT**

*Introducing the superb new
Omega Esprit for women and juniors.
A trim 255 grams, it's the lightest
metal racquet available today!*

*But the Esprit's playability
lies in Omega's computer-
designed*

*balance
of flexibility and
strength which provides just the right
control-power combination that's perfect for the junior or lady player.
Beautifully styled in pale blue metallic, attractively priced,
the Esprit is truly a racquet that sells itself.*



For information and catalog about the complete line of first-quality Omega racquetball equipment, call or write:
Omega, a Division of Prandur Corporation, 2366 Schuetz Road, St. Louis, Missouri 63141, (314) 872-9007.

Greed Has No Place Here



As racquetball begins to realize its true potential I have a recurring nightmare, — one which periodically awakens me and has become my number one concern. My nightmare is that our sport will become polluted and prostituted like some national sports by people or firms eager to cash in on racquetball's growth at the game's expense.

We at the U.S.R.A. have dedicated ourselves to making the right decisions, now and in the future to promote racquetball to its fullest. I hope and pray that God will give us the strength and foresight to do just that.

We are certain that we are on the right road. Our new membership policy will help to generate almost \$20,000 for our state affiliates in the next six months, funds that will go into each affiliate's treasury to be spent locally on racquetball. It would have been easy for us to put ourselves ahead of others and just kept the additional membership funds, but that would not have been in the best interests of the sport.

Racquetball needs further local promotion, by local people and we are proud to be able to donate a substantial percentage of the funds to get this job done. Greed has no place here.

Our National Juniors Championships, outlined in this issue, is another program that is costly, but will actually lead to more expenditures in the future, not less. The \$23,000 we will be spending on travel allowances, food, lodging, and staffing the National Juniors is only the beginning of a program that is closest to our hearts.

For the essence of racquetball to me, is the building of young men and women both physically and mentally through competition. The camaraderie enjoyed by the participants in the National Juniors is worth far more than \$23,000. So much more that next season we plan to add Regional Juniors tournaments preceding the National Juniors to further promote play among the kids.

Each state affiliate is organizing at our urging, junior level play in their state, as we strive to build the foundation of racquetball for the next generation.

What better character builder can there be? To learn the meaning of sportsmanship, fair play, inter-relationships among your peers, trust and friendship, — these are our goals for the National Juniors program. Greed has no place here, either.

Women's racquetball needs help and we're the first in line to give that aid. Each state affiliate will be running a women's open or A division in their state tournaments, with most adding B and Novice divisions.

The N.R.C. pro tour, through sponsors Leach and Seamco, has increased women's prize money 200 per cent this season, and we look for further increases next year. Why? Because women have as much to gain in this sport as do men. Nobody has ever convinced me that the emotional

release, physical fitness, cardio-vascular benefits, and plain, old-fashioned fun of racquetball cannot be derived by women as well as men.

Some of racquetball's men would like to have these funds in some way funneled into their pockets. But it won't happen. Greed has no place here.

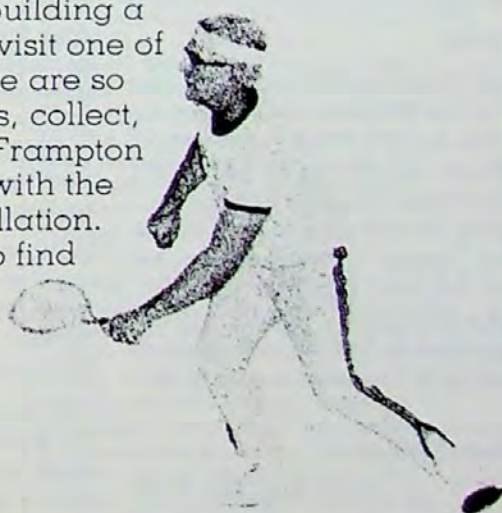
In fact greed and jealousy will never exist where the U.S.R.A. or N.R.C. are concerned. Those people who continue to harp on the archaic notion that racquetball is somehow been held back by politics or manufacturer's squabbles just don't know the facts. Anybody who promotes racquetball is good for the game.

The only people who have no place are those who try to tear down what has already been built, — the solid base, financially and morally, from which the mountain of racquetball will some day be built. These are the people who spend their time taking from racquetball, — with no thought of giving. They are greed, and there is no place for them.

But I will let them be, for the public is not blind. I just wish they'd let me sleep at night. ●

With more than 600 of our courts installed throughout the United States, nobody should have to travel far to visit one.

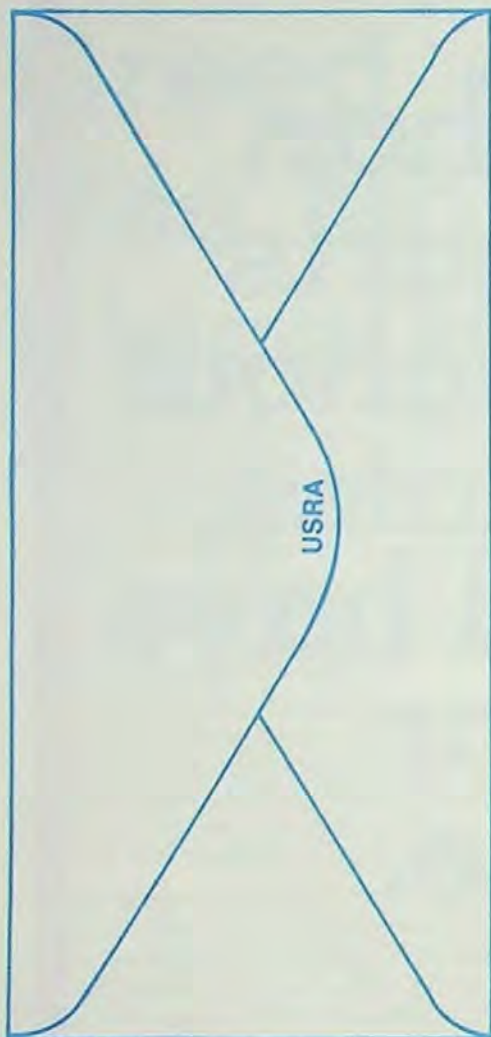
We invite anybody who is interested in building a handball/racquetball or squash court to visit one of our installations to see for himself why we are so proud of our Frampton courts. Just call us, collect, and we will give you the address of the Frampton court nearest you, and we will arrange with the owner or manager to show you his installation. That's the best way we know of for you to find out for yourself the many advantages of Frampton courts. Seeing is believing. To arrange your personal visit, call collect, (614) 861-5682.



FRAMPTON

D. B. Frampton & Co., Inc., 5330 East Main Street, Columbus, Ohio 43213, Phone (614) 861-5682

LETTERS



Dear Chuck:

Whenever the subject of rules changes comes up, the first thing that comes to mind is the screen serve. Don't you think that it's about time to evaluate it precisely for what it is: an illegal serve? Why should the server be granted the liberty of a "freebie"? In my opinion, he has been declared guilty of having delivered a bad serve. He should not therefore, escape the penalty given to a short serve, a long serve, or a 3-wall serve.

Second serve, please!

Victor I. Spear, M.D.
Rockford, IL

Dear Editor:

This is an Open Letter to U.S.R.A. Members, an unabashed tribute to Joe Ardito, Chuck Leve and Terry Fancher.

I've just finished helping put on the Las Vegas stop of the NRC Pro Tour. Many of you have thrilled at having the first-hand opportunity to watch the pros in action, while countless others have undoubtedly vicariously enjoyed the tour through the magazine articles.

How many observers and readers, however, have ever stopped to consider the endless hours of preparation and work put forth by Joe, Chuck and Terry?

After observing these gentlemen closely for nearly a week, I can only suggest to you that if you derive any enjoyment from the NRC Pro Tour, then you should stop with me now for a moment, and give them the recognition they deserve.

With a field of almost 400 entrants, matches were going on during the opening day until after 3:00 a.m. Joe Ardito left only after the last player had finished. And was back at 8:00 a.m.

Chuck Leve had the difficult job of seeding and making the draw for all those players. He along with Terry Fancher refereed countless matches, including all of the tough ones.

And through it all, they remained gentlemen. At all times they treated players and spectators with courtesy and friendliness, no easy task considering the stresses and problems that build over a large four-day tournament.

If you consider the fact that there are at least a dozen stops on the Pro Tour, each one in a different city, with unique problems, then you can begin to have an appreciation for these men.

I for one will no longer remember them for an occasional mistake in the draw, or for what I considered to be a bad call during a key match. From now on, when I enjoy moments of pleasure from the Pro Tour, I will think of and thank these hard working gentlemen whose

main interest is in the betterment of racquetball.

I can only hope that many of you will too.

Dan M. Seaton
President
Nevada Racquetball Association

Dear Mr. Kendler:

Many thanks for your time to discuss handball, racquetball and George Williams College. Needless to say, I'm mighty impressed with your attitude of reaching out to help others!

Please feel free to visit our Downers Grove campus where I hope you can meet our President, Dick Hamlin. We'll do our best to keep you up to date on our proposed Cardiovascular Health and Training Program.

Once again, thanks for your gift in honor of Hal Frierhood.

John C. Pruehs
Geo. Williams College

Dear Chuck:

We're getting a great response from the two pages in your publication for the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports. The enclosed samples are only an indication.

How about you re-printing in quantity and we'll be able to do a joint mailing to all of the racquetball clubs in the nation?

I look forward to your response.

David W. Hart
President's Council on Physical
Fitness and Sports
Washington, DC

Dear Joe:

To say the least, you people are really going PROFESSIONAL!

Your January issue of Racquetball came in today and it is one of the finest editions and most encouraging publications you have ever presented.

You are really going to town fast. Congratulations — keep it up and say hello to your fellow associates.

D. B. Frampton
Columbus, Ohio

THE IDEAL LOCKER? THAT'S ME!



In 1976, hundreds of club owners picked me — THE IDEAL LOCKER — above all the rest. WHY? Because I am the best and have the track record to prove it!

I'm refined, streamlined and beautiful but that's not all. Here's where I am unique above all others:

- Silent & Smooth Operating Doors
- No Maintenance Cost
- Self Contained All Welded Construction
- Ultra Modern Design Including Recess Handles, Louvers & Locks
- Increased Ventilation
- Maximum Security

COLOR ME BEAUTIFUL. I'm available in 20 standard colors and 5 accent colors — or if you choose, any color in the rainbow to make your locker rooms the most luxurious possible. My maker can also two-tone or match me to your existing decor. All this can be done at little to no extra cost.

COMPLIMENTS, OOHS, and AHS from your customers are guaranteed. I'll not only be a big asset to your club, I'll make money for you too. Competitively priced, you bet — and I can normally be amortized in three years or less.

If you would like to know more about me and all I can do for your facility — please contact



Ideal Steel Products

9735 West River Road
Gansevoort, New York 12831
(518) 747-0631

Here's a list of but a few club owners:

Algonquin Racquet Club, Whippany, N.J.
Ambassador Tennis & Health Club, Los Angeles, Calif.
Atlantic Beach Tennis Center, Atlantic Beach, N.Y.
Atlantis Athletic Club, Whittier, Calif.
Billie Jean King Tennis Center, Jamestown, N.Y.
Billie Jean King Tennis Center, Pontiac, Mich.
Birchwood Racquet Club, Clarks Summit, Pa.
Center Court, Chatham, N.J.
Chamisal Tennis Club, Salinas, Calif.
Colonie Tennis Courts, Colonie, N.Y.
Courts Royal Richmond, Richmond, Va.
DuPage Racquet Club, Addison, Ill.
Essex Racquet Club, West Orange, N.J.
Glen Ayre Racquet Club, Wheaton, Ill.
Greentree Racquet Club, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Hershey Racquet Club, Hershey, Pa.
Holiday Spa, Bay Shore, N.Y.
Hopewell Valley Tennis Center, Hopewell, N.J.
Houston Indoor Tennis Club, Houston, Tex.
Indian Creek Racquet Club, Overland Park, Kansas
Jackson Hole Golf & Tennis Club, Jackson, Wyoming
Korean Health Spa, New York, New York
Lake Country Tennis Club, Sennett, N.Y.
Minneapolis Tennis Club, Minneapolis, Minn.
Park Athletic & Recreation Club, Bellingham, Wash.
Racquet Club at DeLand, DeLand, Fla.
Racquet Club West, Mechanicsburg, Pa.
Racquet Time Courts, Oklahoma City, Okla.
Racquet Time of Lexington, Lexington, Ky.
Southfield Racquet Club, Southfield, Mich.
Spa Fitness Center, Dickson City, Pa.
Spa Health Fitness Center, Aiea, Hawaii
Special Events Center, El Paso, Texas
Tennis Center of Michigan, Grand Blanc, Mich.
Tuxedo Country Club, Tuxedo Park, N.Y.
9W Tennis Club, Newburgh, N.Y.
Woodbridge Racquet Club, Woodbridge, N.J.

N.R.C./U.S.R.A., IMG Sign 5 Year Pact

IMG's David Armstrong (l.) and U.S.R.A./N.R.C.'s president Bob Kendler (r.) check over signed contract while national director Chuck Leve looks on.



The U.S. Racquetball Association and National Racquetball Club proudly announced last month the signing of a five year agreement with the International Management Group of Cleveland, Ohio.

IMG, as the group is called, is the world's leading sports promotion firm, holding the capabilities of television, public relations, advertising, sponsorship, player representation and more.

"IMG is the recognized authority in sports promotion," said U.S.R.A./N.R.C. president Bob Kendler. "We are pleased to no end to be affiliated with them, and look forward to a long and fruitful relationship."

IMG is best characterized by its president Mark H. McCormick, 46, who formed his company over 16 years ago, by representing golfer Arnold Palmer. A real go-getter, McCormick's business now spans five continents, and a multitude of sports in which player representation is only one facet.

"The best thing that ever happened to me in my entire life was meeting Mark McCormick," says Gary Player, the famed golfer. "But for Mark I'd have just been peanuts."

After setting the world afire in the player representation field (some current stars under contract by IMG include Bjorn Borg, Ilie Nastase, Palmer, Evonne Goolagong Cawley, Brooks Robinson, Franco Harris, Jackie

Stewart and over 100 others), IMG branched out into television producing and other fields.

Of the 130 hours of televised tennis in 1976, over 100 of those hours were produced by IMG's affiliate Trans World International, Inc., headquartered in Los Angeles. TWI is the world's largest independent producer of televised sports.

Some of their accomplishments include the well known Superstars series, which was an IMG concept, in which IMG accumulated the players, obtained the prize money, the television commercial time, and sold the package to network television. The

natural evolution was also IMG work, Female Superstars, Battle of the Network Stars, and Battle of the Sexes.

TWI holds the rights to the official telecast and film for Wimbledon and Forest Hills. They represent the U.S. Tennis Association, U.S. Ski Association, and United States Auto club (USAC).

Additionally IMG has as clients some of the world's largest corporations, who annually spend millions of dollars on sports promotion. Among the sponsorship accomplishments of IMG were the Colgate-Dinah shore World Series of Golf, and IMG has done sports promotional work for American Express, General Motors and countless others.

So the question is, "What can IMG do for racquetball?"

"The answer to that," said Kendler, "is almost anything. We really don't know what the true potential of racquetball is. But if anybody can tap that potential and turn it into promotional benefits for the entire sport, then that person is Mark McCormick."

"IMG has the expertise where we don't," Kendler continued. "They know which companies are spending money on sports, they know who to contact within those companies, and they know how to put the entire package together. We feel certain they will."

If IMG's track record is any indication, — racquetballers can look forward to plenty of promotion in the next few

years. Through TWI, IMG took the Federation Internationale du Ski (FIS) world ski championships from \$35,000 in 1966 to \$230,000 in 1970. They represented the National Basketball Association for three years during which the NBA's television rights package went from less than \$5 million to \$17.2 million.

"It is important to note," said Kendler, "that IMG's promotion will be for **both** amateur and professional racquetball, — equally. We would not have signed the agreement without IMG's assurances that the amateurs would get their share of the promotional dollars."

Featured in *Sports Illustrated*, *Advertising Age*, and *People*, McCormick and IMG's efforts are best described by Palmer.

"Mark is the most dynamic individual I've ever met," said Palmer. "He's broken the barrier of hard work."

"That's the kind of people we like," said Kendler. "If that's the case, well, IMG will fit right in. As far as what our deal will mean for racquetball, — who knows? I do know one thing, if racquetball is ever going to be big, and I mean really big, then IMG is the firm to help do it. Nobody has their expertise in promoting, — absolutely nobody. ●



Mark McCormick



Gil South, Greenspring Racket Club

New Bata Poly Match Five. Now you've got a shoe of your own.

Soft, fully padded inner lining and cushioned insole.

Comfort, padded heel lining and collar.

Official Shoe of the U.S. Raquetball Association.

Unbreakable nylon laces.

Lightweight Polyair® sole takes a load off your feet.

100% nylon upper for extra long wear.



Makers of the lightest toughest sport shoes.

Bata Shoe Co., Belcamp, Md. 21017

PAYMENT FOR ARTICLES

Payment For Articles\$

Do you know a better way to teach a particular phase of racquetball? Have you experienced something first hand within our sport that you would want to share with the entire nation? Taken any good pictures of racquetball lately? Have any health tips that could help somebody's game?

If you possess or are capable of writing any of the above, *National Racquetball* will be happy to accept contributions from our readers. Payment will be made, on publication at the following rates:

\$200 for Instructional Articles.

Contributions must be specific, well documented with drawings or photographs, on a particular phase of our sport and how to improve it. Potential contributors should read any of Ken Wong's instructional series (November, 1975, January, March, 1976) as a good example. Minimum length: 2,000 words.

\$200 for First Person Articles.

Contributions must be actual, true, original unpublished story about something that happened to you or you witnessed within racquetball. It can be humorous, dramatic or just plain interesting. Potential contributors should read David Northcutt's *A Game With Charlie Brumfield* (May, 1976) as a good example. Minimum length: 1,000 words.

\$200 for Health Articles. Contributions must be factual, documented and related to how to improve or maintain your health in or with racquetball. Articles dealing with diet, conditioning, safety, cardio-vascular improvement, or psychological areas are particularly desirable. Dr. P.E. Allsen's *Racquetball Increases Cardiovascular Fitness* (March, 1976) is a good example. Minimum length: 750 words.

\$50 for pictures, cartoons or drawings. The material may be dramatic, humorous, or singularly interesting. It must be original and unpublished. Regular tournament photos, unless containing an unusually high degree of originality will not be considered. All photos must be black-and-white glossy, and any cartoons or drawings must be camera ready.

The contributor's name and address and the date the contribution is sent should be on all items. Compositions must be type-written, double spaced, and are subject to revision, alteration, correction or rejection by the editor. **CONTRIBUTIONS CANNOT BE ACKNOWLEDGED OR RETURNED.**

Please address contributions to The Editor *National Racquetball*, 4101 Dempster Street, Skokie, Illinois 60076 •

Paramount INTRODUCES THE New

Sports TrainerTM

THE TOTAL GYM
PACKAGE IDEAL FOR
Racquetball Clubs

REASONS WHY SPORTSTRAINER IS BEST FOR YOUR CLUB . . .

LOWEST PRICES . . . now you can offer your members the most advanced health spa type equipment at factory-direct low prices.

MORE EXERCISE/FITNESS BENEFITS . . . to improve your member's game, appearance and overall health.

HIGHEST DOLLAR RETURNS . . . with no costly year after year overhead. Requires no instructors — completely self-programming. Compact for minimum space.

ADDS GLAMOUR . . . EXCITEMENT FOR CONDITIONING . . . Revolutionary design with Duo-FlexTM—the most advanced health spa conditioning system ever!

FREE PLANNING, CONSULTING SERVICES

Only Paramount Manufactures a Complete Line of Exercise Equipment at Factory-Direct Prices!

Paramount[®]
Health Equipment Corp.

3000 So. Santa Fe Avenue
Los Angeles, Calif. 90058

Write or Call Collect
for complete information

(213)583-2424

Treating The Aches

Dr. Victor I. Spear is a 41-year-old practicing physician from Rockford, Illinois. An avid (and very successful) racquetballer, Dr. Spear has two city titles (1972, 1974) to his credit. He has also authored a new book, *How to win at Racquetball*.

Racquetball easily qualifies as one of the most strenuous and physically demanding sports you can find. It is characterized by sudden starts and stops, twists and turns, dives and crashes, etc. I would like to interject here some medical advice on the sensible management of injuries and pain. This is probably the only section that I can claim to be perfectly qualified to write — not only because of my medical background, but because I'm hurting all the time from playing racquetball, and my wife has an aversion to whining.

The Sprain

The most common injury in racquetball is the sprain, usually the ankle or knee. This also happens to be the type of injury that most frequently receives the wrong first aid treatment. How many times have you seen an athlete on television sprain his ankle, and be immediately "attended to" with an icepack? This is **WRONG**. The icepack may be all right for a little later, but the very first move is the most important, and the very first move should be **PRESSURE**.

As soon as a sprain occurs, blood will begin to flow into the tissues from ruptured blood vessels, along with edema (watery) fluid from damaged cells. The resultant swelling can be held down as much as 90% if firm pressure is applied right away, and maintained. And you don't need any fancy gimmicks during the crucial, initial phase. Simply grab that ankle in a strangle-hold grip and hold it like a vice for 10 minutes. Then wrap it firmly with an elastic (Ace) bandage, but not so tight as to impair the circulation.

These two steps will do more to prevent the swelling than a whole bucket of ice, which you can save for the large glass of scotch you will need at bedtime.

Over the course of the next few days, it may be necessary to keep it wrapped while you are hobbling about, in order

to keep the swelling from recurring. But it isn't necessary to apply the pressure continuously. You may remove the elastic bandage at bedtime when you are ready to assume the horizontal position, but keep it at the bedside. The time to reapply it is **BEFORE YOU GET OUT OF BED** in the morning. The greatest amount of swelling occurs **IMMEDIATELY** after you take the upright position.

So, if you get out of bed, stand at the mirror and shave for 10 minutes, don't bother to put on the elastic bandage afterwards. It's already too late to prevent the swelling.

Muscle Soreness

The most important factors in the prevention of muscle soreness are:

1. Good physical conditioning
2. Sensible warmup
3. Proper cooling down
4. Next day workout
5. Aspirin

The Warm-up

You will rarely see a professional athlete go out and start playing without a good warm-up. This is even more essential in racquetball than it is in most other sports because of the physical demands made on the player. Never walk on the court without having gone through some exercise routine consisting primarily of stretch exercises and easy jogging. It need not take up more than 10 or 15 minutes, but it will go a long way toward prevention of muscle aches the next day. Needless to say, you will also play better.

Regardless of which combination of exercises you choose, certain general principles should be adhered to:

- a. Start Slowly
- b. Gradually increase both the speed and the intensity of the exercises.
- c. Try to include as many different muscle groups and joints as possible during the full course of your routine.

- d. Combine muscle stretching with the increased activity of the heart and lungs.

If you don't have your own set combination of warmup exercises, try the following 12 minute routine on for size.

1. Slow jog - one minute
2. Arm circles - one minute
Rotation of the outstretched arms alternately, through a full 360 degree rotation of the shoulder joint, first in a vertical plane, both forward and back, then in a horizontal plane, both forward and back. This is best done while walking.
3. Calf and hamstring stretcher - one minute
Stand with one foot crossed over the other, with both feet flat on the floor. Slowly reach down to touch your toes without bending your knees. Repeat several times, and then cross over with the other foot and do the same.
4. Alternate toe touch from the standing position with gradually widening stance - one minute
5. Half-squats - one minute
Starting with the upright position, slowly lower your body by bending your knees to the half-squat position with arms extended forward. Hold for three seconds, and repeat several times.
6. Jumping jacks - one minute
7. Medium jog - one minute
8. Knee-chest back stretchers - one minute
Lying flat, hug both knees to your chest, and hold for three seconds. Extend, and repeat several times. (Most orthopedic surgeons caution against doing this exercise one knee at a time.)
9. Single leg raises - one minute
Lie on your back with hands folded

under your head. Raise one leg up to the vertical position, and then back to the floor. Repeat several times, and then do the same with the other leg.

10. Hurdler's stretch - one minute
From a sitting position extend one leg backward at a 45 degree angle, bent at the knee. Then touch the forward foot with the same hand several times. Repeat with the legs reversed.
11. Fast jog - two minutes

If you have found the descriptions of any of these exercises difficult to comprehend, I would suggest *The Official Y.M.C.A. Physical Fitness Handbook* as a good source.

Cooling Down

After a strenuous match, muscles have a tendency to register their own form of silent protest at the abuse by tightening up. This may even progress to the point of painful spasms. This can be prevented, or at least significantly reduced, by a gradual tapering off of exercise, rather than going right from the court to the shower. **STANDING STILL**, without support, which is the position I assume you would have in the shower, is the worst possible position to take immediately after a hard workout. It is far more physiologic, and less embarrassing to the musculo-skeletal system, to spend about 10 minutes winding down. Alternate walking and jogging at a slow pace will do the job well. Once you have cooled down, sitting in a whirlpool or tub is far better than standing still in the shower. But if shower you must, then at least make it brief.

Next Day Workout

The most uncomfortable stiffness and soreness usually begins to set in about 24 hours later. This can be alleviated considerably by engaging in a short session of stretch exercises and light jogging sometime during the next day. This may be the last thing in the world

you really feel like doing, but it's well worth it.

Aspirin

If all else fails you may have to resort to aspirin. Unfortunately, the familiar cliché, "Take two aspirins and call me in the morning," has blinded the American public to the real value of aspirin as a remedy for pain. Because it has become commonplace, this minor miracle rarely gets the recognition or appreciation it deserves. It is, without a doubt, the most underrated medication there is. But it is seldom used correctly.

For maximum effectiveness, it should be taken as follows: two or three tablets every four hours around the clock (there is now available an eight-hour aspirin which can be used as the bedtime dose.) At times, it may even be necessary to begin the aspirin before playing, in order to establish effective blood levels. Don't wait until you start hurting. Regardless of how it is taken, three precautions must be noted:

1. Never take aspirin on an empty stomach. It is a highly acid substance (even buffered form), and is irritating to the lining of the stomach. It must, therefore, always be preceded by food and milk.
2. Be on the alert for a side effect of ringing in the ears. This would indicate that you have exceeded the maximum tolerable dose for your system.
3. Don't take aspirin if you have a history of stomach or duodenal ulcers.

Finally, a brief philosophical note. Let us not moan and groan too much about pain that occurs as a direct result of having fun, in sound mind and body. Let us not lose sight of the fact that literally millions of people spend their days in pain from things not even remotely related to enjoyment. It makes the aches a little bit easier to endure if we stop to remind ourselves of the difference. ●

Dan Seaton

"... she said, 'the baby is coming. It's time to go to the hospital.' I said, 'no, the baby can't come now, ... this is the National finals.' "



NATIONAL RACQUETBALL INTERVIEW

Who would have ever thought that a chief deputy in the Clark County, Nevada District Attorney's Office, former Army diver and Blackjack dealer would emerge in 1977 as one of the leading volunteer promoters in the world of racquetball?

The story is true for Dan Seaton, 38, the president of the Nevada Racquetball Association and tournament director of the recent Seamco-Leach Pro Tour stop in Las Vegas.

Widely recognized as one of the most efficient, enthusiastic, and helpful state chairmen representing U.S.R.A. affiliates, Dan prefers to shrug off accolades by claiming *"it needed to be done, so I did it."*

A 1967 graduate of the University of Nevada at Las Vegas, (*"we called it 'Tumbleweed Tech' in those days,"*) Dan proceeded to Hastings College of Law in San Francisco, received his law degree and went to work in the glitter capital of the world in 1970.

He was born in Minneapolis, but family bronchial illnesses forced a relocation to the drier climates of Arizona and Nevada when Dan was a youngster. Untouched by such illness (*"I was too nasty to be sick,"*) Dan grew to love the desert climes, and after meeting his future wife Tonya, decided to settle out west.

He and Tonya married in 1969 while Dan was still in Law School and almost two years ago welcomed little Mark Seaton into the family. Tonya currently is pregnant with number two, (*"probably our last,"*).

An avid high school tennis player and trackman, Seaton accidentally found racquetball, while playing paddle tennis in San Diego on a business trip. He grew to love it, and when the Nationals were held in Las Vegas in 1975 it was Dan who came forward to offer his services in organizing the Las Vegas Racquetball Association, which begat the Nevada Association.

One of the top Nevada players who is feeling more and more comfortable in the seniors division, Dan's personality of Mr. Nice Guy leaves him on the court, where Mr. Ferocious Tiger takes over.

He has done as much for racquetball in his area as anybody else in the nation has in theirs. He is constantly promoting, taking on new responsibilities, and furthering the promotion of our game. It is people like Dan Seaton who make racquetball the great sport that it is today, and it is not only for Dan's accomplishments, but for all the thousands of volunteers in racquetball, that we feel this interview is worthwhile and of interest.

Leve: *How did you first get into racquetball?*

Seaton: About two years ago I was in Southern California visiting some friends and we went to a fellow's house who had this miniature tennis court in his back yard. I asked him about it, since I had quite an extensive background in tennis.

I played competitive tennis in high school and the Army and just living in different places stimulated me to enter local events. I was never particularly good but I enjoyed it a great deal.

Leve: *When you say you were not particularly good, it could mean extremely good. Did you play on your high school team successfully?*

Seaton: I was the number one singles player my senior year but only because all the good players graduated, and that's the truth. I was probably a high B or low A tennis player after I got out of school and into local tournaments. Today I would be killed as I normally am in racquetball.

Anyhow, I asked my friend what that miniature tennis court was for. I thought he had somebody in his family with a short leg or something. He said it was called paddle tennis, and it was played competitively in Southern California. He was supposed to be ranked there.

He showed me how to play the game, with these little wooden paddles that had holes in them and tennis balls. I loved it so much that we played for about four hours on a very hot day. Evidently, I showed some promise at the thing but to no avail because he knew that there were no paddle tennis courts in Vegas. He came here and visited a lot and had never seen any. But he said I should look into a game called racquetball, and that was the first time I ever heard of it.

I came back to Las Vegas, started asking people about racquetball and found out there were some courts at the Tropicana Hotel. The fellow I found it out from was my barber, Tony Peppi. Tony and another fellow took me down to the Tropicana and proceeded to drill holes through my legs until I learned to turn around and look at the ball. They taught me the game, and since then I have been totally immersed in the sport.

Leve: *How did you get started dealing 21 in the casinos?*

Seaton: I graduated from high school in 1956 from Lewiston (Idaho) and in

"... We began pointing at each other, — you be president, you be vice-president, you be secretary-treasurer. We've held a tournament every two months since ..."



1957 I went into the Army for three years. Then I went to Phoenix, learned how to run a trampoline center which was the rage in those days, came to Las Vegas in late 1960 where my uncle, two other gentlemen and myself invested our money in a trampoline center. My idea was to make a little money, go back to Phoenix and attend Arizona State University. Half of that came true. We made a *little* bit of money, but I found out that here in Las Vegas a guy could work in a casino during the evening hours and still go to school during the day. So I stayed.

As it turned out the five years I was going to college, I was a 21 dealer in some of the various hotels, working the swing shift generally from 8 p.m. to 4 a.m. I would then go to classes sometimes from eight in the morning until late in the afternoon and catch sleep whenever I could.

Leve: *Were you married at the time?*

Seaton: No. I got married in 1969, while I was in Law School.

Leve: *So, your game is 21, you're going to school, and you are not married. What's next?*

Seaton: There was a year in that five year period that I didn't go to school because I disliked the gambling business so much I tried to get out of it. So I went into another line of work — for an airline for a two-thirds cut in pay. For about a year I worked for this airline to see if I could handle both school and the airline but I couldn't. It just didn't work out.

Then one semester I went to work for the YMCA as the aquatic director and loved every minute of it. I was in sports and it was real fun, but again, no pay and poor hours to try to go to school. So I went back to dealing and let the ends justify the means. Really it was an easy way to get through college, being able to work full time and go to school full time.

Leve: *What other sports have you attempted?*

Seaton: I played tennis and I ran track. Got beat up in football. I was one of the tackling dummies. I didn't develop basketball until I was in the Army, and I've been playing a lot of it ever since.

Leve: *What was your Army experience like?*

Seaton: I did my basic training at Ft. Ord in California, then went to school at Ft. Devens, about 40 miles west of Boston for about nine months. I learned to be a crypt analyst, decoding messages. I next went to Washington, D.C. for my remaining two years and worked for the National Security Agency which is half civilian and half military, dealing entirely with intercepting and decoding so-called enemy messages.

During those two years in Massachusetts and particularly in Washington, I was a competitive diver. I got into special services and went up and down the eastern seaboard diving in Army and A.A.U. Meets.

Leve: *It seems to me with all your athletic background you would have been a perfect F.B.I. agent.*

Seaton: Well, I love to ski and when I saw those guys up on the slopes with former President Ford I thought that would be an ideal line of work.

Leve: *With dealing, the Army, sports, and school, how did you ever find time to get married?*

Seaton: Tonya — she's the girl who makes it all possible. Any wife who can put up with my absences like she can, is a good woman. Tonya and I met through one of my roommates in college. He was dating her sister and Tonya, being the good looking girl she is, was dating a lot of other guys and had no time for me until, well, she is Polish. What more can I say? She finally ended up with me. We dated through college and then I went away my first year in law school, by myself, because we thought it would be pretty tough. The second year we got together up in San Francisco and got married, and we've been together ever since.

Leve: *Is it true that your son Mark was almost named Charlie Brumfield Seaton?*

Seaton: No, not really. Mark is affectionately called "Roll-out" around the house. But it's a funny thing — all

my racquetball friends come over and call him "Skip." So I don't know which is really the truth. The reason some people think I should have named him after Brumfield relates partly to my entrance into racquetball.

I had been playing five or six months when the N.R.C. held the Nationals in Las Vegas in 1975. That was in April and Tonya was 16 days over-due with Mark on the day of the finals. Strandemo was playing Brumfield and I was reffing a Masters doubles final during the first game of their championship match. Tonya came to me, she had been watching the pros, and she said, "*The baby is coming. It's time to go to the hospital.*"

I can't remember if it was you or me, but one of us told her — "*No, the baby can't come now. We're too busy, and besides this is the National finals.*" Well, being the good Polish wife she is, she stopped having her labor pains, sat back down, we watched the remainder of the match and went home.

About three hours later labor started again and she had the baby that night. The follow-up to that anecdote is that now two years later the N.R.C. is back having another pro-am in Las Vegas and Tonya this time is five months along, about to give birth to a baby. I guess the only thing I can tell you is that you are *not* coming back to Las Vegas.

Leve: *How would you describe yourself as a player?*

Seaton: Hopeless. I would describe myself as a scrambler. I haven't played long enough to develop good shots. My shots don't go precisely where I want them to but, I'll go get anything on the court and if it's on the next court I might go through the wall to get that one. I love the physical activity, the hard physical activity involved in racquetball, so the floor and I are not strangers. The kill shot and I sometimes miss each other along the way.

Leve: *Working in the District Attorney's office, your job, I imagine has a lot of pressure at times, a lot of paper and detail work. How does racquetball affect you in your job?*

Seaton: Well it helps me. You're exactly right in describing my work — it's full of pressure. It's like Brumfield and Hogan in the finals. You go home uptight. That is you go home uptight

"... Las Vegas has certain attractions that other cities don't and kids often need help. I believe in giving that help."



unless you are able to get off for an hour or so and take your aggressions out somehow. I do it by knocking that little black ball around the walls.

I guess the best way I can answer your question is that the reason Tonya puts up with my playing and being so active in racquetball is that I come home as mellow as a pussy cat. It takes all of the aggression out of me, — all of the tenseness out. I couldn't ask for a better release than racquetball.

Leve: *How do you find time to play? When do you usually play?*

Seaton: Well, I have been known to go down to the University courts and play at six in the morning prior to going to work if I know I can't play that night. If I can arrange an evening match, I'll try to go down late in the evening after Mark has gone to bed, and after I have come home, played with him and spent time with Tonya.

Leve: *As someone toiling on the local level do you have any opinions on the growth of racquetball?*

Seaton: I think the growth has occurred so rapidly because of the ease with which people can learn the sport. I have been close to two of the related sports — handball and tennis, both from a playing point of view and tennis, at least, from a teaching point of view. Compared to racquetball they are both terribly hard to learn. In tennis, especially for women, you have a bigger, longer and heavier racquet to try to wield. The aches and pains of trying to learn a tennis backhand are monstrous. And you are forever chasing the darn ball either at the net or back to the fence after your opponent completely misses the court.

In racquetball, obviously enough, the side walls prevent this from happening. And with the shorter racquet closer to your body it is easier to develop a backhand.

"... the communications lines must be open and kept open and state associations must work as closely together as possible, with the aid of the National office ..."



With handball it takes a long time to develop the left hand so you are essentially playing half the game for the first few years. In racquetball a person can get lessons and be accomplished enough to enjoy the game within a matter of weeks.

Leve: *With barely 30 courts, Las Vegas has a larger percentage of players per court than any other city in the country. Why?*

Seaton: Well, I guess our organizations are somewhat responsible. We were just getting started when the N.R.C. came here in '75 with the Nationals. That hyped up everybody — me included and made players out of a lot of people who never dreamt of playing the game. You being here caused me to get hold of four or five other guys and say "we have to have tournaments like this. Just playing each other for fun is not good

enough." And our little group got together one night, in fact I remember it was at the Leach display booth during that tournament, and talked it over. Finally we began pointing at each other and said, "you be president, you be vice president, you be secretary-treasurer." We've held a tournament at least every two months ever since.

The organization has grown now to a membership of over 400 people. We have at least 150 in every tournament, and spectators number in the two or three hundreds. It's like a cancerous growth, — it just doesn't stop.

The more people you show this game to, the more come out and play. For instance at the pro stop this year, I came to know the faces of the players and their relatives from out of town. I would look up in the stands and see dozens and dozens of faces of people that I had never seen before. I'm convinced those were locals who didn't

play this game yet, but after the tournament they did. That is where your growth comes in.

Leve: *But unlike cancer, you don't think the growth will eventually kill the game, do you?*

Seaton: Absolutely not. As a matter of fact I compare racquetball to the sport I came to Las Vegas for, trampoline centers, which was a faddy thing. It stayed healthy competitively — as part of collegiate gymnastics, but it's limited in it's scope. Only certain people can do it, fewer do it well, and injuries are far more likely to occur. It doesn't have the mass appeal that racquetball has.

Leve: *Let's get back to Las Vegas Racquetball Association. There must have been more to organizing it than a couple of guys sitting around a booth at the Nationals in '75.*

Seaton: Strangely enough, that's about all there was. I had been bemoaning the fact for several months that I didn't have any tournaments in which to play. I'm a competitive person who wants to go in and hit the ball for a reason other than just to work up a sweat.

So I made up my own tournaments. I guess I'm as selfishly motivated as anyone. As it happened I guess it benefited many other people in town. But I'm the guy those tournaments were for initially.

Leve: *Did you win most of them?*

Seaton: No. I have won a couple but they've spread around to various players throughout the city. I don't think any one person can be said to be continuously winning tournaments here. We are not equal obviously, to the level of play in San Diego, but within ourselves we are very competitive and have a very evenly matched group.

Leve: *Were there any problems changing your Las Vegas Racquetball Association to encompass all of Nevada?*

Seaton: Well, just legal problems really. The way I envisioned it is that the Nevada Racquetball Association is a non-profit corporation, like the Las Vegas Racquetball Association. We simply renamed it and changed it's structure slightly. It's Nevada Racquetball Association with a Southern and Northern division.

Here in Nevada we only have two major population centers, — Las Vegas and Reno. The Reno people will comprise the Northern division, elect their own officers, run their own tournaments, clinics or whatever, separately from what we do down here. Except, it will all go generally by the same guidelines, that of the U.S. Racquetball Association.

The two groups of officers will comprise the Nevada Racquetball Association's Board of Directors. We will have a state tournament every year and the evening preceeding that tournament, when both groups are together, we will have a Board of Directors meeting, to decide the following year's projects. It's easy in concept, but under the laws of Nevada a few difficulties arose in doing the actual incorporating and changing. It's just something that had to be worked out legally.

Leve: *It seems to me that Nevada has the similar problem of some other states, — where it is a relatively big state geographically, but a great deal of the play is concentrated in one area. Have you been able to ensure that the Northern area receives adequate benefits from the Nevada Racquetball Association?*

Seaton: Yes, although we are not quite as unbalanced as many people think. We're probably 60-40 in numbers of players at the top, Las Vegas as opposed to Reno. The calibre of play is, in fact, better in Reno than Las Vegas. There are two or three players up there who are quite good.

At any rate we don't really have that problem. I have been to Reno and talked to the more interested players. They're building a new court club that should be ready any day now, and they will probably run their half of the association out of that club. We are going to try to work 50-50 because we believe in equality and want to have as much parity as possible.

Leve: *As an active volunteer in racquetball you do not receive any personal financial benefits, in fact you probably absorb personal financial hardships. Yet you continue to work hard as do many other people. How do you visualize the role of active volunteers in racquetball?*

Seaton: To give you an insight into my thinking, let me state initially that I am a believer in the volunteering of services to civic causes. I believe someone should join the various organizations

“... we elected to join the U.S.R.A. as an affiliate because we wanted to help, to be a volunteer organization for the good of racquetball ...”



that serve their community. Some people do it through the Lions, Elks, or Chamber of Commerce. Those are a little too social for me.

The kinds of things I try to involve myself in are sports and youth oriented. I have been a member of the University of Nevada at Las Vegas booster club that has a great deal to do with athletic programs. I have met a lot of the athletes out of the University simply because I am interested in them as people and feel that in the formative stages of their lives they need older guidance. This is particularly true of kids who are coming in on scholarships and are away from home. Las Vegas has certain attractions that other cities don't and these kids often need help. I believe in giving that help.

I'll go out and volunteer my time with the swimming team or coaching the divers or kids basketball team. Or, I'll give my time to racquetball promoting

tournaments because I believe a great number of people are benefiting from racquetball. It is just a different kind of community service. I suppose it is like being on the board of directors at the American Cancer Society. Racquetball is simply a little different way of helping — perhaps a little selfishly because it is directed towards personal interest.

Leve: *What is the Nevada Racquetball Association doing to help promote juniors racquetball development?*

Seaton: That has been one of our primary subjects lately, and it's one that needs a lot of work. I am not aware of more than a dozen or so junior age players in this city, and only one who plays competitively. On a personal basis, I have been encouraging as many youngsters to play as possible, and we'll have a juniors division in our next tournament or two. It is important that we encourage them to come out.

"... when it comes to volunteers, the ladies are the best. They're first to volunteer, they do the best job and they're the most dependable ..."



We never had a Women's Novice division in our tournaments, mainly because we didn't think there were enough interested women who would compete. Finally, a few who were interested convinced us to give it a try, and the gals just came out of the woodwork. From that we've learned that we must first make the division available, and even if the turnout is light the first couple of times, that in the long run it will be worth it. Eventually the juniors will fill up just like the other divisions.

We're extremely interested in the juniors. I hope to make the juniors my pet project, — it's where the growth and future of racquetball will come from.

Leve: *Do you have any thoughts on how the various state associations can better work together?*

Seaton: As long as there is the U.S. Racquetball Association serving as a clearing house, a place where each of

us can send our own ideas, suggestions, or complaints, — and then have those ideas sent throughout the country, we'll be able to work well together.

If Illinois, for instance, has a great new idea on refereeing, and if Nevada doesn't know about that idea, well, it doesn't do us any good. We need to have someone sending us the latest developments in the sport, and on the other hand, it is our obligation to send out anything that we do, to help the other states.

I guess what I'm saying is that the communications lines must be open and kept open and that the state associations must work as closely together as possible, with the aid of the National office.

Following every one of our tournaments we write an association newsletter, which we send to every

member of our association. We will also be sending a copy to the National office, or if you'd like, we can send it directly to the other state affiliates.

Now, it's not easy, I know. I'm sure that in some of the newer state organizations, one or two people are taking on a great percentage of the responsibility. However, as the volunteer help increases and as more money becomes available locally from U.S.R.A. headquarters, the situation will improve.

But think how much better and fairer tournament draws would be if the Arizona Racquetball Association, for example, had copies of the Nevada Racquetball Association tournaments. They would know who our good players were, and vice versa. Thus we could virtually eliminate out-of-town players getting a poor draw just because nobody running the tournament knew who they were.

Leve: *Why did the Nevada Racquetball Association choose to affiliate with the U.S.R.A.? Have you experienced any benefits?*

Seaton: Mainly because I like you and think you're a nice guy.

Leve: *Besides that.*

Seaton: Actually, we didn't really need the U.S.R.A. We were already receiving the same two dollars you send us now for our membership fees, and the \$100 initial donation wasn't a major factor. Unlike many associations, we are not hurting for money, — so even the free tournament balls was not that great an incentive.

So here's why. The U.S.R.A. is the leader in racquetball. You are the people who are making things happen. I don't know anything about other groups, so I don't say that in comparison. We've dealt with you since 1975, and we've seen what's been happening and we like what we see. We like the growth in racquetball and we believe that the U.S.R.A. has been a major factor contributing to that growth.

We elected to join the U.S.R.A. as a state affiliate because we wanted to help, to be a volunteer organization for the good of racquetball. At the recent pro stop in Las Vegas, we must have had 50 or 60 volunteers provide their time and services.

You probably chose Las Vegas as an alternate site when the Newport Beach facility didn't open on time because we

do have an affiliation, both informally prior to our organization, and now, formally through the Nevada Racquetball Association. Together we can further the interests of racquetball far better than we can apart.

And believe me, we've never regretted the affiliation. Terry Fancher, — his name is magic with us. He has communicated with me weekly since he took over the job of National Coordinator of the U.S.R.A. He's sent us pamphlet after pamphlet, and put me in touch with the people who could help me, if he couldn't. For instance, it was Terry who put me in touch with Ray Thompson in New York when I needed some guidelines on running leagues. Ray had it, Terry knew it, and I got it. And that's the way things should be run.

The referees guidelines that the U.S.R.A. put out has helped us immeasurably. All of our referees have copies, they've gone over and over it, and although they were good refs to begin with, it just made them better.

It's back to the clearing house idea, — that one central place where people can go for the necessary information, so we can have a unified sport.

I am a believer in movement forward by people who are interested in the same thing. I don't care, frankly, what we call ourselves, as long as we keep trying to better that one common bond of racquetball.

Leve: *How has the progress of more involvement by women been in your area?*

Seaton: Women's racquetball is looking up. At the pro stop I met some lovely ladies, — good people who I welcomed the opportunity to meet.

We're finding a lot more women beginning to participate both with tournaments and with the association. They may be wives of husbands who play, students at the University, or perhaps independent of their husbands. There are an awful lot of women playing here now, and many of them are competing.

Many women do not relish the idea of making a spectacle of themselves competing in front of a crowd of people. But I have found out that once they get a taste of it, no matter how many apprehensions they showed before hand, — they love it and invariably want to know when the next tournament will be.

"... it's when the players cross over the line from psychology to theatrics, or worse yet, tantrums, that I think they're doing the sport a disservice ..."



And when it comes to volunteers, — the ladies are the best. They're the first to volunteer, they do the best job and they're the most dependable. Our women have been an enormous help to our organization.

Leve: *Do you feel that amateur racquetball is receiving it's proper share of support nationally?*

Seaton: I feel the emphasis is being placed too much on the professionals. As an example, let's talk about the balls, whether they're too lively, or too dead or whatever. These are important questions, but the answers to these questions, it seems to me, are trying to be found through the eyes of the professional. How many professionals are there, — perhaps 50? If we're trying to please the top 50 players at the expense of the masses, I think we should turn it around and please the masses.

In general, however, I think the promotional emphasis has given the amateur a pretty fair shake. Tournament speaking, and especially the pro-am tour, the amateurs get a great kick out of watching the pros play, — there's no denying that. However, the pros are just the icing on the cake. The true tournament was held for the other 350 participants in the amateur divisions. They made it all possible with entry fees, ticket sales and volunteer help.

I think the current format, with the pros and amateurs at the same tournament, is ideal, — and it can only serve to help amateur racquetball.

Leve: *Do you feel that professional racquetball has a future?*

Seaton: Oh, absolutely. I compare professional racquetball today to professional tennis 10 or 15 years ago, just prior to the coming of television for tennis.

"... we need to take the calling of matches away from the player, — it should not be his responsibility. It puts too great a burden on his shoulders ..."



Racquetball is probably the fastest growing sport in the nation, yet it is still played by relatively few numbers of people. When racquetball is put on the television screens, and thereby reaches the masses, the real explosion will occur. Then once television comes in, here come the sponsors and bigger purses, — and you'll have tennis and golf all over again.

I feel the growth of professional racquetball is unlimited, — we've barely scratched the surface.

Leve: *What is your opinion on the professional players conduct on the court?*

Seaton: I have feelings both pro and con. As a fan I enjoy the antics, if I may call them that, of a Brumfield, Hogan, Strandemo or whoever. It's enjoyable to see the psychology of the top players.

It's when they cross the line from

psychology to theatrics, or worse yet, tantrums, that I think they're doing the sport a disservice.

Some of the amateur players try to emulate the pros, and they don't have the mental control the pros have. I think that's what separates the pros from the amateurs, — the ability to control oneself in a given tense situation. I saw amateurs at the Las Vegas pro stop who had kill shots, passes and serves every bit as good as the great pros. But they didn't have the mental capability to carry off the match like a pro does.

When the professional allows himself to cross over that line, that's when the fan begins to become disgruntled. I've had a few people comment to me that they hoped the professional racquetball tour doesn't turn out to be like professional wrestling or roller derby. And it's when players go into their tantrums, that they begin to take on the characteristics of those other so-called sports.

I saw more psychology on the court at our recent tournament than I did two years ago. The players are getting better. They are staying on the psychology side of the line rather than on the tantrum side. If that's a trend, — it's good.

Leve: *What has been your experience with recent rule changes, the tie-breaker, for example?*

Seaton: We have adopted the tie-breaker, and it's been a great rule change. It makes it so much easier to schedule the matches for tournament directors, and it puts a tenseness into the game for players that I think is superb. A guy cannot go into the third game tired and start coasting, figuring he can catch up later. He's got to go out and start pumping from the word go, and that's what we want to see.

And now the new rule giving the third game serve to the player scoring the most points in the first two, — well, that's better yet. We're seeing fewer instances of a player intentionally letting down in the second game, because he wants that first serve in the tie-breaker.

The little silly rules, like how many times you can bounce the ball, or bouncing it against the side wall, they should be thrown out of the game entirely.

I think there are good and bad arguments against the elimination of the second serve. With the second serve, you have players purposely throwing away their first serve for one of two reasons, — either they're going for an ace, or they're serving long or short intentionally because they need the rest.

I guess I'm in favor of keeping both serves, but with some restrictions on those players who serve intentionally long or short in order to gain some time. I don't think I saw that happen at all during the Las Vegas stop, and maybe it's just not happening any more. If that's the case, let's keep both serves.

Leve: *As a person who is often involved in administration of tournaments, — how do you view the referee's situation?*

Seaton: Refereeing is not in as good a state as it should be. We need referees who attend tournaments to referee, paid referees. We need to take the calling of the matches away from the

player, — it should not be his responsibility. It puts too great a burden on his shoulders. Every play must be called by a referee, — and since a referee can't see every play, that brings in the linesmen.

I think the inclusion of linesmen has been of tremendous help in controlling and calling the game. However, you're talking about an awful lot of bodies if you expect to have a referee and two linesmen for every match throughout a tournament, and we probably can't do that. But from the quarters on there should be competent referees and competent linesmen, and they shouldn't be players.

Leve: *One of the newest rules is re-playing a point if one linesman disagrees with the referee and the other linesman did not see the play. Do you think this rally should be re-played?*

Seaton: I think it's got to be re-played. Although, I suppose an argument could be made that the referee has the primary responsibility to make a call and it should take two disagreements to override him. Yet, even though it's the referee's responsibility, he may not have the best vision of the three of a particular play. To be entirely fair to the players, it must be re-played.

What I'd like to see, to ensure equal competency among the referee and linesmen, is have a staff of three or four referees who are also linesmen for key matches. They can rotate after each match, and theoretically each match will have top referees and linesmen.

Leve: *Do you feel that the high number of young players at the top of racquetball indicates that a player's prime competitive age is between 17 and 25?*

Seaton: In all sports that I can think of in which strength, quickness and agility are required, such as in racquetball, — youth is the dominant factor. In basketball, baseball and football the first things to go are the legs, and the player can no longer do the job, even though he possesses the necessary skills.

Leve: *But isn't it true that those legs don't usually go until age 34 or 35, taking a Brooks Robinson or John Havlicek as examples?*

Seaton: I think you're naming the minority. If you look at the mean age of athletes in sports where they work

hard, and I'd use golf as an example of a sport *not* in this category, I think you'll find the mean age in the mid-twenties.

Leve: *Your saying, then that you don't feel that the experience gained is worth the years lost physically?*

Seaton: Oh, it's not an even swap. I feel there will always be players, again in the minority, who will stay around past what we are considering to be the prime age. And this would be due to the knowledge they have gained, even though they may have lost a step or two.

A good example of this would be Jim Austin who won both the Amateur Open and Seniors at the pro tournament in Las Vegas. And he did it by playing I think 12 matches in a four day period against outstanding competition.

Leve: *Why have no true racquetball clubs been built in Las Vegas?*

Seaton: I'm not exactly sure. For one, we're out of the way. People know about Las Vegas, they know where it is and they know what it stands for. It's a tourist attraction, — you come here and have fun and games. I don't think people are aware that nearly 200,000 people live here. They work in shoe stores and banks and grocery stores and filling stations. There are churches here and we do all the things that towns our size do. But, we happen to have two streets unlike most towns, — the Strip and Fremont Street, where there happen to be located casinos which happen to be open 24 hours a day where you can do these unusual things you can only do in casinos.

So, I think the court club business never reached Las Vegas for those two reasons. First, people are mis-informed about our town and secondly they are probably afraid of it because they don't know what strange and sinister things go on here. They're not sure that business enterprises would be as successful here as in other places.

The logical person to put up a court club in Las Vegas, is the normal court club owner, who goes out and buys a piece of property and builds a club. But so far, nobody's been willing to do that.



Pro-tec eyeguard is like wearing nothing at all.

Pro-tec eyeguard is made of clear polycarbonate high impact plastic and it is virtually indestructible.

An adjustable elastic strap and a double set of pressure sensitive padding is supplied with each eyeguard to accommodate all variations in facial anatomy. It often needs no padding for maximum comfort and safety.

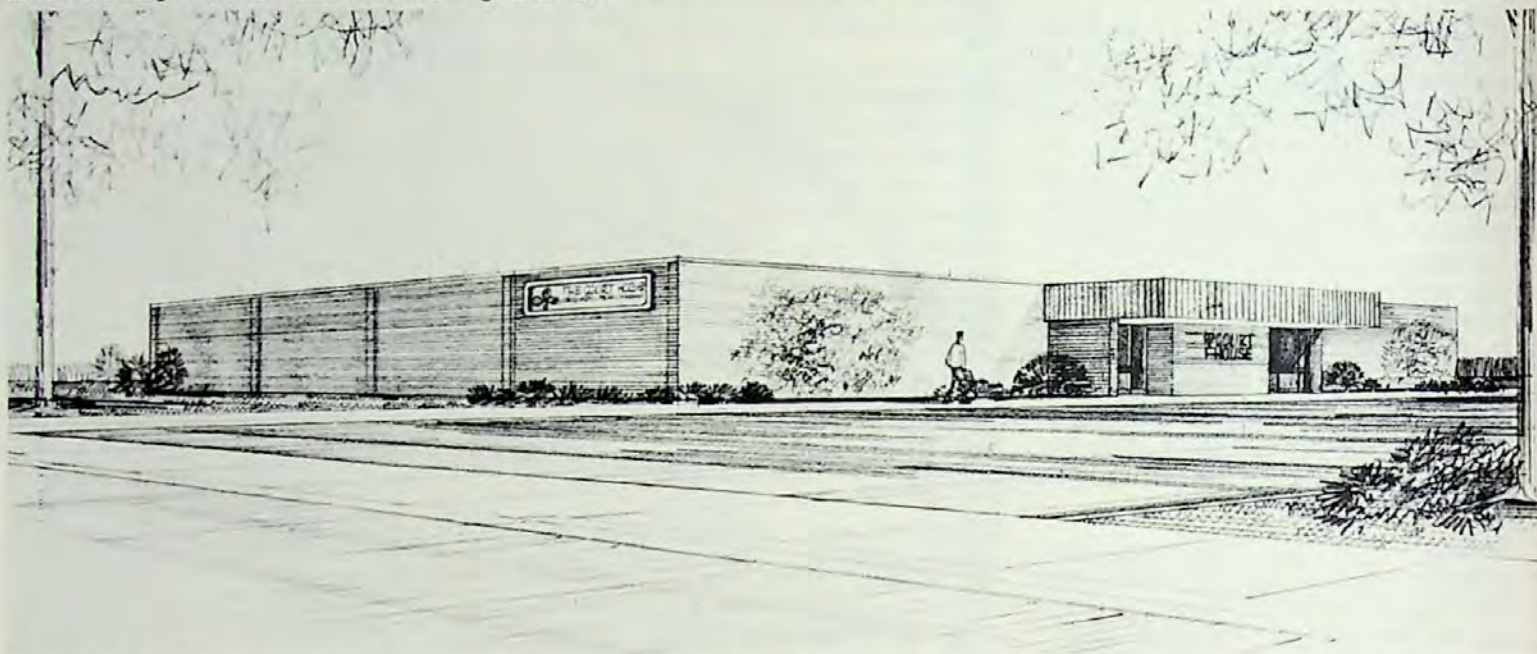
Ask for **Pro-tec eyeguards** and you'll get practically nothing at all.

**Pro-tec™
eyeguard**

532 INDUSTRY DRIVE
TUKWILA, WASHINGTON 98188
206.243.4227

COURT CLUBS • OAK PARK, ILLINOIS

Architect's rendering of The Court House racquetball club to be built at 1135 No. Harlem Ave., Oak Park, (Ill.) by The Court House Sports Club, Inc., Northfield. Wendt, Cedarholm and Tippens, Northfield, are the architects. Tectonics, Inc., Elk Grove Village, is the builder. Interim financing has been obtained through the First National Bank of Highland Park.



The Oak Park, (Ill.) Board of Trustees has granted a special use permit to The Court House Sports Club, Inc., Northfield, to construct its sixth racquetball, paddleball and handball facility in the Chicago area. The estimated total development cost of the club has been set at \$750,000. It will be located at 1135 No. Harlem Ave.

Construction is expected to start early next month. The Oak Park Court House is expected to open for play in mid-August, a month ahead of the traditional start of the racquetball season.

Racquetball is considered to be the fastest growing indoor sport in the nation. Chicago, along with San Diego, Milwaukee, St. Louis, Detroit and Minneapolis, ranks as one of the key racquetball centers. According to the United States Racquetball Association, the sport's governing body, the number of players has mushroomed from 170,000 in 1972 to more than three million now. In 1972 there were only two racquetball clubs. Today there are well over 500.

The five Court House clubs in Chicago (Carl Sandburg Village) and the suburbs of Arlington Heights, Skokie, Northbrook and Schaumburg have

upwards of 10,000 men, women and children on their membership rosters. Nearly 40 percent are women.

The Oak Park Court House will have eight climate controlled courts. Each will be equipped with noiseless mercury vapor lamps. The carpeted locker rooms will have "his" and "hers" customized Scandinavian saunas. The club will also have a spacious, comfortable lounge area where members and guests can meet beforehand or relax after an hour on the court. An adjacent, fully-automated refreshment center will dispense hot and cold beverages and a variety of tasty snacks. Even though racquetball is one sport which doesn't require an extensive wardrobe, there will be a well-stocked pro shop where apparel can be purchased and equipment either rented or bought.

Because women represent a large percentage of the total potential membership, the Oak Park Court House will offer a free, attended nursery service between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Private instruction and group lessons taught by experienced professionals, tournaments and social events will be offered. Racquetball is a family sport. It can be played by two, three or four players.

The Oak Park Court House will be open seven days a week from 7 a.m. until midnight. Though there will be plenty of open court time, permanent court time, a popular Court House innovation, will also be available.

The club will have parking facilities for 36 cars. The lighted parking area will be fenced in by trees and shrubs.

Wendt, Cedarholm and Tippens, Northfield, are the architects. Tectonics, Inc., Elk Grove Village, is the builder. Interim financing has been obtained through the First National Bank of Highland Park.

THE RACQUET BALL, Orlando's first and finest racquetball and conditioning club for men and women, will be located near I-4 and Lee Road on Adanson Street in Orlando.

Tom Lewis, of Lewis & Burke Associates, Inc. one of Orlando's leading architects, is the designer of the Club which will be a 19,500 square foot facility encompassing eight racquetball/handball courts, glass-walled exhibition courts with a viewing gallery, pro shop, and individual health spas for both men and women. In addition THE RACQUET BALL offers complete and separate conditioning facilities for men and women. There will be a richly-appointed social lounge with game tables and a friendly health food bar and lounge complete with theater TV system.

"While many clubs of this type are stark and unfriendly," stated Lewis, "we have designed THE RACQUET BALL facilities with an abundance of interior landscaping, sky lighting, colorful exercise and conditioning rooms and other rich interior appointments including super graphics, seated viewing gallery with views of tournament courts as well as other courts and plush carpeting in lounges and locker rooms."

THE RACQUET BALL is entered through a trellis-like atrium area that is abundantly landscaped with greenery and bright flowers, into a two-story reception lobby. The feeling of space and color is carried throughout the entire club. The separate conditioning and health spa facilities for men and women include the finest exercise equipment available such as the circuit training system that is designed to improve all aspects of physical conditioning including endurance, stamina, strength, physique and coordination. Programs for women developed around the same type of equipment are designed for figure refining and control, flexibility and general coordination and fitness.

Spa facilities include steam rooms, saunas, therapy pools, showers and richly appointed locker and dressing rooms. A physical fitness expert will be available to help plan and design conditioning programs that are compatible with each member's physical condition, personal limitations and stamina.

The developers, Duke Burris and Pete Hegener, have been building and developing single family homes and condominiums in Orlando since 1973.

"There is no doubt about the trend towards racquetball as a popular sport," said Burris. "In the past two years alone the sport has attracted 200% more players than there were in 1974." "We are building THE RACQUET BALL large enough to meet the demand in Orlando, and are expanding the club to include exercise and conditioning facilities and a luxurious club house to give members a well-rounded club that can be enjoyed on a frequent basis."

There is a significant social aspect of sport clubs not usually associated with racquetball clubs. Men and women in the community who want their social activities to stem from healthy sport-related events such as tennis, will find the same spirit and atmosphere at THE RACQUET BALL without the high price or social demands of joining.

For information about joining THE RACQUET BALL call (305) 862-5989, THE RACQUET BALL offers individual and family memberships as well as corporate and group membership programs. There is a one-time initiation fee, small monthly dues, and *no court fees*. A limited number of Charter Memberships are available now at \$100.00 discount off the regular membership initiation fee.

HELPS PREVENT EYE INJURY PLAYING HANDBALL RACQUETBALL AND TENNIS



Champion's MK Eyeguard is endorsed by Lou Russo, several times National Handball Champion and current Three Wall Handball Champion.

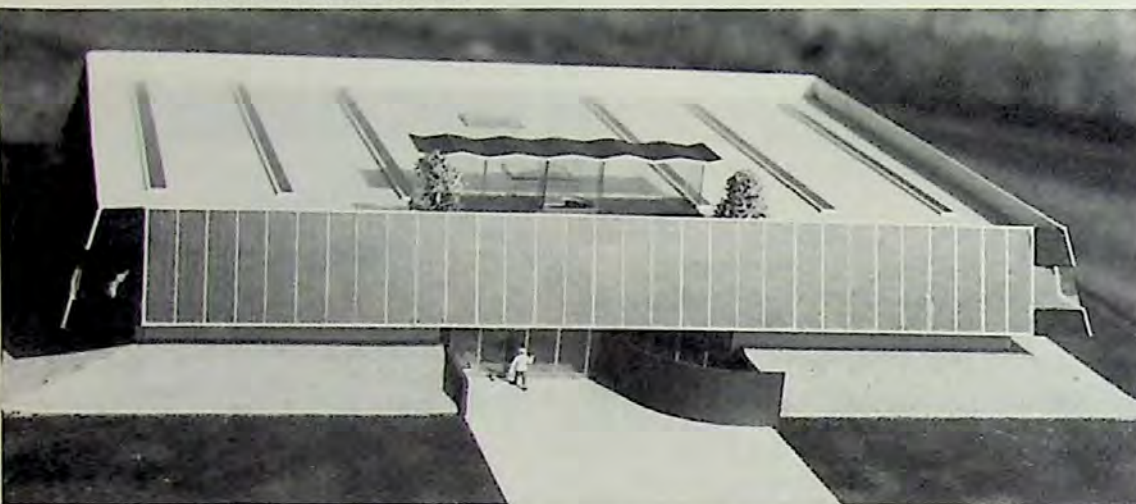
Champion's MK Eyeguard is made from strong, lightweight aluminum, covered with soft, non-reflective natural rubber to mold around the eyes for maximum visibility, comfort and playing ease.

It's designed to provide the utmost protection against a ball hitting you directly in the eye and causing injury. Available at Sporting Goods Stores, Athletic Clubs and your YMCA.

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

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO

Courts Plus, an architectural model shown here, will be the nation's first solar heated racquetball/handball court club.



Courts Plus, Inc. the nation's first solar heated, atmospherically cooled and naturally lighted racquetball/athletic center will be constructed at 3410 Sinton Road immediately north of the I-25 Fillmore interchange in Colorado Springs. The one million dollar, 21,000 square foot structure, to be owned and operated by Patrick Going and Ed Hoagland, will offer complete men's and women's exercise and athletic programs and 4 wall court games in an unique and exciting, energy conserving environment.

Courts Plus will feature nine regulation handball/racquetball courts. All the court play will be viewed through glass back walls from the lounge. In addition, two courts will feature full glass side walls for tournament spectator viewing. The second floor will contain a 1/10 mile banked indoor running track with pacing lights, exercise and weight rooms, and steam room and skylighted whirlpool adjoining the men's and women's locker rooms. A pro shop will be stocked with the finest equipment and athletic attire. To encourage more

women's participation there will also be a free attended nursery for pre-schoolers.

All players will have full use of all facilities, including a health bar, lounge with fireplace/conversation pit, and rooftop sundeck.

Byron Bloomfield, architect and President of Energy Systems Corporation, has designed the facility and will provide the solar energy expertise as well as construction supervision for this energy self-sufficient building. Interior design and graphics appropriate for the recreational functions of this Athletic Center are being created by Donald Hay.

Courts Plus will contract with a maximum of 1200 regular players and if space is available will accommodate occasional players on a reservation basis. For more information please contact in Colorado Springs, Colorado, Pat Going 481-2080 or Ed Hoagland 599-9614.

MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA.

A major new racquetball/handball club will open in Mountain View, California in January 1977. "The Court", located at 2535 Showers Drive, will offer 9 regulation courts to residents of Palo Alto, Los Altos and Mountain View. Two glass backed courts will allow viewing from the spacious lounge areas. A full-sized weight conditioning room and a gymnasium for basketball, volleyball, badminton and exercise classes will also be offered. Donald Demars, California's foremost club designer has been commissioned to design interiors and super graphics for the club. Men's and women's locker areas are large and fully-equipped. Whirlpools, a sauna, a meeting/TV room and child care complete the club's amenities.

Pre-opening charter memberships are now available. The Court, 2535 Showers Drive, Mountain View, Ca. 94040, (415) 948-4400.

DISTRIBUTORS TO THE TRADE

WRITE FOR CATALOG

LEACH RACQUETS
SEAMCO RACQUETBALLS
SPALDING HANDBALLS

CHAMPION SPORT GLOVES
FOR
RACQUETBALL
HANDBALL

IN STOCK

SPORTS AWARDS CO.

4351 MILWAUKEE AVE.

CHICAGO, ILL. 60641 282-8060

LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

Century Hill, Ltd. has just announced that the over-all master planning and final land negotiations are in the process of being completed for construction of the new Century Hill Racquet Club that will occupy approximately 50% of the land that is to be the main focal point of the Petroleum Industry Professional Plaza in East Long Beach, in the heart of Signal Hill's growing industrial, business and residential developments.

A spokesman for Century Hill, Ltd. advises that contract agreements have been worked out with Thompson Westcoast Company for the project's over-all design and construction — in association with Thompson Westcoast Company's associate architects and engineers, for the two story 36,000 square foot building and the rest of the on-site and off-site improvements at a cost of approximately \$1,700,000. The membership club is to provide a complete recreational and health complex in one convenient location.

The architects, engineers and developers have master planned the sports facilities to reflect the latest

innovations of architectural and engineering skill and contemporary design to make it one of the most complete and prestigious racquetball and tennis clubs in Southern California.

The main club building will contain 10 air-conditioned four wall indoor racquetball/handball courts fully equipped, separate men and women's gymnasiums, men and women's private showers and locker rooms, separate spa for men and women including sauna's, steam room and jacuzzies, a large pro shop, men's hair styling shop, ladies beauty salon, childrens' nursery, snack and health food bar, conference rooms and spacious lounge and luncheon area. The lounge and conference rooms will be made available for private parties to club members, with all programs expanding to meet the need of the club's membership.

The entire club grounds will be enclosed with a private six foot high architectural slumpstone wall with wrought-iron control gates. The grounds are to be beautifully landscaped and will include eight fully lighted outdoor tennis courts along with

mechanically equipped practice tennis courts. The second floor of the lounge and balcony-terrace will focus the entire club facilities on center courts providing excellent viewing for exhibition and tournament play. In the patio area there is also included a 25 yard swimming pool with diving facilities, and to further compliment the outdoor areas, there is included a large jacuzzi, bath-house-cabana, refreshment bar and barbeque accommodations. The over-all design concept of the club is to accommodate business, professional, individuals and family members with an emphasis also, on total family participation.

Adjacent to the Century Hill Racquet Club, in the proposed new Petroleum Industry Professional Plaza Building, there is to be a Medical Health Clinic administered by doctors and nurses that specialize their practice to bariatrics. This specialized medical health facility will be available to club members.

Experts in the field have been associated with the original conception of the club's planning stages to make it an out-standing sports and health club, with superior equipment, highly trained professional specialists in exercise and medical-physical training — with personal guidance on and off the courts. For the business and professional person who enjoys his morning noon or evening workout, the club is only minutes from downtown Long Beach, East Long Beach - Signal Hill, Belmont Shore, Seal Beach, Marina Pacifica, Bixby Knolls, Los Alamitos and many other neighboring communities.

Sports programs will include leagues, clinics, tournaments for tennis and racquetball-handball members. The club's general management is now in the final process of seeking and selecting tennis and racquetball pros to direct the programs, including individual and class instructions.

Those who wish to seek additional information regarding the club can phone 213-597-5573, or write Century Hill Racquet Club, P.O. Box 4396, Long Beach, California 90804.



Elevation facing East Pacific Coast Hwy., Long Beach (Signal Hill), California.

EVANSVILLE, INDIANA

Grand opening of the new Tri-State Racquet Club in Evansville, Ind. the only tennis, racquetball-handball, swim club in the area, was held January 2, 1977.

The Club, built at a cost of over \$1,800,000, includes seven air conditioned, regulation size racquetball/handball courts with separate lounges, eight air

conditioned tennis courts, eight cushioned outdoor tennis courts and outdoor swimming pool. Lockers, showers, saunas, pro shop, nursery, playground, vending and kitchen facilities are also included.

Ground was broken for the recreational complex in October, 1975 on a seven and a half acre site on the east side of Evansville, the largest city in the

southern Indiana, Illinois and Kentucky area.

Outdoor tennis courts and pool were opened in June, indoor tennis courts and club house in September. Plans were expanded late last summer to include the racquetball/handball facility built at a cost of over \$500,000. Work was begun in August on the courts and completed the last week in December.

Action goes on one of seven new air conditioned racquetball/handball courts included in the new Tri-State Racquet Club in Evansville, Ind.

Photo: Courtesy Randy Dieter, Evansville Sunday Courier & Press



The new Tri-State Racquet Club, Evansville, Ind., recently was opened including seven air conditioned racquetball/handball courts, eight air conditioned tennis courts, eight outdoor courts and outdoor pool. It is the only club of its kind in southern Indiana, Illinois and Kentucky.

Photo: Bill Adkins, Evansville Courier

LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK

The racquetball/handball area features an exhibition court with separate lower lounge and carpeted stair-type seating and an upper lounge that overlooks four tennis courts as well as the exhibition court. Noiseless lighting is included on the racquetball/handball courts as well as the tennis courts.

The racquetball/handball facility was added because of the rapid growth in popularity of the sport and limited facilities available in the area for playing it according to Bill Butterfield, Evansville businessman and sports enthusiast who built the city's first indoor-outdoor tennis club in 1971. The original club included six indoor and four outdoor courts. Butterfield served as president of the National Indoor Tennis Association in 1975 and is on its board of directors.

Other owners of the new Club include George Ryan, Evansville contractor and Alan Schwartz, president of Tennis Corp. of America, Mid-town Tennis Club of Chicago, and numerous other tennis and racquetball clubs.

Mrs. "Woodie" Sublett, who was named "Tennis Pro of the Year" in December, 1975 by the U.S. Professional Tennis Assn., Midwest Division is club manager. She also serves on the U.S.P.T.A. board. Head pro is Mike Dougherty, also a certified U.S.P.T.A. pro.

As part of the Club's grand opening observance, free racquetball clinics were conducted for four weeks and free court time was made available. The racquetball pros who will be involved in the teaching and programming of all racquetball events are Nancy Patrow, Jim McCarty, Bob Merchant and Jerry Congleton.

A friendly game of pinochle resulted in Abe Shames realizing a long-sought desire to develop an outstanding Court Club in New York's Long Island area. Abe, one of the foremost commercial real estate developers in that area first formulated the idea for a club with his aide, Tony Boccaccio, almost four years ago and then followed a long series of frustrating delays because of zoning problems, negative attitudes by lending institutions, and continued land value price upswings in this densely populated Metro New York vicinity.

George Morton Levy, vigorous 86-year-old owner/operator of the Roosevelt Raceway, arranged for a lease on the adjacent Roosevelt Cinema, an 1800-seat theater that was no longer in operation. The spaciousness of the building will lend itself to a remodeling to include an 11-court complex. The championship court will have full glass sidewalls and back wall and with the combination of 160 seats behind each side wall and a mezzanine salvage area seating for another 300 seats—total 620-seat gallery.

A novel feature of the SPORTS AND HEALTH Club will be a Child Creative Learning Center to include a "CHILDREN'S MINI COURT" where the pre-school age youngsters can bounce a softer than handball around the walls. Shames, who is a leader of the community's children mental health organization, definitely feels that these youngsters should not feel neglected while their parents are enjoying court play, exercise room supervision, or relaxation in the spacious co-ed whirlpool area, or in the juice bar and other lounge areas. This might be termed the "Little League" starting point for the boys and girls in their court club experiences.

There is approximately 30,000 square feet of usable space in this structure and its location on Old Country road in Westbury, Long Island, has tremendous exposure. Some 85,000 automobiles pass there every 24 hours. The Island's most productive shopping center—Roosevelt Field Shopping Center—is nearby, along with the Fortunoff Department Store and Orbach's located next to the theater complex. And, on the other side

of the theater building are motels and restaurants. Westbury is approximately 30 miles from Manhattan, easily accessible by expressway and Long Island railway.

Abe Shames is very much promotion-minded. He wants the Sports and Health Club to be the focal point in the northeast for national and regional tournament competition in both handball and racquetball. There is no secret that the handball and racquetball associations have long sought a New York City area club with adequate gallery for both amateur and professional tournaments. "Right now we are underway with the remodeling of the building and should be open by next May. We would like to showcase this start with a suitable handball and racquetball exhibition, and then kickoff with a pro handball and racquetball tour stop in the 1977-78 season."

We will hear more from Abe Shames. He doesn't intend to stop at one facility. Already, he and Tony Boccaccio have several other Long Island sites under serious consideration. As soon as the Westbury project gets underway they will break ground on at least one or two others.

The Court Club boom has definitely reached this northeast sector of United States and we can expect many other facilities to open within the next few years.

Classified

COURT TESTED LIGHTING LAYOUTS



MORRIS KURTZON, INC.
1420 South Talman Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60608
Telephone (312) 277-2121

**Shockproof and Impact
Resistant Fixtures**

FOUNTAIN VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

Hard at work on the Racquetball World & Health Club of Fountain Valley are (l. to r.) Dale Eckert, construction manager; Randi Moskowitz, membership sales; and Bill Fearing, general manager.



California's Newest & Largest Racquetball/Handball Health Facility, RACQUETBALL WORLD & HEALTH CLUB OF FOUNTAIN VALLEY, located at Brookhurst and Talbert Avenues, next to the San Diego Freeway, has just broken ground on December 21, 1976. It will be the largest private and public RACQUETBALL/HANDBALL HEALTH CLUB in California. The new \$3 Million club is over 45,000 square feet, with completion scheduled for June of 1977.

RACQUETBALL WORLD, a unique private, as well as public facility, is designed, planned and programmed as the "Total Family Recreational Club." It will offer facilities for a number of fun activities, including:

- 25 Championship Racquetball/Handball courts
- 25 Meter "Indoor" lap swimming pool
- Electronic scoring in 3 glass courts
- Full size outdoor jogging track (1/10 of a mile long)
- Modern rock cave saunas, and inhalation rooms
- Therapy pools
- Separate Men and Women's Health Club and Spas
- Separate Men and Women's Physical Fitness Centers

- Separate Locker Areas for Men and Women
- Day Care Center with Attendant
- Completely air-conditioned facility including courts
- In-house closed circuit T.V., as well as Big Screen Color T.V.
- Complete Health and Juice Bar Area with Pro Shop
- Full Time Resident Pros for Racquetball/Handball instruction

"The Club has been developed to meet the activity needs of each individual, according to the General Manager, Bill Fearing, who has been a Recreational Consultant in the design and operation of many Racquetball/Handball Health Clubs in California.

Bill said that the luxurious Health Club and Spas are custom designed and 10 years ahead of their time, with emphasis on circuit training conditioning programs used by their professionally trained Directors. The club's special fitness programs have been developed for the entire family.

The club will emphasize active programs in leagues, challenge ladder, clinics and provide excellent instruction for anyone in the family.

For membership information call (714) 962-1374.

PITTSFIELD, MASS.

The Racquet Club at Bousquet opened the first racquetball facility in Western Massachusetts on January 8, 1977. This four court facility is an addition to an already existing tennis facility. We have plans for another six courts.

Bob Wadsworth, club manager, said, "Community response had been excellent and our open house on January 8 was fantastic. Although the sport is relatively new in this area interest levels are running high.

"We have a few, about 100, hard core racquetball players in Berkshire County but their enthusiasm for the sport is helping substantially to sell the game.

"In the past the players had to travel long distances to play on regulation courts and we feel this attributed to turning off potential new players."

The Racquet Club at Bousquet is a \$1,500,000 facility consisting of 14 tennis courts, four racquetball courts, pool, lounge with bar, viewing lounges, pro shop, locker area with whirlpool baths, saunas and exercise room, supervised nursery, and a separate bath house with snack bar.

The new racquetball courts have individual air conditioning with the upper back walls constructed of glass for viewing. The walls are of block construction coated with one-half inch of bonded sure-wall material. Much precision was taken to see that the walls offer perfect uniform rebounds and that all heating and lighting fixtures are perfectly flush with the ceilings. The floors are our pride and joy as they are constructed of interlocked and steel clipped Vermont hard maple. These floors are as level and tight as any we have ever seen.

Since we are experienced in running a variety of events, leagues and tournaments with our tennis facility we plan to immediately initiate similar programs for racquetball. Junior programs and summer camps have been a big part of our tennis business and we are developing similar programs to introduce youngsters to racquetball.

During our open house Eastern Regional Doubles Champs Mike Romano from Fitchburg, Mass. and

NATIONAL CITY, CA.

Mike Luciw from New Britain, Conn. gave an exciting singles exhibition, and also conducted a clinic and then proceed to defeat local stars Mike Meyer and Tom Flynn in a challenge doubles match. Over 400 persons attended the open house and viewed these matches.

Owners of the club, Mr. Dana Bray of Miami, Florida and Mr. William Feeley of Philadelphia, Pa. were on hand for the event and were extremely pleased with the turnout. They are already talking about opening other clubs in the East. As Bill Feeley put it, "We see a

tremendous growth over the next few years in racquetball and I am so excited to be a part of this great sport."

The courts are open daily, seven days a week from 7 a.m. until 11 p.m. Memberships are open to adults, families and juniors. Non-club members are welcome for a minimal guest fee. "We are located right next door to the well known Bousquet Ski Area," said Wadsworth, "so we expect skiers who come here from all over the east to come in and play our courts."

Construction has begun on the South Bay Racquetball Center, located at 2539 Hoover Ave., National City, Ca. (714) 477-2123.

The land is part of the E. J. Christman Business and Industrial Park located at the intersections of 24th St. and Interstate 5, South of San Diego.

The new club offers eight racquetball and handball courts, all climate controlled for year-around play. One of the courts is a beautifully designed exhibition court with 18' glass panel wall.

The spacious locker rooms have saunas and whirlpools for both men and women, both rooms have plenty of oversized lockers. Other locker room amenities include hot lather machines and hair dryers. The club also features a completely equipped and supervised exercise room. Members interested in exercise are given an exercise program designed for their individual needs.

The beautiful and spacious lounge area overlooks a glass walled court and offers intimate furnishings and beverage from the fully equipped juice bar.

The exclusive South Bay Racquetball Center's pro shop will carry a full line of handball and racquetball equipment, apparel and accessories.

Family fun seems to be an important part of National City, where many father-sons, mother-daughters are starting out to play racquetball.

Hopefully, the South Bay Racquetball Center will become an answer to family enjoyment and recreation in the Southern Suburbs of San Diego. For further information call: (714) 477-2123.



The head men at The Racquet Club at Bousquet, Pittsfield, Massachusetts are (l. to r.) Bob Wadsworth, manager; Dana Bray, owner and Bill Feeley, owner.

SAN FRANCISCO, CA.

The San Francisco Bay Club has announced the construction of a major new athletic club near San Francisco's Financial and Design Districts. Located on Greenwich between Sansome and Battery, The Bay Club will offer a complete variety of sport facilities to San Francisco men and women.

The Bay Club will feature twelve regulation racquetball/handball courts. In addition, the 42,000 sq. foot facility will offer two outdoor tennis courts, two platform tennis courts, three squash courts, a full-size basketball court, complete weight and conditioning equipment, two volleyball/badminton courts, a jogging track and a 25 meter pool.

Men's and women's locker areas will feature whirlpools, saunas and steam with ample sized storage lockers. A conference room, club room, sundeck, pro shop, cardiovascular testing and laundry service will also be available.

The Bay Club will be offering pre-opening charter memberships soon, with opening scheduled for Spring 1977.

For further information, call (415) 443-2200 or write:

The San Francisco Bay Club, C/O The Court, 2535 Showers Drive, Mountain View, Ca. 94040.

WINNIPEG, CANADA

The Court Sports Club located in Winnipeg, Manitoba (450 miles North of Minneapolis) is a venture unique in several aspects. The Club represents an initial attempt at promoting racquetball and squash to the family market in Winnipeg. Secondly, the Club is one of the first in Canada to combine the international squash game and racquetball in the same facility.

The Court Sports Club came about mainly due to the extended efforts of three individuals,—Mike Nesbitt, one of the top squash players and promoters of the game in Manitoba,—Stewart Pateman, a valuable information source drawing on the Australian scene for added expertise,—and Wes Hadikin, one of the top Canadian racquetball players and game consultants.

The facility has all the modern conveniences needed to attract anyone interested in squash, racquetball and handball. There are four international size squash courts (21 feet wide) and three racquetball/handball courts. The downstairs lounge area is flanked on two sides by glass back walls of a squash and racquetball court. This viewing arrangement allows a spectator to view both sports from one spot. The second floor lounge is enclosed with a fireplace

and is designed for a more relaxing "after the game" atmosphere. Both the men's and women's locker rooms feature executive lockers, sauna, whirlpool, and towel service. There is also a large pro shop and a nursery area.

The Club has been designed with future expansion possibilities. Four more courts (racquetball or squash) can be added quickly to the existing structure without complications. The upstairs lounge area can be tripled in size by expanding over the first floor locker area. This will allow the club to have both a large lounge and dining room area. Plans in the future also include outdoor tennis and a swimming pool.

The Court Sports Club opened its doors on November 1, 1976 and had already pre-signed 250 members. As of January 1, 1977 there were 350 regular playing members. At this rate it is anticipated that the facility will be filled to capacity in the first year of operation. The credit for this rapid membership growth is due to the excellent management provided by Bob Hampton, (Manager), and head professional, Linda Forcade.

If you are ever in Winnipeg, drop in and have a game at the Court Sports Club, 1400 Taylor Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.



RACQUETBALL

100% COTTON T-SHIRTS WITH "EARLY BIRD"
DESIGN IN NAVY BLUE ON FRONT AND BACK

SPECIFY: S - M - L - XL
SHIRTS IN: WHITE, LT. BLUE, YELLOW OR
WHITE WITH NAVY TRIM

SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDERS TO:
CARL JAMES PRODUCTS
6118 REDWOOD LANE
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22310

\$4.95
POSTAGE
INCLUDED

Directory of Court Clubs

Alabama

Racquet Place
2401 20th Pl., South
Birmingham, 35209
The Huntsville Racket
505 Drake Ave.
Huntsville, 35801

Alaska

Anchorage Tennis Club
P.O. Box 8823
Anchorage, 99508

Arizona

Muehleisen Courts
1440 W. Broadway
Mesa, 85204
Phoenix A.C.
4843 N. 8th Pl.
Phoenix, 85014
Arizona A.C.
Tempe, 85281
Tempe Rac. & Swim Club
P.O. Box 27508
Tempe, 85282
Old Pueblo Court House
810 Lawyer's Title Bldg.
Tucson, 85701
Tucson A.C.
4220 E. Bellevue
Tucson, 85712

Arkansas

Quail Tree Rac. Club
Box 105
Harrison, 72601
Downtown A.C.
110 Cumberland
Little Rock, 72201
Ichibon Sports Center
2307 S. 8th St.,
Rogers, 72756

California

International RB Club
17127 Pioneer
Artesia, 90701
San Luis Bay Club
Avila, 93424
Bonita Racquets
4190 Bonita Rd.
Bonita, 92002
Wallbangers Court Center
577 Salmar Ave.
Campbell, 95008
Carmichael A.C.
5741 Winding Way
Carmichael, 95608
Wallbangers Court Center
Castro Village Shopping Ctr.
Castro Valley, 94546
Monte Vista H. & RB C.
5934 Walnut Ave.
Chino, 91710
Chula Vista HB/RB Club
1550 Broadway
Chula Vista, 92011
Siner's RB Club
15 - 4th Ave.
Chula Vista, 92011
Court Club Int.
711 W. 17th St.
Costa Mesa, 92627
Rampart A.C.
254 Victoria St.
Costa Mesa, 92627
HB/RB Club
1663 Greenfield
El Cajon, 92021
Muehleisen Courts
702 Broadway
El Cajon, 92021
The Courtyard
130 E. Lincoln Ave.
Escondido, 92026
North County RB Center
474 W. Vermont Ave.
Escondido, 92025
The Courtyard
P.O. B 1866
Escondido, 92025
Kaiser Rec. Club
9400 Cherry Ave.
Fontana, 92335
Redwood Health Club
401 Cypress Avenue
Fort Bragg, 95437
Wallbangers Court Center
1159 Chess Dr.
Foster City, 94404
San Joaquin A. & Rac. C.
4774 N. Blaskstone
Fresno, 93726
Garden Grove A.C.
9562 Garden Grove Blvd.
Garden Grove, 92644
Brown's HB/RB Club
7171 Alvarado Rd.
La Mesa, 92041
La Mesa Racquetball
4330 Palm Ave.
La Mesa, 92041
Livermore Wall N' Ball
931 Hanover St.
Livermore, 94550
Key Club
2019 Research Dr.
Livermore, 94550
Long Beach A.C.
4000 Long Beach Blvd.
Long Beach, 90809
The Court House Inc.
960 N. San Antonio Rd., #201
Los Altos, 94022
California Way Health & RB
P.R. West, #300,
624 S. La Brea
Los Angeles, 90036
Century West Club
2040 Ave. of the Stars
Los Angeles, 90067
The Center Courts
11866 La Grange Ave.
West Los Angeles, 90025
Los Angeles A.C.
431 W. Seventh St.
Los Angeles, 90014
Manhattan A.C.
3421 Sepulveda Blvd.
Manhattan Beach, 90266

Marina City Club
4333 Admiralty Way
Marina Del Rey, 90291
Saddleback Court Club
25732 Taladro Circle
Mission Viejo, 92675
Racquet Time of Montclair
5515 Moreno
Montclair, 91763
Pacheco Club
602 Abrego St.
Monterey, 93940
South Bay RB Center
2539 Hoover Avenue
National City, 92050
Newport A.C.
1367 Avacado
Newport Beach, 92660
Newport Beach Sporting House
3931 MacArthur Blvd.
Newport Beach, 92660
Mel Gorham Sport Center
1963 Apple St.
Oceanside, 92054
Orange County A.C.
2910 N. Santiago Blvd.
Orange, 92669
Sports Condit. & Rehab. Clic.
55 S. Brazilia, The City
Orange, 92668
Ventura Court House
405 South B St.
Oxnard, 93030
First Serve Health & RB
94 S. Los Robles, Suite 200
Pasadena, 91101
Poway Rac Club
13830 Poway Rd.
Poway, 92064
Riverside RB/HB Club
11060 Magnolia Ave.
Riverside, 92505
Sacramento HB/RB Courts
14th & H Sts.
Sacramento, 95814
Wall Street
3120 Bradshaw Rd.
Sacramento, 95829
Supreme Court II
975 Industrial Rd.
San Carlos, 94070
Atlas Health Club
901 Hotel Circle S.
San Diego, 92138
Brown's HB/RB Club
5205 Kearny Villa Way
San Diego, 92123
Kona Kai Club
1551 Shelter Island Dr.
San Diego, 92106
Mel Gorham Sport Center
960 Turquoise St.
San Diego, 92109
Rose Canyon Rac. Club
4411 Morena Blvd.
San Diego, 92117

The Court House
2120 University Ave.
San Diego, 92104
Schoeber's HB/RB Health Spas
425 Eccles Ave.
South San Francisco, 94080
The Olympic Club
524 Post St.
San Francisco, 94102
Santa Ana A.C.
311 N. Van Ness
Santa Ana, 92701
Santana Courts RB Club
145 East Columbine Ave.
Santa Ana, 92707
Goleta Valley
1012 Monte Dr.
Santa Barbara, 93110
Mission City Indoor Rac. C.
Halford & Lillick Sts.
Santa Clara, 95051
Almaden Valley A.C.
P.O. Box 24175
San Jose, 95124
Courts & Aqua. Sports
P.O. Box 24175
San Jose, 95154
Rossmoor RB & HB
12235 Seal Beach Blvd.
Seal Beach, 90740
Helix Court House
9617 Campo Rd.
Spring Valley, 92077
Quail Lakes A.C.
2303 W. March Lane
Stockton, 95207
Supreme Court I
415 N. Mathilda Ave.
Sunnyvale, 94086
Spa Health & Rac. C.
223 Thousand Oaks Blvd.
Thousand Oaks, 91360
Orange County A.C.
12932 Newport Ave.
Tustin, 92680
Spa. & A.C.
12932 Newport Ave.
Tustin, 92680
Encino Health Club
5251 Sepulveda Blvd.
Van Nuys, 91401
Midtown HB Club
1451 E. Main St.
Ventura, 93001
Pierpont Rac. C.
P.O. Box 1886
Ventura, 93001
West Covina A.C.
3211 East Garvey Ave.
West Covina, 91791
Wallbanger Club
7060 Garden Grove Blvd.
Westminster, 92683
Atlantis A.C.
15600 La Forge
Whittier, 90603

Valley Court Club
6301 Glade Ave.
Woodland Hills, 91364
Warner Center Rac. C.
6336 Canoga Ave.
Woodland Hills, 91367

Colorado

Aspen A.C.
Box 3279
Aspen, 81611
Court Times Unlimited
1080 Quince St.
Boulder, 80302
Cedar Ridge Club
Oneida & Leetsdale
Denver, 80222
Denver A.C.
1325 Glenarm
Denver, 80204
Executive Tower A.C.
11th & Curtis
Denver, 80203
Montbello Sporting House
4780 Oakland St.
Denver, 80239

Stapleton Plaza A.C.
3333 Quebec St.
Denver, 80207
The Court Club
281 Broadway
Denver, 80203
Writers Office Bldg.
7605 Trenton Dr.
Denver, 80220
Rocky Mountain Health Club
333 W. Drake
Ft. Collins, 80521

Grand Junction Club
2205 Arrowhead Ln.
Grand Junction, 81501
West Hills Rac. C.
453 Van Gordon St.
Lakewood, 80228
Longmont, Health Spa
660 Delaware
Longmont, 80501

Strom Meadows A.C.
P.O. Box AAA
Steamboat Springs, 80477

Connecticut

Court House One
21 Waterville Rd.
Avon, 06001

Florida

Ft. Lauderdale HB/RB C.
5065 N.E. 13 Ave.
Ft. Lauderdale, 33334
Tampa Athletic Club
11509 N. Armenia Ave.
Tampa, 33612

Georgia

Atlanta A.C.
Box 1018
Atlanta, 30301
Willow Creek A.C.
P.O. Box 566
Columbia, 31907

Hawaii

Center Health Club
P.O. Box 657
Honolulu, 96813

Illinois

DuPage Rac. Club
475 S. Grace
Addison, 60101
The Court House
106 E. College Dr.
Arlington Hts., 60004
Belleville RB/HB Club
1001 S. 74th St.
Belleville, 62223
Thorndale Rac. House
1220 Mark St.
Bensenville, 60106

Chicago Health Clubs
230 W. Monroe St.,
Chicago, 60606
Harbor Point Club
155 N. Harbor Dr.
Chicago, 60601
Ill. Cntr. Rac. & Health C.
111 E. Wacker Dr.
Chicago, 60601

Mid-Town Court House
1235 N. LaSalle St.
Chicago, 60610
The Michigan Ave. Club
444 N. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, 60611

The Riviera Club
400 E. Randolph
Chicago, 60601
Southwest A.C.
10436 Southwest Hwy.
Chicago Ridge, 60415

The Deerfield Courts
Lake Cook Plaza
Deerfield, 60022
N.W. O'Hare Office Club
2454 Dempster
DesPlaines, 60016

O'Hare Rac. Club
951 E. Touhy Ave.
Des Plaines, 60018

The Courts
186 S. West Ave.
Elmhurst, 60126
Evanston Court Club
1101 Dodge
Evanston, 60202

Evergreen Park Bath & Ten. Club
2700 W. 91st St.
Evergreen Park, 60642

Frankfort Court Club
566 Aberdeen Rd.
Frankfort, 60423

Treborshire Ten. Club
195th & Glenwood Rd.
Glenwood, 60425

Sky Harbor Court Club
2699 Skokie Valley Rd.
Highland Park, 60035

Poplar Creek Rac. C.
Box 668
Hoffman Estates, 60172

Four Winds
RR2, Bluff Rd.
Lemont, 60439

Four Lakes Rac. C.
1401 Four Lakes Ave.
Lisle, 60532

Cove Courts
22nd & Findley Rd.
Lombard, 60148

The Glass Court
830 E. Roosevelt Rd.
Lombard, 60148

North Aurora Club
P.O. Box 238
Naperville, 60540

Four Flaggs Court Club
8245 Golf Rd.
Niles, 60648

Tam Tennis Club
7686 N. Caldwell
Niles, 60648

Sky Harbor Court Club
3175 Commercial Ave.
Northbrook, 60062

The Court House
1901 Raymond Dr.
Northbrook, 60062

Greater Palos RB Club
600 Hunter Dr.
Oak Brook, 60521

Burk's Sportsmen Club
4358 W. 103rd
Oak Lawn, 60453

Oak Park River Forest R.C.
301 Lake St.
Oak Park, 60302

Olympian Court Club
Governor's Office Bldg.
Olympia Fields, 60461

Riviera C.C.
8800 W. 143rd St.
Orland Park, 60462

The Courthouse
P.O. Box 906
Oswego, 60543

Arlington Ten. Club
545 Consumer Dr.
Palatine, 60067

Forest Grove Swim & Rac. C
1760 N. Hicks Rd.
Palatine, 60067

The Glass Court, Inc.
329 S. Greenwood
Palatine, 60067

Courts In Session, Ltd.
P.O. Box 470
Palos Park, 60464
Park Forest Rac. Club
Sauk Trail & Westwood Dr.
Park Forest, 60466

Courtside
2121 Altorfer Dr.
Peoria, 61614

Suburban Club
Pioneer Park
Peoria, 61604

The Court Club Ltd.
5111 Sauk Trail
Richton Park, 60471

The Meadow Club
10 Gould Center
Rolling Meadows, 60008

Chicago Health Club
Meacham Rd.
Schaumburg, 60172

The Court House
1450 Payne Rd.
Schaumburg, 60172

The Right Racquet Club
2330 Hammond Dr.
Schaumburg, 60172

Woodfield Racquet Club
1400 Payne Rd.
Schaumburg, 60172

Skokie Court House
3710 Touhy Ave.
Skokie, 60076

South Holland Courts
345 Taft Dr.
South Holland, 60473

Courtside
2811 W. Lawrence
Springfield, 62704

Westwood Tennis Club
P.O. Box 457
Sterling, 61081

Oakwood Racquet Club
351 Oakwood St.
Waukegan, 60085

Oak Brook HB/RB Club
424 Plaza Dr.
Westmont, 60559

Wheaton Racquet Club
Gary & Pioneer
Wheaton, 60187

Indiana

Carmel Racquet Club
225 E. Carmel Dr.
Carmel, 46032

Executive A.C.
600 Walnut Street
Evansville, 47708

Jim McGee's Health Club
3665 Broadway
Gary, 46409

Indianapolis A.C.
350 N. Meridian St.
Indianapolis, 46204
Racquet Clubs of America
911 E. 86th St.
Indianapolis, 46240

Racquets Four
4002 E. Southport Rd.
Indianapolis, 46227

Omni 41 Health Club
222 S. 41
Scherverville, 46324
Indiana A.C.
1745 Lincoln Way East
South Bend, 46613

Kansas

Dales Courts
7924 Sante Fe Dr.
Overland Park, 66204
Court Club East
916 S. Gouverneur Rd.
Wichita, 67207

Kentucky

Racquet Time of Lexington
151 West Zandale
Lexington, 40503
Doctor's Club
4001 Dutchman Lane
Louisville, 40207
Louisville A.C.
200 Kentucky Towers
Walnut & 5th
Louisville, 40202

Louisiana

Baton Rouge A.C.
7639 Airline Hwy.
Baton Rouge, 70815
Southwood Racquet Club
12371 N. Harrell's Ferry Rd.
Baton Rouge, 70816
Red Lerille's R. & H. Club
117 Doucet Rd.
Lafayette, 70501
New Orleans A.C.
222 N. Rampart St.
New Orleans, 70112

Maine

Down East Court Club
Route One
Falmouth, 04105
Time Out A.C.
8 Commercial St.
Weymouth, 02188

Maryland

Ritzenberg's Tennis courts
Rear 5161 River Rd.
Bethesda, 20014
Whitemarsh Tennis Center
Box 619
Bowie, 20715
Columbia A.C.
5435 Beaverkill Rd.
Columbia, 21043
The Players Club
17043 Downing St.
Gaithersburg, 20760
Edge Set R.C.
51 Padonia Rd.
Timonium, 21093

Massachusetts

Cederdale Tennis Club
Box 16
Groveland, 01834
The Busy Bee
75 Cheshire Rd.
Pittsfield, 01201
The Racquet Club at Bousquet
Tamarack Road
Pittsfield, 01201
Shrewsbury Club
Tennis Dr.
Shrewsbury, 01545
New England HB/RB Club
10 Curve St.
Wakefield, 01880
Weston Racquet Club
132 West St.
Waltham, 02154
Lamont Assoc.
1105 Washington St.
West Newton, 02165

Michigan

Racquetworld
2249 Glencoe Hills
Ann Arbor, 48104
Minges Creek R.C.
21 Minges Pl.
Battle Creek, 49015
Oakland R.C.
31333 Southfield Rd.
Birmingham, 48009
Dearborn Indoor R.C.
2727 S. Gully
Dearborn, 48124
Cosmopolitan Club
18100 Meyers
Detroit, 48235
Detroit A.C.
241 Madison Ave.
Detroit, 48226
The Fairlane Club
5000 Woodview Lane
Detroit, 48126
Wayne State RB Club
15915 Lahser
Detroit, 48223
Eastpointe Racquet Club
19001 Nine Mile Rd.
East Detroit, 48021
RB Courts of Farmington
34200 9 Mile Rd.
Farmington, 48024
Racquetime
25127 Lyncastle Lane
Farmington Hills, 48024
Charlevoix Club
3030 Charlevoix Dr., S.E.
Grand Rapids, 49506
Peninsular Club
120 Ottawa N.W.
Grand Rapids, 49502
The Athletic Club
1 Vandenberg Center
Grand Rapids, 49502
Woodland Sport Center
28th St., S.W.
Grand Rapids, 49508
Racquets West, Ltd.
2976 Ivanrest Ave.
Grandville, 49418
Racquetime of Livonia
36600 Plymouth
Livonia, 48150
Little Traverse R.C.
P.O. Box 170
Petoskey, 49770
Crescent Lake R.C.
1585 Crescent Lake Rd.
Pontiac, 48054
University RB Club
2675 Lapeer Rd.
Pontiac, 48057
Downriver Racquet Club
13800 Williamsburg
Riverview, 48192
Rochester A.C.
1720 S. Livernois
Rochester, 48063
Rochester Courts
950 W. University Dr.
Rochester, 48050
Rose Shores East RB
28500 Gratiot
Roseville, 48006
Wimbledon RB Club
20250 9 Mile Road
St. Clair Shores, 48080
Franklin Racquet Club
29350 Northwestern Hwy.
Southfield, 48034
Franklin RB Club
29633 Franklin Rd.
Southfield, 48076
Southfield A.C.
26555 Evergreen
Southfield, 48076
Southfield Racquet Center
26400 W. Twelve Mile Rd.
Southfield, 48034
Racquetball Center
8200 Irving
Sterling Heights, 48077
Troy Courts
3863 Rochester
Troy, 48084
Courtland R.B. Club
45100 Mound Road
Utica, 48078
Racquetball Center, Inc.
29901 Civic Center Blvd.
Warren, 48093
Warren Tennis Club
24727 Gibson Dr.
Warren, 48089

Waterford Hill Sauna-HB
6110 Dixie Hwy.
Waterford, 48095
Court House
6343 Farmington Rd.
W. Bloomfield, 48033
Royal Courts
6190 Cochise
West Bloomfield, 48033
Court Players
2111 Golfside
Ypsilanti, 48197

Minnesota

Apple Valley RB/HB Club
7600 W. 147th St.
Apple Valley, 55124
Swift RB Club
Benson, 56215
Decathlon A.C.
7800 Cedar Ave., South
Bloomington, 55420
The King's Court
7001 Cahill Rd.
Edina, 55435
Court One
5810 Hackmann Ave., N.E.
Fridley, 55432
Crau River C.C.
Box 171
Hutchinson, 55350
Minneapolis A.C.
615 Second Ave., South
Minneapolis, 55402
Penthouse Courts, Inc.
6120 Earl Brown Dr.
Minneapolis, 55430
The King's Court
2560 N. Fry St.
Roseville, 55112
The Court House
1155 Ford Rd.
St. Louis Park, 55426
Lilydale Tennis Club
945 Sibley Mem. Hwy.
St. Paul, 55118
Midtown RB/HB Club
1535 Como Ave.
St. Paul, 55108
Midway Court Club
1383 W. Roselawn Ave.
St. Paul, 55113
St. Paul A.C.
340 Cedar St.
St. Paul, 55101
The Court House
138 E. Plato Blvd.
St. Paul, 55107

Missouri

St. Louis RB Club
11520 St., Charles Rock Rd.
Bridgeton, 63044

Castle Oaks
16625 Swingley Ridge Rd.
Chesterfield, 63017

The Court House
11628 Old Ballas Rd.
Creve Coeur, 63141

Airway Rac. Club
10 Richards Rd.
Kansas City, 64116

Allendale RB Center
14601 Holmes
Kansas City, 64145

Spaulding RB Club
200 Enchanted Parkway
Manchester, 63011

The Match Box
206 Hwy. 67, S.
Poplar Bluff, 63901

West James Courts
So. Highway 94
St. Charles, 63301

Columbia RB/HB Club
5257 Southwest Ave.
St. Louis, 63139

Dorsett Racquet Club
12703 Dorsett Rd.
St. Louis, 63042

Missouri A.C.
405 Washington Ave.
St. Louis, 63102

South Hampshire R.C.
6727 Langley Ave.
St. Louis, 63123

Spaulding RB Club
8701 Dunn Rd.
St. Louis, 63136

Spaulding RB Club
1530 So. Hanley Rd.
St. Louis, 63144

Spaulding RB Club
12326 Old Tesson Ferry
St. Louis, 63128

Town & Country Club
Des Peres Rd.
St. Louis, 63141

University Club
1034 S. Brentwood Blvd.
St. Louis, 63117

West James Courts
1166 Pershall
St. Louis, 63137

Westport Rac. Club
2388 Chafee
St. Louis, 63141

Cave Springs Tennis
P.O. Box 24
St. Peters, 63376

Town & Country Racquet Club
5 Country Life Acres
Town & Country, 63131

Montana

Yellowstone Rac. Club
3440 Rimrock Rd.
Billings, 59102

Sporting House West
325 E. Broadway
Missoula, 59801

Nebraska

Sports Courts of Lincoln Ltd.
1025 Lamplighter Lane
Lincoln, 68510

King's Court
1712 S. 133rd Ave.
Omaha, 68144

Racquetball of Omaha
1429 S. 133rd St.
Omaha, 68144

Racquetball of Omaha
3415 S. 67th St.
Omaha, 68106

Nevada

Cambridge R.C.
3890 S. Swenson
Las Vegas, 89109

Tropicana R.C.
3801 Las Vegas Blvd., S.
Las Vegas, 89109

New Hampshire

Hampshire Hills R.C.
Emerson Rd.
Milford, 03055

New Jersey

Kangaroo Courts
193 Chambers Bridge Rd.
Bricktown, 08723

The Sportsman Club
Tierney Rd.
Lake Hopatcong, 07849

New Jersey A.C., Inc.
451-B Route 38
Moorestown, 08057

New Mexico

Tom Young's Spa & Court Club
2250 Wyoming
Albuquerque, 87112

Lake Carlsbad Municipal Courts
700 Park Dr.
Carlsbad, 88220

New York

Colonie Center Court
444 Sand Creek Road
Albany, 12205

Colonie Tennis Club, Inc.
636 Albany Shaker Rd.
Albany, 12211

Sports Spa Int.
1211 Stewart Ave.
Bethpage, 11714

Four-Wall Courts

580 Cayuga Rd.
Buffalo, 14225

Five Towns Sport Center
395 Pearsall Ave.
Cedarhurst, 11516

Geneva A.C.
80 Castle St.
Geneva, 14456

Mid-Town A.C.
55 Gould St.
Rochester, 14610

Plaza A.C.
50 Chestnut Plaza
Rochester, 14604

West Side RB Club
1404 Long Pond Rd.
Rochester, 14626

CitiSports
41 E. 42nd St.
New York, 10017

Downtown A.C.
19 West St.
New York, 10004

Fifth Avenue Rac. Club
404 Fifth Avenue
New York, 10018

New York A.C.
180 Central Park S.
New York, 10019

Paul Traver
1004-15th
Niagara Falls, 14301

Health 'N Sports Club & Spa
1020 Old Country Road
Westbury, 11590

Ohio

The Back Wall
3600 Park East
Beachwood, 44122

The Cincinnati Club
30 Garfield Pl.
Cincinnati, 45202

The Court Yard
3917 Virginia Ave.
Cincinnati, 45227

West Side Rac. Club
2323 Ferguson Rd.
Cincinnati, 45238

Beta Court Club
25111 Emery Rd.
Cleveland, 44129

Chagrin Court Club
27629 Chagrin Blvd.
Cleveland, 44122

Cleveland A.C.
1118 Euclid Ave.
Cleveland, 44115

The Ball 'N Racquet
3121 Euclid Ave.,
Cleveland, 44115

Athletic Club of Columbus

136 E. Broad St.
Columbus, 43215

Viking Forum
888 Granville Rd.
Columbus, 43203

Mentor Rac. Club
6000 Heisley Rd.
Mentor, 44060

Moundbuilders Rac. Club
1891 S. 40th St.
Newark, 43055

Executive Club West
21330 Center Ridge Rd.
Rocky River, 44116

The Supreme Courts
5800 Monroe St. (Box 385)
Sylvania, 43560

Toledo Rac. Club
5400 W. Central Ave.
Toledo, 43615

Royal RB Club
234 E. Market St.
Warren, 44481

Boca Racquet Club
860 Boardman-Canfield Rd.
Youngstown, 44512

Oklahoma

Grand Slam RB Club
515 South Broadway
Oklahoma City, 73160

Grand Slam RB Club
9421 North Robinson
Oklahoma City, 73114

Racquet Time Courts of
Oklahoma City
6701 W. Wilshire Blvd.
Oklahoma City, 73132

Benien Courts
2121 E. 69th St.
Tulsa, 74136

Oregon

Mountain Park Rac. C.
3 S. W. Botticelli
Lake Oswego, 97034

Cornell Court Club Inc.
13939 N.W. Cornell Rd.
Portland, 97229

Multnomah A.C.
1849 S.W. Salmon St.
Portland, 97205

The Court Club
10501 N.E. Fargo St.
Portland, 97220

Pennsylvania

Huff 'N' Puff Gym, Inc.
4990 State Rd.
Drexel Hills, 19026

Worcester Rac. Club
Fairview Village, 19409

Serendipity Place
P.O. Box 2412 L.V.
Lehigh Valley, 18001

Old Fort Rac. Club
E. Main St.
Millheim, 16854

Northeast Rac. Club & Spa
Krewstown Rd. & Grant Ave.
Philadelphia, 19115

Town & Country Rac. Club
2028 Chancellor St.
Philadelphia, 19103

Manor Courts, Inc.
4140 Brownsville Rd.
Pittsburgh, 15227

Pittsburgh A.C.
4215 Fifth Ave.
Pittsburgh, 15213

Scranton A.C.
Lomma Bldg.
Scranton, 18503

F.H. Buhl Club
28 N. Pine Ave.
Sharon, 16146

South Carolina

Charleston Court Clubs
1642 Hwy. 7
Charleston, 29407

Tennessee

Chattanooga RB Club
404 Franklin Blvd.
Chattanooga, 37411

Don Kessinger Court Club
1010 June Rd.
Memphis, 38138

Presley's Center Courts, Inc.
5100 Poplar
Memphis, 38137

Texas

H/R Clubs
P.O. Box 14845
Austin, 78761

Royal Court Club
805 E. 32½
Austin, 78705

Corpus Christi R/B Ct.
1017 Barry St.
Corpus Christi, 78411

Dallas A.C.
Elm & Pacific Sts.
Dallas, 75201

Inwood Rac. Club
P.O. Box 20545
Dallas, 75220

Paul Thorpe Spas
124 W. Main
Grand Prairie, 75050

Athletic Club of Houston
Two Shell Plaza
Houston, 77002

Court Sports, Inc.
9525 Katy Freeway
Houston, 77024

University Club
455 Post Oak Tower
Houston, 77027

Woodlake Court Sports
2620 Tanglewild East
Houston, 77027

Centre Tennis Club
900 St. Paul
Richardson, 75080

R/H Center of San Antonio
121 N.W. Loop 410
San Antonio, 78216

Turtle Creek C.C.
8400 Data Point
San Antonio, 78229

Utah

Deseret Gymnasium
First North & Main
Salt Lake City, 84104

The Towne House
158 S. 3rd East
Salt Lake City, 84111

Vermont

The Court Club
70 Farrell Rd.
S. Burlington, 05401

Fountain of Youth
Howard Johnson's Complex
White River Junc., 05001

Virginia

Courts Royal East
5505 Cherokee Ave.
Alexandria, 22312

The Tennis Center
371 Ft. Evans Rd.
Leesburg, 22075

Courts Royal
P.O. Box 452
Merrifield, 22116

The Tennis Center
403 Brookside Blvd.
Richmond, 23227

Washington

Bellevue A.C.
2100 112th N.E.,
Bellevue, 98004

Super Sonics Rac. Club
4455 148th N.E.
Bellevue, 98007

Bellingham A.C.
110 N. Samish
Bellingham, 98225

Bellingham Rac. Club
8th & McKenzie
Bellingham, 98225

Town & Country Ten. & H.C.
2002 36th N.W.
Gig Harbor, 98335

Tri-City A.C.
P.O. Box 6639
Kennewick, 99336

Straight Arrow
213 4th Ave., S.
Kent, 98031

Athletic Club
1066 S. Division
Moses Lake, 98837

Center Court Sports
16044 16th S.W.
Seattle, 98166

Gallery
11616 Aurora Ave.
Seattle, 98110

Tennis World
7245 W. Marginal Way.
P.O. Box 24485
Seattle, 98124

Washington A.C.
6th & Union Sts.
Seattle, 98001

Central Park Racquet Club
5900 E. 4th Ave.
Spokane, 99206

The Spokane Club
1002 W. Riverside Ave.
Spokane, 99201

Center Court Club
4701 Center St.
Tacoma, 98409

Tumwater Valley Rac. Club
4833 Tumwater Valley Dr.
Tumwater, 98501

Wisconsin

Highlander Racquet Club
13825 W. Burleigh St.
Brookfield, 53005

Burlington A.C.
217 N. Pine St.
Burlington, 53105

Abbey Springs Health Club
South Shore Dr.
Fontana, 53125

Western Rac. Club
2500 S. Ashland
Green Bay, 54303

The Court Club
6514 Schroeder Rd.
Madison, 53711

Le Club
2001 W. Good Hope Rd.
Milwaukee, 53209

Milwaukee A.C.
758 N. Broadway
Milwaukee, 53202

North Shore Rac. Club
5750 N. Glen Park Rd.
Milwaukee, 53209

South Shore Rac. Club
4801 S. 2nd St.
Milwaukee, 53207

Sun Prairie RB Club
1010 N. Bird St.
Sun Prairie, 53590

Wisconsin A.C.
2930 N. 117th St.
Wauwatosa, 53222

The Racquetball Club
1939 S. 108th St.
West Allis, 53227

Wyoming

Jackson Hole Rac. Club
P.O. Box 2214
Jackson, 83001

Canada

Royal Glenora Club
11160 River Valley Rd.
Edmonton, Alberta

The Court Club
10420 - 122 St.
Edmonton, Alberta

Canadian Court
New Westminster,
British Columbia

Richmond Squash & Rac. Cent.
968 Berry Rd.
Richmond, B.C.

Lion's Gate Ten. Club
1185 W. 26th St., N.
Vancouver, B.C.

M.A.R.C.
595 Hornby St.
Vancouver, B.C.

The Court Sports Club
1400 Taylor Ave.
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Ashland Rac. Courts, Inc.
5109 Ashland Dr.
Burlington, Ontario

Mayfair Parkway Rac. Club
32 Doncaster Ave.
Thornhill, Ontario

Cote De Liesse Rac. Club
8305 Cote De Liesse
St. Laurent, Quebec

*Directory of Court Clubs -
We would appreciate hearing
about any racquetball clubs
not included in these listings.*

STATE Racquetball

State Program Booms

With the ever-increasing number of state affiliates in the U.S.R.A.'s amateur program, the promotion of racquetball is now reaching into the far corners of the nation. Our original goal of 50 state affiliates is now nearly a reality, as the word about our state program spreads at a rapid rate and our level of support to our state associations continues its growth spiral.

By the time this magazine reaches the public the eight regional tournaments will be almost underway. We wish to express our sincere appreciation to the host tournament sites for supporting the U.S.R.A. and the amateur players who will be participating in the event.

Our thanks also goes to our faithful sponsors of the pro tour who also assist our amateur effort, Seamco Sporting Goods and Leach Industries. Seamco has donated the 558 balls for our regionals and Leach/Seamco together provide the players with an official tournament shirt that is the most comfortable and attractive racquetball shirt ever.

Remember that the men and women open champions in all regions will have air fare paid to the National Championships June 4-11 in San Diego. Many state associations are considering sending their state male, female, or junior champions to either the regionals or nationals compliments of the state association, definitely a progressive step. This type of promotion and support by the states allows aspiring players to reach their full potential in regional or national competition.

Subscription Program

In conjunction with our state affiliate program, we are now mailing back 40% of our magazine subscription fees to

our state associations on a monthly basis. That's right, for every \$5 one-year subscription we receive at our headquarters, we refund \$2 to the state. For every \$12 three-year subscription, we refund \$5 to the state. In this way we are sharing funds as well as supporting our states. This plan also included subscription renewals for the year 1977. All renewals were processed directly through the state (where we had affiliates) and 40% of the renewal monies were kept by the amateurs. With these funds, we will provide help in operational expenses for the states such as mailing costs for newsletters and similar necessities.

Before too long the amazing growth of private and public court clubs will allow the exposure of a tremendous number of people to racquetball. We want to be able to provide a voice for these players as well as news and developments related to the sport through *National Racquetball*. Our state programs will help provide the needed services at the local and state level.

We wish the best of luck to all participants in the regionals and sincerely hope that the expansion of the number of regions makes it possible for many more avid racquetballers to compete and enjoy the competition. For those few remaining states where we do not have an affiliate, we are looking for an interested promoter of the game who is willing to dedicate some time and effort for our great sport.

Cross Communication

An interesting aspect of our state amateur associations is the beginning of inter-state communication. A good example of this was Illinois Racquetball Association Secretary Alan Shetzer



Terry Fancher

referring Kentucky state chairman David Fleischaker to the U.S.R.A. after conversation at a Kentucky racquetball tournament.

The two players got into an informal discussion and after Alan described the type of assistance the U.S.R.A. could provide to a state association, David liked what he heard and eventually finalized affiliation for the Kentucky Racquetball Association. One major factor was the provision of free Seamco 558 racquetballs for sanctioned tournaments.

Another example was the communication between the U.S.R.A.-Nevada Racquetball Association's President, Dan Seaton and the Western New York Racquetball Association's President, Ray Thompson. The WNYRA has a highly organized racquetball league complete with rules, procedures, and standings. This served as a fine set of guidelines for Nevada's proposed league. We hope to stimulate this type of inter-state communication in the future and encourage the state officers to contact the U.S.R.A. so we may be of assistance in solving particular problems that another state association may have been faced with in the past.

Communication between the states on racquetball related matters can also help to coordinate and publicize tournament dates. This will not only serve to notify regional players of upcoming tournaments but will also serve to prevent conflicting dates. That is why state newsletters are such a popular item among state association members. It provides news on events that players otherwise may not have been aware of.

4 More Organizations Affiliate With U.S.R.A.

Alabama, Georgia, Montana and Western New York,—welcome aboard the U.S. Racquetball Association!

The addition of these three states makes 38 the grand total at press time, of state organizations that have chosen to affiliate with the U.S.R.A.

"I'm sure that 1977 will see each and every one of the 50 states choose to affiliate with us," said Terry Fancher, the U.S.R.A.'s National Coordinator and head of the state organization program. *"The package that we present to the states is so attractive, that affiliation can do nothing but help racquetball in each area."*

If your state is not represented in the list of affiliates in this issue, and you wish to become involved, please contact Terry Fancher at U.S.R.A. headquarters.

Alabama

Jerry O'Neil
P.O. Box 3436A
Birmingham 35205
205-324-3431

Arkansas

Bob Blake
2201 Braden
Jacksonville 72076
501-982-6209

California

Dr. Chuck Hanna
3303 Ruffin Rd. #G
San Diego 92123
714-278-6342

Connecticut

George & Gerri Rudysz
239 Old Farms Rd., #102C
Avon 06001
203-677-6073

Florida

Frank Johnson, Jim Lane
3924 Adams St.
Hollywood 33021
305-925-8173

Georgia

Wayne Vincent
3777 Vineyard Ct.
Marietta 30062
404-971-5441

Idaho

Dirk Burgard
1710 E. 16th St.
Idaho Falls 83401
208-522-2716

Illinois

Tom Street, Alan Shetzer
570 East Higgins Rd.
Elk Grove Village 60007
312-439-3030

Indiana

Robert Tiedge
P.O. Box 1792
South Bend 46624
219-287-3383

Iowa

Jerry Lucas
526 Eicher
Keokuk 52636
319-524-1651

Kansas

Steve Ray
10839 Woodward
Overland Park 66210
913-642-5220

Kentucky

David Fleischaker
628 Fincastle Bldg.
Louisville 40202
502-585-5369

Louisiana

Sanford Comeaux (acting)
P.O. Box 3644
Lafayette 70502
318-984-5753

Maine

Ken Astor, Kevin York
170 Rt. 1
Falmouth
207-781-4281

Maryland

Dr. Charles Scheve
607 Baltimore Ave.
Towson 21204
301-821-0160

Massachusetts

Jim McConchie
Short Hill Rd.
Lincoln 01773
617-259-0468

Michigan

Judy Huhta
26400 W. 12 Mile Rd.
Southfield 48076
313-588-0249

Minnesota

Bob Adam, Sr.
7600 Park Lawn Ave.
Edina 55435
612-835-6515

Mississippi

Dr. C.T. Carley
213 Windsor
Starkville 39759
601-323-4915

Missouri

Ron York
1524 Lexington Ct.
Kansas City 64110
816-861-8624

Montana

Russ Miller
Sherpard 59075
406-373-6390

Nebraska

R. W. Kincade
1025 Lamplighter Lane
Lincoln 68510
402-489-3419

Nevada

Dan Seaton
3727 Centennial Cir.
Las Vegas 89120
702-386-4011

New Jersey

Doug Clark
21 Glen Dr.
Voorhees 08043
609-627-4926

New Mexico

Gary Mazaroff
Route 9, Box 513
Albuquerque 87105
505-821-0536

New York (Eastern)

Tom Flannery
3A Alpine Dr.
Wappingers Falls 12590
201-845-9040

New York (Western)

Jim Winterton
211 Brooks Ave.
Rochester 14619
716-235-4609

North & South Carolina

Sonny Harmon
316 Huffman Mill Rd.
Burlington, NC 27215
919-227-1161

Oklahoma

Clayton Rahlfs
4127 S. Cincinnati
Tulsa 74105
918-749-9081

Oregon

Reed Fitkin
2510 Oakmont Way
Eugene, OR 97401
503-687-2811

Pennsylvania

Jim Pruitt
304 Minor St.
Emmaus 18049
215-965-6645

Rhode Island

John Rosato,
Jerry Melaragno
3049 Pawtucket Ave.
East Providence 02918
401-277-2833

Texas

Dewey Strickland
201 Vanderpool
Houston 77024
713-868-3340

Vermont

Cliff Johnson
70 Farrell Rd.
S. Burlington 05401
802-864-4770

Virginia

Ed Remen
32 Penny Lane
Sterling 22170
703-430-2552

Washington

Douglas A. Wilson
5817 57 Ave. N.E.
Seattle 98105
206-623-4320 Ext. 31

Wisconsin

Bob Kennan
P.O. Box 203
Wales 53183
414-646-3607

Wyoming

Barbara Williams
YMCA-417 N. Jefferson
Sheridan 82801
307-674-7488

What's Happening: Illinois

1977 will be a big year for organized Racquetball-Illinois style- with six tournaments on tap in the first six months.

Under the guidance of the state association's officers and board of trustees the Illinois Racquetball Association plans at least one tournament a month for 1977.

Although it is an involved job co-ordinating all of the various association activities, Tom Street, President of the Illinois Racquetball Association and Alan Shetzer, Secretary and Treasurer are quick to point out that it is a team effort involving all of the officers, trustees and active members of the Association.

The Illinois Racquetball Association is structured with a President; Vice President; Secretary-Treasurer; Vice President-Director of Leagues; an eight member board of trustees and six standing committees.

The committees are: League and Tournaments, Referees, Membership, Public information, Program and Nominating.

In addition to the Illinois Racquetball Association tournament activities, the director of leagues coordinates the Metropolitan (Chicago) Racquetball league which has over 300 men competing.

The Illinois Racquetball Association sanctions tournaments and charges a fee of .50 per player entered. For this fee they provide free balls, score cards, draw sheets, seeding, discounts on shirts, floor managers, and referee scheduling and guidance.

"We will sanction all tournaments", says Alan Shetzer, "that agree to follow Illinois Racquetball Association-U.S.R.A. rules."

"In our Association" says Street, "we try to represent all the players from the novice to the experienced tournament player". As a part of our operating policy we hold an association meeting at every major tournament. We publish bi-monthly newsletters covering items of interest to Illinois Racquetball Association members, and work hard to develop increased involvement in Illinois racquetball.

Membership in the Illinois Racquetball Association is \$5 and includes the following benefits:

Organized tournament competition (States Singles & Doubles)

Organized League Competition (men & women)

Membership in the United States Racquetball Association.

Annual Subscription to *National Racquetball Magazine*.

Bi-monthly newsletter

Special events:

Playing Clinics

Refereeing Clinics

Special Challenge Matches

Annual Meetings

As with any volunteer organization more participation by interested Illinois Racquetball players is essential, and has been the back bone of the continued growth of the Illinois Racquetball Association.



Illinois Racquetball Association president Tom Street (l.) with Illinois secretary-treasurer Alan Shetzer as they prepare to do their thing.

How It Began In Mississippi

It was in late 1974 when Willie Daniel decided to add a handball/racquetball court to his Athletic Club facilities in Starkville, Mississippi. After completion, the court was monopolized almost entirely by racquetball players who were either learning the sport or were converted paddleball players. A group of perhaps 15 or 20 avid racquetballers were quite interested to learn in the spring of 1976 of the existence of the U.S. Racquetball Association. Promptly, organizational efforts were begun which resulted in an organizational meeting on July 7, 1976. At this meeting the following officers were elected:

President - Emmett Kohler; Vice President - Willie Daniel; Secretary - C. T. Carley; Treasurer - Frank Bonner; Director of Leagues - Bert Van Royal.

In addition, eight trustees were elected. These were: Perry Mullen, Don Ray, Stephen Langston, Dick DeNovellis, Phil Rutledge, Donovan Horn, Larry Jones, Jack Forbus.

At this meeting a constitution and bylaws were adopted and the members present voted to affiliate with the U.S. Racquetball Association. At the next meeting on July 23, the members present voted to authorize the pursuit of a state charter for the Mississippi Racquetball Association. This was done and the Governor of Mississippi signed the charter of the Mississippi Racquetball Association, Inc. on the second day of August, 1976.

After organization, the officers and trustees of the Mississippi Racquetball Association promptly began making plans for the first state championship tournament. These plans were completed and the tournament scheduled for January 1977.

The current membership of the Mississippi Racquetball Association is dominated by Starkville residents. However, growth of the association into other areas of the state is anticipated in the near future.

Meet Your State Chairmen

Ron York



Our Missouri state chairman is Ron York of Kansas City. Ron is in his mid-twenties and currently is taking a year off from medical school, but will be resuming his studies at the conclusion of this summer. An avid supporter of racquetball, Ron is also an outstanding tournament player and tournament organizer.

Most recently, Ron has won the Sunset Open in Overland Park, finished second in the A division of the Aurora Semi-Pro tournament, and was also the runner-up in the open division of the annual Illini Open in Champaign. This outstanding tournament play is highlighted by the fact that Ron contributes as much to the game off the court as on the court.

We are currently planning to encourage a St. Louis area contingent to join the USRA-Missouri force. However, to date Ron has done a tremendous job in the Kansas City area and was also directly responsible for putting us in contact with Steve Ray, manager of the new club in Overland Park, Kansas. Steve is our new Kansas state representative.

Taking time to visit Steve and discuss coordination of the two associations led to the affiliation with the U.S.R.A. It further led to the U.S.R.A. Kansas

State Open tournament in March.

Ron keeps in constant contact with U.S.R.A. headquarters and follows the results of the pro tournaments. "I like to find what is happening in the sport," he said. "I feel that the explosion of racquetball is tremendous."

In June, Ron is planning to attend the National Championships in San Diego and meet with other state representatives from all over the country. Being unable to attend last year's tournament, he wouldn't miss this year's event for anything.

George & Gerry Rudysz



One of the first two states to affiliate in the beginning of the U.S.R.A. state affiliate program was Connecticut. George and Gerry Rudysz were dissatisfied with the way the state racquetball association was being conducted and decided to do something about it.

They formed the U.S.R.A. Connecticut Racquetball Association and immediately set about acquiring new members through the use of membership forms which they posted at all court facilities. They became the first and only husband and wife state chairpersons.

Since that time, they have signed up 150 new members and have also organized and administered numerous state open and doubles tournaments with the various age categories as well as state B tournaments for developing players, and of course, women's divisions.

"We stress the average player in our association," says Gerry, "and they are, of course, the strength of racquetball in our state."

George and Gerry are in their

mid-twenties. They will be employed soon by the Court House I court club in Avon, Connecticut scheduled for opening this month. There they will have a superb facility for their local populace as well as for major state racquetball events.

George is a former National doubles champion, who with Mike Luciw won the title in 1972. In 1973 George was a member of the N.R.C.'s first pro tour. Gerry is also an outstanding player, currently the Connecticut Women's A champion.

"We have slowed down our participation as players and are now interested in promotion and teaching more," said George. "We're looking forward to the opening of the club and already have over 100 members."

George is a graduate of Connecticut State College, where he was a history major. He first saw racquetball being played at a local Y.M.C.A. and took an immediate interest in the game. It was a natural for him after already having past experience in table tennis and tennis.

He was one of the first players to suggest the use of linesmen to aid the referee in officiating racquetball matches. He rightly felt that the ability to appeal certain calls would improve the overall quality of play.

If you're ever in Connecticut, be sure to give a call to George and Gerry Rudysz, our kind of people.

Bob Keenan

The USRA-Wisconsin chapter has become one of the most active state associations now affiliated with the U.S.R.A. Bob Keenan, state chairman, has done a remarkable job of organizing a state open tournament for all classes in January and a state doubles in February. In addition, he made all the necessary arrangements for the U.S.R.A. Central Regionals in late March to be held at the Racquet Club in West Allis.

All of these tournaments have both men and women's categories as well as juniors. To date, there are nine girls entered in the 13-and-under girls division. Entries range from a nine-year-old girl racquetballer to the irrepressible Dora Mitchell of Madison who is entering the tournament at a young 70 years of age.

The Wisconsin committee is made up of Sandy Coffman, the Women's State Director, Joe Wirkus of Madison and Jerry Hoff of Wausau, State Committeemen.

"You'll note that our committee is made up of enthusiastic racquetballers and also includes a woman, said Bob. Sandy Coffman is without a doubt women's racquetball personified! She is not only one of the better players we have in Wisconsin, but most important, she is without equal in the promotion of women's racquetball."

"Sandy has tremendous energy and love for the game and her enthusiasm goes at least 120%. Because of Sandy I'm sure ladies activity in racquetball in Wisconsin will increase ten-fold."

Bob Keenan, 31 and has been an avid racquetball player and promoter for the past several years all across the state of Wisconsin. Since assuming the state chairmanship on behalf of the USRA in

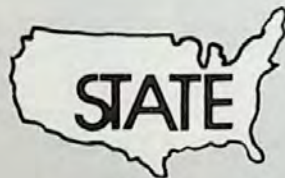
Wisconsin last August he has done a remarkable job in putting the state racquetball affairs in order.

Being involved in selling structural steel for his company, Structural Products, Bob became involved in court club construction to the point that he has now decided to build his own club in the Milwaukee suburb of Waukesha. He has recently completed final arrangements and will start construction soon.

Realizing that he would need assistance throughout the state with the newly formed association, Bob sought the aid of Joe Wirkus, formerly of Milwaukee, and now manager/pro at the new Court Club in Madison. Joe, 27, is the perennial state singles champion and an active promoter of the sport in the Midwest as well as being one of the most respected players in the game.

Jerry Hoff, besides being a fine seniors player, is an experienced tournament coordinator. Jerry organizes the annual Woodson Y.M.C.A. tournament in his home town of Wausau and the event features the better players in the state and Midwest.

All of the USRA Wisconsin committee shares the same goal, to increase the active promotion of organized racquetball across their home state, while working with the U.S.R.A. to guarantee all the support possible to help them achieve this goal.



NATIONAL RACQUETBALL CLINIC PRESENTS 1976-77 ATLAS RACQUETBALL CAMP



**A HEALTHFUL
PLACE TO BE
IN SAN DIEGO**

Located in exciting Mission Valley in San Diego's newest and most exclusive health club facility, the Atlas Health Club. The club in conjunction with National Racquetball Clinic, Inc. offers 4 days and 4 nights/20 hours of instruction by 3 of the nation's top professionals. The instructors staff consists of: Charlie Brumfield, Steve Keeley, Steve Serot, Rich Wagner, Marty Hogan, and Davey Bledsoe.

These professionals believe in both the practical and theoretical approach to teaching. Court time consists of applying classroom knowledge and concepts to the game. The Atlas Health Club Racquetball Camp is designed to utilize the best teaching and most successful techniques developed by the professionals.

Package includes: room accommodations at Atlas Hotel's Mission Valley Inn, cocktails and banquet; Zoofari and Sea World passes; equipment package (t-shirt, bag, racquet, balls, "The Complete Book of Racquetball"); 20 hours of instruction; pros subject to change.

Designed for today's man or woman who is both aware of the benefits and deeply interested in physical relaxation and well-being.

Centralized, easily accessible Mission Valley Hotel Circle location is ideal for business and professional people—those who appreciate a work-day work-out . . . a revitalizing hour on one of the tennis or racquetball/handball courts . . . a few invigorating laps around the jogging track . . . a skin-cleansing session in the steam room . . . a muscle relaxing jacuzzi bath.

Evening and weekenders will find the location equally suitable . . . in the heart of vibrant Mission Valley with shopping centers, theatres, clubs, and restaurants nearby.

Design and operation reflects the same high level of quality and attention to detail that has been a standard throughout the 20-year growth of the successful Atlas chain of hotel and restaurants.

Facilities include: six lighted tennis courts (one exhibition court); separate saunas for men and women; steam room; therapy pool; separate fully equipped exercise rooms for men and women; twenty-five meter, three-lane lap-pool; jogging track; club lounge; color t.v., snack shop for light meals, beer, soft drinks, pro shop; barber shop; separate massage rooms for men and women; game room; volleyball court; and video-tape system.

PLAN I

Double Room Occupancy
Both Persons Participate

\$200.00/person

PLAN II

Double Room Occupancy
One Person Participates

\$250.00/participant
\$ 50.00/guest

PLAN III

Single Room Occupancy
Single Participant

\$280.00/person

ATLAS HEALTH CLUB RACQUETBALL CAMP APPLICATION

FILL OUT AND MAIL WITH \$100 DEPOSIT

APPLICATIONS AND HOTEL RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO START OF CLINIC

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

CHECK PLAN DESIRED

- ☐ Plan I
☐ Plan II
☐ Plan III

DATE DESIRED:

- ☐ Feb. 11-14
☐ April 5-8
☐ July 5-8

YOUR DEPOSIT OF \$100 MUST ACCOMPANY THIS APPLICATION . . .

Make Checks Payable To:

Mail To: Atlas Health Club 901 Hotel Circle San Diego, CA 92138 298-932

The Serve

Jerry Hilecher, currently the fourth ranked racquetball player on the N.R.C. tour, is universally recognized as possessing one of the best drive serves in our game. In this article Jerry breaks down that serve, explaining what it is that gives him the power and control which combine to make his serve a devastating offensive weapon.



Figure 1

The serve in racquetball has undergone probably the biggest change of any shot in the game over the past few years. From a defensive shot in the late 60's and early 70's, the serve has evolved into the game's most potent offensive weapon.

Looking back into those early years, virtually every top player used the high lob serve to their opponent's backhand, a carry-over from paddleball, the game from which many of today's outstanding players emerged. The idea was to get the ball to strike high on the side wall, bounce, and die at the back wall.

I can still remember my father saying, "I wish I could give you my serve," just because he could hit and control the high lob and I couldn't. At that time the serve was the weakest part of my game.

From the lob, the serve in racquetball continued to evolve but it still remained within the scope of defensive shots, — players attempting to put the ball in play in such a way as to eliminate the chances of a kill shot return. The garbage, Garfinkel and Z serves surfaced in the early 70's and each had this philosophy behind it.

At the time I was a teen-ager playing both racquetball and handball and was able to participate in the National Handball Juniors Championships one year in Miami. It was at that tournament that I first saw the serve used as an offensive weapon.

The player was a New York handballer by the name of Ken Ginty, who would stand about five feet from the right side wall and hit low, bullet-like serves along the right wall or cross court to the left. He would get eight to 10 aces a game with that serve and surprising nobody, he won the tournament.

I went back home to St. Louis, and put the hard, low drive serve into my repertoire. It became so effective that the drive soon was my number one serve, the offensive weapon on which I relied. A witness to any professional

Figure 2



racquetball tournament these days will notice that every top player utilizes the drive serve in one manner or another. No player's game is complete without it.

The reasoning is simple: slow serves produce ceiling ball rallies, rallies in which both players hit a multitude of ceiling balls until one player mis-hits one, giving his opponent an offensive opportunity. The hard serve produces aces or weak returns, giving the server a chance to end the rally much sooner, thereby conserving energy.

Some people have told me that I possess the best drive serve in racquetball. While this may or may not be true, the fact is that I use it extensively and feel that any player who can control the drive serve stands a much better chance of winning.

For purposes of this article, and before I delve into the mechanics of the serve, here's a quick breakdown of the terms I will be using, and their definitions:

Front service line: line in service box closest to the front wall.

Back service line (also called short line): line in service box closest to back wall.

Racquet heel: very bottom of racquet, where wrist thong is located.

Low drive serve: serve which is hit low to opposition, close to either side wall.

Position I — The Stance

(Figure 1)

At the beginning of the serve I stand very close to the back service line. There are two reasons for this. First, I have long legs and need to use the entire service zone area in order not to foot fault; second, in order to generate the optimum amount of power in the drive serve I need to utilize a large step into striking the ball, and therefore again need to utilize the entire service zone.

As can be seen in Figure 1 my stance prior to serving has my right foot in front of my left foot (all positions can be reversed for left handed players), with the heel of my right foot slightly in front and to the right of the toes of my left foot.

My right leg is very slightly bent, with my left leg bent even more. My body is slouched over with both arms fully extended, almost to the floor. The bending of my legs and extension of my arms reminds me to use my entire body when executing the serve.

You might notice that I hold the ball against the handle of my racquet in this ready position, and that I am looking at the ball. This is of great help in concentration. At this point my body is stationary, the only point in my serve where I am not moving. This position enables me to look at the ball and mentally visualize my serve.

Position II—Transfer of Weight (Figure 2)

My first movement is lifting up my left hand, which is holding the ball, and bring the ball next to my head. As I do this, my left foot drops back about 12 inches from its original position, shifting my body weight completely back. This movement is similar to a baseball pitcher who takes a step back from the rubber, enabling him to push off and generate more body momentum. For this same reason, the weight is transferred in a racquetball serve.

As my left arm comes up, my right foot stays in its original position and my right leg straightens out, providing a more solid base for the important push off which is soon to come.

Figure 3



Position III—Dropping the Ball (Figures 3-6)

Dropping the ball in a racquetball serve is like throwing the ball in the air on a tennis serve, — very important. The tennis player who consistently serves well is one whose serve is concise, and that includes tossing the ball, so that the timing of the rest of the serving motion brings the racquet in contact with the ball at just the right time.

The beginning of Position III is actually difficult to distinguish from the end of Position II, with the major difference being that I have begun my impetus forward by Position III. The left foot, which was back and bearing most of

Figure 4

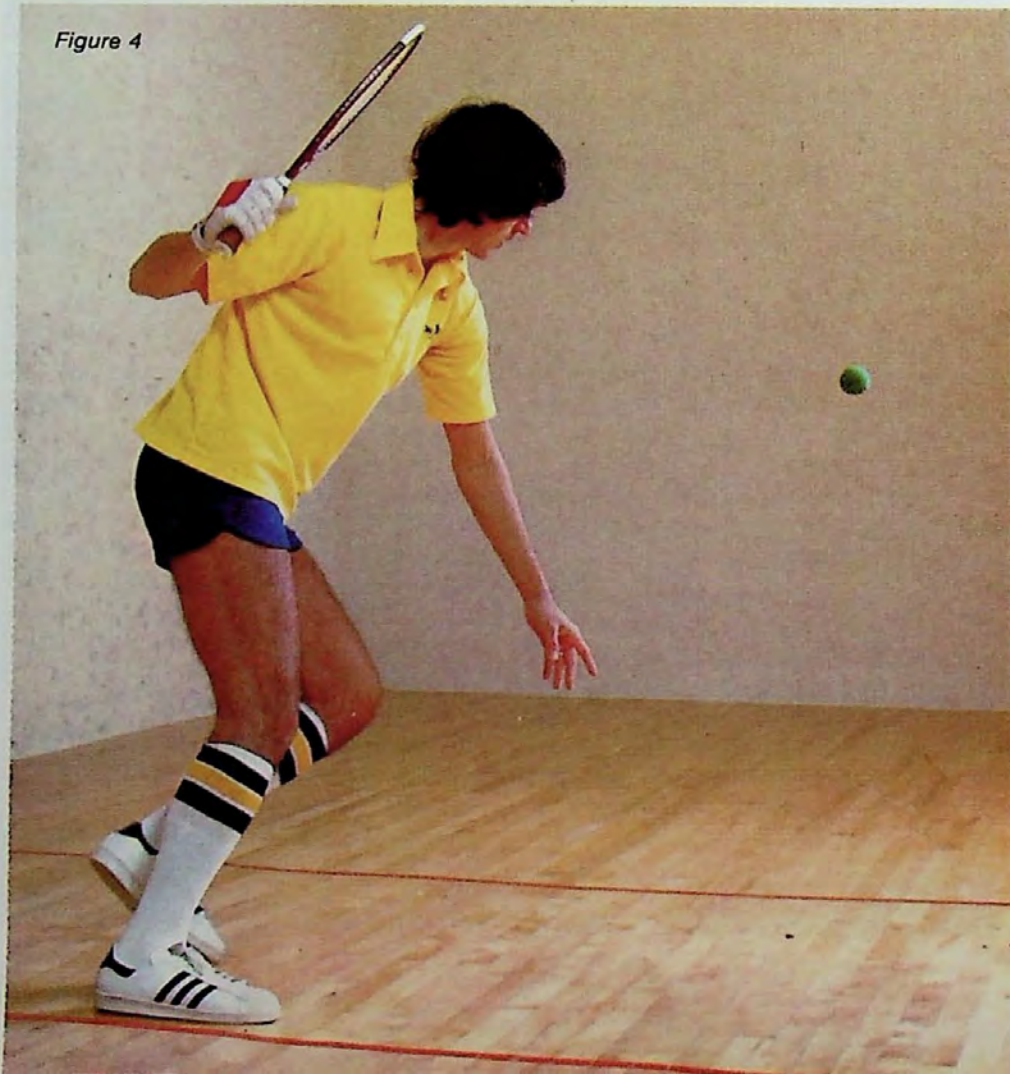
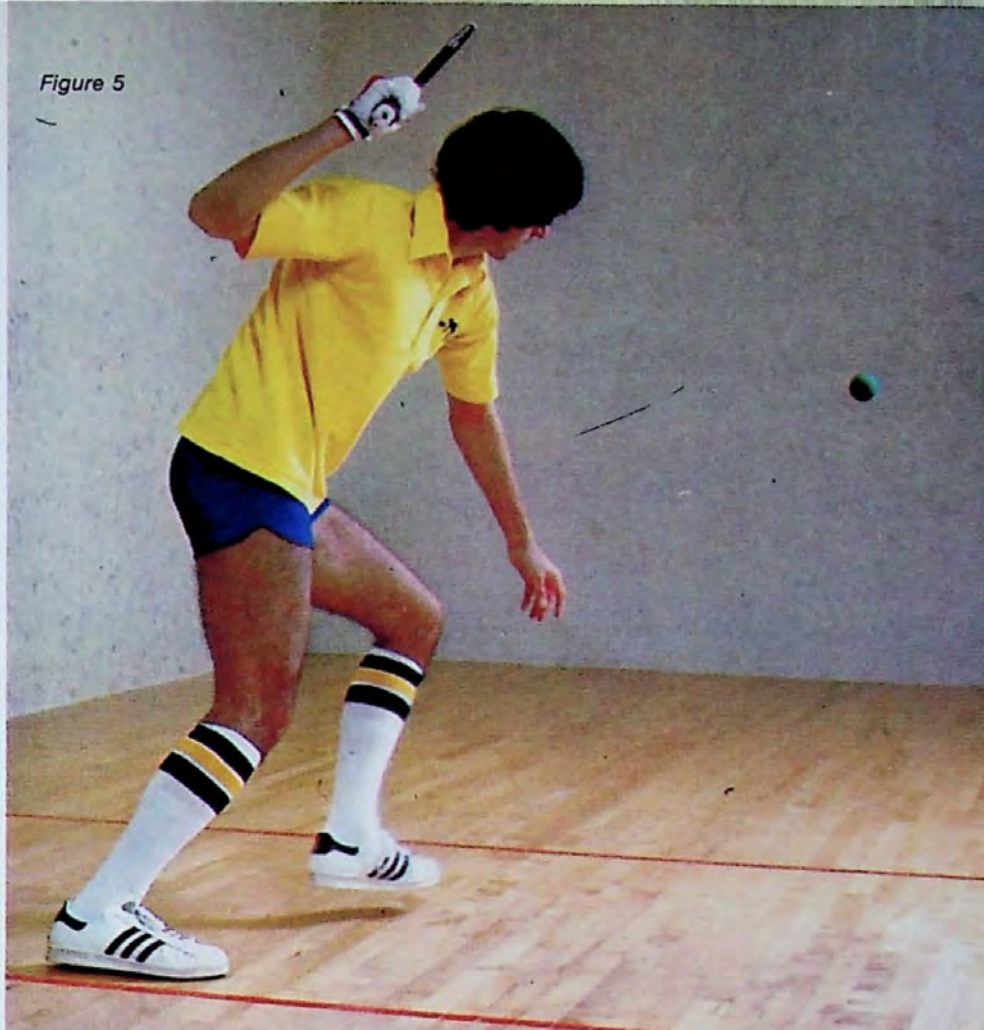


Figure 5



my weight, now moves forward and pushes off the floor. As my left foot moves forward, my right arm rises, bringing the racquet a few inches to the right and above my head, in the classic cocked position.

Note how the racquet is cocked, actually pointing toward my head, and my arm is at a 90 degree angle bent at the elbow. My left foot is in the air beginning its forward movement while my right leg is straight, absorbing my weight.

As I drop the ball I try and drop it close to the front service line, primarily because it will now have less distance to cover to get past the back service line. Therefore, the ball should be moving at a faster speed as it comes back over the back service line than if were dropped deeper in the service box.

A second reason for dropping the ball close to the front service line is that it will enable me to use my entire body to reach out and extend during the stroke, thus generating additional power.

Figure 6

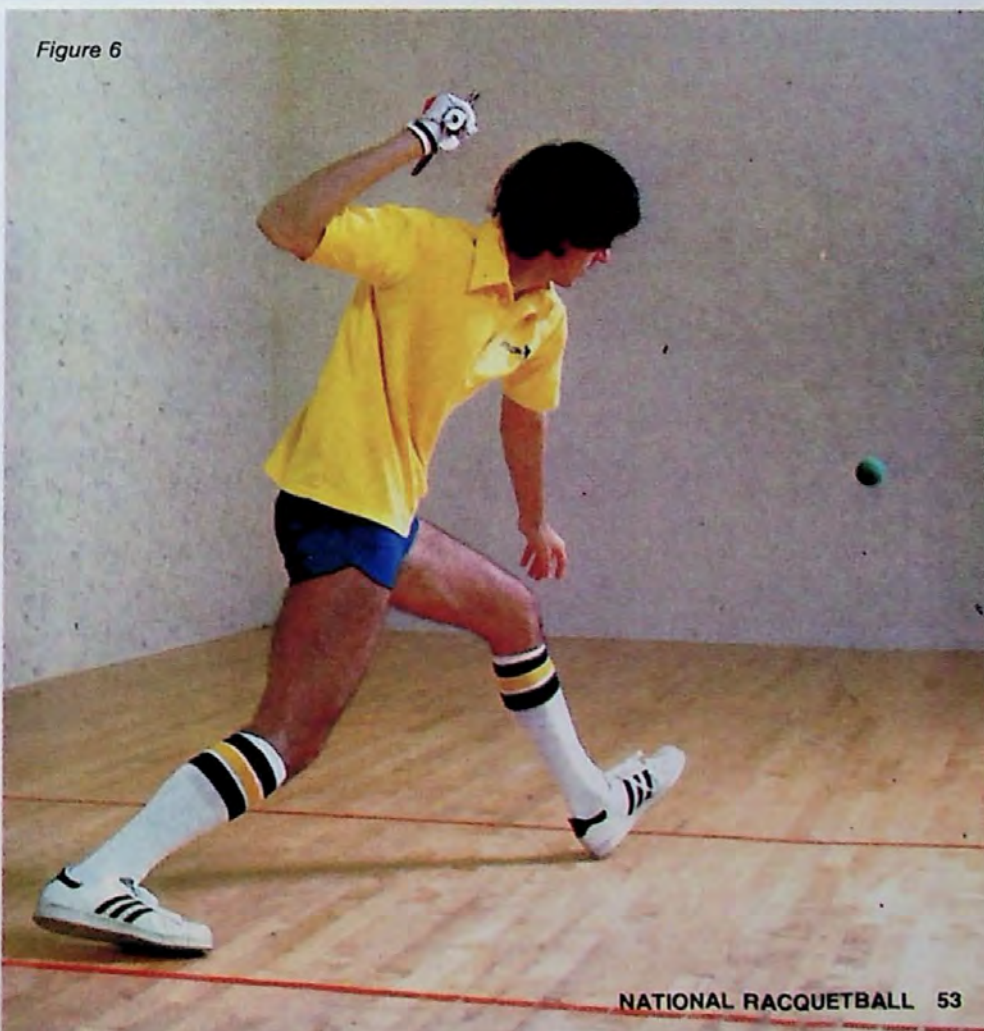


Figure 7



Figure 8



Figure 9



Position IV—Striking the Ball (Figures 7-9)

As the ball reaches the apex of its bounce it starts to come back down towards the floor. As this occurs my stride continues with my left foot extending forward and outward toward the ball and my right knee driving forward (Figure 7). The ball should be coming down about eight inches to the side and six inches in front of my planted left foot. My right hip then begins to rotate toward the floor, starting the downstroke of my racquet (Figure 8). My arm movement begun, I continue it, simultaneously dropping my right knee.

As the ball nears the floor my right wrist drops further and my arm straightens out as I complete a full wrist snap through the ball (Figure 9). At all times I am keeping my eye on the ball.

The use of the four positions in a fluid stroke make up part of the offensive serve. The serve reaches its greatest effectiveness when it can be disguised. Deception and the correct situations for its use will be discussed in the second and final part of this article, next issue. ●

At last. A book on how to **WIN** at racquetball!

If you play to win . . . and not just to play the game . . . here's the book for you. From his own experience on the court, Dr. Victor Spear tells you about the strategies you can use to beat your opponent . . . even if he's a better player! His recipe for success is a skillful blend of planning, psychology, moxie, gamesmanship and physical conditioning. You'll learn about:

New Serves to Win
Turning a Loss Around
Winning Tired
Feet Watching
Dr.'s Conditioning Tips
The Master Psych
The Most Important Shot
in the Game

Beating a Shooter
Beating a Runner
Beating a Better Player
Traps
Hopeless Situation Moves
Tournament Strategy

. . . and More!



Write for your copy
of How to WIN
at Racquetball today.
And start winning more.

WIN
CAMELOT TOWERS,
Suite 204
1415 E. STATE ST.
ROCKFORD, ILL. 61108

ONLY
\$3.95

WIN
CAMELOT TOWERS, Suite 204
1415 E. STATE ST.
ROCKFORD, ILL. 61108

Of course I want to win! Please send _____ copy(ies)
of How to WIN at Racquetball @ \$3.95 ea., plus 50¢ for
shipping and handling.

Payment enclosed \$ _____
Name (Print) _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____

**A quiet, sound
controlled court.**

**Designed
for fast
Installation.
Engineered
for lasting
durability.**



Precision Courts offer a court system to fit your needs and your budget. A court that pays its way sooner, because it installs faster. A court built to take the pounding of long hours of hard play, everyday, with a minimum of maintenance.

All Precision Courts feature pre-fabricated and pre-finished "Cincinnati sectional" floors . . . the same nationally famous floors found in premier coliseums throughout the country. For the walls, Formica® brand panels are used exclusively. Formica® panels are dimensionally stable, and highly moisture, warp, scratch and dent resistant. Quickly installed, they are flush fit for a seamless-like surface.

Through our in-house control, all materials and components are manufactured to exacting specifications, assembled and inspected prior to shipment. Precision Courts has a network of experienced Distributors whose factory-trained crews perform the actual installation. Result. You are assured a complete quality court system that is designed right, built right, installed right.

In addition, we can offer valuable experience in a complete range of services, as . . . consultants, engineers, designers, manufacturer and contractor. For complete technical data, service, construction and installation details, write, or give us a call.



The ultimate in complete court systems . . . Racquetball • Handball • Squash • Platform Tennis



Precision Courts Inc.

3626 Roundbottom Road / Cincinnati, Ohio 45244 / (513) 561-7642

Basics For Beginners

If you are a beginner at the game of racquetball, or have played for only a short period of time, this article is written for you. It has been the experience of many teaching professionals that new players, men, women or children, who take either group or private lessons at a club, YMCA or other facility start to acquire needed fundamentals of the game right from the beginning. Conversely, players who participate in the sport for a period of months without instruction have a very difficult time in trying to correct bad habits. In short, it makes sense to start learning correct techniques from the onset of play rather than having to readjust poorly learned techniques later.

Work on drills —

When any skillful racquetball player demonstrates his ability to an effective degree, there is usually someone in the gallery who states, "I wish I could hit my backhand like that — it would add five points to my game."

What the observer fails to recognize is that the skillful player has probably hit that backhand stroke 5,000 or 10,000 times to attain his proficiency. This brings us to the point — if you desire to achieve above average strokes in racquetball, you must practice drills and routines that resemble actual game situation shots.

These drills should encompass the most basic strokes, forehand, backhand, ceiling, serve, and pass shots. The volley strokes should be practiced both in a stationary position as well as when the ball is moving and the player has to follow the ball, set up and then stroke. Any shot which you execute during a game should be practiced.

Go with your strengths

Many players just beginning to play racquetball have glaring weaknesses such as misjudging set ups off the back wall, weak back hands, etc. Practice time should be spent remedying the weaknesses.

However, when actually playing a game or match to win, take the offensive by using the strokes and shots you do best — don't try to be offensive with your weaknesses. In most cases, a beginner's strength is the forehand simply because it is similar to a throwing motion used in

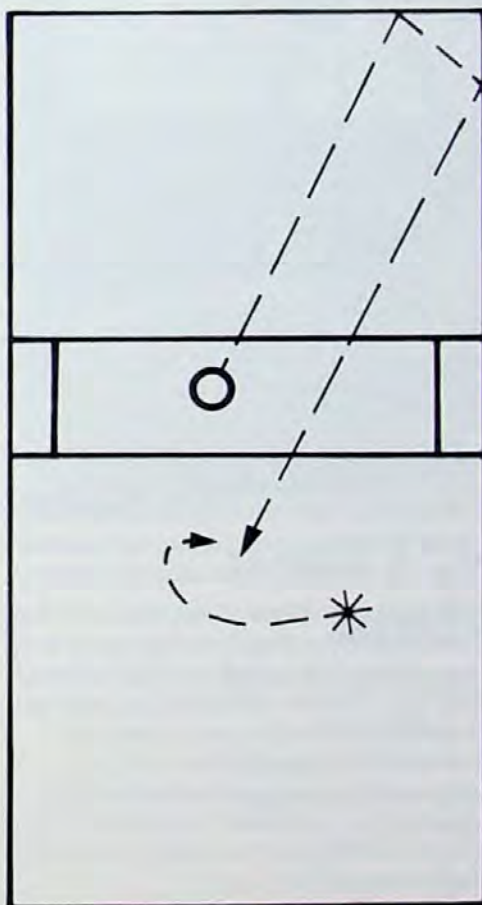


Fig. #1 You may wish to run around the backhand side to enable execution of a forehand stroke.

most sports. So use the forehand to your best advantage.

Until your backhand strokes and volley shots develop, seize the opportunity for offensive shots with the forehand (Fig. 1); be more defensive on the backhand side. You may, of course,

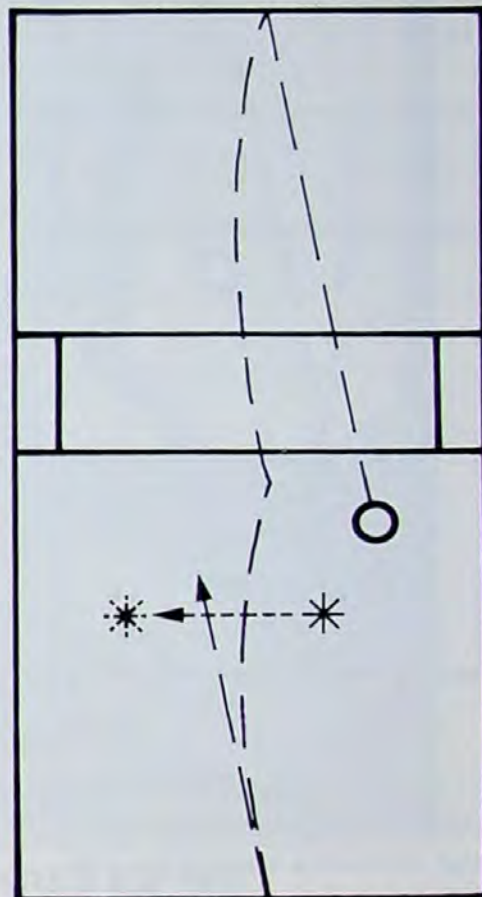


Fig. #2 As the ball passes you en route to the back wall, cross-over and take the shot forehand.

give away a certain amount of court position but at least you will be able to play the game with your most effective weapon.

Many professional and top amateur players make use of this method of shot selection. Even shots coming off the back wall for set-ups off center to the left may be taken forehand by simply crossing to the left side of the court after the ball has passed you (Fig. 2). Besides being able to hit the ball with your best weapon you can also see exactly where your opponent is and choose to place the ball to the left

Fig. #3 With your opponent in sight on a back wall set up, the ball may be placed to the left or right portion of the front wall for a winner.

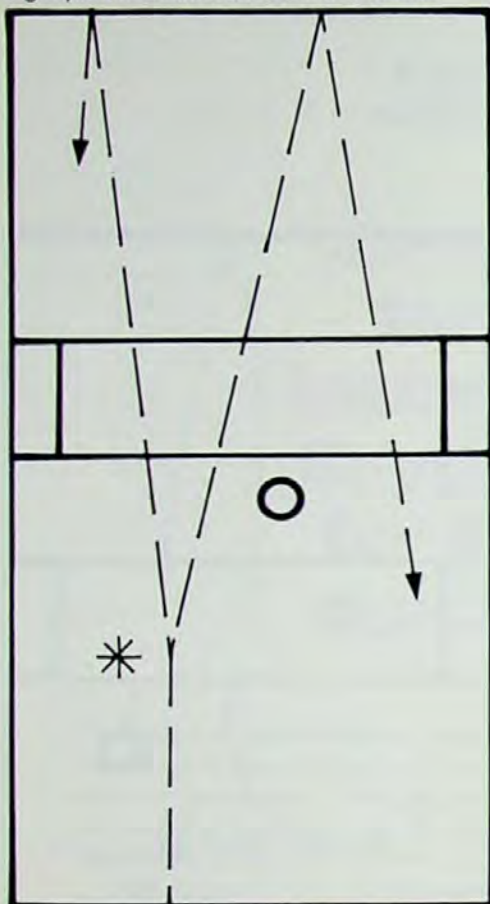


Fig. #4 Hitting down on the ball with a overhand stroke often causes the ball to rebound back up for an easy return or carry straight to the back wall for a set up.

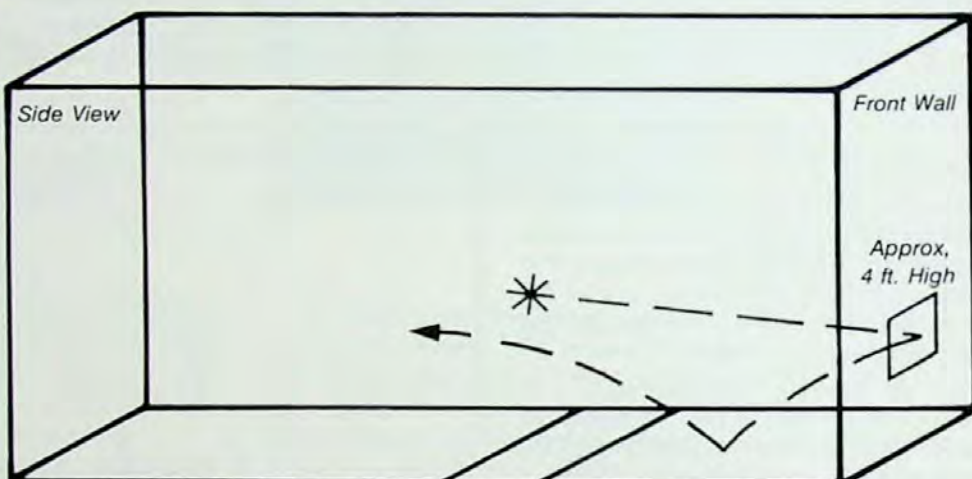
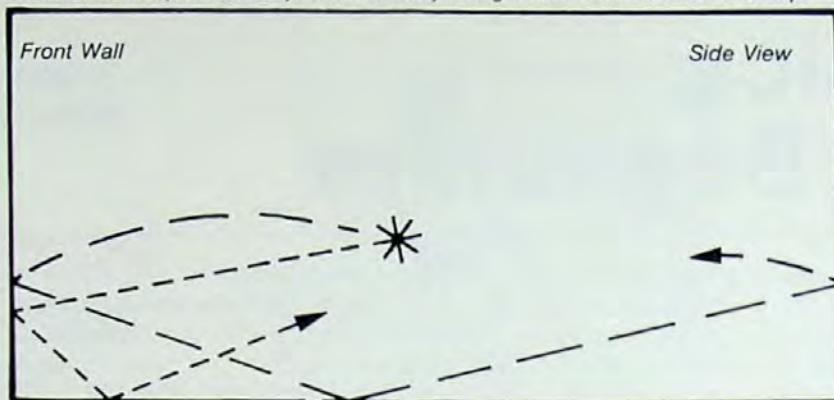


Fig. #5 Overhand stroke, struck firmly to the opponent's backhand side, has become an offensive weapon.

or right on the front wall depending upon your opponent's position (Fig. 3).

Get set before striking the ball

This is easy to suggest but difficult to do for the beginner, simply because he or she may not be able to judge where the ball is going to end up on the court. Only time and practice will enable a player to recognize how a racquetball rebounds off the six possible court surfaces it may strike. Fortunately, the average person computes this over a relatively short period of time and that's what makes racquetball easy and fun.

Once the novice has a basic understanding of the way the ball rebounds, care should be taken to set the feet in position, have the racquet head up and the wrist cocked, arms length from the ball and eyes focused on it. You actually must try to beat the ball to where it will eventually wind up to

give yourself a stable position. The sooner you arrive at that spot the longer you will have to execute the most effective shot, based upon where your opponent has positioned himself.

Weak and ineffective strokes are often executed by a beginner because they were forced to return the ball while on the run. Do not wait until the ball has passed you before you move to retrieve it, instead, flow with your opponent's shot and track the ball down as if you were a magnet. Then plant your feet and be ready to hit it as it rebounds off the wall.

Concentrate on the ball during play

This is often a problem for players at all levels. During actual play anyone may have fun or be extremely competitive. But to play well at either extreme, attention should be focused on the ball.

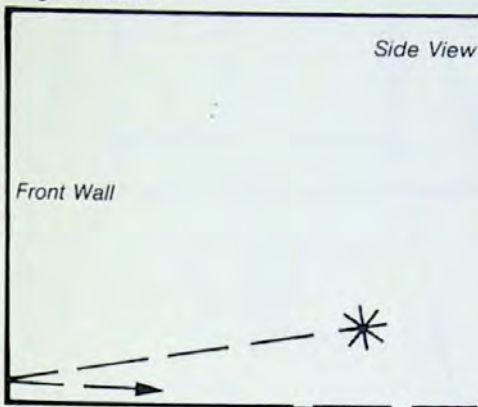
All players experience mind-wandering from time-to-time (some all of the time) but the most successful players at any skill level maintain constant and unswerving attention on the ball while it

is moving. It was said of a great handball player that "he watched the ball even during time-outs." It was actually very close to the truth.

To be able to shut out external distractions such as observers in the gallery, whether friends or strangers, requires concentration. Many players at clubs are so self-conscious while playing on a glass walled court or with someone watching that they can barely continue the game. Learn to shut out distractions or intrusions. Run, play, and chase the ball — but actually watch it while you do, all of the time, unless you are in the path of your partner's return.

Watch the trajectory of the ball in flight and you will find yourself reacting to it, usually in plenty of time to make an adequate return. Watch the ball as it bounces off of the front wall and strikes the floor while traveling to the back wall; don't just look to the back wall. But *don't* look directly at the ball if you see you are in the path of your partner's return shot. Concentration on what you

Fig. #6 Normally, stroke the ball with a side-arm motion allowing it to drop to waist height or lower.



are doing, — striking a ball, — will enable you to play more successfully and with less frustration.

Stroke the ball side-arm more often than overhand

Many beginners adopt the technique early in their game development of stroking the ball overhand or hitting down on the ball. Usually this causes the ball to pop up for an easy return or rebound straight off the back wall for set up. (Fig. 4) This probably comes from prior tennis experience. The practice of hitting down on the ball, occasionally at least, is becoming a popular stroke variation especially when hit to the opponent's backhand side about four feet high on the front wall (Fig. 5).

However, in order to kill the ball so that it will strike the front wall at the lowest possible point and not rebound back up for an easy return, the ball should be hit with a sidearm motion. To facilitate this keep in mind that the ball should be allowed to drop lower than shoulder height. It should even be allowed to drop waist height or lower but this will be easier to do once a player has played a few times and has some idea of where the ball is going (Fig. 6). ●

Only one shoe is made for Racquetball. . .



Photo by Joel Gordon

and PATRICK makes it.

The "Copenhagen" by PATRICK:
molded to the foot
designed for quick movements
reinforced where necessary
light & comfortable
allows the foot to roll
gives a true grip

You owe it to your feet

PATRICK 

Distributed by:

Patrick Athletic Shoe Co., 45 E. 30th St., NY., N.Y. 10016
212-686-8052

Basic Singles Strategy

Editor's Note—The following article and 2 subsequent articles are excerpted from Steve Keeley's recent publication, *The Complete Book Of Racquetball*. The book, endorsed by the U.S. Racquetball Association, is published by D.B.I. Books, Inc., 540 Frontage Rd., Northfield, Illinois 60093. *The Complete Book Of Racquetball* sells for \$7.95 and in our opinion is one of the finest instructional manuals on racquetball published to date. This segment is from chapter three: The Game.

Basic Singles Strategy

The term strategy in racquetball connotes the skillful employment and coordination of tactics and shots for the purpose of playing to one's fullest potential. The following strategic summary does not delve deeply into the cerebral game; rather, it provides fundamental guidelines for such things as when to hit what shot and why to take up what position. A much more concentrated study of these racquetball stratagems is considered in this book's sequel, *Racquetball: For Advanced to Champion Players*.

In the following, we shall deal with basic strategy under four sub-headings: On the Service, On the Service Return, On the Rally and a section on the miscellaneous situations.

Strategy on the Service

First, realize there are two levels (altitudes) to serve from: the low zone and the high zone. That is, one may wish to contact the service ball within the *low zone*, which is mid-calf to knee high. This level includes the drive serves and the low Z-serves. Or one may wish to put the ball into play within the *high zone*, which is mid-thigh to chest high. This level encompasses the garbages, lob and high Z-serves.

The idea behind the service level is that any serve struck from the low zone is generally done so in an attempt to elicit a *weak return*. For example, an accurate low hard drive serve to the backhand will likely force a feeble return. The server administers the coup de grace to the set-up and the rally ends in a total of three shots. True, serves initiated from the low zone are more effective than those initiated from the high zone, but there is a problem of compensation: it is much more difficult to pinpoint the course of the low serves. That low drive serve may just as easily rebound off the back wall for a plum ball and the rally ends in a total of two shots.

On the other hand, any serve struck from the high zone is generally done so in an attempt to simply put the ball into play *without making an error on the serve*. For example, a capable biped should be able to serve accurately nine out of 10 garbages to the backhand.

There should be no such animal as a misdirected garbage serve. But, by a reverse rationalization from the preceding paragraph, this particular serve (service high level) does not frequently elicit a weak set-up on the return. The rally is likely to carry on a number of shots.

Besides the two levels of service, the reader should be aware that variety on the serve is usually desirable.

Changing serves leads to confusion within the receiver's mind and keeps him guessing. Most of the professional players have three or four staple serves which they vary seemingly at random throughout the match. Your service repertoire should include at least two from each of the two serve zones.

To justify my own service regime, allow me to hedge a tad on this "variety is the spice of service" concept. Someone once said, in retrospect (after learning the hard way), "always change a losing game and never change a winning game." This quotation applies especially to the serve. Against an unknown opponent in the early stages of the game, it is wise to experiment and explore your rival's skills through service variety. Once you discover which serves and shots are most strategically sound, badger him with those particular plays.

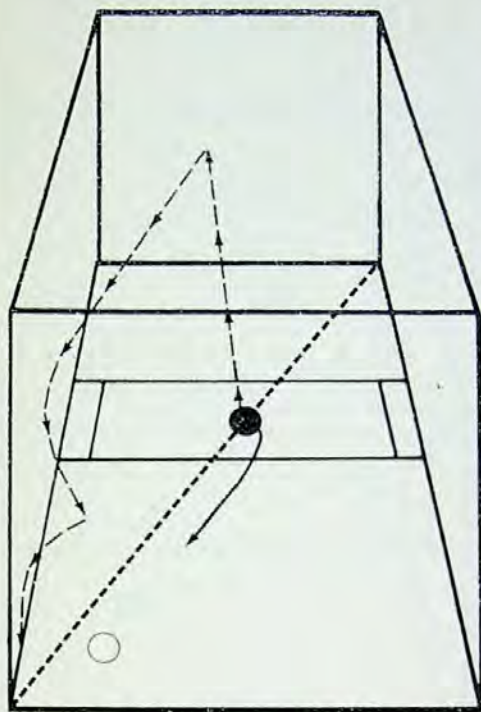
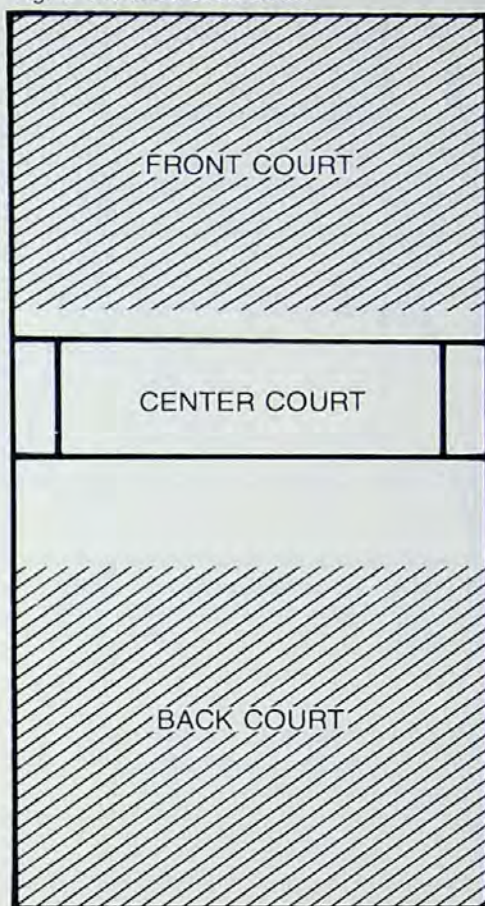


Fig. 1—Retreat of the server: ● has just served a garbage serve to the backhand side and is retreating along the imaginary diagonal. If it is a good serve he may trace the dotted line 4-5 steps; if it is a poor serve he may not back out at all.

It will be discussed later in great detail that most serves should originate from approximately the center of the service box and that most are directed at the competition's weaker stroke, his backhand. It will also be pointed out in some length that a specific serve may be used to force the receiver to come back with a specific service rebuff. Therefore, your selection of serves will hinge upon what type of game you wish to force upon your opponent.

The wet-behind-the-ears court dunce is often in a quandary as to where to go after putting the ball into play. As often as not, the inexperienced player will either sashay randomly around the service box like a dog looking for a spot to lie down, or he will make a sleepy retreat to the nearest sidewall. Wrong! After hitting the ball, the server should back two or three steps out of the service box toward the rear corner at which he directed the served sphere. In other words, most serves go to the backhand or left rear corner. The

Fig. 2—The three court areas.



server, originally stationed in the center of the service zone, should follow an imaginary diagonal line toward the left rear corner. This is diagramed in figure 1.

The amount of *distance* to retreat along this diagonal depends on the accuracy of the serve. A satisfactory garbage serve allows the server to tread posteriorly along the hypotenuse a good four or five steps. An inept drive serve which rebounds off the back court plaster for a set-up forces the server to play it tighter; he should back up one or two steps, or not at all.

This backpeddling leads us to watching the ball. WATCH the ball, whether on the serve or during the rally. This observation of the orb will aid you in anticipating the other guy's shots, in following the general direction of play and in helping cut down the number of those photon shots to the ol' kidneys which instantly reduce the staunchest, macho he-man to a sniveling boob.

Strategy On The Service Return

As with the serve, the reigning factor concerning the service return is *center court positioning*. For now, we shall roughly define center court as that area indicated in the diagram, figure 2. As in chess, whoever dominates center court the majority of the time will emerge the eventual victor.

Because the receiver is located in deep court and the server in the virtual epicenter of center court at the onset of play, the number one objective in returning service is to exchange court positions. The most logical means of accomplishing this goal is through the use of a *defensive shot*, a subject which is meticulously covered in Chapter 7.

Another racquetball rule of thumb on the return of serve is to move up and take the ball *on the fly* whenever possible. Your volley shot need not be a *thread-the-needle* pass or kill because the server will still be off in limbo land by the time you ball zooms past him.

How to anticipate in order to take the ball on the fly? Do this by "reading" or observing the server's habits and idiosyncrasies. He may step toward the right front corner when about to serve to the forehand side, or he may lick his nose when about to serve up a garbage. Too, you can anticipate the type of expected service by checking out at which of the two serve levels the server contacts the racquetball. If he drops the ball knee high and bends deeply at the waist prior to swatting, prepare for a low drive or low Z. However, if he stands in the service box like Frankenstein at attention and is about to contact the sphere shoulder high, then get your receiving rear into gear and rush up to take the ball out of the air.

In summary, a one-sentence guide to returning service might be, if the ball can be taken below the knees then one may smite it offensively, but if the ball must be taken above the knees then pamper it defensively. And repeat over and over the following while awaiting service: "*Better to return with perfunctory patience than pretentious pizzazz.*"

Strategy On The Rally

The typical novice match features caterpillar brain, that splendid physical specimen (simian musculature and rattlesnake reflexes, runs wind sprints in the soft sand for relaxation), against goggle eyes, that brawnless brain bank (straight A's in computer science and head honcho of the debating team, peruses the dictionary for relaxation). Where Mr. Caterpillar Brain is adept physically, Mr. Goggle Eyes is most inept. And where old four-eyes is adept mentally, the insect brain is most inept.

Their court battle is a classic confrontation of compensation. Mind over matter, or matter over mind? If the reader identifies with either of these characters, there is some strategic advice available. The essence of strategy on the rally is to be cognate of your own capabilities and foibles, to know your opponent's capabilities and foibles, and then to hit the shots that you have found through experience to be the most effective in procuring points. With the two court sports described above, caterpillar brain would find it beneficial to play a running, hustling, driving, power game to maximize his physical prowess. Goggle eyes might better utilize systematic logic and finesse through superior positioning and serve and shot selection.

The cornerstone of any strategy during the rally, whether applied by beginner or veteran, is the use of *complementary shots*. This is a sweet way of saying "Hit the ball where the other guy ain't!" For instance, if one of your shots causes your rival to run forward and to the right to retrieve, the (next) complementary shot would require your rival to run back and to the left. In other words, your present shot should be the complement of your last one. (See figures 3 and 4.)

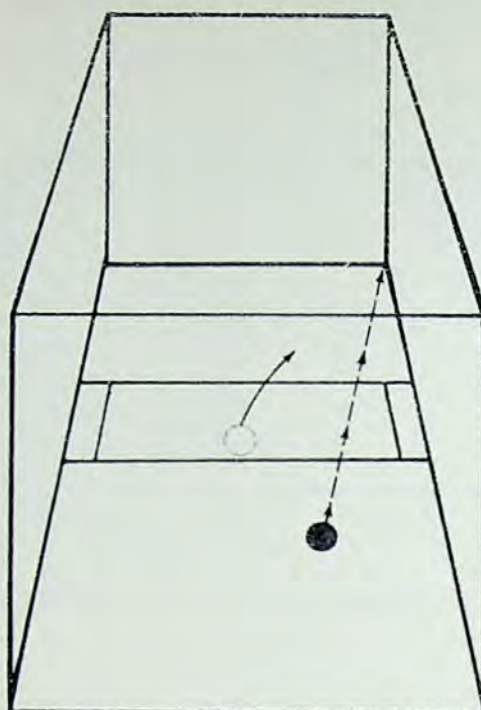


Fig. 3—The offensive player hits the ball into the front right corner, and the defensive man retrieves.

Another important facet of rally strategy involves the concept of *offensive vs. defensive play*. Remember that the aggressive player is the better player, with a few guidelines. If you are stationed in front or center court with your competitor lingering in back court, now is the time to administer an offensive thrust via a kill shot. Contrarily, if you are presented with a set-up in back court and your opponent is in center court position, strategy usually demands you to go defensively with a ceiling ball or perhaps a quasi-defensive pass shot.

It can be seen, then, that certain shots are usually attempted from different areas of the court—depending on one's degree of shot making proficiency. The offensive (hitting) player may be presented with a ball in one of the three court areas (figure 2). The set-ups in front court usually should be put away (killed). The set-ups at mid-court are handled aggressively, depending on the defensive player's position. The set-ups in back court usually are returned defensively.

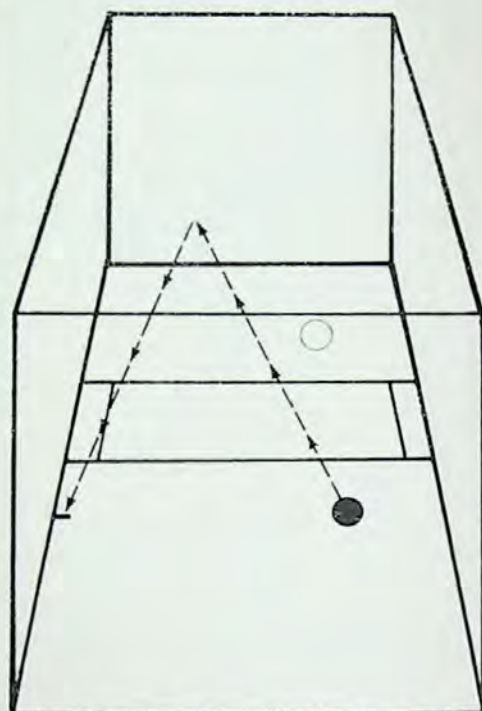


Fig. 4—● follows up his last shot by hitting the complementary shot, a drive to the left rear corner.

Everybody wants to kill the ball . . . which is not a bad desire at all. Assuming one *can* kill the ball, *where* does one do so? Figure 5 roughly outlines the basic areas for killing the ball. (Obviously, you need not kill every set-up from within any given area.) This diagram is a lesson in oversimplification but is helpful in one major aspect: When attempting the celebrated perfect roll-off, the killer should direct most forehand kills to the forehand corner and most backhand kills to the backhand corner. Also note figures 6 and 7.

By way of summary, the beginning to intermediate player should keep three strategic items in mind during the rally: (1) Know your own and your opponent's capabilities and apply the basic shots accordingly. If during a volley you are at a loss for the correct choice of shots, either (2) go with the complementary shot, or (3) adopt the offensive vs. defensive logic.

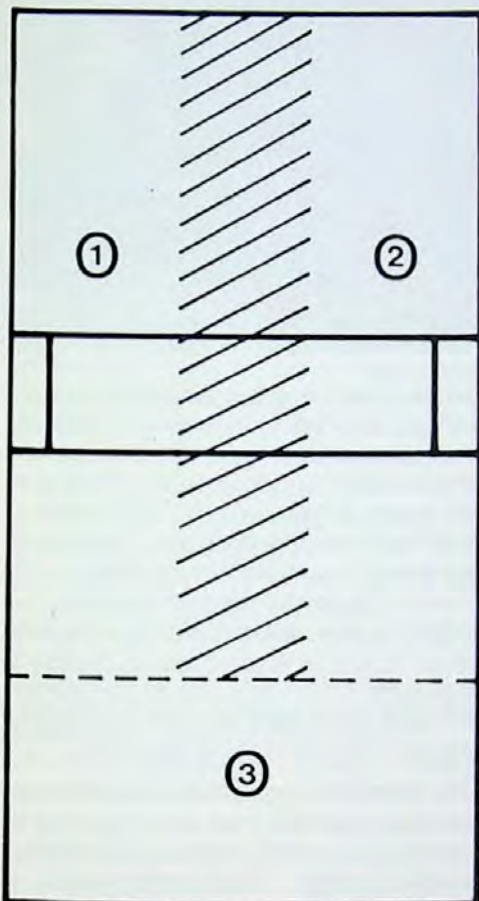


Fig. 5—Hitting areas for kill shots: 1) Most kills go into the front left corner. 2) Most kills go into the front right corner. □ Overlapping shaded area—kills may be directed toward either front corner. 3) Backcourt—do not attempt a kill shot if opponent is in center court position.

Strategy On Miscellaneous Situations

The first pointer in this synopsis of strategic tips involves the *game plan*. It is a good idea to formulate some semblance of a plan of attack prior to the opening serve (even during practice games). All that is being asked of the reader is that he think a *mite prior* to game time about what he intends to do. Organize this strategic blueprint while driving to the courts or as you climb into your supporter.

This is not to say that the prearranged game plan must be strictly adhered to. A pre-match strategy which proves

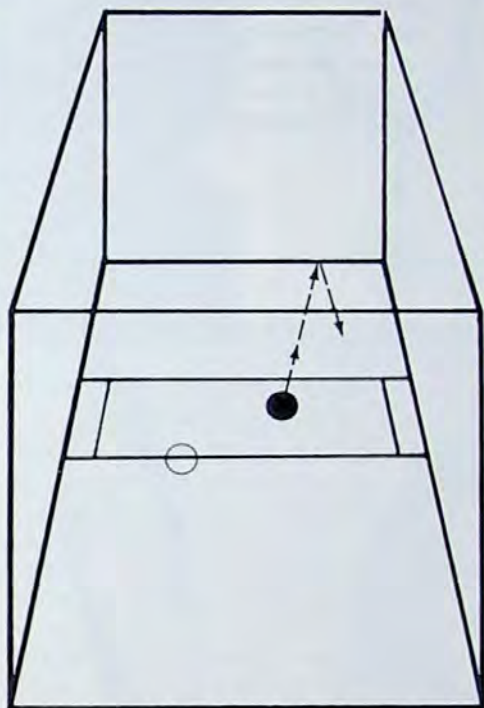


Fig. 6—Straight-on kill to place ball away from opponent.

faulty once actual play commences can always be altered. This was alluded to earlier with the explanation of changing a losing game and maintaining a winning game.

After composing your game plan for the upcoming battle, there is another important item to tend to. Be sure to limber up your body well. Before you even start swatting practice shots you must loosen up. To me, *warming up* includes two things: (1) stretching the tendons and muscles, and (2) getting the blood circulating. Stretch out the major muscle groups with 5- to 10-second exercises such as toe touchers, arm rotations, hamstring stretchers and trunk rotations. Do not bounce when performing these

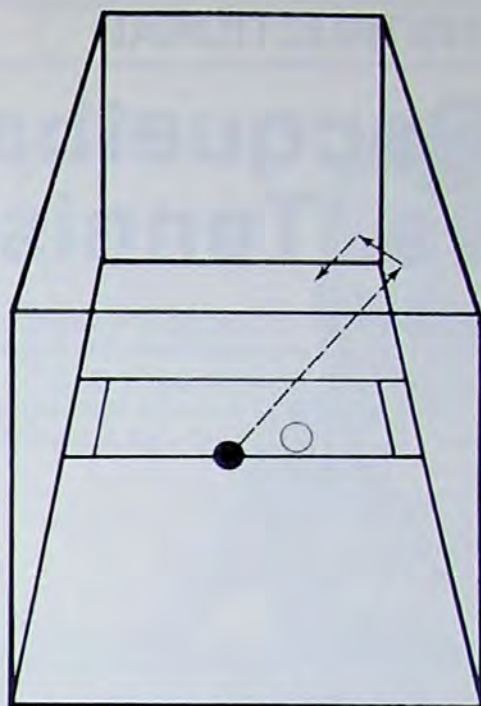


Fig. 7—Side wall-front wall kill to place ball away from opponent.

movements (a constant progressive stretch is better) and do not rotate at helicopter speed. Now that you are stretched out, get the blood gurgling by jogging in place, jumping jacks or similar heart starters. Your entire warm-up need not last more than 5 to 10 minutes, and this interim is a ripe time for formulating the game plan.

Basic strategy is born out of thinking and being tuned into the here and now of service, service return and rally racquetball. If the foregoing discussion of basic strategy seems to take up points rather quickly and then drop them just as rapidly, then this chapter's purpose has been served. You have the border pieces of the puzzle fit together now and although you may not be able to envision the picture, it will gradually piece together. ●

Racquetball vs. Tennis

Chuck Sheftel is Director of Racquetball for the five Court House racquetball clubs in the Chicagoland area. He is also the Head Racquetball Professional at the Mid-Town Court House in Chicago. For 12 years he has also been a tennis professional and is currently teaching tennis part-time at the Mid-Town Tennis Club in Chicago. Chuck is an active member of the United States Professional Tennis Association.

Barbara Sheftel in photos . . .
photos by Ivan Fuldauer



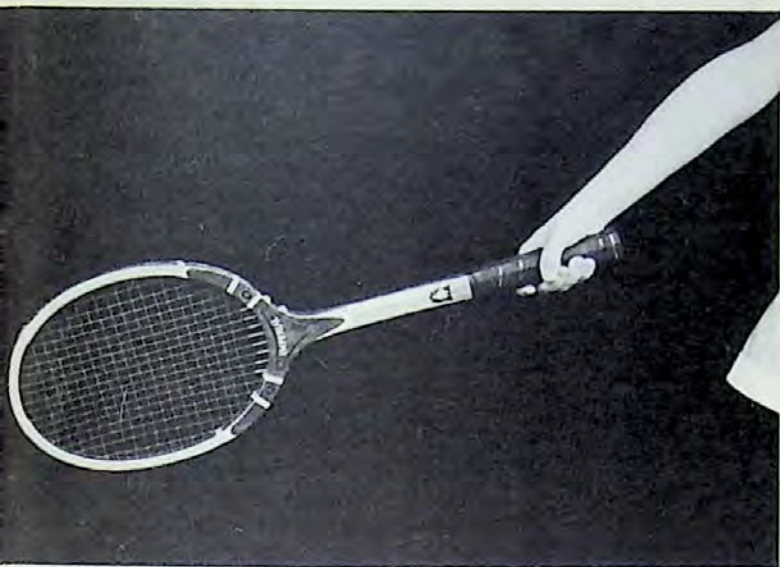
The controversial question of whether racquetball ruins your tennis game or tennis ruins your racquetball game echoes everyday throughout clubs in North America. Pupils of both sports often expect an answer from their pro, but many times the pro is not fully qualified to respond to this question. Is the tennis pro who has minimal knowledge of racquetball a good judge? Is the racquetball pro who has never taught or studied tennis qualified to answer? Probably not, since neither of these professionals can objectively answer this perplexing question.

The combined racquetball and tennis professional who has experience and knowledge in both sports is the most qualified person. As a professional instructor of tennis and racquetball, I believe both sports can be played harmoniously.

But first, why even play both games? Because both sports have admirable qualities that supplement each other and diversify the athlete. In tennis there is the preciseness of a deep shot to the baseline or an angled volley, or a soft drop shot. There are the long, flowing shots of Chris Evert and the quick, picturesque topspin strokes of Bjorn Borg.

In pursuit of racquetball excellence, the body floats, dives, and glides over the court. Acute anticipation! Precision shooting! The diving and gliding of Steve Serot and the great ball sense and quickness of Charlie Brumfield is astounding. It is amazing how these players' sense the action.

Another admirable quality of these racket/racquet sports is that they both



require mental dexterity. Intelligence is needed to develop a solid strategy. At first, tennis is boring because players pick up more balls that they hit. But gradually a basic strategy evolves: keep the ball in play and let the opponent error. As the player becomes more proficient, the strategy increasingly becomes more complex.

In racquetball the basic strategy dictates hitting the ball to the front wall, hoping your opponent will error.

Advanced racquetball strategy is very similar to tennis strategy. In both sports an attempt is made to get the opponent off balance and out of position so that one can "kill the ball" (racquetball) or "put the ball away" (tennis).

Now for the major question: do the two sports conflict with each other? Again, the similarities outweigh the differences. Both tennis and racquetball players need proper conditioning, eye-hand coordination, court positioning, ball contact and direction, follow through, grip changes, strategy development, and practice. By understanding all these similarities, a tennis player can easily learn racquetball and a racquetball player tennis. The major differences between the sports are the wrist and arm movement and a few different strokes indigenous to each game.

In racquetball the wrist is flexible whereas in tennis it is generally firm. This difference in wrist alignment can be a major problem. If both of these exciting sports are to be played during the same season, the player must concentrate on proper wrist action.

In tennis the racket generally faces slightly downward so that the wrist is straight, not drooping or cocked. In racquetball the racquet faces up toward the ceiling so that the wrist is cocked up to initiate a wrist snap. Or, in simpler terms, keep the racket *down* for tennis and keep the racquet *up* for racquetball. Of course, sometimes the "other" game sneaks in such as a flick of the wrist with a heavy tennis racket (does that hurt the wrist!) or a gigantic backswing with the racquetball racquet (watch out opponents!). Usually the errors are so blatant that they can be corrected by concentrating on the correct wrist positioning on the very next swing.

The other major difference, arm movement, is not as critical as wrist action. In tennis the topspin swing is a low to high movement while the slice shot is a high to low. In racquetball a low to high swing causes the ball to rebound off the back wall while slicing down on the ball causes it to hit the floor. Therefore, in racquetball, the best shot is parallel to the floor. If one concentrates on the tennis and racquetball swings while using correct wrist action, then both strokes can be learned with very little difficulty.

Now let's examine the different strokes of each game. First, it should be understood that the different strokes of one are not detrimental to the other. In many instances a segment of a stroke of one game relates to a stroke of the other game. In other instances a stroke

or part of a stroke is so different that it is untouched or unharmed by the other sport. For example, the first motion of the tennis serve is similar to the ceiling ball in racquetball whereas the final motion of the tennis serve and ceiling ball are not related. The ceiling ball shot is initiated like the first motion of the tennis serve by hitting the ball up and out. But the end motion of the tennis serve, the wrist snap, is not used in racquetball.

A stroke that occurs in racquetball and not in tennis is the kill shot. This shot is hit with a parallel swing. In tennis a parallel swing produces a very low percentage shot. Therefore this important racquetball shot is not affected by tennis since it is different from any tennis stroke. The tennis topspin or slice shot is not affected by playing racquetball since it has no counterpart in racquetball.

The volley is different in both sports but the motion of the volley is identical. Both motions emphasize no backswing and only a punch action. In fact, one can practice hitting the racquetball ball against the front wall of the court and hit volleys to improve the tennis net game. In addition to the different types of swings, the ball has to be contacted at a different height in each sport. In racquetball the ball is most often correctly hit when descending while in tennis the ball is desirably hit while

ascending. Because of these differences in point of ball contact, expertise in either game is not affected by the other.

It is often suggested that the strategies of these two sports are different. However, the basic strategy is almost identical and can be summed up by the simple phrase, "hit and move, hit and move." The "home base" theory, returning to the center court after every shot, is critically important in both games. In tennis one tries to "capture the net" before one's opponent gets there. In racquetball the center court area (that area immediately behind the short line) is the ideal place to position oneself. Therefore, in both sports, the objective of the basic strategy is to keep one's opponent in the back court area.

The following chart summarizes the major similarities and differences between tennis and racquetball. None of the differences are so detrimental that most people cannot indulge in both sports, enjoy them, and continue to improve in each. A possible exception is the tournament player of either sport. This person can supplement his or her regular game by occasionally trying the

other sport but it would be difficult to keep both games always "in tune."

After realizing that tennis and racquetball have many similar qualities and only slight differences, one may ask whether or not the transition into the other sport will require a major effort. It will of course, require some effort but not as much hard work as a person who plays neither sport since the ground work of the new game has been laid by one's experience with the other sport.

A good tennis player already is in condition, has developed eye-hand coordination, and has a basic strategy, which can be applied to racquetball. The only minor stroke adjustments the tennis player has to make are, 1) have the wrist cocked up and flexible instead of straight and firm, 2) wait for the racquetball ball to descend instead of hitting "on the rise" and 3) swing the racquet parallel to the floor rather than with topspin or slice. Understanding the angles (how the ball bounces off the walls) only takes a short time to learn.

Likewise, the basics of a tennis game are set for racquetball players since they have acquired the same

conditioning, eye-hand coordination, and strategy. The small adjustments in this situation are 1) keep the wrist straight and firm 2) hit the ball as it is ascending and 3) swing the racket from a low to high position. Special strokes such as the serve and volley will require some special attention. But again, the major point is that with concentration both tennis and racquetball can be played harmoniously.

What about the person who is taking their first leap into one of these sports? It is difficult to learn racquetball and tennis simultaneously because the basics become muddled. After the fundamentals of one game have become internalized, then the other sport can be introduced.

In conclusion, the "RACKET verses RACQUET" battle is not really a war at all but only a myth. Other myths have arisen in the past about conflicting sports such as golf and tennis, or swimming and baseball but these have been disproven by the many people who participate and enjoy both. Diversify yourself — play and enjoy racquetball *and* tennis! ●





Similarities and Differences between Tennis and Racquetball

Item	Tennis	Racquetball
grips	same	same
stance	same	same
back swing	wrist firm and low	wrist flexible and cocked up
contact point in relationship to body	same	same
contact point in relationship to height	ascending ball	descending ball
follow through in relationship to body	same	same
follow through in relationship to height	high	low
tennis serve or racquetball ceiling shot	wrist snaps down at completion	no wrist snap just out motion
slices	same	same but not so prevalent
angles	on the court	off the walls
placement	same	same
strategy	same	same
conditioning	same	same

Suggestions For Instruction: The Fun Of Racquetball In One Hour

Lee Duda is the head pro at the Evanston Court Club, Evanston, Illinois, a top ranked A player in that state and long-time contributor to *National Racquetball* magazine.



Anyone of any age or sex can get into the fun of racquetball with a single hour of competent instruction. While it may take many months, or even years, of instruction and practice to develop one's skills to a competitive edge, there is no reason why the beginner can not enjoy a sense of accomplishment and confidence about the game after a single well-structured session.

Success will come if the instructor communicates certain essential facts in a manner which the student can readily understand. The key to this is a condensation of the essential facts into a simple version, which is reinforced through the student's participation on the court during the lesson.

To do this I get my students into the action immediately. Without any preliminary instruction I ask my students to bounce the ball and hit it toward the front wall. This immediately

accomplishes four important results:

1. It shows the players that they can hit the ball.
2. It relaxes them.
3. It gives me an indication of the player's swing.
4. It provides a benchmark from which to judge the progress made during the hour.

Having put the student at ease, I then demonstrate a forehand shot. This gives the student a picture of how the ball should be stroked. I then break the stroke down, briefly explaining the stance, stride, and the striking of the ball. I then demonstrate a few more forehand shots. With this image in mind, I then ask the student to practice the forehand stroke and stride without hitting the ball. Then it's back to bouncing and hitting the ball with the stroke that the student has just practiced. After 15 minutes on the forehand, the same procedure and drill are repeated for the backhand.

With half the lesson under his belt, I ask the student to relax for a few minutes while I discuss with him a simplified version of the rules which we reproduce for distribution to our students. Using that condensed rule sheet as a guide, I orient the student to the essential lines and other markings on the court, explain the object of the game, and demonstrate what constitutes legal and illegal serves.

The student then moves into the service box and practices hitting balls over the short line. While he is doing this, I call out to the student to tell him

whether each serve is legal or illegal, thereby reinforcing, through the student's experiences, the discussion we have just concluded about the rules. After a few minutes of this drill, I explain to the student how to move safely out of the service box. While at more advanced stages I teach the students to turn their heads to follow the served ball, I stress safety to a beginner and therefore instruct him to move backward from the service box with his eyes still directed toward the front wall.

I conclude this portion of the lesson with a brief demonstration of the receiving position. Now the student is ready to play.

And that's exactly what we do! A few minutes of gentle play will bring it all together. I don't worry about his stroke or his stance. I just want him to get the feel of striking the ball while moving about the court, working up a sweat, and having some fun. I maintain an encouraging line of talk and always try to end the lesson when my student has hit a good shot.

Others I'm sure will approach the beginner with slightly different techniques, but after a well planned hour, the product should be the same: a beginner happily and safely hitting the ball around the court; although ready and looking for additional coaching. ●

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

New Mexico

Albuquerque

The Albuquerque Open Racquetball Tournament was played November 12-14, and it fittingly culminated a long patient wait by New Mexicans for their first court club. Tom Young's Spas and Court Club hosted the affair, and the New Mexico Court Association sponsored it. There were 85 participants featured in eight different divisions. Players represented five states; New Mexico, Colorado, Texas, Arizona, and Arkansas.

Perhaps most newsworthy of the tourney is that 15 women participated. Eight women entered the Women's Open Division and seven women entered the Women's C Division. This number of women doubles that for past tournaments in this area. The C Division saw Anne Cole surprise everyone as she was undefeated in four rounds in this double elimination event. Debbie Dombrosky, previously from Tennessee, placed second. Albuquerque's Kathy Haaland finished third.

The Open Division was anything but a lackluster affair as it has been in the past. State Champion Lynn Chirigos had to come from behind to defeat Suzanne Jollensten, a New Mexico tennis standout. Chirigos dropped the first game rather easily, but calmed her nerves enough to remove Jollensten from the winner's bracket. In this double elimination division, Jollensten moved her way through all other competition in order to meet Chirigos again in the finals. However, she fell once again, 21-8 and 21-9. After

winning her first match, El Paso's Leslie Moughon, co-favorite in the open division, was turned away by her opponents as much as her own fatigue. Third place finisher Jan Corsie stopped Moughon 8-21, 21-14, 21-9; and Jollensten turned the same trick 21-2, 15-21, 21-17.

The Men's Seniors and Masters Divisions were not particularly crowded, but they were marked by marathon final matches. Albuquerque entrepreneur Ernie Nellos finally fulfilled his promise by capturing the Seniors crown over Robert Light of Albuquerque, 12-21, 21-17, 21-10. Their final match required two hours and witnessed bruises, bumps, and short gasps for air. Albuquerque's Bob Bogan took third place.

In the Master's division, two Albuquerque handball veterans vied for the top spot. Robert Sanchez prevailed over Carl Brand the hard way. After being defeated easily by Brand in the semis, Sanchez rallied to defeat Brand twice, 21-11, 21-16, and 21-0, 21-9.

The Men's C division was handled easily by El Paso's Joe Wittenbrink. He beat Albuquerque's Tom Saunders 21-10, 21-0 in the finals. David Martinez captured third place.

The Men's B division was captured by Kim Forrester of Albuquerque. Although Albuquerque's Bruce Whitewolf gave him rough going in the finals before bowing 21-10, 7-21, 21-11, Forrester overcame his most

difficult task in the first round when he barely squeaked by Albuquerque's Brian Fahey 8-21, 21-17, 21-19. Tucson's Jim Garcia took third place.

The Men's Open singles and open doubles were dominated by a small group of shooters. Gary Mazaroff of Albuquerque and Clay Childs of Denver teamed to take the top spot in doubles by handily defeating the Albuquerque team of Earl Badger and Dennis Chavez, 21-12, 21-10. Badger and Chavez may have been sub-par due to their earlier match with Albuquerque's Francisco Silva and Little Rock's Jack Wrenn, which went to the wire for three games, 18-21, 21-18, 21-17. Silva and Wrenn ran out of fuel and were not able to capture third place, losing to the El Paso team of Dave Peck and Joe Wittenbrink, 21-13 and 21-14.

In the Open Singles, Badger moved his way into the finals by eliminating difficult opposition; first defeating Peck in the quarter-finals 21-19, 21-14, and next defeating Childs 21-7, 21-14. Mazaroff moved into the semi-finals by defeating Carlsbad's tennis notable Charles Jurva, 21-9, 21-9, and he moved into the finals by eliminating Chavez 21-3, 21-11. The finals was a rematch of the year's state championships, with Mazaroff matched against Badger, the Albuquerque surgeon. Mazaroff again overcame the Doctor's precision and finesse, 21-10 and 21-12.

Maine

Down East Court Club

Maine's first USRA sanctioned racquetball tournament was a great success. The Maine Closed held Dec. 18-19 at the Down East Court Club drew about 100 entrants. A Maine based company, Bar Harbor Airlines provided two great prizes: round trip air fare and accommodations to Quebec City for two. One of the prizes went to the A Open winner and the other was given as a door prize.

"This was an excellent start for our state association," said state co-chairman Kevin York. "We plan a full slate of USRA tournaments and events in 1977."

Tournament Results

A Division Winner — Dick Moore def. Bob Folsom 21-18, 18-21, 11-6.

A Consolation Winner — Dennis Weeks def. Bob Boucher 21-5, 21-19.

B Division Winner — Dick Flewelling def. Ken Bailey 9-21, 21-4, 11-4.

B Consolation Winner — Jackie Boyer def. Ken Astor 12-21, 21-8, 11-7.

Novice Division Winner — Charlie Butt def. Paul Sova 21-5, 21-8.

Novice Consolation Winner — Al Utterstrom def. Ron Merrill 21-5, 21-2.

Doubles Division Winners — Dick Moore & Bill Dubord.

Juniors Double Elimination Winner — Steve Larrabee def. Jim Goulette 21-10, 15-21, 11-9.

Ladies Round Robin Winner — Patti York went undefeated in five matches to take this division.

Ohio

Columbus

The seventh annual Columbus Central In-House Racquetball Tournament was held at the YMCA, December 17-19, 1976. Thirty players entered the Open, Masters and Novice Singles divisions. New champions were crowned in each division, because Art Payne, three times Master Champion (he was Golden Master runner-up in the 1976 National USRA championship) had to retire to the open division.

Don Schiefer, the 1974 champion, regained the Open Division Championship defeating Dr. John Norton in two tight games, 21-18 and 21-15. The score was tied 18-18 in the first game when Don rolled out three consecutive backhand kill shots in the left corner. Dr. Norton led 11-4 in the second game, ran out of gas and let

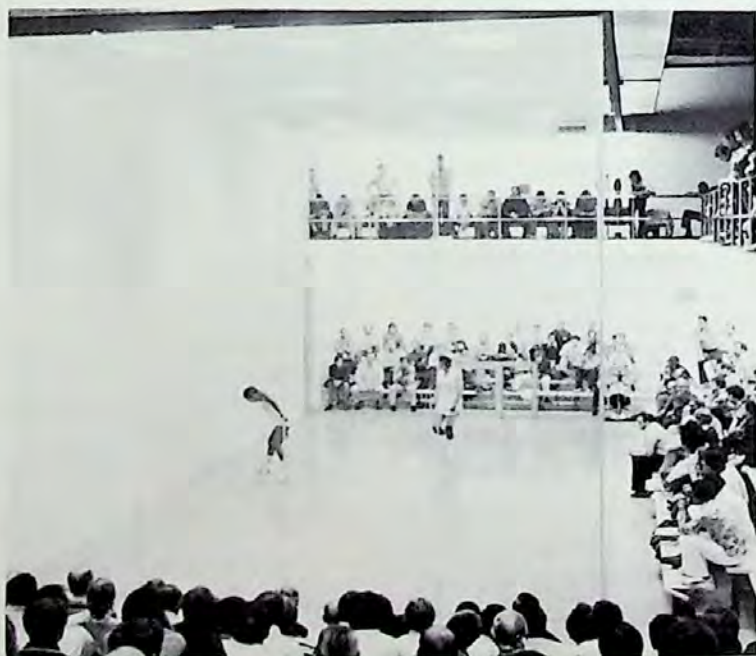
Don outscore him 17 to 4 to take the second game, 21-15.

Don Schiefer defeated Golden Master Art Payne in the semi-finals 21-17, 21-12. Dr. Norton defeated the perennial semi-final contestant, George Geissbuhler, in three games, 16-21, 21-3 and 11-0.

The Masters Division was won by Colonel Tom Sobrick when he defeated Bob Box, 21-8 and 21-7.

The Novice Division was won by Doug Stuber who defeated converted handball champ, Larry Irvine, 21-11 and 21-7.

Consolation winners were Bob Bukovec, another handballer, in the open division and Dick Bird in the Novice division.



NORTHWEST SUBURBAN YMCA, DES PLAINES, ILL.

ABOLITE
Lighting

**5 GOOD REASONS TO CHOOSE
ABOLITE'S HANDBALL/RACQUETBALL
LIGHTING SYSTEM:**

1. Lowest initial and operating cost
2. Far fewer fixtures required
3. Fixtures designed to fit absolutely flush in any type ceiling
4. Longest lamp life
5. Dust tight design for excellent maintenance

Call or Write—**ABOLITE LIGHTING, INC.**

WEST LAFAYETTE, OHIO 43845 Tel: 614-545-6374

Kansas

Kansas City

Playing excellent racquetball, Ron York took the Men's Open title in the Sunset Open held at the Johnson County YMCA, Prairie Village, Kansas Dec. 10, 11, 12. Marci Greer, Wichita, Kansas powered her way to the top in the Women's Open Division and Vic Dyck, Topeka, Kansas topped the Men's B Class.

The tournament was sanctioned by the USRA-state affiliate Missouri Racquetball Association. It attracted the largest (seven states represented) and most enthusiastic turnout yet in the Kansas City area. The help and cooperation from the Y staff, the hospitality arrangements, and especially the quality of refereeing made the get-together a tremendous success. Drawings were held for over 40 prizes which included racquets, bags, warm-ups, etc. The winners in each division received handsome plaques and a Sunset racquet.

In the Men's Open, upsets were the rule rather than the exception. York's opponent in the finals, Larry Swank of Hutchinson, Kansas, upset number three seed Kent Taylor, Stillwater, Okla.

in the quarter-finals and beat number two seed Phil Stepp, Kansas City, Mo. in the semi-finals. Both matches were exciting three-gamers with Swank pulling it out in the tie-breaker. He (Swank) displayed a steady game throughout the tournament—marked by his center court dominance. He was able to wear down his opponent and get stronger as his opponents grew tired.

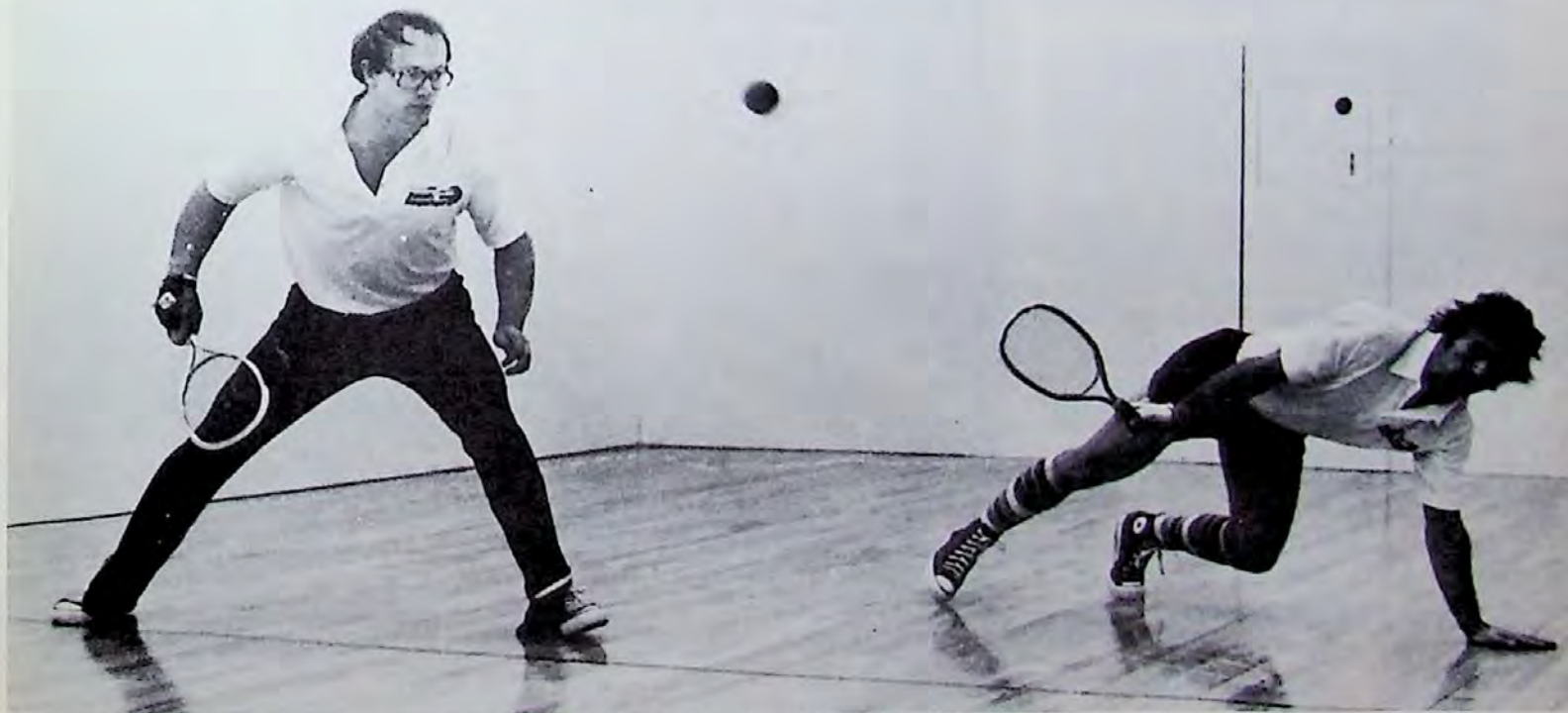
In his half of the bracket, York had defeated Darryl Ekstrom, Omaha, Neb. in a match that was supposed to be close but wasn't. This advanced him to the semi-finals, where he upset number one seed Bo Champagne, Kansas City, Mo. to avenge a defeat three weeks earlier in the finals of the New York Life Tournament in St. Joseph, Mo. York's game featured precision control and patience. Mixing passes, kills, and ceiling balls, he rarely took a low-percentage shot.

The finals then matched the two smoothest players in the tournament. Both players appeared to play effortlessly, with little wasted motion.

The first game went to York 21-9, as he dominated with a control game. Following the trend of his earlier matches, Swank got rolling in the second game and York soon found himself on the short end of a 20-18 score. But here York was able to put Swank away scoring three straight for an exciting 21-20 win. Ernie Ruelas, Hutchinson, Kansas won the A consolation and Bo Champagne took third place.

The Women's Final matched two superb players: number one seed Greer against number three seed Sue Dostal, Marshalltown, Iowa. In the semifinals, Dostal had easily beaten number two seed Karen Shippy, St. Louis, Mo. and Greer had coasted past Chrys Cox, K.C., Mo.

Dostal, an unknown player to the K.C. area, possesses an uncanny shooting ability, often hitting flat rollouts from waist high even when off-balance. Greer, on the other hand, relied on a combination of ceiling balls and passing shots coupled with a strong serve. The final match was extremely close with Dostal shooting out to an



Ron York's passes kept his opponents off balance in the Sunset Open. Here Bo Champagne makes a save in the semi-finals as York controls the center court.

Nevada

Las Vegas

Mens A (Quarter-finals): Harnett def. Westbrook 21-15, 21-18; Brunsting def. Bishop 21-18, 21-16; Prescott def. Norquist 21-5, 21-13; Seaton def. Adams 21-17, 21-12.

(Semi-finals): Harnett def. Brunsting 16-21, 21-9, 11-5; Seaton def. Prescott 17-21, 21-9, 11-10.

(Championship): Seaton def. Harnett 14-21, 21-16, 11-9.

Men's B (Quarter-finals): Marlon def. Driscoll 14-21, 21-13, 11-6; Rivkin def. Uhl 21-12, 12-21, 11-7; Godfrey def. Stockbauer 15-21, 21-13, 11-1; Dziedzic def. Musgrave 21-19, 21-11.

(Semi-finals): Rivkin def. Marlon 14-21, 21-13, 11-6; Dziedzic def. Godfrey 14-21, 21-16, 11-4.

(Championship): Rivkin def. Dziedzic 21-18, 21-10.

Men's C (Quarter-finals): Jones def. Klever 21-0, 21-3; Koss def. Elliott 21-17, 21-13; Smith def. Crawford 21-6, 21-4; Peterson def. Jeffers 21-9, 21-13.

(Semi-finals): Jones def. Koss 21-19, 9-21, 11-4; Smith def. Peterson 21-20, 16-21, 11-10.

(Championship): Smith def. Peterson 18-21, 21-6, 11-10.

Mens Novice (Quarter-finals): Marshall def. Wilson 11-21, 21-11, 11-5; Thayer def. Daxey 21-7, 21-6; Ruegamer def. Hybarger 21-15, 21-11; Wahl def. Thomas 15-21, 21-16, 11-4.

(Semi-finals): Thayer def. Marshall 21-1, 21-13; Wahl def. Ruegamer 21-16, 21-5.

(Championship): Thayer def. Wahl 21-16, 21-16.

Womens A (Semi-finals): Gauva def. Price 21-4, 21-3; Connelley def. Cahallaro 21-1, 21-13.

(Championship): Gauva def. Connelley 21-12, 21-4.

Womens B (Quarter-finals): Brooks def. Barnett 21-14, 21-5; Laporta def. Luper 21-4, 21-9; Paul def. Kelley 21-15, 21-11; Stanton def. Choe, forfeit.

(Semi-finals): Laporta def. Brooks 21-2, 21-8; Paul def. Stanton 19-21, 21-9, 11-8.

(Championship): Laporta def. Paul 21-14, 21-6.

Womens Novice (Quarter-finals): Rowe def. Shelton 21-2, 21-7; Bradley def. Bate 21-0, 21-1; Chievers def. Smith 21-7, 21-15; Camilli def. Baldanare 21-1, 21-2.

(Semi-finals): Bradley def. Rowe 21-0, 21-4; Chievers def. Camilli 21-8, 21-7.

(Championship): Bradley def. Chievers 21-20, 21-19.

INTERNATIONALLY . . . THE FASTEST GROWING BUSINESS

Handball/Racquetball Court Clubs One-Day Regional Seminars Covering All Aspects Of This Tremendously Viable Enterprise

March 19—San Francisco	July 23—Seattle
April 16—Toronto	Sept. 17—Boston
May 7—Kansas City	Oct. 8—Atlanta
May 21—Memphis	Oct. 29—Phoenix
June 11—Chicago	Nov. 12—Dallas
June 25—Denver	Dec. 3—Los Angeles

Now available—Needed "Tools"

Updated Seminar Report Booklet — \$10 ☐
40-Minute Tape Cassette—Feasibility
of Court Clubs — \$10 ☐



Further details, mail to:

Mort Leve, Executive Director,
National Court Clubs Assn.
360 Park Drive, Northbrook, IL 60062
Area Code 312 272-4508.

Michigan

Alma

Ithaca Community Education and Alma College sponsored their 2nd annual Scottish Open Racquetball Tournament which drew 78 singles and doubles players in five categories. Interest in racquetball in the Ithaca-Alma area has grown rapidly in the past three years. The Scottish Open allows its local players an opportunity to compete and also to see different styles of good racquetball. Alma College provides the four tartan floor courts and Ithaca Community Education provides the man hours in this joint effort to "educate the community".

Men's Open

Quarter-finals—Gottlieb def. Kristin 21-7, 21-12; Weston def. Davis 21-18, 21-11; Baumgartner def. Hornack 21-12, 21-10; Brownlee def. Wilson 21-17, 21-10.

Semi-finals—Gottlieb def. Weston (injury forfeit); Brownlee def. Baumgartner 21-20, 21-13.

Finals—Gottlieb def. Brownlee 16-21, 21-19, 11-8.

Men's Doubles

Quarter-finals—Gottlieb-Lockett def. Mellinger-Hahn 21-13, 21-15; Hornack-Montoye def. Gugel-VanHorn (forfeit); Raducha-Raducha def. Tocco-Kersch 21-8, 21-9; Wilson-Geddy def. Lum-Baumgartner 16-21, 21-17, 11-3.

Semi-finals—Gottlieb-Lockett def. Hornack-Montoye 21-12, 21-9; Wilson-Geddy def. Raducha-Raducha 21-8, 21-19.

Finals—Gottlieb-Lockett def. Wilson-Geddy 14-21, 21-18, 11-3.

Men's Novice

Quarter-finals—Doty def. Prygoski 11-21, 21-13, 11-10; Dugan def.

Katerburg (forfeit); Lum def. Harry 21-8, 21-11; Merry def. Mellinger 21-8, 21-14.

Semi-finals—Doty def. Dugan 17-21, 21-16, 11-10; Merry def. Lum 21-17, 15-21, 11-8.

Finals—Doty def. Merry 21-14, 21-14.

Women's Singles

Semi-finals—Huhta def. Wood 21-0, 21-12; VanSpybrook def. Lawson 21-9, 21-6.

Finals—Huhta def. VanSpybrook 21-10, 21-18.

Men's Masters

Semi-finals—Raducha defeated Roost 21-18, 21-18; Hahn defeated Daines 21-10, 21-1.

Finals—Raducha defeated Hahn 21-9, 21-13.

Minnesota



Johnson "Kills" Cops; Still Gets Away With It

Twelve-year-old Hart Johnson shot down three St. Paul, Minnesota police officers on consecutive days, and nobody tried to arrest him.

Johnson, a smooth lefthander, captured the title of the Class B tournament at the St. Paul Court House last December by topping police officer Dale Olson in the quarter-finals 21-5, 6-21, 11-5.

In the semi-finals Johnson repeated the performance against detective Gary Valento 14-21, 21-11, 11-5.

In the finals, officer Bob Kunz, got zapped like his fellow law enforcers, 21-17, 21-9.

The victory made it two tournaments in a row for Johnson, who earlier captured the Kings Court Class C Turkey Shoot.

Watch out Marty Hogan!

Hart Johnson (l.), is all smiles as he and Bob Kunz, Jr. shake hands after the St. Paul Court House Winter B League tournament finals.

Kentucky

Ky. Racquetball Doubles Championships

The big news at the Kentucky Doubles Championships was in the Womens Division where a pair of girls, 12 and 14 years old, won everything. Bobbi Brennan and Eileen Ernst, both of Frankfort, captured the title 21-19, 21-9 from Lynn Simon and Dissy Maloney, Louisville.

Brennan and Ernst have been playing about two years for a Frankfort team, the Racquettes, coached by Eileen's brother, Dick. The first seeded sister team of Kay Evans and Marge Polites, who had won the title three out of the last four years were defeated in the semi's by Maloney and Simon 21-12, 17-21, 11-8. Brennan and Ernst beat Holly Rentz and Diane Sanders, the second seeds, in the other semi 21-18, 21-11. It's really super to see younger folks win a major title like this because Kentucky racquetball has been dominated for a long time by the over 30 set.

It did not take long for the old guard to re-assert itself, however. Alan Hyman and Fred Michels won the Open Doubles for the fourth straight year, narrowly nipping Bob Dabney and Dave Fleischaker in the finals 21-17, 9-21, 11-10. Hyman and Michels, handled State Singles champ Chuck Cooper and his partner Bill Evans in the semi's 21-3, 21-8. Fleischaker and Dabney defeated Kirtley Amos and Ray Sabbatine, both of Lexington, in the lower bracket semi 21-11, 21-10 in a match that was much closer than the scores indicate. Amos and Sabbatine had previously defeated the second seeded team of Ken Porco and David Brown 21-19, 14-21, 11-10 in a match decided by a very controversial call at 10-10 in the tie breaker.

Ike Gumer played his usual iron man role, playing in two divisions and refereeing every match in between. He and Irv Zeitman, national Golden Masters Champions, easily won the Masters Division defeating three opponents and allowing no more than 9 points in any game. Lew Whipple and Bernie McGinnis, both of Louisville, placed second.

Gumer was not so fortunate in the Seniors as he and his partner, Leigh Jones, of Berea, went down to defeat before the indefatigable Len Wilson and Dr. George Drasin 17-21, 21-8, 11-5. Don Detjen and Bill Emnett captured third place, beating Lew Whipple and Bernie Thompson, 21-16, 21-19.

A B Division and Mixed Division were also played in a tournament which drew 52 teams from across the state. We still have mixed feelings about mixed divisions, primarily because half the men play hard and the other half seem to enter more as a lark. No such ambivalence is present in the women, all of whom play all out. However, it is apparent when one watches play in this division that male chauvinism is far from dead. Further, we really haven't decided whether that is good or bad.

We are indebted to the YMCA in Louisville for hosting the tournament on one week's notice. Our original site had to shut down when its heating system went down to defeat and several water pipes froze and subsequently opened in places they weren't supposed to. The Y did a great job.

David Fleischaker

Mississippi

Starkville

Chuck Miner of Jackson swept the first state championship Racquetball Tournament by winning both the Open and the Senior Division. Miner defeated Sandy Braswell, Starkville in the finals of the Open Division for the championship.

In the Seniors Division, Miner defeated Dr. Bill Lynch, Jackson for the championship.

The consolation game in the Open Division was between Jerry Grantham and Maruicio Copete with Copete winning. In the Seniors Division the consolation match was between Willie Daniel and Bailey Howell. Howell took the match for the trophy there.

Twenty-two racquetballers from Jackson, Lorman, Gulfport, Bay Springs and Starkville competed in the first Championship Tournament sponsored by the Mississippi Racquetball Association. The tournament was held at the Willie Daniel Athletic Club, January 21, 22, and 23. A large number of interested spectators watched the matches in relative comfort through closed circuit television. Each participant in the tournament received a souvenir T-shirt and the top three winners in each category received a handsome trophy.

Winners in the first Mississippi State Racquetball Championships are (kneeling, l. to r.): Sandy Braswell, 2nd Open; Bill Lynch, 2nd Seniors; Chuck Miner, 1st Open and Seniors; Emmett Kohler, president, Mississippi Racquetball Assn. (Standing, l. to r.): Jerry Grantham, 4th Open; Mauricio Copete, 3rd Open; Bailey Howell, 3rd Seniors; Willie Daniel, 4th Seniors.



The Panel-Master Racquetball Court

- Wall Panels and Maple Flooring are Chemically Bonded to Masonry Receiving Surfaces in a Full Bed of Rubber
- Perfect Bounce — Walls and Floors
- Seamless Appearance — Sanded and Finished On-the-Job
- Absolutely Solid Surfaces
- Performance Guaranteed — Outstanding Durability
- Complete with Ceiling Panels and Polyguard Maple Floor
- Competent Full-service Engineering Consultation
- Lowest Life-cycle Cost
- Selected by the Largest Buyers in America



AMERICAN SPORTSURFACING CO., INC.

STRAFFORD OFFICE BUILDING #2 • WAYNE, PENNSYLVANIA 19087 • (215) 687-6356

"Wouldn't you rather call on a professional engineering group to build your courts?"

Connecticut

The Connecticut State Racquetball Association is happy to announce the "1976/77 Connecticut State Singles Champions"

Men's Open Singles

1st place—Harry Cohn, Bridgeport, CT
2nd place—Edwardo Castillo, Brookfield Center, CT
3rd place—Dave Yurgaitis, Wolcott, CT

Men's Senior Singles

1st place—Mike Morrin, Glastonbury, CT
2nd place—Donald Rinaldi, Waterbury, CT
3rd place—Emil Downey, Canton Center, CT

Women's Singles

1st place—Gerry Rudysz, Avon, CT
2nd place—Jackie Adler, Waterbury, CT
3rd place—Sandra DiNicola, Waterbury, CT

Junior Singles

1st place—Bobby Cohen, Waterbury, CT
2nd place—Mark Kahan, Waterbury, CT
3rd place—Donald Rogers, Naugatuck, CT

The Connecticut Assn. would like to take this time to publicly thank the Naugatuck YMCA and its fine staff for hosting this event. We would also like to thank Seamco for donating the balls and last but not least all the players and referees who helped make this event so successful.

Bo Champagne
Ron York

early lead and maintaining it for a 21-17 win. She was able to handle Greer's ceiling game well enough to get her shots and put them away.

In the second game Greer toned down her ceiling game and initiated more passing rallies. The result was a devastating 21-4 win. Dostal had trouble with Greer's serves, especially late in the game, as Greer finished out with three straight aces. Greer initiated the tie-breaker with two more aces-incredible, considering Dostal's reach and quickness. Not intimidated, Dostal was able to slow down Greer's momentum, but one more ace at 7-5 enabled Greer to coast in to an 11-7 victory: a very well played match. Cox took third place over Shippy and Sue Orduña, Lincoln, Neb. defeated Debbie Jurgens, Omaha, Neb. in the consolation final.

The Men's B was the largest division as 43 entrants competed. Dyck claimed

the top spot beating Roger Glick, Overland Park, Ks. in three games. Dyck kept the galleries laughing throughout with his jovial approach to the game. He plays to have a good time, and win or lose he always enjoys himself. However his opponents may have failed to share his humor as he made his way to the finals.

The finals pitted Glick's powerful passing and retrieving game against Dyck's forehand shooting game. Dyck consistently ran around his backhand to roll soft kills out of both corners. Glick played consistently throughout and the match depended mainly on whether or not Dyck's game was on. The first game went to Dyck at 21-19.

In game two, Glick maintained his composure and Dyck cooled off: the result a 21-11 win for "Three Game Roger," a title he strictly lives up to. The tie-breaker was decided by Dyck's precision kills and, although Glick tied the score at 4, 6, and 7, he never was ahead and succumbed at an 11-8 final count. Glick appeared to show signs of strain from playing in two divisions and donating time to running the tournament.

The tournament ran smoothly with many people contributing their time and efforts to its success. Magazines, balls, and tournament materials contributed by the USRA and Seamco were greatly appreciated. The authors hope that this gathering provided a strong stimulus for the development of amateur racquetball in the Kansas City area and surrounding Midwest regions.

UNIVERSAL FITNESS CENTERS GO ANYWHERE:

RACQUETBALL, SQUASH and HANDBALL CLUBS

When building or expanding your Racquet facilities, get everything you need from **ONE SOURCE—UNIVERSAL VIKING**...the leader in recreational and fitness equipment with Delivery and Service Centers throughout the Northeast area.

CONSULTATION, PLANNING, LAYOUT— COMPLETE COURT SYSTEMS

- PANEL SYSTEMS
- LIGHTING
- VIKING SAUNAS
- WHIRLPools
- UNIVERSAL GYMS*
- EXERCISE BIKES
- FLOORING
- EXERCISE MATS
- STEAM ROOMS

ALL OTHER FORMS OF EXERCISE EQUIPMENT
*available for 1 to 16 people.

UNIVERSAL VIKING FITNESS CORP.

43 POLK AVENUE
HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. 11550
516/483-3700

Illinois

Aurora

Mark Hegg, a teaching pro from Omaha, Nebraska captured the Aurora (Ill.) Semi-Pro-Am Racquetball Tournament December 4-7. The win was worth \$150 for Hegg. Runnerup Dennis McDowell, Bloomington, Ill. took home \$100.

Hegg defeated McDowell rather easily in the finals, 21-9, 21-13. In the semi's Hegg ousted Clyde Senters, Hanover Park, Ill. 21-12, 21-6, while McDowell slipped by Jon Zuckerman, St. Louis 21-12, 17-21, 11-4.

Senters took third place 21-11, 21-6 over Zuckerman.

In Men's A play second seed Bob Deuster, Mt. Prospect, Ill. topped Kansas City's Ron York 21-18, 21-18 for the title. York had defeated Alsip, Ill.'s Bob Van Tuyle 21-17, 20-21, 11-4 in one semi-final, while Deuster stopped Cliff Minter, Chicago 21-10, 21-13 in the other.

Van Tuyle defeated Minter for third 21-12, 21-12.

Veteran Shelly Clar, Northbrook, captured the Men's Seniors division with a tight 21-20, 9-21, 11-9 victory over Tom Street, Schaumburg. Clar had bested Rockford's Scott Berry in the semi's, while Street topped Cedar Rapids, Iowa's Don Glanzer. Berry took third place.

Southpaw Bob Troyer, Lake Bluff, Ill. defeated his arch-rival Phil Dziuk, Champaign for the Masters crown 21-17, 21-15. Troyer got by Jim Swanson, Sterling, Ill., 21-9, 21-9 in the upper bracket semi-final, while Dziuk bested Chicago's Sam Carl. Swanson took third.

A new name popped up in the Women's Open, that of Linda Waldron, Sheboygan, Wis., who topped Evanston's Mary Plauche in the final 21-19, 21-5. Plauche had defeated Peoria's Carol Mickes in the semi's while Waldron stopped Glenda Pommerich, Oakfield, Wis.

Ninety-five entrants made up the Men's B category and when the smoke had cleared the winner was Bob Stoy, Oak Lawn, Ill. He captured the crown 14-21, 21-13, 11-6 over Elgin's John Duewel.

In the semi-finals Stoy stopped Rick Hobday, Palatine, while Duewel defeated Kevin Van Trease, Findlay, Ohio. Hobday took third place.

Consolation winners were: Dan Bertolucci in Men's A; Chuck Lehwald in Men's Seniors; Charles Martarano in Men's Masters; Hope Weisbach in Women's Open; D. Mulvaney in Men's B.

Illinois Open

Men's Open (Second Round):

Deuster def. Mahjher 21-14, 21-15; Johnson def. Senters 21-12, 21-10; Van Tuyle def. Peterson, forfeit; Travaglio def. Clark, forfeit; Sully def. Butler 21-20, 15-21, 11-6; York def. Cunningham 21-8, 21-14.

(Quarter-finals):

Deuster def. Johnson 21-19, 21-5; Stepp def. Van Tuyle 21-6, 21-17; McDowell def. Travaglio 21-13, 21-11; York def. Sully 14-21, 21-8, 11-5.

Semi-finals: Deuster def. Stepp 21-12, 21-17; York def. McDowell 15-21, 21-10, 11-6.

Finals: Deuster def. York 21-9, 21-20; Third place: Stepp def. McDowell, 21-17, 21-16.

Women's Open (Quarter-finals):

McCarthy def. Prine 21-17, 21-7; Schmidt def. Biggs 21-10, 21-3; Thompson def. Holder 21-4, 21-8; Kelleher def. Beal 21-8, 21-6.

(Semi-finals): Schmidt def. McCarthy 21-3, 12-21, 11-4; Thompson def. Kelleher 21-11, 21-10.

(Finals): Schmidt def. Thompson 21-12, 21-13; Third place: McCarthy def. Kelleher.

Women's B (Quarter-finals): Kernan def. Seibert 21-10, 21-7; Weisbach def. Wilnos 21-6, 21-6; Simon def. Larrain 21-19, 21-11; Weiss def. Farmer 21-3, 21-6.

(Semi-finals): Weisbach def. Kernan 21-3, 18-21, 11-10; Weiss def. Simon 21-7, 17-21, 11-4.

(Finals): Weisbach def. Weiss 21-18, 21-15.

Men's B (Quarter-finals): Halpin def. Huskamp 21-15, 21-10; Gorden def. Muhaney 21-9, 17-21, 11-2; Shepson def. Mohr 21-5, 21-18; Broderson def. Kabaca 21-9, 21-3.

(Semi-finals): Broderson def. Shepson 21-14, 10-21, 11-9; Gorden def. Halpin 21-16, 13-21, 11-9. Third: Shepson def. Halpin.

(Finals): Gorden def. Broderson 21-14, 21-20.



Jim Stotz (center) Director of the Aurora YMCA Semi-Pro-Am Open Racquetball Tourney, presents checks to Mark Hegg of Omaha, Nebraska (right) for \$150.00 and Dennis McDowell of Bloomington, Illinois for \$100.00. Hegg beat McDowell 21-9, 21-13 to capture the title in the early December event. Mark Coleman, Assistant Director, looks on.

West Virginia

The fourth annual Wheeling (WV) Open Racquetball Tourney was held December 15-19, with Gilbert Krovocheck taking the Men's A division championship 21-7, 21-13 over Kevin Becker.

Krovocheck led throughout most of the match, combining good serves with excellent shooting to stay on top. Dave Furda defeated Bill Casto 21-12, 21-14 for third place.

The semi-finals saw Becker stopping Furda 10 and 12, as the match saw Becker "get hot" while Dave never really got his game going.

In the other semi-final Krovocheck had a rough time slipping by Casto. The first game went to Gil 21-15, but Casto came back to capture a 21-9 second game, forcing the first tie-breaker of the A division. After being down 5-0, Krovocheck rolled to an 11-5 victory.

Don Cameron coasted to an easy victory in the B singles as he topped Randy Shepherd 21-10, 21-7. Larry McClelland defeated Paul Vargo 21-11, 21-17 in a hard-fought third place battle.

Cameron coasted in his semi-final encounter 21-1, 21-2 over McClelland, while Shepherd had more difficulty stopping Vargo 13 and 19.

The C Singles division saw eight entrants vie for first place honors with Gary Fonner coming out on top 21-12, 21-11 over Greg Vucelik.

Fonner ousted John Greve 21-6, 21-20

in one semi, while Vucelik was awarded a default victory due to Al Kadar's foot injury. Kadar and Greve agreed to play third place off at a later date.

State Ladies champion Carol Wojcik won the women's double elimination division, topping Linda Jursa in the finals, 21-1, 21-1. Michele Burke took third place.

A total of 54 entrants from three states competed in the four divisions of play. This was quite an increase from the 16 entrants a year ago. The tournament was hosted by the Wheeling Y.M.C.A. and sponsored by the Wheeling Jaycees. A total of 87 matches were played on only one court. This was the second largest tournament ever held in West Virginia, and I might add that the 11 point tie-breaker was a huge success.

Kevin Becker

New York Paddleball



The American Paddle Ball Association doubles title was won by Bob Schwarz (r.) and Andy Krosnick (l.) of Far Rockaway, N.Y. Beating Howie Solomon and John Farber, final scores 21-16, 11-21, 21-12. The match was held at Queensbrough Community College, N.Y.

Photo by Harvey Brody



In Celebration Of Our 40th
Year In Business...

40th Anniversary Specials

(OFFERS END JUNE 30, 1977)



"MICC" HIGH DENSITY LAMINATED PLASTIC PANEL COURT SYSTEMS

AND ONLY WORLD COURTS, INC. OFFERS YOU A FULL DOUBLE-GUARANTEE!!

Singles Squash Courts

\$2,784

Handball, Racquetball, Paddleball Courts

\$4,419



A Total Court Package for Every Need!

For Further Details Call or Write:

WORLD COURTS, INC.

554 MAIN STREET, DEPT. NR
S. WEYMOUTH, MASS. 02190
Phone (617) 337-0082

PRODUCT OF
U.S. //
GYPSUM
FIBERESIN
PLASTICS DIV.

PLAYER RANKINGS

Prize Money

And Official Player Ranking

Official Women's Professional Ranking (As of Feb. 1, 1977)

1. Peggy Steding, Odessa, Tex.
2. Shannon Wright, Dallas
3. Janell Marriott, Salt Lake City
4. Kathy Williams, Hazel Park, Mich.
5. Jennifer Harding, Portland, Ore.
6. Sue Carow, Glenview, Ill.
7. Jean Sauser, Northbrook, Ill.
8. Jan Campbell, San Diego
9. Sarah Green, Memphis
10. Camille McCarthy, Indianapolis

Official Professional Men's Rankings (As of Feb. 1, 1977)

1. Marty Hogan, St. Louis
2. Charles Brumfield, San Diego
3. Steve Strandemo, San Diego
4. Jerry Hilecher, St. Louis
5. Davey Bledsoe, San Diego
6. Richard Wagner, San Diego
7. Mike Zeitman, Memphis
8. (Tie) Ben Koltun, St. Louis
Craig McCoy, Riverside, Cal.
10. Steve Serot, San Diego
11. Jay Jones, Los Angeles
12. Bill Schmidtke, Minneapolis
13. Ken Wong, St. Louis
14. Mark Morrow, Los Angeles
15. John Lynch, Chicago
16. Steve Keeley, San Diego
17. Wayne Bowes, Edmonton
18. Jeff Bowman, San Diego
19. Steve Chase, Phoenix
20. Wes Hadikin, Winnipeg

1976-77 N.R.C. Women's Prize Money Earnings (As of Feb. 1, 1977)

Rank	Player	Prize Money
1.	Peggy Steding, Odessa, Texas	\$3,600
2.	Shannon Wright, Dallas	1,800
3.	Janell Marriott, Salt Lake City	1,400
4.	Kathy Williams, Hazel Park, Mich.	1,000
5. (tie)	Jennifer Harding, Portland, Ore.	400
	Sue Carow, Glenview, Ill.	400
7.	Jean Sauser, Northbrook, Ill.	300
8. (tie)	Sarah Green, Memphis	200
	Jan Campbell, San Diego	200
	Bette Weed, San Diego	200

1976-77 N.R.C. Men's Prize Money Earnings (As of Feb. 1, 1977)

Rank	Player	Prize Money
1.	Marty Hogan, St. Louis	\$9,000
2.	Jerry Hilecher, St. Louis	3,375
3.	Charlie Brumfield, San Diego	3,325
4.	Steve Strandemo, San Diego	2,875
5.	Davey Bledsoe, San Diego	2,450
6.	Richard Wagner, San Diego	1,550
7.	Mike Zeitman, Memphis	1,175
8. (tie)	Ben Koltun, St. Louis	750
	Craig McCoy, Riverside, Calif.	750
10. (tie)	Steve Serot, San Diego	500
	John Lynch, Champaign, Ill.	500
12.	Ken Wong, St. Louis	400
13.	Bill Schmidtke, Minneapolis	375
14.	Jay Jones, Los Angeles	350
15. (tie)	Steve Keeley, San Diego	300
	Steve Mondry, San Diego	300
17. (tie)	Wayne Bowes, Edmonton, Alta.	275
	Mark Morrow, Los Angeles	275

LEACH-SEAMCO PRO TOUR SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN APRIL 16-19, 1977

Site: Racquetime, 26400 12 Mile Rd., Southfield, MI 48076

Facilities: 30 regulation, indoor four-wall courts, including one three glass-walled exhibition court.

Dates: April 16-19, 1977.

Entry Fee: \$25 in all professional events; \$20 in all amateur events.

Entry Deadline: Friday, April 1, 1977. Entries received late cannot be guaranteed a souvenir shirt.

Sanction: By U.S. Racquetball Association and National Racquetball Club.

Official Ball: In all amateur events: Seamco 558 (black); In all professional events: Seamco 559 (green).

Awards: \$6,000 in Men's Pro Singles; \$2,000 in Women's Pro Singles; Trophies to first four places in amateur events.

Mail Entries To: Racquetime, 31201 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150.

Make Checks Payable To: Racquetime. Fee must accompany all entries.

Please Enter Me In: ☐ Men's Pro Singles ☐ Women's Pro Singles
☐ Men's Amateur Singles ☐ Men's Senior Singles
☐ Women's Amateur Singles

Shirt Size: ☐ Small ☐ Medium ☐ Large ☐ X-Large

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (Bus.) _____ Phone (Res.) _____

Tournament Headquarters: Southfield Holiday Inn: 313-353-7700.

**The Book that Will
Help You Kill**

THE COMPLETE BOOK OF RACQUETBALL

by Steve Keeley

Sign up 10 new members for
the U.S.R.A. and receive this superior
instructional book,
absolutely
free!



free!!

Discover every phase of the world of racquetball in 288 action-packed pages by tournament champ and instructor Steve Keeley. Using more than 300 action-freezing photos and game play diagrams, author Keeley provides comprehensive instruction to help you hit every shot, master offensive and defensive strategy and polish your performance with practice drills and exercises.

The Complete Book of Racquetball is organized into sections for beginners and intermediates with each of 13 chapters preceded by an outline of important points to master. This comprehensive volume is the first and only guide to racquetball to be endorsed by The U.S. Racquetball Assn. and National Racquetball Club.

You can't miss with The Complete Book of Racquetball. Chapters on equipment, forehand, backhand, passing shots, offense, defense, back wall play, serves, serve returns and much more make this THE book to aid your game.

A \$7.95 book store or mail order value, The Complete Book of Racquetball is FREE to you by signing up 10 new U.S.R.A. members. Membership includes a subscription to National Racquetball magazine plus tournament eligibility and a free rule book. All for \$3 per year — by far sport's biggest bargain. And all memberships received this year will include all of 1977. Just jot down the names, addresses, city, state and zip of your new members and send them with your check or money order to U.S.R.A., 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, IL 60076. As soon as we receive your memberships, we'll put a copy of Steve Keeley's The Complete Book of Racquetball in the mail to you.

Do your friends a favor — help them join the U.S.R.A. Do yourself a favor by receiving a copy of this outstanding book. It's the best thing on racquetball ever written.



**UNITED STATES
RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION**

4101 DEMPSTER STREET
SKOKIE, ILLINOIS 60076

SEAMCO-LEACH PRO TOUR LOMBARD, ILLINOIS APRIL 28-MAY 1, 1977

Site: The Glass Court, 830 East Roosevelt Rd., Lombard, IL 60148

Facilities: 12 regulation, indoor four-wall courts, including one three walled, glass exhibition court.

Dates: April 28-May 1, 1977

Entry Fee: \$25 in all professional events; \$15 in all amateur events.

Entry Deadline: Friday, April 15, 1977. Entries received late cannot be guaranteed a souvenir shirt.

Sanction: By U.S. Racquetball Association and National Racquetball Club.

Official Ball: In all amateur events: Seamco 558 (black); in all professional events: Seamco 559 (green).

Awards: \$7,500 in prize money in Men's Pro Singles; \$2,500 in prize money in Women's Pro Singles; Trophies for first four places in each amateur event.

Mail Entries To: Dan Bertolucci, The Glass Court, 830 East Roosevelt Rd., Lombard, IL 60148.

Make Checks Payable To: The Glass Court. Fee must accompany all entries.

Please enter me in:

☐ Men's Pro	☐ Women's Pro
☐ Men's Amateur Singles (limit 128)	☐ Women's Amateur Singles (limit 64)
☐ Men's Senior Singles (limit 32)	☐ Men's Masters Singles

Shirt Size: ☐ Small ☐ Medium ☐ Large ☐ X-Large

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (Bus.) _____ Phone (Res.) _____

Tournament Headquarters: Sheraton Oakbrook. Phone: 312-325-8555.

● STORM MEADOWS ATHLETIC CLUB AT STEAMBOAT

The Steve Keeley Racquetball Ranch At Steamboat's Storm Meadows Athletic Club



Combine your racquetball learning experience with the luxuries of a refreshing mountain vacation.

1977 Summer Sessions

July 31-August 6 • August 7-13 • August 14-20 • August 21-27

Video tape analysis • Individualized instruction •
Court time with the pros • Films • Handicap Tournaments

COSTS

Camp—\$225.00; Room—Rates Start At \$46.00

Please Send Me Your Brochure Containing Complete Summer Racquetball Ranch Details.

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Clip And Mail To: The Steve Keeley Racquetball Ranch
Box 1566 • Steamboat Springs, Colorado 80477
Phone 303-879-3335

(303) 879-1036 Box 1566 Steamboat Springs, Colorado 80477

LEACH-SEAMCO PRO TOUR
NEWPORT BEACH, CALIFORNIA
MAY 12-15, 1977

Site: Newport Beach Sporting House, 3931 MacArthur Blvd., Newport Beach, CA 92660.

Facilities: 16 regulation, indoor, four-wall courts, including one exhibition court featuring an all glass front wall.

Dates: May 12-15, 1977.

Entry Fee: \$25 per player.

Entry Deadline: Thursday, April 28, 1977. Entries received late cannot be guaranteed a souvenir shirt.

Sanction: By National Racquetball Club.

Official Ball: Seamco 559 (green).

Awards: \$6,000 in prize money in Men's Pro Singles; \$2,000 in prize money in Women's Pro Singles.

Mail Entries To: John Davidson, Newport Beach Sporting House, 3931 MacArthur Blvd., Newport Beach, CA 92660.

Make Checks Payable To: Newport Beach Sporting House. Fee must accompany all entries.

Please Enter Me In: ☐ Men's Pro Singles ☐ Women's Pro Singles

Shirt Size: ☐ Small ☐ Medium ☐ Large ☐ X-Large

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (Bus.) _____ Phone (Res.) _____

Tournament Headquarters: Sheraton Hotel: 714-833-0570. Racquetball players should identify themselves for a 20% discount.

UPCOMING EVENTS

National Juniors

July 27-31, 1977, — remember that date! It's the long-awaited National Juniors Championship Tournament, the second annual U.S.R.A. sanctioned event.

The site is the Evergreen Park Bath and Tennis Club, in south suburban Chicago. Evergreen Park has eight racquetball courts, one with a glass side wall and glass back wall, to make the playing and spectating more exciting than ever.

But so much more will be going on at the Juniors.

For openers, the U.S.R.A. will again help out as many players as possible with a travel allowance. The first 200 entrants will receive 10¢ per mile for every mile he or she travels over 500 miles. The maximum allowance is \$100 for any one participant.

"The thing that makes the National Juniors such a great event," said the U.S.R.A.'s National Director Chuck Leve, "is that it gives as many kids as possible a chance to get to the tournament. We don't want money to be an obstacle for any youngster who wants to play."

In addition to the travel help, all players will be fed three meals a day, and all hotel lodging costs (except individual charges) will be paid for.

"Once we get them here," said Leve, "we know we have to feed them. Last year we were only able to give them breakfast and dinner, but this time, they'll get their lunches as well."

Another big bonanza of the tournament will be a trip for all players to the world-famous Marriott's Great America Theme Park, about an hour's drive from the Evergreen Park Club.

"I think the kids will like Great America more than they liked Walt Disney World last time," said Leve. "Great America has more rides and games than DisneyWorld and the lines are a lot shorter. They'll have a ball."

The Evergreen Park club is managed by pro handballer Vern Roberts, Jr.,

himself a veteran of handball's National Junior program. He and his staff are looking forward to doing everything possible to ensure the good time for all.

"I first met Joe Ardito (U.S.R.A. National Commissioner) at the Juniors," said Vern. "Joe told me recently what a fine tourney it was last year, but I promised Joe that this one will top that one by far."

Players will also receive the attractive Hang-ten souvenir shirts that have been used so successfully this season on the Seamco-Leach professional tour.

The most important thing for prospective players to do is make their travel arrangements early. The entry form in this issue includes a space for them to alert the U.S.R.A. as to their plans.

"This is most important," said Leve. "The great majority of the players will be flying into O'Hare International Airport, and that can be a traumatic experience for a young person who's never done it before. We want each entrant to let us know how and where he's arriving so we can meet his plane."

The logistics of the tournament will be co-ordinated between the U.S.R.A. National headquarters, the Evergreen Park Club and the Illinois Racquetball Association, U.S.R.A. affiliate.

"We're expecting over 300 players," said Leve. "And all players will be able to watch all matches for free."

Age categories are as follows: Boys 17-and-under, 15-and-under, and 13-and-under; Girls 17-and-under, and 14-and-under.

The entry fee is \$12 per player. All entries should be sent to U.S.R.A. National Juniors, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, IL 60076.



national juniors

OFFICIAL ENTRY

U.S.R.A. National Juniors National Championships

Site: Evergreen Park Bath & Tennis Club, 2700 W. 91st St., Evergreen Park, IL 60642. Phone: 312-425-7200.

Dates: July 27-31, 1977.

Entry Fee: \$12 per player.

Entry Deadline: July 1, 1977. No entries can be accepted late or without entry fee.

Sanction: By U.S. Racquetball Association

Official Ball: Seamco 558 (black).

Rules: U.S.R.A. rules and regulations apply.

Trophies: To first four places in each event.

Mail Entries To: U.S.R.A. National Juniors, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, IL 60076. Make checks payable to: U.S.R.A.

Please enter me in: ☐ Boys 17-and-under ☐ Boys 15-and-under ☐ Boys 13-and-under

☐ Girls 17-and-under ☐ Girls 14-and-under

Shirt Size: ☐ XS ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ Area Code _____

I will be arriving by: ☐ Air ☐ Train ☐ Bus

My flight/train/bus number is: _____

My time of arrival is: _____

My place of arrival is: _____

I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the U.S. Racquetball Association, Illinois Racquetball Association, or Evergreen Park Bath & Tennis Club, their respective agents, or any facility used for this tournament, for any and all injuries which may be suffered by my son or daughter in connection with my son's or daughter's competition in said tournament.

SIGNATURE (Parent) _____

Nationals Again Slated For San Diego

The Atlas Health Club, San Diego, California will again host the U.S.R.A.-N.R.C. National Racquetball Championships, June 4-11, 1977.

Twelve brackets of play for men and women, both professional and amateur will highlight the National Tournament week. Additionally, a players banquet, hospitality and closed circuit television will again make the Nationals the zenith of the 1976-77 season.

Who will win the coveted men's professional singles title and the alluring \$4,000 first place prize? Who will be able to survive the grueling pace of the Men's Amateur Open draw, and will he then move straight into the pros as did last year's champ Ben Koltun?

Will Charlie Brumfield be out of his slump in time to regain his number one position? Can Peggy Steding make it three in a row in the women's professional division? Will upsets abound in the seniors division again this year?

All these questions and more will be answered during the National Tournament, sponsored by Leach Industries and Seamco Sporting Goods.

"We're looking forward to the greatest tournament in the history of racquetball," said Chuck Leve, the U.S.R.A.'s National Director. "We thought last season was excellent, but we've made some improvements from a year ago that will make 1977's event even more enjoyable."

Organizationally, nothing could top 1976's version, and the U.S.R.A. will again call upon the top floor managers in the nation to help run the multitude of matches that the Nationals call for.

In case you missed last year's Nationals, the Atlas Health Club is one of the most amenity-rich clubs in the world. The 1.7 million dollar facility sports whirlpools, saunas, lavish exercise areas, an outdoor swimming pool, jogging track and even outdoor tennis courts.

And the location couldn't be better, — a scant 50 yards from the Mission Valley Inn, a beautiful Atlas Hotel, the tournament headquarters. Mission Valley Inn, with its excellent dining facilities, three outdoor swimming pools, outdoor jacuzzi, and strategic location on San Diego's world-famous Hotel Circle, make the tournament headquarters, the place to be in San Diego.

The Atlas Health Club also has two beautiful glass back walled courts for all key matches. Tickets are now on sale and players or fans interested should contact the Atlas Health Club (see entry form for address and phone).

"The ticket situation will be handled much differently than last year," said Jerry Sandstrom, executive vice president of the Atlas Hotel Corporation, and the man responsible for all the local organization.

"We will be selling tickets at a more reasonable price on a per round basis this time," said Sandstrom. "We will still offer reserved seating for the entire tournament, but it won't be the only choice."

One thing Sandstrom did maintain would be the same as a year ago is the tight security around the championship

court. But with the new ticket policy, there will be full stands ensured from the quarters on.

"Since so many more people will be able to afford seeing a few matches," he said, "we expect to fill up the stands virtually every night."

The competitive highlight will be the professional divisions, into which Leach and Seamco have put \$15,000 in prize money.

"This is the one for all the marbles," said Charlie Drake, Leach's racquetball division manager. "Everybody will be going all out for the National title."

Attractive display booths for national manufacturers will also be an integral part of the tournament, for the browsing convenience of players and fans.

All this, plus the crowning of the national champions in 10 amateur events as well as the pros, makes the National Championships truly the most outstanding event of the year.

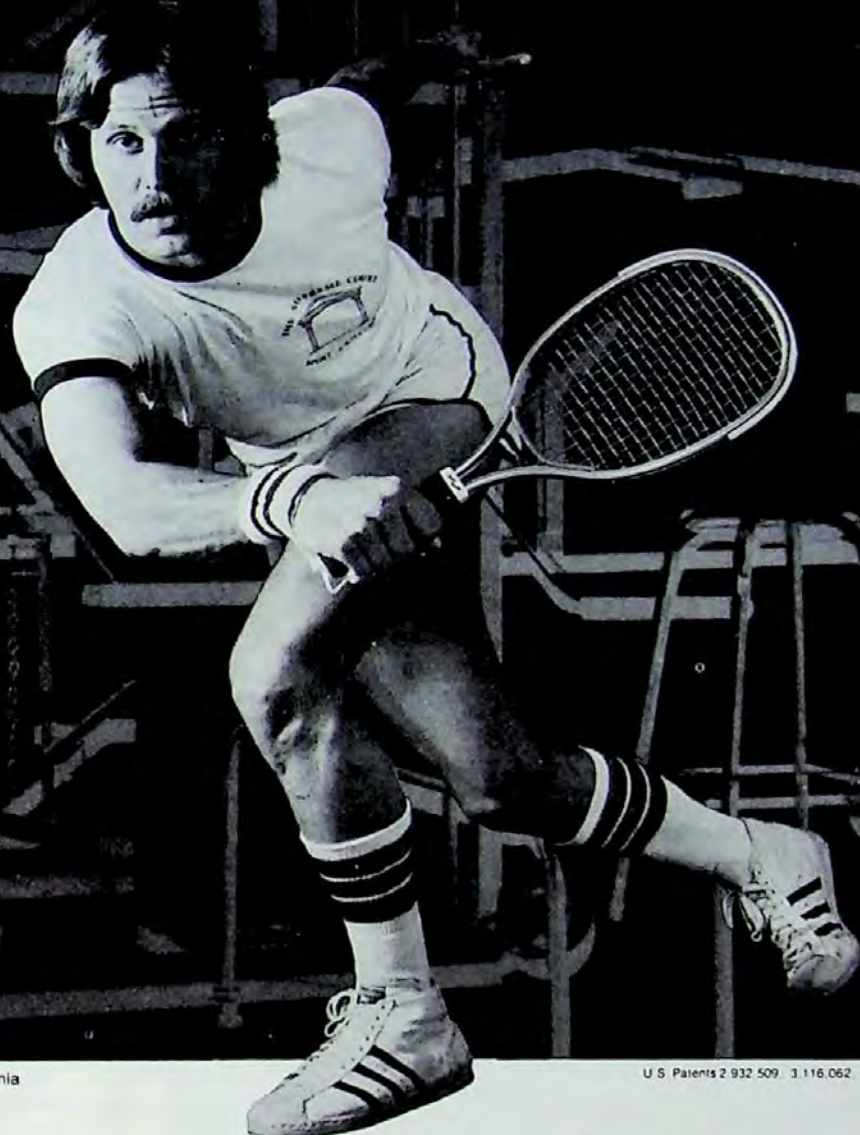
"It's the highlight, no doubt of that," said Leve. "The Nationals is truly where it's at."

We look forward to seeing you all, in San Diego, June 4-11, 1977.

1976-77 Seamco-Leach Pro Tour

Date	Facility	City
March 3-6, 1977	Denver Sporting House	Denver, Colorado
March 24-27, 1977	Univ. of Tennessee	Chattanooga, Tennessee
April 16-19, 1977	Racquettime Center	Southfield, Michigan
April 28-May 1, 1977	The Glass Court	Lombard, Illinois
May 12-15, 1977	Courtside	Peoria, Illinois
June 4-11, 1977	Atlas Health Club	San Diego, California

Get more out of it.



Steve Lubarsky, Supreme Court Sports Center, Van Nuys, California

U.S. Patents 2,932,509 3,116,062 3,649,008

To play in top form you need to be in top condition. And when it comes to physical conditioning, the best racquetball players in the world are no different than champion athletes in other sports who rely on Universal Gym Equipment to achieve the optimum in developing strength, speed and endurance.

The proof of Universal's superiority can be found in the training facilities of thousands of college, university and professional teams. And in hundreds of health clubs, tennis and racquetball clubs as well as companies in business and industry throughout the nation.

We could tell you about endorsements from sports greats like Bill Russell, John McKay, George Allen, Barry Switzer, Larry Csonka, Nolan Ryan, Reggie Jackson and others.



But we'd rather show you how your club can provide as many as sixteen different exercise stations that can be used by sixteen people all at the same time, in only 300 square feet of space! When your club has more to offer, it stands out from all the rest. A Universal physical fitness center includes a conditioning program for every member of the family.

Get more out of racquetball by putting more into it.

Call or write today for a free facilities design and a cost estimate of a Universal fitness center for your club.

Universal
GYM EQUIPMENT

17352 Von Karman Ave.,
Irvine, Ca. 92714 • (714) 751-2820

a subsidiary of FIRST NORTHWEST INDUSTRIES OF AMERICA, INC.

THE WORLD'S LARGEST MANUFACTURER OF PHYSICAL CONDITIONING SYSTEMS

© Universal Gym Equipment 1977

USRA-NRC

ahc

1977 LEACH-SEAMCO PRO-AM RACQUETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS



PLAYERS ARE LIMITED TO 2 EVENTS MAXIMUM.

LOCATION: ATLAS HEALTH CLUB, San Diego, Ca.
DATE: June 4-11, 1977
SANCTION: By the National Racquetball Club (N.R.C.)
 U.S. Racquetball Assn. (U.S.R.A.)
OFFICIAL BALL: SEAMCO 558 (black) in all amateur events
 SEAMCO 559 (green) in all professional events.
RULES: U.S.R.A.-N.R.C. rules and regulations apply if two events entered, players may have back to back matches. Eleven point tie breaker rule in effect.
TROPHIES: Trophies: To first 4 places in each amateur event.

ENTRY FEE:

\$25 per person for first event. If player enters second event, that event is \$15. Men or women's pro singles \$50.00.

ENTRY DEADLINE:

In our possession by 6 pm May 25, 1977. Prescribed fee must accompany entry form. Entries received after the deadline or unsigned, or without fee will not be accepted.

STARTING TIME:

Please call (714) 298-1616 June 1st after 12 Noon.

PRIZE MONEY:

\$12,000 Men's Pro Singles; minimum \$3,000 Women's Pro Singles. minimum

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM AND/OR ATLAS HOTEL ROOM RESERVATION**ENTRY DEADLINE. . . BY 6 P.M. MAY 25, 1977**

NAME	AGE	CLUB
ADDRESS	CITY	ZIP
NAME OF DOUBLES PARTNER	AGE	CLUB

Please enter me in:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| ☐ Amateur Open Singles | ☐ Golden Master Singles (55 & over) | ☐ Men's Master Doubles (45 & over) |
| ☐ Pro Men's Singles | ☐ Women's Amateur Singles | ☐ Golden Master Doubles (55 & over) |
| ☐ Senior Singles (35 & over) | ☐ Amateur Open Doubles | ☐ Women's Amateur Doubles |
| ☐ Master Singles (45 & over) | ☐ Men's Senior Doubles (35 & over) | ☐ Women's Pro Singles |

Each of the following Atlas Hotels have set aside a block of 100 rooms for participants and guests during the tournament

Mission Valley Inn Room Rates (per day)

Single \$19.00
Double \$24.00

Town & Country Hotel Room Rates (per day)

Garden	Highrise
Single \$23.00	\$26.00
Double \$28.00	\$31.00

Add \$4.00 for each additional person in the same room.

A 6% city room tax will be added as applicable to the above net rates.

Please reserve, and confirm by return mail, () room(s) at The Mission Valley Inn _____, Town & Country Hotel _____

Enclosed one nights deposit _____ Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____

If you cancel reservations at least 15 days prior to start of the tournament your deposit will be refunded.

WAIVER: I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the Atlas Health Club, the U.S. Racquetball Assn. or National Racquetball Club, their respective agents, or any facility used for this tournament, for any and all injuries which may be suffered by me in connection with my competition in said tournament.

Signature _____ Ph. _____ Partner's Signature _____ Ph. _____

Please make room reservation or entry check (money order) payable to: **Atlas Health Club.**
Mail Entry Form and/or Room Reservation to: Atlas Health Club, 901 Hotel Circle San Diego, CA 92138

TWO OF THE TOP SEEDED IN SAN DIEGO

WHETHER YOU'RE A PLAYER OR SPECTATOR AT THE LEACH-SEAMCO PRO-AM RACQUETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS YOU'LL ENJOY SAN DIEGO'S MISSION VALLEY AND THE ATLAS HOTELS.



MISSION VALLEY INN

The Mission Valley Inn is literally within a passing shot of the Atlas Health Club, home of the 1977 Leach-Seamco Pro-Am Racquetball Championships. With three swimming pools (four if you count the 25-yard lap pool at the Health Club), therapy pool, plenty of patio space and lawn, the Mission Valley Inn is the ideal place for outdoor living and physical recreation enthusiasts.

Spread about its 10-acres, the Inn has 210 deluxe air-conditioned rooms and suites and is known for its casual luxury.

The colorful and exciting Red Candle Steak House is famous for the finest charcoal broiled steaks in town. The adjoining show lounge is a center for fun and top name entertainment. There is a 24-hour coffee shop and just next door is the Bottle Shop with a complete selection of beverages and delicatessen items.

The Hotel Circle location makes it easy for visitors to get around to the many popular San Diego attractions. But tours to many points around the county and to Tijuana can easily be arranged.

TOWN AND COUNTRY HOTEL

The Town and Country has all the amenities of a fine uptown hotel with the easy living charm of the country . . . and its within an easy walk of the Atlas Health Club. The Town and Country has 1,000 air-conditioned rooms in two highrises and many one and two-story garden style buildings.

Dining and entertainment are yours just about anyway you like them. Le Pavillon, San Diego's newest and most elegant restaurant and lounge, features French-Continental cuisine and sits atop the East Highrise offering an excellent view of Mission Valley. Additionally, there is the Gourmet Room Restaurant and Gold Coast Lounge and two coffee shops, the Lanai and the 24-hour Coffee House. . . plus Crystal T's Emporium; an elegant but funky restaurant/disco.

And more. . . beauty, barber and gift shops, airline ticket and car rental services, four swimming pools, sauna, whirlpool and a shuffleboard court.



ATLAS **ah** HOTELS

WHERE THE DIFFERENCE IS THE SERVICE

TROPICANA

IN TIFFANY LOUNGE
LIVE RADIO SHOW

WITH

SEAN DALY

MON THRU FRI. 11PM 1AM
KORK 92 ON DIAL

\$120,000
LEACH + SEAMCO
RACQUETBALL
TOURNAMENT
JAN 13 + 16

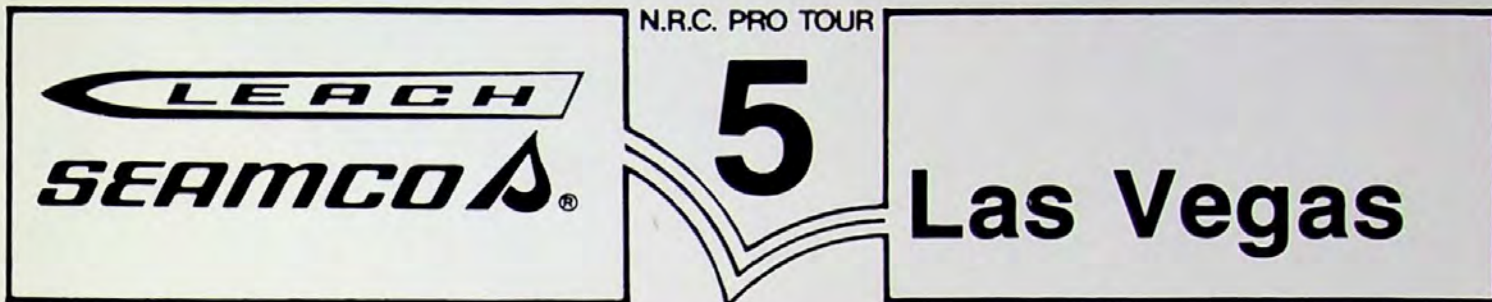
WIN ANTIQUE
SLOT MACHINE

LEACH + SEAMCO
RACQUETBALL

STAG
VIA

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

All photos of the Las Vegas Pro Tour stop by Arthur Shay



The Best Show In Vegas!

It wasn't Sammy D., or Johnny, or Wayne, but it was the Marty Hogan show that had the fans standing in the aisles.

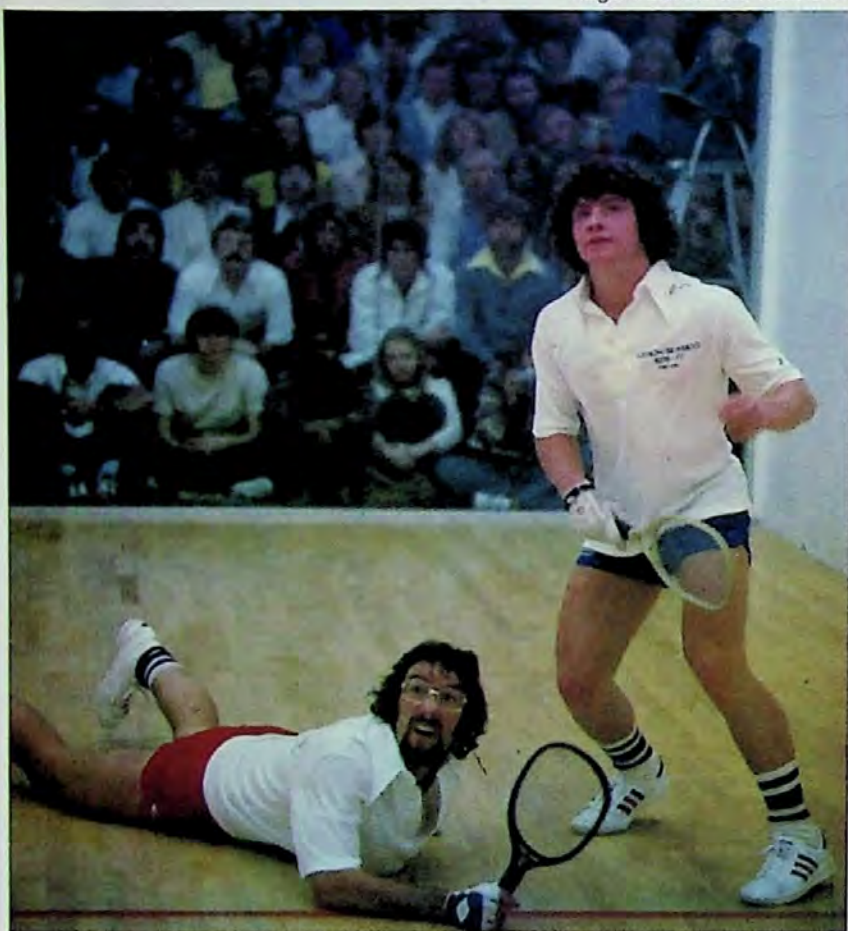
Far away from the slot machines, the show rooms and the glaring lights of Las Vegas another game of 21 was being played in this desert city January 13-16. The only similarity between this game and the casino version was the dealer, — the odds were the same.

Marty Hogan, the 18-year-old wonder of the pro racquetball tour, dealt his fellow competitors six straight busts as he captured his fourth consecutive win on the Seamco-Leach Pro Tour, a feat never before accomplished in the annals of our game.

And although Hogan had to go three games twice during the week, no one at any moment doubted the outcome, a 21-16, 21-16 championship round victory over former number one Charlie Brumfield.

A marquis welcome from the Tropicana let everyone who passed by know what was happening, — racquetball is here!

Brumfield in an unfamiliar pose, — on the floor. The get was good, but Hogan buried the next one.



Hogan's control of the finals can be seen here as he is able to set up and put everything he has into this kill attempt. Note not even Brumfield wants to block the rockets that Hogan's racquet emits.



To say that Hogan now dominates the pro tour would be like saying Jimmy Carter smiles a lot. The volatile St. Louisian toys with opponents. He allows them to win games, then comes back to defeat them. He allows them big leads, then proceeds to overtake them. He turns his racquetball game on and off like Dick the Bruiser, seeming to ask the crowd, "should I end it now?"

The Las Vegas stop on the tour, held in conjunction with the Nevada State Open, drew the strongest field since the Nationals and possibly the strongest in racquetball's history. But after the 53 entrants all did their thing, Hogan and Brumfield again stood against each other in the final round.

Brumfield, who had been devastating in the lower bracket throughout the tournament, was really no match for Hogan in the finals. The rhythm that had seemingly come back to the champ, failed him in the big one. His shots were not there.

Three aces, three kills and two Brumfield errors found Hogan standing atop an 8-1 advantage in the first game

after three innings, a lead which Brumfield struggled to overtake (and never did) the entire game.

The closest the Brum got was 14-13 and 17-16, at which point Brumfield returned a serve to his forehand into the dirt for the crucial 18th point. That seemed to break Charlie, as Hogan went on from there 21-16.

The second game found Brumfield nursing an 8-4 and 12-7 lead before the merciful swiftness of Hogan's offensive prowess delivered the crushing blows. At 11-13 Hogan took the serve and blasted four successive points, stopping at 15-all only to scream, "try, just try," his trademark in recent months. Five more points followed.

Brumfield even got the breaks, yet could do nothing with them. The biggest break was the game's first match point, where both players thought Hogan's straight-in, left-side kill was a winner. Not so, said referee Chuck Leve, the N.R.C.'s National Director, who was upheld by his linesmen. It took Hogan four more tries before tallying that final 21.

The win meant another \$2,000 payoff for Hogan, bringing his five tourney total to \$9,000, less than half-way through the season, and with that \$15,000 golden egg still awaiting him at the Nationals.

The semi-final round was the tournament's biggest disappointment, in a tournament with very few negative aspects. In fact, full galleries of 350-400 people crowded the Tropicana Hotel's court number five for three consecutive nights, drawing even the casino dealers on their break. Unfortunately for many racquetballers, those breaks didn't extend to when we went onto their home court.

In any event, Hogan obliterated Jerry Hilecher, making his first trip to the semi-finals since winning the season's first tour stop Labor Day weekend. Hilecher had not hoed the easy road but had survived scares from Ken Wong in the 16's and Davey Bledsoe in the quarters to make his run at Hogan. The run was barely a walk.

Hogan was at his best and Hilecher could not make a contest of either game. After three and one-half innings



Men's champ Hogan blisters another forehand as runner-up Brumfield tries to regain his position. The victory was the fourth straight for Hogan on the Leach-Seamco tour.

Hogan rips into a deep court drive in his semi-final win over Hilecher. Note the intensity.

of the first game it was 8-0 Hogan, whereupon Hilecher tried to slow down the curly-haired youngster with a time out. Hogan was momentarily stopped, Hilecher was granted a point from the champ, and Hogan then came with four more points for a 12-1 lead. Another time out ensued, but the battle was over as Marty coasted in with a 21-10 win.

Game two was worse, or better, depending on your point of view. This time the lead grew to 14-1 for Hogan, then 17-2 and finally the top seed eased up for the final of 21-6.

"I thought the second game would be better," said Hilecher, the last player to defeat Hogan on the tour. *"But I couldn't break into the point column."*

It was a fact, as Hilecher went until the eighth inning before recording his first point. He held Hogan scoreless in the first five frames, but it's like throwing a cork into a volcano.

In the bottom bracket Brumfield was surprised to find himself paired against Craig McCoy, his long-ago protege, making his first pro start in three months. McCoy, coming out of the number 11 seed never was really tested, as other players knocked off the seeds above him.

Number six Richard Wagner never got out of the round of 32's, being upset by Winnipeg's Wes Hadikin, who merely had to be on the court and say thank you to Wagner for his generosity.

Number three Steve Strandemo, the co-favorite in the bottom half, tore ankle ligaments in his round of 16 win over Jay Jones, and defaulted to McCoy after hobbling around to a 21-7 first game loss.

So McCoy and Brumfield was the match-up and both games were of the same mold. In the first the Brum knocked out a few aces, some fine shots and a 9-5 lead, which he stretched into 14-6, — all after only five innings. McCoy mounted a mini-comeback, reaching 16-12 before Brumfield turned it on, tallying five straight in the 10th frame to seal the win.

Like the upper bracket, the second game was worse. McCoy was able to stay even for four points, Brumfield ran to 9-4, extended it to 14-9, and then



the Master rolled off three straight aces to put the match light years away. Final tally was 21-9.

So where was the excitement this weekend? It came from a totally unexpected source, a player by the name of Mark Morrow. We'll not say Morrow is an unknown, for he has been making his Mark (*couldn't help it, —ed.*) throughout Southern California in the amateur ranks. Well, the 25-year-old Mr. Morrow certainly proved this weekend he can play with the pros.

In the round of 32 he ran up against Ben Koltun, the 18-year old St. Louisian, former amateur national champ, and number eight seed. They

had a dogfight of a match, with Morrow pulling the upset of the tournament (to that point) 21-7, 14-21, 11-7.

"I didn't expect him to be that tough," said Koltun, *"but after the first game I knew I had a rough one on my hands."*

So Morrow moved to the round of 16, but here, surely the dream must end, against ninth seed Bill Schmidtke, the wily veteran who was aching to get a shot at Hogan.

But Morrow was even better against Schmidtke than he was against Koltun. He made the match no contest, out-shooting, out-hustling, out-getting



McCoy occupies center court during this rally in the men's semi-finals, although Brumfield held that position for most of the match.

Morrow ducks out of the way of Hogan's backhand in their superb quarter-final match, won by Hogan in three.



and out-playing the 37-year-old former national champ. The card read 21-11, 21-7 when it was over, and surely Hogan would take care of this upstart in the quarters.

Hogan did, sort of. Since nobody else had been taking Morrow seriously, Hogan figured that consistency is good, so he didn't either. And as was becoming his custom, Morrow did his opponent in, in the first game.

Mark built a 7-2 and 11-4 lead, lost it as Hogan tied at 14-all, and then re-grouped to take the initial contest 21-15. The gallery was hootin' and hollerin', dying to see the cocky top seed get his.

Game two shut them up, but good. In five minutes it was 9-0 Hogan, in 12 minutes it was 14-2 and in 15 minutes 21-5. So they waited five more minutes for the tie-breaker.

And just when Hogan seemed to have everything in hand, he didn't, for it was Morrow who got out of the starting gates red hot. He began to inch his way toward the magic 11. A 1-0 lead sprouted to 3-0 and three big points in the fourth inning made it 6-0, slowed only by a Hogan time out at 5-0. The gallery was going wild. They wanted upset like the natives wanted Kong. They didn't get it.

Hogan cranked up his rifle right arm and began blasting green Seamco

559's like never before. The barrage was too much for the rookie as Hogan tallied six times in the fifth to tie, twice more in the sixth, and two again in the seventh for 10 straight points, putting him on the threshold of victory. And moments later it was his, 11-7.

The other excellent match of the quarter-final round was Hilecher's victory over Davey Bledsoe 21-16, 21-19. It had been Bledsoe who was tearing apart the tour recently, although never winning the big one, reaching the finals or semi-finals consistently.

It was a usual Bledsoe-Hilecher encounter, fast paced, big serves, and the characteristic go-for-it attitude. This



Bledsoe goes for the bottom board in his quarter-final loss to Hilecher.

Serot starts to go down in his quarter-final loss to Brumfield. It was Serot's highest finish in 10 months.



A hobbled Strandemo is helped off the court by Dan Seaton (l.) and Peggy Steding. Strandy was able to come back and win his round of 16 match, but not the quarters.

time, however, it was Bledsoe who folded down the stretch. In each game he held late leads and in each game he lost them, making key errors where kills were needed.

Hilecher, on the other hand, was keeping his cool, making the tough shots when it counted, and it was he who moved on to the semi-finals.

The Strandemo-McCoy quarter-final, as discussed earlier was no match. Strandemo's ankle wouldn't allow him to walk, let alone run, and he made the wise decision to default, rather than risk further injury. The remainder of the weekend found Strandy on crutches.

Brumfield met Serot in the round's final match, and it marked Serot's first trip to the semi-finals since last April. Each time out Steve had been improving, although still not at the peak he was a year ago. But to this point Brumfield was above his opponents, and he did away with Serot as if he was standing still 21-6, 21-5.

"I feel that my game is still moving upward," said Serot. "I am slowly

regaining my confidence and feel that if I can stay away from Brumfield or Hogan I can reach the semi-finals."

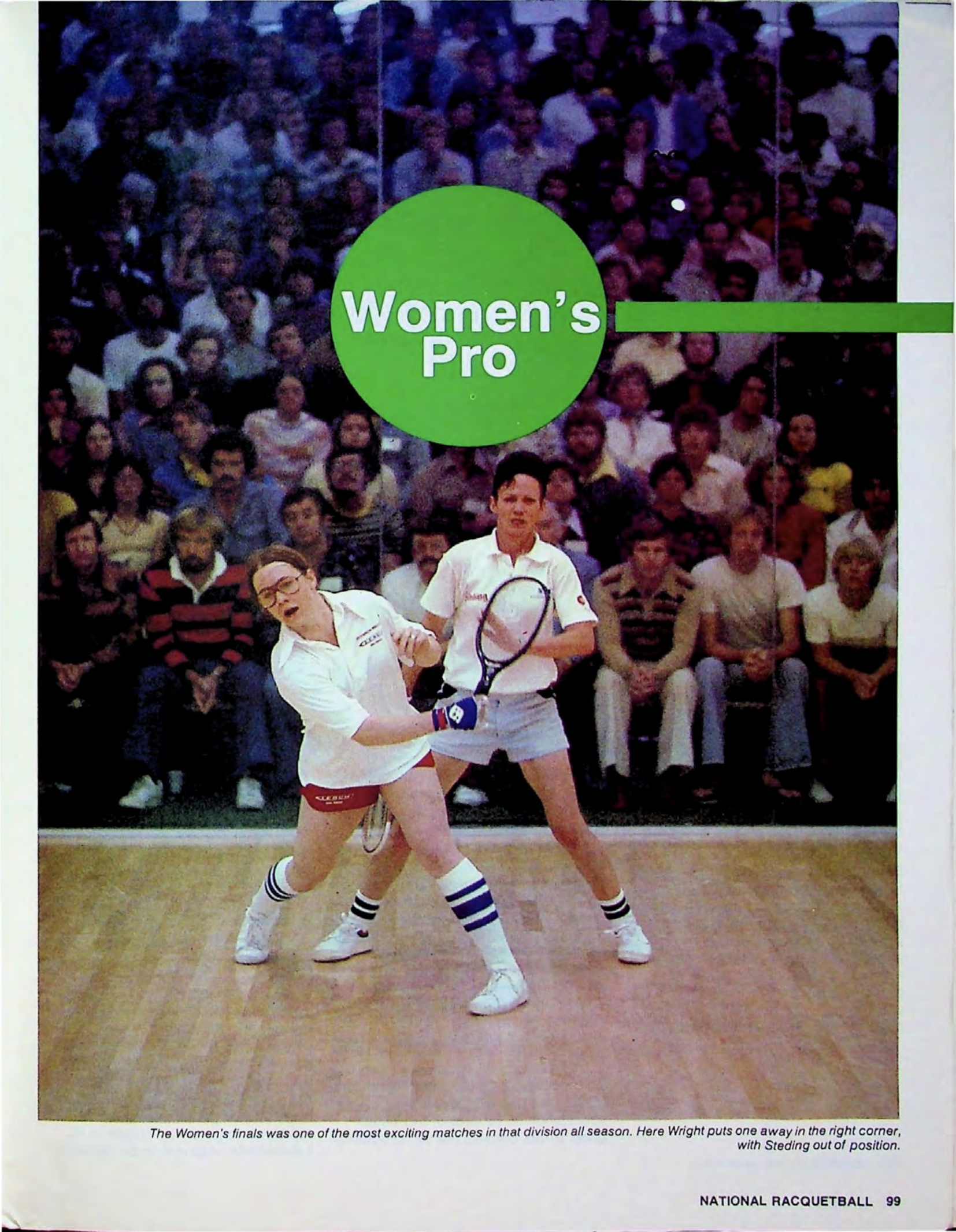
Perhaps so.

Both the round of 16 and round of 32 held some exceptional matches, some of them upsets, most not. Among the upsets were Steve Chase, Phoenix, topping Steve Keeley in the round of 32. Keeley, playing a good 15 points below his capabilities, played the first game left-handed and promptly lost it to the amazed Chase 21-8. Going right-handed (normal) in game two, Keeley managed a 21-20, victory, but Chase came back to take the match 11-3.

Three other matches in the 32's may not have been upsets, but they were good battles. One was Wong's strong defeat of Bud Muehleisen, making his first pro start of the year, 21-13, 21-10. Paul Ikier got by Randy Stafford in a super match 17-21, 21-15, 11-8, while Ron Strom bested Bill Dunn, in a battle of two veterans 21-17, 19-21, 11-7.

In the 16's, Bledsoe had more than his share of trouble stopping John Lynch, who seems to be back on his game, 18-21, 21-13, 11-2; Strandemo gutted out a win over Jones, despite his injury 13-21, 21-16, 11-6; and Hilecher stopped Wong 21-7, 19-21, 11-3.

Others who didn't fare too well: Gordon Kelly, who was beaten by Lynch 21-7, 15-21, 11-7; 16-year-old Mike Yellen, who got a lesson from Jones 21-10, 21-19; Steve Mondry, who learned the same from Serot 21-11, 21-7; Bill Hildebrand, who went out in the first round to Reno's Rob Baruck; Charlie Rish, who lost to Schmidtke 16 and 15; and Lindsey Myers, who took a game from Hogan in the 32's before bowing 21-16, 20-21, 11-1.



Women's Pro

The Women's finals was one of the most exciting matches in that division all season. Here Wright puts one away in the right corner, with Steding out of position.

Steding winds up for her vaunted forehand fly shot against Marriott in the Women's semi-finals.

Women's pro quarter-final action assembled the top eight professionals for the first time since the 1976 National Championships in San Diego. The result was some dramatic action, the finest of the season to date.

Perennial national champion Peggy Steding was matched against Jan Campbell in the first quarter-final. Jan showed well in the first game but could not mount an attack that lasted past 11 points. Game two was all Steding as she thwarted the blonde San Diegan 21-3. Jan's game will improve if she appears on the remainder of the tour in 1977.

Other quarter-final action pitted Sue Carow against Janell Marriott and Carow was as tenacious as ever, defeating Marriott in game one 21-20. The effort took its toll, however, as Janell jumped to a big lead in game two and coasted to a 21-3 victory to send the match into the tie-breaker. Carow could not muster a sustained effort in the tie-breaker and succumbed to the powerful Marriott's back wall kills and Z serves, 11-4. This proved to be the closest match of the round.

Other match-ups found fourth seeded Kathy Williams up against Jean Sauser in a contest that went Kathy's way in game one. Sauser always has trouble against Williams and this was no exception as Kathy never looked back en route to a 21-6 first game win. In game two Sauser got untracked and it went to the wire before Williams put away the last three winning points for a



21-18 win. Sauser now shows signs of regaining last year's form in which she reached the top four ranking at the National Championships.

Jennifer Harding of Portland made a final effort against a high flying Shannon Wright who of late has been playing the best racquetball of her career. Harding managed to stay close in game one but was thwarted late in the game 21-15, mainly due to Shannon's powerful ground strokes and straight-in kills. The effort was not sustained as well in game two but Harding did not bend without opposition, coming out on the short end 21-8.

Shannon recently moved to San Diego and has employed the assistance of several of the Leach pros. It has caused her to completely

alter her game plan from a once conservative style to a more aggressive hard-driving style and the results have been astonishingly successful.

Semi-final action posted the top four seeds together as Steding and Marriott battled in the upper bracket and Williams and Wright faced each other in the bottom half of the draw.

Steding began her usual relaxed and fast-paced rhythm in the first game and ran to an early 8-0 lead against Marriott. Keeping Janell behind her most of the game, she cut the ball off in front court and seized the opportunity to pass and kill while Marriott tried desperately to keep her composure and execute her own game plan. But the champion from Odessa, Texas back on her game after the disappointing loss to Wright in Ft. Lauderdale, was not to be denied.



Williams goes for the kill against Wright in the Women's semi-finals. For the fifth straight time, Kathy could not make it to the championship round.

Marriott made use of her time outs early to try and slow down the widening point gap in the first game. The strategy worked temporarily and Steding's lead was lost when the score reached 10-all. The game stayed close up to 15 points but then the combination of Steding's fine shots and Marriott's mistakes spelled the difference as Steding pulled away at the end of the game for a 21-16 victory.

Game two was all Steding as she played superbly, building up an insurmountable leads of 10-1, 15-3, and even 20-5 but that was not a signal for the personable Salt Lake City native to give up. Janell regained the serve and withstood some long and difficult rallies to come back 20-10 to the delight of the Las Vegas spectators. Only after three times of gaining and then losing the serve did she finally

relent, 21-13 for another Steding victory. Few players can run eight points in a row after facing match point.

The second semi-final match saw Detroit's Kathy Williams again unable to break into the top three women's positions. Wright's sheer power, and drive serves kept Williams at bay and on the defensive for the entire match and unable to mount any sustained threat, as Shannon breezed to a 21-7 first game win. Williams simply could not overcome costly errors during the rally and her cautious serves were answered by Wright's aces to both the left and right side of the court which also caused numerous weak returns. To win in pro racquetball these days in either the men's or women's divisions you must possess offensive serves that keep the server in the box and

taking advantage of aces and weak returns. Almost every player who used safe serves in the pro rounds come out on the short end of the score at the conclusion of the match.

Wright continued her flurry of passes and back wall kills, both forehand and backhand and kept the pressure on to capture the second game as easily as she did the first 21-6. Huge leads proved to be too much for Kathy to overcome as her mistakes continued. Shannon simply played too well to be denied.

The championship of the division provided all of the fireworks everyone expected. Steding was in Las Vegas to celebrate her 22nd wedding anniversary on the tournament weekend and her spirits were running high.

"Some days I could play blindfolded and everything rolls out," she said while relaxing and watching an earlier match, "and that's what I'll need to do tomorrow against Shannon."

Steding was really in the groove for this match and the crowd seemed to sense it. In the first game, Peggy had her blindfold off but everything did roll out for her as she subdued Wright in record time, reaching 18 before Shannon even had time to warm up, and Shannon, sensing the hopelessness of a first game victory, conceded in spirit for the last few points. First game Steding, 21-4.

The gallery was buzzing by the time the ladies began game two. The 9:30 a.m. starting time (forced on the tourney by

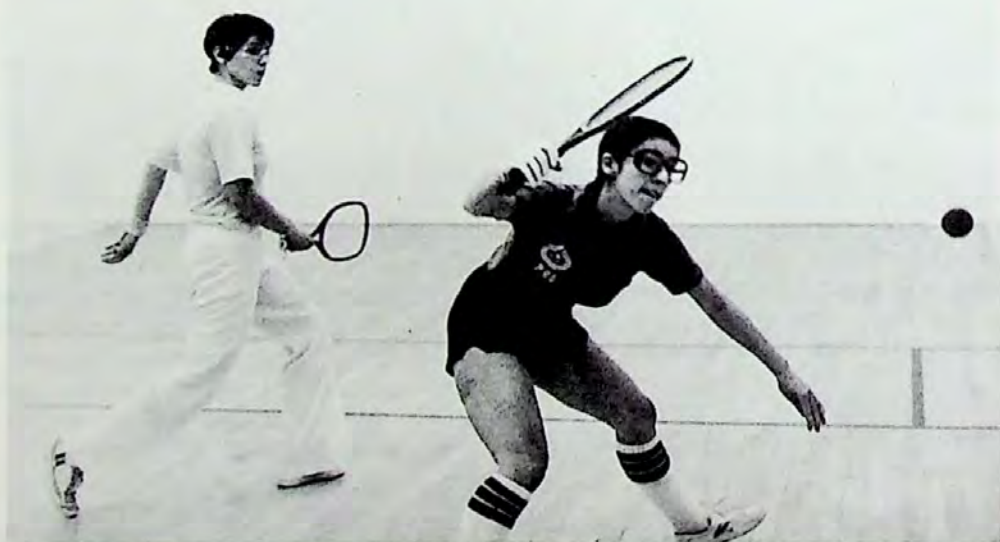
the Tropicana) caused many late sleeping Las Vegas fans to just start to fill up the 300 seats. No one could believe the first game score and game two was a complete reversal.

Shannon regained her previously lost composure and played strongly in a hard fought second game to walk away with a 21-15 victory as Steding appeared to tire midway through the game.

As the ladies both braced for the tie-breaker, the crowd wanted a conclusion to the match complete with fireworks. The score does not indicate the actual play. After both players scored for a 1-1 tie, Steding hit some crisp kills from her usual commanding center court position and ran to a 5-1 lead which she never relinquished. Wright called time out at this point but it proved to be too late.

Steding rolled out a deep off-the-back-wall kill and sensed victory at 6-1. She quickly ran the lead to 9-2 as Shannon could only tally once after finally regaining the serve. But down 2-9 Wright realized she must act quickly before being routed. Several accurate serves and sure kills brought her all the way to 6-9 as the crowd grew louder and louder, the stands now filled as the intensity heightened.

Things were going Peggy's way in this tournament. Rumors that she was losing ground rapidly to the younger Wright were put to rest for the time being as she scored two quick points to ice the match 11-6, much to the favor of the fans. They gave both players a well-deserved standing ovation.



Jean Sauser, protective lenses and all, readies to shoot for the right corner as Dena Rassenti covers in round of 16 action.

The racquetball players weren't the only ones making money this weekend. Shown here was the racquetballers number one nemesis of the week.



Amateurs

In the amateur divisions, Houston's Jim Austin took two titles, winning the tough Men's Amateur Open and following it up with a victory in the Seniors.

In the Am, Austin defeated Lindsey Myers in the finals 21-16, 21-16 after coming through the very difficult bottom bracket. Austin didn't lose a game the entire way, no easy feat considering the multitude of talent in the open division.

In the semi-finals, Austin topped San Diego's Garry Lusk 21-10, 21-20, while Myers was stopping Salt Lake City's Trey Sayes 21-18, 8-21, 11-8. The Myers-Sayes match was especially well played with both players truly earning a victory.

"I have no regrets," said Sayes after the loss. "I played well, but he just played a little better. It was a clean and enjoyable match."

Quarter-final losers include Mike Alderson to Sayes; Wayne Weightman to Myers; Rob Baruck to Austin; and Bruce Radford to Lusk.

In the Seniors, Austin experienced little difficulty, besting Phoenix' Don Griffin in the finals 21-9, 21-11. San Diego's Allen Weckerly took third place over Las Vegas' Don Harnett.

Rapidly improving Alicia Moore of San Diego captured the Women's Amateur Open in a Bracket that saw its share of upsets.

First to go was top seed Bette Weed, who was ousted by Reno's Vicki Penzeri in the first round 21-11, 13-21,

11-8. Next was fourth seed Dena Rassenti, Montreal who lost to Moore 21-16, 21-13 in the first round. Then it was number five Linda Siau, Riverside, Cal. who was stopped by Scottsdale, Arizona's Sally Murphy, also in the first round 21-18, 8-21, 11-1.

Only second seed Patti Berneathy, San Diego and third seed Donna Noguchi, Los Angeles, held their positions, and meeting in the semi's, it was Berneathy who reached the championship round with a 21-11, 21-9 win.

In the upper bracket Moore squeezed by Murphy 20-21, 21-14, 11-2 in the quarters, then blasted Penzeri in the semi's 21-7, 21-13 to reach the finals.

A good tussle in the first game, found Moore edging the favored Berneathy 21-18, and Alicia's game got only stronger as the match went on, taking game two and the title 21-12.

Noguchi bested Penzeri for third place 21-19, 17-21, 11-9.

The Men's Masters division was another bracket that found no seeded players in the finals. Top seed Earle Castle, Los Angeles was knocked off by the New Jersey's Mike Bykowsky in the second round 5-21, 21-15, 11-6, the same round which saw number four seed Milt Karp, Houston go down to Encino, Cal.'s Gene McDonald 14 and 19.

The semi-finals found Highland, California's Vance Lerner top Bykowsky 21-16, 7-21, 11-9 and McDonald do away with number two seed Bill Armstrong, Palos Verdes Estates, California 17 and 19.

The finals was a well-played, close duel between two Californians Lerner and McDonald, with McDonald taking home the top prize 21-17, 21-20. Bykowsky captured third place in the bracket's closet match 21-17, 18-21, 11-10 over Armstrong.

In the Men's B division a full bracket of 64 had a real dogfight to determine a champion. It came down again to two California players, Costa Mesa's Jim Carson and Los Angeles' Bruce Radford. In a thriller, Carson came out on top 12-21, 21-12, 11-7.

San Diego's Mike Manson took third place, defeating Salt Lake City's Joe Schultz 21-15, 21-7. Schultz had eliminated top seed Al Shelby in the first round.

The Men's C division hosted 112 players from 10 states, including players from as far away as Florida, Vermont and Massachusetts. The long grind took its toll on many of the players, but in the end it was Tim Berberet, Buena Park, California taking the title 21-12, 21-8 over Dave Warman.

Third place went to Gary Kelly, Poway, California 21-6, 21-9 over Mike Colbert, Phoenix.

San Diego's Karen Seavello captured the Women's B Division with a 21-11, 21-12 final round victory over Las Vegas' Kelly Teddy. Nancy Stewart, La Habra, California took third place over Susan Torbicki, Las Vegas 21-1, 21-3.

NOTES OF THE TOURNAMENT . . .

Dan Seaton and his entire staff of tireless volunteers from the Nevada Racquetball Association, did yeomans work during the week, refereeing, floor managing and handling all the responsibilities of the host organization beautifully. Some of the more noticeable were Sue Adams, Sandy Rowe and Carmen Norquist, Hospitality; Chris Barnbeck, Bob Adams, Don Harnett and Tom Bishop, Floor Managing and Refereeing; Mary Wells, Bob Wahl, Dan Wade and Jerry Morris, Registration; and Barry Hughes, Photography for Trophies . . . nice to see many of the major manufacturers top brass on hand including Al Mackie, president of Seamco Sporting Goods, and Bud Leach, president of Leach Industries, the two prize money sponsors of the N.R.C. tour . . . also Ken Konkol of Champion Glove, whose firm helped sponsor hospitality, Bob Coate, Seamco's National Sales Manager, plus Seamco regional men Art Otloski and Rick Isaacson . . . U.S.R.A. president Bob Kendler and his wife Evie made the trip and took in the semi's and finals . . . Charlie Drake, veep at Leach was on hand cheering his players on . . . Our thanks to the wonderful help and co-operation from Tim Merryman, Director of Sales at the Tropicana, Ellen Smith, also from Sales, and Gennie McIlvaine Director of Publicity . . . a note of thanks to friend Steve Homick for all his help during the week . . . Terry Fancher and Joe Ardito met with some of the state chairmen on hand for the tournament, along with Seamco reps . . . the 388 entries forced many late matches, and use of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas's eight courts for two days, but that's Vegas . . . top four in each amateur division were given plaques with photos of themselves in action, taken prior to the semi's - a refreshing change from the usual trophies. ●

Men's Professional (First Round): Marty Hogan, Charlie Brumfield, Steve Strandemo, Jerry Hilecher, Davey Bledsoe, Richard Wagner, Steve Keeley, Ben Koltun, Bill Schmidtke, Steve Serot and Craig McCoy, byes. Lindsey Myers def. Mike Maddocks, forfeit; Bill Dunn def. Mike Alderson 21-8, 21-11; Ron Strom def. Ken Garrigos 21-2, 21-12; Charlie Rish def. Alan Kent 21-14, 5-21, 11-7; Mark Morrow def. Jeff Kwartler, forfeit; Cliff Dawson def. Eric Campbell, forfeit; Gordon Kelly def. Garry Lusk 21-13, 21-14; John Lynch def. Wayne Weightman 21-14, 21-11; Ken Wong def. Darryl Weed 21-8, 21-14; Bud Muehleisen def. Chris Barnbeck 21-10, 21-1; Rob Baruck def. Bill Hildebrand 12-21, 21-16, 11-6; Trey Sayes def. Herb Rapp, forfeit; Mike Yellen def. Skip Beattie 21-1, 21-3; Jay Jones def. Gary Berberet 21-10, 9-21, 11-9; Terry Fancher def. Denny Frye 21-12, 21-14; Wes Hadikin def. Don Thomas 21-19, 21-7; Steve Chase def. Dan Bertolucci, forfeit; Steve Mondry def. Rich Handley 21-9, 21-11; Paul Ikier def. Morgan Sayes 21-15, 21-6; Randy Stafford def. Mark Malowitz, forfeit; Mark Hegg def. Keith Fleming 12-21, 21-8, 11-5.

(Second Round): Hogan def. Myers 21-16, 20-21, 11-1; Strom def. Dunn 21-17, 19-21, 11-7; Schmidtke def. Rish 21-16, 21-15; Morrow def. Koltun 21-7, 14-21, 11-7; Bledsoe def. Dawson 21-3, 21-9; Lynch def. Kelly 21-7, 15-21, 11-7; Wong def. Muehleisen 21-13, 21-10; Hilecher def. Baruck 21-10, 21-17; Strandemo def. Sayes 21-7, 21-6; Jones def. Yellen 21-10, 21-19; McCoy def. Fancher 21-18, 21-11; Hadikin def. Wagner 21-19, 21-18; Chase def. Keeley 21-8, 20-21, 11-3; Serot def. Mondry 21-11, 21-7; Ikier def. Stafford 17-21, 21-15, 11-8; Brumfield def. Hegg 21-8, 21-11.

(Third Round): Hogan def. Strom 21-17, 21-6; Morrow def. Schmidtke 21-11, 21-7; Bledsoe def. Lynch 18-21, 21-13, 11-2; Hilecher def. Wong 21-7, 19-21, 11-3; Strandemo def. Jones 13-21, 21-16, 11-6; McCoy def. Hadikin 21-16, 21-13; Serot def. Chase 21-12, 21-14; Brumfield def. Ikier 21-6, 21-7.

(Quarter-finals): Hogan def. Morrow 16-21, 21-5, 11-7; Hilecher def. Bledsoe 21-16, 21-19; McCoy def. Strandemo 21-7, injury default; Brumfield def. Serot 21-6, 21-5.

(Semi-finals): Hogan def. Hilecher 21-10, 21-6; Brumfield def. McCoy 21-12, 21-9.

(Championship): Hogan def. Brumfield 21-16, 21-16.



What's the rule? Referee Chuck Leve, National Director of the N.R.C. huddles with National Commissioner Joe Ardito to ensure a correct rule interpretation, while Hogan awaits the decision. A broken ball, not discovered until after a time out was the problem.

Women's Professional (First Round): Vicki Penzeri def. Jackie Guana 21-19, 21-15; Jan Campbell def. Sally Murphy 21-13, 12-21, 11-7; Dena Rassenti def. Bette Weed 21-17, 21-20; Camille McCarthy def. Linda Siau 21-10, 21-10.

(Second Round): Peggy Steding def. Penzeri 21-3, 21-2; Campbell def. Sarah Green, forfeit; Sue Carow def. Patti Berneathy 21-12, 21-8; Janell Marriott def. Alicia Moore 21-19, 21-12; Kathy Williams def. Donna Noguchi 21-6, 21-7; Jean Sauser def. Rassenti 21-14, 21-7; Jennifer Harding def. McCarthy 21-13, 21-3; Shannon Wright def. Moira Roark, forfeit.

(Quarter-finals): Steding def. Campbell 21-11, 21-3; Marriott def. Carow 20-21, 21-3, 11-4; Williams def. Sauser 21-6, 21-18; Wright def. Harding 21-15, 21-8.

(Semi-finals): Steding def. Marriott 21-16, 21-13; Wright def. Williams 21-7, 21-6.

(Championship): Steding def. Wright 21-4, 15-21, 11-6.

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.



- From this heritage of Championships, comes the newest champion, **M III.**



LEACH Industries, 5567 Kearny Villa Road, San Diego, California 92123 (714)279-1000