

The Racquetball REPORTER

VOL. 2 NO. 2

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE RACQUETBALL ASSN. OF MICHIGAN

MARCH 1985

FREDERICKSON, ANDERSON & SCHMIDT ENDORSED FOR NATIONAL BOARD

Cathie Frederickson has been nominated to the Board of Directors of the American Amateur Racquetball Association.

Frederickson is among seven other people who have been nominated for three positions.

All RAM members are members of the AARA and should voice their opinions by voting when they receive a copy of the AARA publication, "Racquetball In Review."

Competition for the three vacant positions on the AARA board is very intense and because of the inability of members to be familiar with all candidates, the RAM will be endorsing the following individuals: Cathie Frederickson, Judy Schmidt of Florida and David Anderson of California.

The other nominees include Cheryl Sanford of Indiana, Sherry Armstrong of Colorado, Malia Kamahoa of Virginia and Allen Seitelman of New York. Seitelman's term expires this year.

If any RAM member doesn't receive the copy of "Racquetball In Review" with the ballot please contact Jim Hiser, your AARA Regional Director, for information, or list your three choices and send a signed letter to AARA, 815 N. Weber, Colorado Springs, CO 80903. Ballots should include your name, address, and current membership expiration date.

ATTENTION JUNIORS

The entry form for the state singles incorrectly stated that eligibility for divisions is determined by your age as of the first day of the tournament. That is wrong! Eligibility will be based on your age as of January 1 of 1985. If you have any questions please contact Jim Hiser (313) 239-7575.

DAVISON RACQUET CLUB

G-2140 Fairway Drive
Davison, Michigan 48423

DIANNE DRIVER
900 LONG BLVD 423
LANSING MI

48910

NEW GOALS AND NEW PEOPLE

The RAM State Organization is a working unit which promotes and administers racquetball activities throughout the State of Michigan. The members of the board of directors and its committees are made up of the three major tournament groups, inspired individuals with volunteer time, and specialty interest groups (such as Intercollegiate or Juniors).

Most of the work of the RAM is handled through established committees, while other tasks require individual effort. This year special individuals and their efforts must be found to accomplish the new work of the RAM.

A Juniors program is being developed that requires parents to lead and work with the juniors to assist them to the States, Regionals, and Nationals. This program not only gets the parents and kids involved, but will fund them. Needed are parents.

Club owners or managers are needed to assist in a program for the growth of racquetball. Interesting and educational conferences to draw this group together need to be established.

A new program for the teaching pros and program developers that will encourage sharing ideas and interests in order to bring "new excitement" to their club players. Initial entry players, recreational players, league players, and lower level tournament players must be encouraged and developed.

JUNIOR REGIONAL AT COURT TIME

The 1985 AARA Jr. Regionals will be held at Court Time Racquet Club in Farmington Hills, Michigan. Once again, players are required to play in their regionals to participate in the Junior National to be held in Newport Beach, CA. later this year. Court Time has two glass viewing courts and there is plenty of lodging nearby. Please watch for entry forms and if you have any questions please contact Larry Cole at (313) 732-8594 for additional information.

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Davison, MI
Permit No. 3

There is also a need for persons to help the RAM board accomplish overall Racquetball promotions. Television, radio, and other media must be utilized to tell the story of our sport. Parents must volunteer for the continued success of "Team Michigan." Club owners and managers have a financial stake in the overall development of racquetball in the state. Educators and teaching pros

need more students, the numbers increase with promotion! We need your help.

If you really care for the sport, or are concerned with its future, please make yourself and your ideas available to the RAM.

Lee D. Frederickson
RAM President

FIRST ANNUAL WOMEN'S TRAINING DAY A GREAT SUCCESS

On Saturday, January 12, 1985, thirty-four women from Western Michigan, arrived at The Riverview Racquet Club to participate in The First Women's Training Day. After a short briefing on the day's events, the women divided into separate groups, and began a series of rotations. Every hour, each group moved from one session to another. The sessions varied. Tom Brownlee, the Ektelon representative and top racquetball instructor in Michigan, went through various racquetball philosophies. While he taught, two women were removed and videotaped, rotating throughout his whole class so that eventually everyone in the group was videotaped. After an hour session with Tom, the group moved to videotape analysis with Mike Anderson, the top men's open player from Grand Rapids. Mike went over every women's game, making suggestions on technique, shot selection, and

court positioning. From there, the group rotated to sports psychology with Larry Cole, Ph.D. Larry, who also taught at the First Elite Racquetball Training Camp held at the Olympic Training Center last summer, went through various techniques of improving concentration and visualization. This group's next move was to Stretch and Flex with Theresa Czaplinski. Theresa, who is a certified fitness director at the Alpin Racquetball Club, stretched and worked muscles the women didn't even know they had! Finally, the last session was nutrition with Karen Johnson. Karen, a dietitian from the Grand Rapids Metropolitan Hospital, went over the importance of good nutrition for overall top athletic performance.

This Women's Training Day was the first of its kind and a great success! Much of its success was due to all those who participated in one way or another. Thank you!

LITE/AARA REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Seventy-six entries from Michigan competed along with 380 other players in the AARA/LITE regional championships at Columbus, Ohio, from Feb. 22-24. The Sawmill Athletic Club, Ohio's premiere racquetball facility, hosted what proved to be one of the year's most exciting events.

Michigan players competed against players from West Virginia, Kentucky and Ohio in an effort to qualify for the National Championships in Houston, Texas as well as an invitation to the Elite Racquetball Training Camp in Colorado Springs this summer, at the Olympic Training Center.

Michigan players captured seven individual titles and placed in 18 other events.

Results:

Division Champion:

Curt Rozier (Davison) — Men's B

Larry Fox (Detroit) — Men's 25

Terry Jones (Davison) — Men's 35C

Cathie Frederickson (Gr. Rapids) —

Women's Open

Tracey Troszak (Warren) —

Women's C

Sandy Ridky (E. Detroit) —

Women's D

Sheri Anderson (Gr. Raids) —

Women's 25

Players who placed in their Division:

Jack White, Jr. — Semi's, Men's A

Glen Benart — Semi's, Men's C

Stephen Kiss — Semi's, Men's C

Dan Verbecks — Semi's, Men's C

Robert Frisch — Semi's, Men's D

John Bakalis — Second, Men's 19

Stu Hastings — Second, Men's 25

Semi's, Men's 30

Bob Wilhelm — Second, Men's 30

Tom Brownlee — Second, Men's 35

Dan Belcher — Semi's, Men's 35C

Lee Frederickson — Second, Men's

40A

Bill Gentile — Semi's, Men's 40A

Don Jones — Semi's, Men's 45A

Ann Armstrong — Second

Women's D

Anny Wood — Semi's, Women's D

Joetta Hastings — Second, Women's 25

Irene Chmura — Semi's, Women's 30

On Record with the President

**President
RAM
Lee Frederickson**

The RAM Board of Directors have organized into working committees. If you have a question or suggestion about racquetball in the state, you may contact me or the committee chairperson by mail or phone. Following is a listing of the chairpersons and how they may be reached:

Tournament committee
State singles Championship (Junior Championship)

Jim Easterling
900 Long Blvd.
Lansing, MI 48910
(517) 694-4298

State Doubles Championship
Bob Gravelyn
4161 Miramar
Grand Rapids, MI 49505
(616) 363-8579

Intercollegiate State Championship
Matt Klein
21015 Woodward Ave
Big Rapids, MI 49307
(616) 796-0461

Michigan Championship Series
Bob Szuch
3610 Karon Parkway #103
Pontiac, MI 48045
(313) 683-3497

Ranking Committee
Judy Gonyea
7201 East Lehring Rd.
Bancroft, MI 48414
(517) 634-5272

Public Relations (newsletter)
Bob Wilhelm
1131 Lafayette
Flint, MI 48503
(313) 235-9440

Membership/finance committee
Sanction/grievance committee
Lee Frederickson
12539 Terry RR3
Wayland, MI 49348
(616) 792-9543

Referee
Jim Hiser
301 Lafayette
Flint, MI 48503
(313) 239-7575

Womens Committee
Cathie Frederickson
12539 Terry
Wayland, MI 49348
(616) 792-9543

Juniors Committee
Larry Cole
1192 Shady Hill
Flint, MI 48503
(313) 732-8594

Nomination Committee
W.T. Blakeslee
57585 Lakeville
Mt. Clemens, MI 48503
(313) 468-2787

The monthly meetings of the Board of Directors are open to any person who is a RAM/AARA member. We encourage you to attend! The meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month, at the downtown YMCA, in Lansing, Michigan, at seven o'clock p.m.

Feel free to contact any board person for information or transportation. We hope to see YOU at the next meeting.

WOMEN'S COMMITTEE MEETING

There will be a women's meeting at the State Singles Championships in April. A specific time has not been set. The goal of the meeting is to form a state women's committee to develop and promote women's programs throughout the state. More information will be available at the tournament desk.

ALL ABOUT JUNIORS

Following this brief introduction is a copy of a first draft proposal submitted to the RAM board by the Junior Committee. It is obviously incomplete; however, the committee members are aware that growth in the junior program is only possible with strong support from parents or others strongly interested in the welfare of junior players. No longer can one person or a small group be responsible for the development. Committee members are hopeful a strong, highly motivated and highly energetic group as described above, will be a moving force for Junior racquetball. To be a part of that come to either the March 2 or March 9 meetings.

There are two areas that need development for junior players. The first area is for the junior player who plays or would play tournaments. This is the easiest area for the state association to have an impact. The second area is for the junior player who will play for leisure at a club level. This area needs development, but is the hardest for the state association to influence because the local club must promote itself first.

Suggestion for assisting junior tournament players through Team Michigan.

Team Michigan members will be chosen by the results of the State Tournament and contribution of the players. Points will be given for finishing 1st or 2nd but that would not be sufficient for inclusion on the team or prevent another from being placed on the team. Points for participation will be determined later but activities to gain points would include RAM fund raiser activities, refereeing at tournaments, becoming a certified referee, helping at sanctioned tournaments,

raffle sales, and clinic help. RAM junior committee proposes to adopt two fund raiser techniques; one would be seasonal and one would be on-going.

For more creative input and for more energy, RAM board members should meet with parents of present junior players. This will take place at the State Singles Tournament on Saturday between 3 and 6 p.m. Meetings will be led by Larry Cole, and the intent is to brainstorm and to recruit more people to help on the Juniors Committee. A flyer should be written and distributed at all tournaments until March.

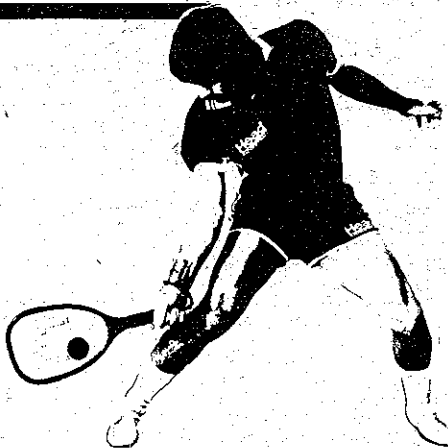
Solicitation of contribution for Team Michigan should begin in February, both individual and corporate. Team members should receive one item (e.g. jacket). All members who go to Ca. to have their entry paid.

Suggestion for grass roots development.

RAM should write or have written an instruction paper on organizing and running juniors programs a la Ken Bonnett. RAM should organize a clinic to present to clubs at their request. This clinic would be held one weekend a month. The clinic personnel would include at least Chris and Larry Cole. RAM would send to all clubs the clinic outline and the goals for the clinic. The basic clinic would have time for rules, basic instruction, an exhibition with Chris and the club pro (commentary by Larry), setting the participants up in a league, and fulfillment of the requirements for the President's Physical Fitness badge. A later trip would be made to present the badges.

Details of these ideas need to be worked out. Any clarification, further creative suggestions, or volunteer assistance would be appreciated.

By Larry Cole



STRANDEMO'S

RACQUETBALL TIPS:

Use a semi-bent arm swing with no wrist snap when serving your lob serves. Strive for pin-point accuracy on these directional shots so you can bring serves into your opponent's hitting area, around shoulder high, forcing him up to the ceiling.

CALENDAR

March 15-17

Gr. Rapids City Championships (Residents only)

March 15-17

Cystic Fibrosis Open
Grad Blanc Court Club
Grand Blanc, MI
(313) 695-1700

March 22-24

RAM/AARA State Doubles Championship
Dearborn Athletic Club
Dearborn, MI
Bob Gravelyn (616) 363-8579

March 29-31

Super Seven #6
Court Players Club
Lansing, MI
Jim Hiser (313) 239-7575

April 12-14

National Intercollegiates
Memphis, TN
Matt Klein (616) 796-0461

April 12-14

Super Seven #8
Alpine Racquet Club
Grand Rapids, MI
Jim Hiser (313) 239-7575

April 19-21

RAM/AARA State Singles
Mt. Clemens Racquetball Club
Jim Easterling (517) 694-4298
Jim Hiser (313) 239-7575

May 1-5

Ektelon Nationals
The Sports Gallery
Anaheim, CA
Jim Carson (714) 968-4313

May 10-12

One Last Shot
Alpine Racquet Club
Vi Grover (616) 784-3900

May 10-12

AARA Junior Regionals
Court Time
Farmington Hills
Larry Cole (313) 732-8594

May 17-19

Super Seven Finale
Davison Racquet Club
Jim Hiser (313) 239-7575

May 24-26

AARA National Singles
Houston, Texas

June 12-16

DD Nationals
Site undetermined

AARA OFFERS NEW MEMBERSHIP PACKAGE

The RAM-AARA now offers a new membership package. All new members will receive a plastic membership card, recognized at over 800 tournaments nationally, and valid for 1 full year from the date of membership.

One month before the membership expires, the member will receive a pre-addressed, self-mailer renewal form, postage paid by the AARA. The new membership kit will also include an official AARA rule book and discount coupons worth more than \$20. Each member will also receive national and state newsletters as well as national, regional and state rankings.

ATTENTION JUNIORS

The RAM Junior Committee has begun a fund raising drive to raise money to send the members of Team Michigan to the Junior Nationals in California this coming June. All junior players will be asked to sell bumper stickers to raise money for the team. Selection for the team will not be based on winning the state tournament alone, but will include attitude, sales of bumper stickers, sportsmanship and team spirit. Watch for additional information at the State Singles Tournament. If you have any questions please call Larry Cole at (313) 732-8594.

FREDERICKSON RUNS FOR NATIONAL BOARD

As some of you may know, I am running for the National AARA Board of Directors. It is my desire to promote and develop racquetball on a national level. My years of experience with the Grand Rapids Racquetball Patrons Association and the Racquetball Association of Michigan, has prepared me for the National Board. I believe the women's and junior programs and clinics, I developed and assisted in, would be a great asset for other states. In the past year, most of my effort have been in the area of women's racquetball. Organizing women's committees, clinics, and programs, should not only be developed and promoted in Michigan, but, all over the United States. I am confident that the more women involved, representing and promoting the sport, the more increased interest and participation we will see with women in the future.

The ballots will be sent out in the "Racquetball In Review" paper.

Please take the time to vote and mail it in. Assist me in representing YOU!

- Charter member of the Grand Rapids Racquetball Patrons Association-Treasurer from 1982-1983.
- MRA Board of Directors, 1983-1984
- Hold seats presently on the GRRPA and RAM Board of Directors.
- Tournament Director for numerous local and state tournaments.
- Was the Commissioner of Women's Racquetball for the MRA, currently Commissioner for the RAM.
- Taught numerous juniors clinics and programs with Ken Bonnett, Roy White, and Jim Hiser.
- Developed and assisted in the development of women's clinics, leagues and programs.
- In the process of developing a Michigan Women's Committee to unify and promote women's racquetball in Michigan.
- Attended the first AARA Elite Training Camp in 1984.

APPLICATION FOR SANCTION

NAME OF ORGANIZATION OR CLUB _____
ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
TITLE OF TOURNAMENT _____ DATE REQUESTED _____
SITE _____ LEVEL _____

OFFICIAL TO RECEIVE PRE-TOURNAMENT PACKET AND COMMUNICATIONS:

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ CITY _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

OFFICIAL TO RETURN AARA APPLICATION, DRAWS AND RESULTS, AND MONEY:

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____ CITY _____
STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

BY SIGNING THIS APPLICATION, I (WE) AGREE THAT THESE EVENTS WILL COMPLY WITH ALL AARA RULES AND REGULATIONS. DATE OF APPLICATION _____

SIGNATURE _____ OFFICIAL POSITION _____

RAM AGREES TO:

1. Provide tournament packet to include A) AARA application forms B) Mailing labels, C) Rankings, D) Promotional materials
2. Publish results of the tournament.
3. Rank all entrants from at least the quarter finals.
4. Attempt to organize dates to avoid geographic competition of similar level tournaments.
5. List date, name, and site on yearly RAM tournament schedule.
6. Provide rule books.
7. Provide assistance or advice as requested.

TOURNAMENT OFFICIAL AGREES TO:

1. Identify AARA members.
2. Enroll all new members, collect \$6, complete application form, give yellow copy to entrant, return pink and white to RAM, and send money to RAM.
3. Send copy of completed draw and results to RAM.
4. Provide adequate courts and staff according to the number of entrants.

MSU CAPTURES MICHIGAN INTERCOLLEGIATES

Sixty players participated in the Michigan Intercollegiate Racquetball championships that were held on January 26 & 27 at the Court Player's Club in Lansing, Michigan, and thirty new AARA members were enrolled. Michigan State University took first place in the tournament and Ferris State College took second. The other colleges that participated were Central Michigan University, Grand Valley State College, Western Michigan University, Michigan Technological University, and Lake Superior State University. We doubled the number of participants from last year and I have received a number of letters expressing appreciation and satisfaction with the tournament. The winners of the tournament are as follows:

Men's Singles:

- #1: 1st — Pete Ruhala, MSU,
2nd — Troy Van-Bemmelen, MTU,
3rd — Steve Grein, CMU,
4th — Jerry Tomczak, WMU.
#2: 1st — Jim Ward, MSU,
2nd — Jim Maloney, CMU,
3rd — Mike Masatromatteo, FSC,
4th — Chris Henderson, GVSC.
#3: 1st — Curtis Martin, MSU,
2nd — Doug Simons, FSC,
3rd — Paul McBride, CMU,
4th — Allan Ransdenn, WMU.

Men's Doubles:

- #1: Todd Luehmann/Bill Deck, FSC
2nd — Rob Mewer/Scott Futala, MSU
3rd — Jim Considine/Craig Livingston, GVSC
#2: 1st — Rob Surovec/Jeff Hartel, FSC
2nd — Craig Cattallo/Phil Salinas, GVSC
3rd — Matt Medick/Mr. Carlson, MSU

Women's Singles

- #1: 1st — Pina Finazzo, MSU
2nd — Lynn Lightner, CMU
3rd — Carolyn Foerster, GVSC
4th — Tracy Murkebaur, LSSC
#2: 1st — Suzanne Carlson, FSC
2nd — Judy Pavy, MSU
3rd — Jan Pielemier, MSU
4th — Stacy Krol, CMU
#3: 1st — Mary Luczaic, MSU
2nd — Kathy White, MSU
3rd — Traci Murray, FSC
4th — A Dickenson, MSU

Women's Doubles

- #1: 1st — Renner & Allen, MSU
2nd — Fagan & Beiser, CMU
3rd — Thebo & Gray, FSC
#2: 1st — Haney & Drivas, MSU
2nd — Baker & Hemmingway, FSC

PENN INTRODUCES NEW JUNIOR PROGRAM

Diversified Products and Penn have joined together to offer, through their AARA affiliates, a new junior program for club owners and managers.

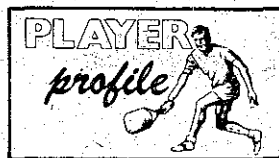
The new program provides guidelines, various products including racquets, balls, shirts, score cards, draw sheets and presidential fitness badges for all participants.

Next season Michigan will have city junior teams competing against each other in club, city and state junior tournaments. Special programs to develop inner-club junior players highlight the new format.

The future of racquetball lies in our juniors. Anyone interested in becoming involved in these junior programs should contact Lee Frederickson (616) 792-9543.

RAM WANTS YOU

The Racquetball Association of Michigan wants to sanction your racquetball event. During the 1983-84 season we sanctioned 20 events. For the current season we have already sanctioned 26 events, along with several clinics. If you are interested in sanctioning your event please contact Lee Frederickson (616) 672-7734 days, or 616/792-9543 evenings for additional information on benefits you would receive.



Cathie Frederickson

Name: Cathie Frederickson
Family: Husband, Lee Frederickson
Profession: Bookkeeper for Dental Practice

Club: Alpine Racquet Club
Sponsor: Ektelon and Asahi Shoes

Athletic Career: Cathie has always been very active in sports. She competed in softball, basketball, volleyball and track. It wasn't until she became involved in racquetball that she gave up on team sports. Cathie has been playing racquetball since 1979.

Racquetball Highlights: Most recently, Cathie won the 1985 Lite/AARA Regionals Women's Open Division, in Columbus, Ohio. Winning this year marks her fourth consecutive AARA Regional title, which has to be a record for a Michigan player.

Training: Cathie trains very hard for her sport. In addition to playing and drilling shots on the court she also does a lot of reading on the subject to develop her concentration on the court and ways to improve her game plans. Then there's nautilus and cycling.



Cathie also credits her successes this year to her sports diet "Eat To Win" by Dr. Haas.

Style of Play: Cathie considers herself to be a basic power player, serve and shoot. While she favors power, she has always prepared game plans for each of her opponents.

Goals: Cathie is currently ranked 31 on the women's pro ranking. Her short term goals are to win the state tournament as well as make it to the semifinals or better at the AARA Nationals in Houston. After that she is looking to break into the top 20 in the pro ranks.

Commentary: Cathie feels very fortunate to have done as well as she has

considering the fact that she lives in an area of the country where there aren't too many national caliber players. She credits her drive, in part, to come from such racquetball promoters as Dr. Lewerenz who has provided a series of tournaments. Cathie received a lot of help from Roy White and Ray Vanover when she was a youngster in the game and of course her numero uno supporter, coach, trainer and everything else is now her husband Lee. Cathie is currently running for a national board position of the AARA, and I for one would like to wish her as much success there as she has achieved on the courts.

RULES IN REVIEW

In a match, using line judges, a player may appeal killshots, skip balls, fault serves, out serves, double bounce pickups, and receiving line violations. The appeal must be directed to the referee, who then will request opinions simultaneously from the two line judges. Any appeal made directly to the line judges by a player or made after an excessive demonstration or complaint will be considered void.

When a referee makes a call and that call is appealed by a player, you as line judge have one of three options:

1. If you agree with the referee's call signal "thumbs up."
2. If you disagree with the referee's call you signal "thumbs down."
3. If you did not see the play, because you were blocked by a player or it was so close or fast that you could not tell then you should signal "open palms down."

For example, in the middle of a rally a referee calls player A's shot a skip ball which ends the rally. Player A then looks to the referee and appeals his shot because he thought it was a good killshot. Now the referee should explain to both linespeople what play was being appealed and ask the linespeople for their decision. If you as line judge thought the referees call was correct you should signal "thumbs up."

As a line judge during the course of the match, it is not your job to tell the referee he made a bad call or to tell a player on the court to appeal a certain shot or serve. It is your job to watch carefully the entire match and if a player appeals something and if the referee asks you for a decision, then you give him your decision.

As a referee, when there is an appeal, the rule to remember is the majority wins and in the event of a tie the rally is replayed. If you as referee make a call and one linesman agrees (thumbs up) then whether or not the other linesman disagrees or didn't see it your call will stand. If you as referee make a call and both linesmen disagree (thumbs down) then your call is reversed.

If you as referee make a call and both linesmen didn't see it (palms down), your call will stand. If you make a call and one linesman disagrees (thumbs down) and one linesman didn't see (palms down) then the rally is replayed.

I hope this article has clarified the appeal rule a little for you. If you have a question about this rule or any other rule, please drop me a line to Jim Easterling, PO Box 23035, Lansing, MI 48909 or call me at (517) 694-4298.

by Jim Easterling

INSTRUCTORS NEEDED FOR ELITE TRAINING CAMP

Once again the AARA will be holding the Elite Training Camp at the United States Training Center in Colorado Springs this summer. The camp will include three sessions for open players, juniors and age groups. The camps run from July.

Anyone who feels that they are qualified to participate in the Elite Training Camp, as an instructor, is requested to send their resume to Jim Hiser, 301 LaFayette, Flint, MI 48503.

RED CARPET TRAVEL INC NAME OFFICIAL RAM TRAVEL AGENCY

The Racquetball Association of Michigan has recognized "Red Carpet Travel" of Flint as their official travel agent for the upcoming national events. Special discounted fares will be available for RAM members if flights are made through "Red Carpet Travel." Any player who will be attending the AARA Nationals, DP Nationals, AARA Jr Nationals or the Ektelon Nationals can help support their state association by making their travel arrangements through "Red Carpet Travel." Please ask for Leslie when calling at (313) 743-4850.

DO YOU HAVE THE GUTS TO BE A WINNER?

Guts. That's where it all starts. The guts to push your body through new thresholds of pain and endurance. The guts to push your mind to new levels of discipline and concentration.

Once you're there you'll find that only Ektelon can meet your performance standards. Our Graphite CBK™ is the game's most powerful racquet, and the Composite 200C™ the most widely used tournament

model are the finest pieces of equipment in racquetball today. Ask a winner about racquetball racquets - the gut reaction is Ektelon.

For the game's best source of information and strategy, write for our free Total Racquetball book. Ektelon, 8929 Aero Dr., San Diego, CA 92123.

The Most Recommended Racquet in Racquetball

REFEREE CLINICS & CERTIFICATION

DATE	SITE	CITY	PERSON
Oct. 10, 1984	Court Time	Farmington Hills	Jim Easterling
Oct. 21, 1984	Court Players Club	Lansing	Jim Easterling
Oct. 28, 1984	Grand Blanc	Grand Blanc	Jim Hiser
Oct. 29, 1984	Oakpark YMCA	Lansing	Jim Easterling
Jan. 20, 1985	Ferris State College	Big Rapids	Jim Easterling
Feb. 27, 1985	Racquetball Plus	Grand Rapids	Jim Easterling
April 10, 1985	Mt. Clemens		
	Racquet Club	Mt. Clemens	
April 13, 1985	Court Players Club	Lansing	Jim Easterling

REFEREE TESTING

Oct. 17, 1984	Court Time	Farmington Hills	Jim Hiser
Dec. 5, 1984	Grand Blanc R.C.	Grand Blanc	Jim Hiser
Feb. 6, 1985	Franklin Racquet Club	Southfield	Jim Hiser
March 6, 1985	Racquetball Plus	Grand Rapids	Jim Hiser
April 17, 1985	Mt. Clemens R.C.	Mt. Clemens	Jim Hiser

If you have any questions about the clinics please call Jim Easterling at (517) 694-4298. If you have questions about the certification please call Jim Hiser at (313) 767-3434.

Referee Clinics are \$5.00 for AARA members and \$8.00 for non-AARA members.

Referee Certification is \$10.00 for AARA members
Members Only.

APPLICATION FOR REFEREE CLINICS & REFEREE TESTINGS

I would like to attend the referee clinic and/or referee certification at _____ on the date(s) of _____.
Amount enclosed _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

Make checks payable and mail to:

Racquetball Association of Michigan (RAM)

PO Box 230356, Lansing, MI 48909

MAKE AN INVESTMENT IN YOUR GAME:

JOIN THE

RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN

☐ One year membership for \$6.00

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Make Checks Payable To

RAM
12539 Terry Ave., Wayland, MI 49348

EKTELON SIGNS NATIONAL CHAMPION MIKE YELLEN TO RACQUETBALL'S FIRST MILLION DOLLAR CONTRACT

DALLAS (January 31, 1984) — Ektelon, the leading manufacturer of racquetball racquets, announced today an extension of their contract with Mike Yellen, 1983 and 1984 national racquetball champion, to a long-term, million dollar agreement. Yellen's record-setting contract with the San Diego-based firm is the biggest in the history of racquetball and will span the remainder of his professional career.

"Our investment in Mike reflects Ektelon's continuing confidence in the health and future of racquetball," explained Bob McTear, Ektelon vice president and general manager. "In addition to being the top player in the country, Mike is a great ambassador for Ektelon and the sport of racquetball around the world."

Ektelon will be utilizing Yellen's outstanding talents not only as a player but also as a corporate spokesman. His various activities will include appearances, promotions, clinics and exhibition matches.

Yellen, 24, from Southfield, Michigan, has been competing on the professional tour for the past eight seasons. Although Yellen's career has been filled with honors and records, he cemented his name in the racquetball record book in 1983, when he became the only player in the history of the sport to sweep the "Racquetball Grand Slam." He achieved this feat by capturing the Ektelon National Championship, the Catalina Championship and the DP Nationals. More recently Yellen has totally dominated the sport with victories in four out of the last five National Championship events.

"I'm certainly looking forward to continuing my association with Ektelon," said Yellen. "Ektelon has made an outstanding contribution to the sport over the years and I'm pleased to be able to play a major role for Ektelon in their development of racquetball in the years ahead."



NEEDED: MORE JUNIOR RACQUETBALL PLAYERS

A productive, positive junior development program is the foundation of the future growth and development of racquetball at the club, city, regional, or national level. Not exactly new words of wisdom... perhaps a more thorough explanation would be beneficial.

Creating an effective junior development program is like creating a successful meal — it requires a fine blend of essential ingredients. I believe that the six essential ingredients necessary to produce a successful junior development program include: (1) Juniors, (2) Courts, (3) Coaching, (4) Parental Involvement, (5) Competition, and (6) AARA/RAM Support.

Juniors: Obviously it would be impossible to have a junior program without the main ingredient. The sample handmade fliers shown here have produced fantastic results for Riverview R.C. Over 100 kids for the Junior Racquetball Day, and between 30 and 40 every Saturday morning since.

Courts: Club management/ownership can help by keeping junior rates low. Teaching staff should keep an open mind in developing games that will allow large groups of juniors to work effectively on as few courts. As the level of the player goes up, then the ratio of children per court must drop.

Coaching: Effective coaching is the cornerstone of the successful junior program. Good coaching includes, but is certainly not limited to, teaching techniques in footwork, racquetwork, and headwork. The best coaches are motivators as well as instructors. They must be capable of analyzing the weaknesses and strengths in their overall program as well as those of their students.

Parental Involvement: Good communication between coaches and parents is important. Positive encouragement and emphasis on having fun, being a good sport and trying one's best are the areas a parent can help. Of course, as the player continues to improve there is an ever increasing need for more cash support to meet the needs of sophisticated and effective coaching methods and stronger competition in bigger and better tournaments.

Competition: As the juniors become better in basic fundamental techniques, competition becomes vitally important to their future development. Competition and tournaments should be challenging but realistic.

AARA/RAM Support: State and National organizations have the means to contribute expertise and manpower. Michigan is fortunate to have the leadership available to help out any club or organization willing to start a Junior Development Program.

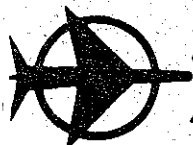
by Roy White

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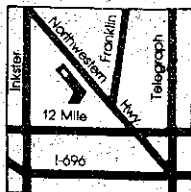
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LET'S HAVE A TRAVEL TEAM PROGRAM (OR WHATEVER HAPPENED TO THE MAG 12 LEAGUE?)

For the last three years, I have suggested to our club Racquetball Pros., "Let's start up a Grand Rapids Travel Team League. You know, like the one we had in 1978, '79, and '80." After a few phone calls to other local clubs, the report is usually that they (the other clubs) are not interested because of two factors: (1) Not enough interest by the members, and, (2) Not enough enthusiasm by club staff personnel.

Until now, I have accepted this reply and gone on to other ideas. Meanwhile, I see the revitalized indoor tennis industry going BONKERS over Travel Team Tennis. Riverview Racquet Club and 13 others in West Michigan compete in a USITA-sponsored adult travel team program that constantly breathes new life into the game. It turns occasional players into active players. It turns quiet, sedate mothers of three into highly competitive tennis addicts searching for additional lessons and court time to improve their game and move onto the next level.

Those of us who remember the Mag 12 League have mixed emotions, some good, some bad. I, in particular, remember it as my first taste of real Racquetball competition when in a doubles match (the format was 4 singles and 1 doubles team), my partner and I managed to squeak out a 21-20 win in the third game (we didn't know about 11 point tie-breakers). I was hooked on the game! During the matches, other club members would cheer the players and when play ended, we all would sit around talking Racquetball and recalling every point. Just plain FUN! The negative factors were occasional forfeits, mismatches, and administrative turnover. But, for the most part, the league was successful on several fronts, including the 6 "C's": (1) It gave the club member an entry level COMPETITIVE experience; (2)

It provided a way for the area club management to COOPERATE and work together; (3) It helped promote COMARADERIE among the players; (4) It promoted more effective COACHING and lessons; (5) It made use of Saturday morning COURTS; and (6) It generated CASH for club management/owners. As an athlete and coach, I have developed a "convenient" memory — the ability to remember the good and forget the bad. Let's focus on the positive on this (and all other Racquetball issues). It works in sports, competition and business. It will work on the administration of a Racquetball Travel Team program.

Today, Riverview Racquet Club is forming a Racquetball Travel Team Program. If this is putting the cart before the horse, so be it. Hopefully, there will soon be another club somewhere who would like to play us. We will have two women's teams and two men's teams to start. Anyone interested (club staff or club members) in arranging home and away matches, please contact Roy White or Paul Swidwa at (616) 363-7769.

I propose mass use of the Self-Rating System within this newsletter for club leagues and programs. That will be a first step toward even competition, and a solid foundation for statewide, regional or even national playoffs. The AARA can benefit its members by supporting this type of program. Come on RAM members, let's get going!

The rating categories are generalizations about skill levels. You may find that you actually play above or below the category which best describes your skill level, depending on your competitive ability. The category you choose is not meant to be static, but may be adjusted as your skills change or as your match play demonstrates the need for reclassification.

Guidelines to be followed in Self-rating.

To place yourself:

- Read all categories carefully and then decide which one best describes your present ability level.
- Be certain that you qualify on all points of all preceding categories as well as those in the classification you choose.
- If you are uncertain between two categories, place yourself in the lower one.
- Your self-rating may be certified by a teaching professional, league coordinator or other qualified expert.
- The person in charge of your racquetball program has the right to reclassify you if your self-placement is thought to be inappropriate.

Rating

Novice

1.5 This player has played a limited amount but is still working primarily on keeping the ball in play; has knowledge of scoring and rules but is not familiar with basic positions and procedures for singles and doubles or cut-throat play.

2.0 This player may have had some lessons but needs on-court experience; has obvious stroke weaknesses but is beginning to feel comfortable with singles play.

2.5 This player has more dependable strokes but is still unable to judge where the ball is going; has weak court coverage; is still working just to keep the ball in play with others of the same ability level.

D

3.0 This player can place shots with moderate success; can sustain a rally of medium pace but is not comfortable with all strokes; lacks variation and consistency in serving; has basic knowledge of singles strategy.

3.5 This player still lacks stroke dependability, control and variety but has improved ability to direct shots away from opponent; rarely double faults but does not usually force errors on the serve; hits forehand and backhand with consistency if the ball is within reach.

C

4.0 This player has dependable strokes on both forehand and backhand sides; has the ability to use a variety of shots including passing shots, ceiling balls, corner kills, and Z serves.

4.5 This player has begun to master the use of power and placement; has sound footwork; can control depth of shots and is able to move opponent up and back; can hit first serves with about average power and accuracy and place second serve; is able to hit kill shots on set-up balls against players of similar ability.

B

5.0 This player has good shot anticipation; is able to overcome some stroke deficiencies with outstanding shots or exceptional consistency; will hit correct shot at opportune times and is often able to force an error or make a winning placement; can execute pinch kills and back wall kills with above average success.

5.5 This player is able to execute all strokes offensively and defensively; can hit first serves for winners and second serves to set up an offensive situation; maintains a winning level of play in social racquetball and can reach at least the semi-finals of a city wide "A" tournament.

A

6.0 This player has mastered all the above skills; is able to hit winning shots with forehand and backhand consistently; can vary strategies and styles of play in a competitive situation; is capable of a city "Open" ranking.

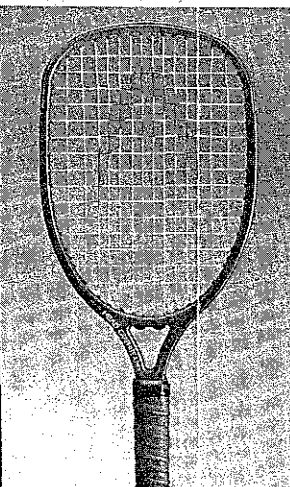
Open

6.5 This player has developed power and/or consistency as a major weapon; has all of the above skills as well as the concentration necessary for successful tournament play; is capable of earning a state "A" or "Open" ranking.

7.0 This player is highly skilled in all of the above categories; is a polished tournament player who has travelled extensively for sanctioned competitions; has been ranked nationally.

by Roy White

HEAD REDEFINES RACQUETBALL:



The larger Head Graphite Apex adds a new dimension to your game. We've enlarged the hitting surface to provide our biggest sweet spot ever, so you'll experience more power and less vibration. And because the Apex is stiffer, more of that power is transferred to the ball instead of absorbed by the racquet. Also, our unique new aerodynamic profile gives you quicker response and better maneuverability.

Make this winning performance part of your game with the new Graphite Apex. Available at your Authorized Head Dealer.

We want you to win.

PLAYER CONDUCT

A room 20 X 20 X 40. Two people. Hard competition. Intensity. Disagreement. Frustration. Anger. Misconduct. Therein lies the crux of a problem with racquetball. Too many players, too much of the time, behave in a way on the court that is not conducive to helping the image of racquetball. The behavior can be cursing, hitting the wall or floor with the racquet, yelling at the referee, smacking the ball after play is dead or even abusing one's opponent.

Probably everyone who has played the game has been guilty of inappropriate behavior; therefore, there is no need to point fingers at anyone. What is needed is a concentrated effort by all players to improve their court conduct. Improving conduct does not mean playing to lose. It does not mean giving in to the opponent. Improving conduct means behaving in such a way so that other players and spectators

won't be offended if the players is seen or heard. Improving conduct means behaving in such a way that the court is not damaged. Improving conduct means behaving in such a way the other player's safety is assured. Improving conduct means behaving in such a way that everyone's fun is insured.

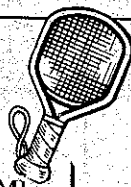
All of this improvement of conduct will not be easy. To change takes hard work. The players will need to find appropriate ways to express their feelings. The players need to rehearse in their minds how they will behave under competitive conditions.

The RAM has addressed this problem on a code of ethics. All are requested to give suggestions for this code. Everyone will benefit from an improved image for racquetball. All players need to work with themselves and others to help this improvement come to pass.

by Larry Cole

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Michigan Championship Series #6
Penn, WKBZ, WRNF
MBA Health & Wellness Center, Muskegon, MI
February 8-10, 1985



DIVISION

Open	Semi's:	Radiation Man	def.	John Kaber	15-7, 15-6
	Finals:	Mike Stephens	def.	Jim Easterling	15-1, 15-4
		Radiation Man	def.	Stephens	11-15, 15-6, 11-5
A	Semi's:	Tim Hahn	def.	Greg McKinney	15-4, 15-3
	Finals:	Ernie Matties	def.	Mike Moody	15-9, 15-5
		Hahn	def.	Matties	15-5, 15-10
B	Semi's:	Pancho Gutierrez	def.	Mark Heinbokel	15-14, 15-0
	Finals:	Glenn Harr	def.	Tino Ruiz	15-4, 15-10
		Gutierrez	def.	Harr	15-14, 15-9
C	Semi's:	Al Broton	def.	Jeff Tlocynski	15-6, 15-5
	Finals:	Mark Myers	def.	Dan Korrey	14-5, 15-7, 11-8
		Myers	def.	Broton	15-11, 3-15, 11-3
D	Semi's:	Jim Simmons	def.	Ted Edsall	15-6, 15-8
	Finals:	Randy French	def.	Jeff Albert	15-10, 15-12
		French	def.	Simmons	15-3, 15-4
Seniors A	Finals:	Mike Stephens	def.	Bob Gravelyn	15-11, 15-14
Seniors B	Finals:	Paul Lubbers	def.	Pancho Gutierrez	15-6, 15-10
Seniors C	Finals:	Paul Stewart	def.	Allan Lutz	15-7, 15-0
Masters A	Finals:	Lynn Hahn	def.	Paul Becker	15-9, 15-12
Golden Masters	Finals:	Noel LeSage	def.	JD Driver	9-15, 15-10, 11-7
Open	Semi's:	Sheri Anderson	def.	Regina Spielberger	15-1, 15-6
	Finals:	Diane Allarding	def.	Denise Gravelyn	15-13, 15-5
		Anderson	def.	Allarding	15-2, 15-2
A	Finals:	Harriett Phaneuf	def.	Shirley VanderBroek	15-12, 14-15, 11-4
B	Finals:	Diane Kaber	def.	Tammy Smith	15-14, 15-11
C	Finals:	Sandy Cox	def.	Cheryl King	13-15, 15-9, 11-5
D	Finals:	Traci Murray	def.	Pat Post	12-15, 15-9, 11-10

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

LEWERENZ INVITATIONAL
HUGE SUCCESS

Fred Lewerenz in his continued efforts to support Michigan racquetball boosted the first Lewerenz-Ektelon Invitational at Courtime Racquet Club. Sixty-four individuals competed in four events: men's open, women's open, men's semi's and women's A/B. Each division had 16 entries, which were divided into brackets of four each. Each bracket then played round-robin competition with the winners of each bracket entering the championship flight.

The prizes were the largest ever to be

offered to Michigan players. Each bracket winner received a gold quartz watch and each division winner received a \$1250 diamond ring.

The tournament was truly unique in that all players were at the club at the same time, there was no tournament director (players refereed assigned matches) and there were no arguments.

Dr. Lewerenz hopes to continue the invitational next year with perhaps different divisions offered and a new qualification system.

Results — Men's Open

1st — Larry Fox
2nd — Aaron Metaj
Semi's — Stu Hastings
— Mike Anderson

Men's Seniors

1st — Larry Jackinovich
2nd — Tom Brownlee
Second — David Woodcox
— Fred Lewerenz

Women's Open

1st — Cathie Frederickson
2nd — Lisa Ecker
Semi's — Debbie Stack
— Donna Henry

Women's A/B

1st — Jean Heckman
2nd — Carol Collins
Semi's — Leslie SKishigian
— Betty-Anin Gilliland

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MCS #5 (Michigan Championship Series)
Penn, Jet Speed Duplicating
Oakland Racquet Club, Birmingham, MI
January, 11-13, 1985

DIVISION				
Men's Open	Semi's:	Pat Walsh	def	Stu Hastings
	Finals:	Radiation Man Walsh	def	Troy Hall Radiation Man
A	Semi's:	John Bakalis	def	Steve Farrell
	Finals:	Mark Casey	def	Roy Oberg
B	Semi's:	Jim Gemuend	def	Dennis Strieter
	Finals:	Dave Larry	def	John Larin
C	Semi's:	Gary Dion	def	Dan Verbeck
	Finals:	Rick Parkhurst	def	Dan Kroeger
D	Semi's:	Joe Kollins	def	Jim Behe
	Finals:	Doug Callon	def	Martin Carter
Novice	Semi's:	Eric Brocker	def	Jon Colegrove
	Finals:	Eric Brocker	def	Jon Colegrove
Veterans A	Semi's:	Stu Hastings	def	Mark Kelley
	Finals:	Stu Hastings	def	Mark Kelley
Veterans B	Semi's:	Terry Lawlor	def	David Payne
	Finals:	Terry Lawlor	def	David Payne
Seniors A	Semi's:	Jerry Grudzinsky	def	Mike Stephens
	Finals:	Jim Hiser	def	Duke Cummins
Seniors B	Semi's:	Dave Davis	def	Chris Henry
	Finals:	Dave Davis	def	Chris Henry
Seniors C	Semi's:	Chuck Krause	def	Joel Carr
	Finals:	Ken Knauff	def	Gordon Caverly
Masters A	Semi's:	Walt Biesterfeldt	def	Dale Schaffer
	Finals:	Richard Sewell	def	Jess Madden
Masters B	Semi's:	Morris Penner	def	Arnold Eckhouse
	Finals:	Morris Penner	def	Arnold Eckhouse
Golden Masters	Semi's:	Bob Mann	def	Richard Caretti
	Finals:	Bob Mann	def	Richard Caretti
17	Semi's:	Dave Larry	def	Mark Werthman
	Finals:	Dave Larry	def	Mark Werthman
14	Semi's:	Jeff Kummier	def	Jeff Eckhouse
	Finals:	Jeff Kummier	def	Jeff Eckhouse
Open	Semi's:	Joetta Hastings	def	Irene Chmura
	Finals:	Kathy Stellema	def	Mary Ann Szpont
A	Semi's:	Janet Insko	def	Vicki Schulte
	Finals:	Janet Insko	def	Vicki Schulte
B	Semi's:	Sharie Johnson	def	Priscilla Washburn
	Finals:	Sharie Johnson	def	Priscilla Washburn
C	Semi's:	Lona Morris	def	Julie May
	Finals:	Brenda Farrell	def	Toni Willyerd
D	Semi's:	Kim Tucker	def	Becky Burgess
	Finals:	Sandy Ridky	def	Joan Cleland

BUD LIGHT SUPER SEVEN #5
RACQUETIME SOUTHFIELD, MI

The Bud Light Super Seven tournament at racquetball was eventful for two reasons. One was that it was the last racquetball event to be host by what once was one of the best racquetball facilities in the country and second it was the largest amateur event to be held in the state this year (approximately 345 entries). Once again Brian Valine from Canada dominated the men's open division to take home the \$500 first prize check. Cathie Frederickson also continued to do well in Super Sevens by once again defeating Lisa Ecker in the finals. An event which continues to gain in popularity is

RESULTS:

Men's Open: 1st — Brian Valin
2nd — Hayden Jones
Semi's — Doug Ganim, Aaron Metaj

Men's A: 1st — John Heintschel
2nd — Jimmy Floyd
Semi's — John Bakalis, Curt Ferrell

Men's B: 1st — John Larin
2nd — Rob Garrow
Semi's — Dan Verbeck, Jason Howard

Men's C: 1st — Greg Palls
2nd — Glen Benart
Semi's — Mark Musolf, Dave Lepczyk

Men's D: 1st — Larry Weideman
2nd — Jon Colegrove
Semi's — Robert Frisch, M. Frego

Men's Novice: 1st — Mark Hollander
2nd — Jim Newman
3rd — Lenard Lewis

Men's 35A: 1st — Dave Wordcox
2nd — Mike Stephens
Semi's — Tom Blakeslee, Dave Davis

Men's 35B: 1st — Jay Hunt
2nd — Gary Cloutier
3rd — Ken Tessmar

Men's 35C: 1st — Bob Wilson
2nd — Lee Frederickson
Semi's — Dan Arbie, Ron Leszczynski

Men's 45A: 1st — Rick Sewell
2nd — Al Micelli
Semi's — Jesse Madden, Walt Biesterfeldt

Men's 55A: 1st — Richard Cavetti
2nd — Dwayne Russell
3rd — Nowi LeSage

Men's 55B: 1st — Joe LaMiliza
2nd — Joe Mizzi
Semi's — Arthur Burke, Jerry Leone

Women's Open: 1st — Cathie Frederickson
2nd — Lisa Ecker
Semi's — Colleen Brint, Kerry Niggenzer

doubles. In a thrilling match Lisa Ecker and Aaron Metaj teamed up to defeat Larry Fox and Cathie Frederickson 11-10 in the tiebreaker. In fact all doubles events had exciting matches with Jason Howard and Jimmy Critchette winning Men's A doubles in an 11-10 tiebreaker, Irene Chmura and Chuck Lucans winning mixed A doubles in an 11-9 tiebreaker, Genze Dans and Mike Walsh winning Men's C doubles in an 11-10 tiebreaker and Tracey Troszak and Terry Hauken running Mixed C doubles in an 11-5 tiebreaker

Women's A: 1st — Linda Jones
2nd — Lesley Kishigian
Semi's — Chris Eldon, Shirley Vanderbrook

Women's B: 1st — Kim Phillips
2nd — Priscilla Washburn
Semi's — Julie May, Kathy McCartney

Women's D: 1st — Nancy Wetter
2nd — Polly Chagnon
3rd — Elizabeth Riller

Juniors: 1st — Trent Willhite
2nd — Eric Schoen
3rd — Jeff Kummier

Men's A Doubles: 1st — J. Howard/J. Critchette
2nd — D. Sarkisian/D. Veith
Semi's — A. Tackett/C. Ferrell, D. Wood/D. Woodcox

Mixed Open Doubles: 1st — L. Ecker/A. Metaj
2nd — C. Frederickson/L. Fox
Semi's — S. Meloche/C. Adams, D. Henry/K. Vantruse

Mixed A/B Doubles: 1st — I. Chmura/C. Locano
2nd — T. Smith/T. Hamilton
Semi's — J. Bakalis/S. Vanderbrook, S. Woodcox/I. Swaab

Men's C/D Doubles: 1st — G. Davis/M. Walsh
2nd — D. Klavaty/D. Kroger
3rd — C. Burton/M. Hatfield

Mixed C/D Doubles: 1st — I. Troszak/T. Lawlor
2nd — T. Cariano/I. Frederickson
3rd — D. Trotter/J. McLelland

8 & under no bounce: 1st — E. Mueller
2nd — B. Garrow
3rd — S. Beal

10 & under: 1st — B. Bover
2nd — B. Garrow

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RANKINGS

The RAM Rankings were started new in September, 1985. All RAM-AARA sanctional tournaments are included in these rankings. All tournaments that have been ranked to date are #3 tournaments. They are ranked as follows:

For each match won (including a forfeit win or Bye) is worth one point. Semi-finalists receive an additional 3 points. 2nd place receives 5 points and 1st place receives 7 points. Money tournaments for open players are the same except points are doubled. If there are any questions regarding rankings, please feel free to call Judy Gonyea at (517) 634-5272