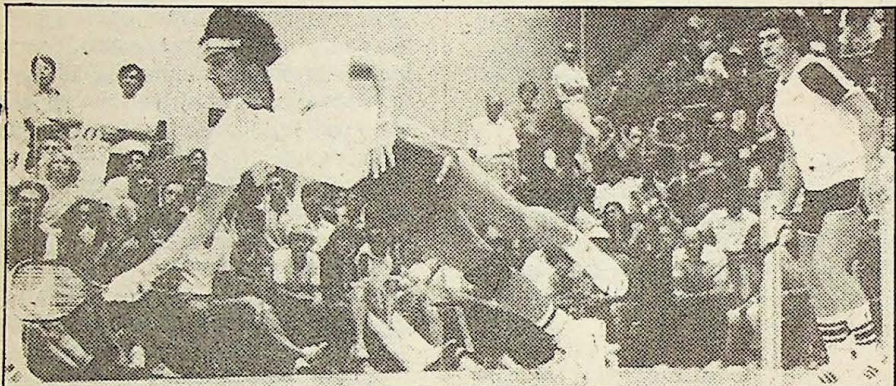


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OCTOBER, 1980

RACQUETBALL TODAY

The Big Winners!



Hilecher upsets Hogan at King's Pro/Am



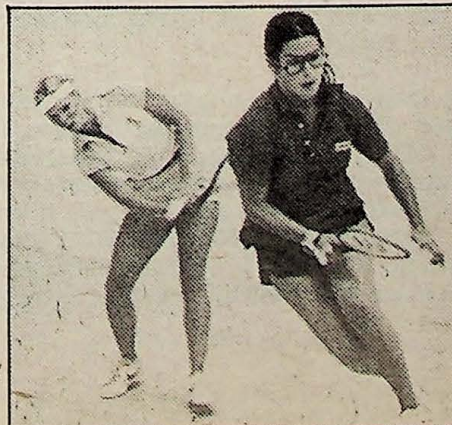
Hilecher takes Peck in finals of King's. Results page 7.



Hogan victor at Natural Light - page 12.



Cohen (R) defeats Koltun in Sun Prairie - page 7.



Karin Walton-Trent over Hoff, Sun Prairie - page 7.

Inside This Issue:

- WPR Report
- New Appeal System
- Charlie Brumfield on the PRA
- Instructional Articles
- More Tom Grobmisi Humor
- And, Much More . . .

We Get Letters . . .

Dear Phil,
I recently played in the Don Simon Pro/Am Racquetball Tournament held at the Sun Prairie Racquetball Club in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin.

I paid \$30 to enter the Pro division knowing that if I finished in the quarter-finals or better I would win prize money. The entry form also stated the draw in the women's division was "limited to 16" so I sent my form in early to be sure to get in the draw.

After playing and reaching the quarter-finals I was told by Bruce Thompson that the money had been redistributed due to the draw being so small for the women — 14 women entered. The entry form stated nothing about a minimum of entrants.

I FEEL THAT the other quarterfinalists (one of whom was Tina Heath) and myself have been dealt with unfairly. If there was not enough money in a purse and the prize money hinged on the number of entrants that would be completely different than redistributing the prize money available. Mr. Thompson said that he did not want to "bye" anyone into money! He also said that he was very angry with the women because many of the top women players gave him alot of flack and would not enter because of the inequality and small amount in the purse.

I fulfilled my end of the bargain and paid my \$30 entry fee and I also had to incur expenses for gas, food and lodging only to be duped by Mr. Bruce Thompson.

I am writing to you because I felt you may be able to mention this in RACQUETBALL TODAY. The men in the tournament were dealt with fairly, however the women were not and when Mr.

Thompson holds his tournament next year (it has been an annual tourney) it would be nice for the local players to be aware of what he did this year. That is, if a player is going to put out some money in hopes to win some, Mr. Thompson may not pay out as promised.

Nancy Kronenfeld
Park Ridge, Illinois

Nancy,
I can understand why women pros do not like to play where first prize is a reported \$400 while the men get \$1,500, and I can understand why you feel you haven't been dealt with fairly. In both these areas, the WPRO should become involved and make their feelings known to both the tournament directors and the public. In the meantime, we'll do our best to help by giving you an outlet to reach the public as much as possible.

Phil

Alan Shetzer Eats Crow

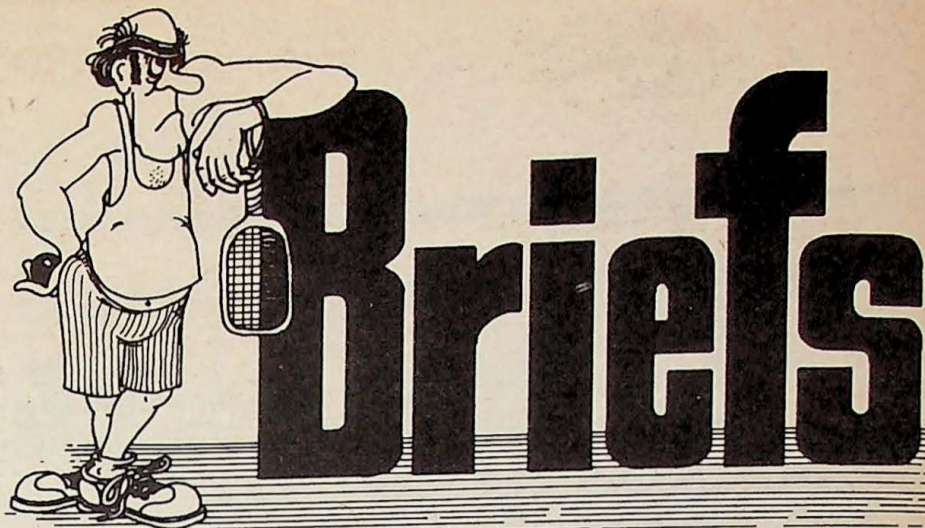
Dear Mr. Shetzer,
Nice job of predicting! No sooner did you predict that Hilecher would drop out of the Top 10 (Sept. issue) than he goes out and beats Hogan and Peck and wins the Pro Stop in Newport Beach! You better shine your chrysal ball!

R. Raskin
San Diego

Dear Mr. Raskin,
That was a typo. I meant to say he would NOT drop out of the top 10.

Alan Shetzer

(Continued on Page 4)



Ektelon New Free Catalog

In this age of catalog buying you can add one more catalog to the list. Ektelon has come out with their own 24 page, full color, embossed catalog featuring their extensive product line. The sports fan, like a child in a candy store, can drool over all the latest equipment for his favorite sport.

The 1981 Ektelon Catalog is unique because it describes processes as well as products. The company's emphasis on research and design, quality control and innovative manufacturing is discussed in a detailed look at the "anatomy" of a racquet.

Among those items profiled is Ektelon's famous "DE" and "DEC" stringing machines, and a new glove that was two years in the making.

For free copies of the 1981 Ektelon Catalog write: Ektelon, 8929 Aero Drive, San Diego, Cal., 92123.

Top 16 Men Pros Join PRA

According to a recent press release, all 16 of the top male pros have joined the Professional Racquetball Association (PRA) which will now close its membership for one year. The players intend to come to agreements on various aspects of the game to insure their collective participation in major events. The 16 players, in order of ranking at the time the association was set up, are: 1) Marty Hogan, 2) Mike Yellen, 3) Dave Peck, 4) Jerry Hilecher, 5) Don Thomas, 6) Steve Strandemo, 7) Ben Koltun, 8) Charlie Brumfield, 9) Doug Cohen, 10) Lindsay Myers, 11) Craig McCoy, 12) tied, are Davey Bledsoe and Jeff Bowman, 14) David Fleetwood, 15) Larry Meyers, and 16) Mark Morrow.

According to the release, the above will be members as long as they are touring pros, and anyone else who "is in the top 16 of the NRC's computer rankings at the end of each season" will be allowed to join.

(See interview with Charlie Brumfield on this subject, page 15.)

RACQUETBALL TODAY

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Editor..... Jan Diengott
Production..... Williams Press

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COURT TALK
THE WRIGHT ANSWER

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Bob Gura
Shannon Wright

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RACQUETBALL TODAY welcomes manuscripts and photographs of interest to our general readership. Manuscripts must be double-spaced typed, and we cannot guarantee the return of photographs. RACQUETBALL TODAY reserves the right to refuse any advertisement for any reason.

Lite Beer/Penn Super Racquetball Championship Series for Multiple Sclerosis Circuit Plans Announced

This series of eleven amateur tournaments is designed to raise money for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. The tournaments will be sanctioned for national amateur rankings at a grade level three by the AARA.

The participating club listed below should be contacted for further information.

Thirteenth Street Racquet Club
1901 East 13th Street
Cleveland, OH 44114 216/696-1365
October 10, 11 & 12

Racquet Club
1 Racquet Lane
Monroeville, PA 15146 412/244-8400
October 24, 25 & 26

Town and Country Racquetball Club
1777 Des Peres Road
St. Louis, MO 63131 314/965-7777
October 24, 25 & 26

Continental Racquetball Club
14880 Bammel N. Houston
Houston, TX 77014 713/893-5146
October 31-November 2

Perfect Racquet
405 Camino Del Rio South
San Diego, CA 92108 714/297-6062
November 7, 8 & 9

Denver International Athletic Club
1630 Welton Street
Denver, CO 80202 303/623-2100
November 11-16

Towson Court Club
8757 Mylander Lane
Towson, MD 21204 301/821-0160
November 21, 22 & 23

Louisiana Racquetball and Health Club
2121 38th Street
Kenner, LA 70062 504/443-4512
December 5, 6 & 7

Sporting House
1515 Sheridan Road
Atlanta, GA 30324 404/325-2700
December 5, 6 & 7

Supreme Court 5
3033 Alvarado Street
San Leandro, CA 94577 415/351-5323
January 15, 16 & 17

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This series of eleven amateur tournaments is designed to raise money for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. These tournaments will be sanctioned for national amateur rankings at a grade level three by the AARA.

OFFICIAL ENTRY





- ENTRY DEADLINE:** All entry blanks and corresponding entree fees must be in the possession of the club post marked the Friday before the tournament date.
- ENTRY FEE:** \$20.00 per entry; \$12.00 for second entry.
- OFFICIAL BALL:** Penn Ultra blue.
- RULES OF SANCTION PLAY:** All current AARA rules will govern play.
- AWARDS:** Trophies to 1st, 2nd & 3rd in all events, and 1st place consolation.
- PAYMENT:** Make checks payable to the club.
- STARTING TIME:** Contact Club by phone.
- CONSOLATION:** All division-first-round losers must sign up.
- HOSPITALITY:** Food and beverage will be provided free to all tournament participants.
- SHIRTS:** A souvenir tournament shirt will be provided to all participants.

Please enter me in the event(s) checked below. Players may enter two events.

- WOMEN'S DIVISIONS:** Open B C N Seniors 35+
MEN'S DIVISIONS: Open B C N Seniors 35+ Masters 45+

Mr./Ms. _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Home Phone _____ Business Phone _____
 Shirt Size _____ Small _____ Medium _____ Large _____ X-Large

WAIVER: I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, agents and administrator, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the Miller Brewing Company, Penn Athletic Products Company, AARA, the National MS Society and the racquetball club, its affiliated clubs, and their respective agents, representatives, successors and assigners for any and all injuries which may be suffered by me in connection with my participation.





 Date _____ Signature _____
 Parent or Guardian (Under 18) _____

For club and tournament dates, see page 2.

All entrants receive a free introductory membership into the American Amateur Racquetball Association. This membership includes three issues of Racquetball Magazine, membership card, official rule book, voice in all AARA policies, special product and service discounts.

A portion of the entry fee will be donated to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

All entrants will be eligible to win one of the 150 door prizes that will be awarded on Friday night. These prizes are valued at over \$1000.00

The Wright Answer

Editor's note: RACQUETBALL TODAY IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE the addition of Ms. Shannon Wright as an exclusive columnist for this paper. Ms. Wright, who has virtually dominated women's professional racquetball for the past four years, travels around the country giving racquetball clinics and exhibitions, playing in tournaments, and representing Wilson Sporting Goods Company and Triple-S Promotions. Ms. Wright will answer personal and professional questions submitted by our readers and our staff. Please address your questions to Ms. Wright, c/o RACQUETBALL TODAY.

Screen Serve's a Fault

QUESTION: Has the WPRA's rule making screen serves a fault affected the game? What do you think of the rule?

ANSWER: The screen serve rule really hasn't affected my game that much. I did have to change my starting position on my serve that I used to stand up against the left side of the wall. Now I stand on the red line marking the "devil's box." I didn't particularly like the rule at first, but now I hardly notice it because I'm hit-

ting very few screen serves anymore. It's really kind of amazing to think that a year ago I was hitting probably ten, fifteen screens a game and now maybe one or two. I think the rule is definitely advantageous in this respect, that it keeps the match moving right along. In the men's pro game, so much time seems to be wasted with screen serves but we aren't doing that in the women's pros anymore. The audience seems to like it better too. It keeps the boredom away.



More Letters

(Continued from Page 2)

Dear Alan,

Just read your article, "Preview of 1980-81 Racquetball Season." For a man who made all the pro stops last season you can qualify writing such a column.

I'll enjoy fixing you a crow dinner at the end of the season.

Happy New Year,
Anne Hilecher
Chesterfield, Mo.

To Hilecher

*Hilecher did it, without a doubt!
In Texas they could hear his father shout.
His mother told them to "go eat crow,
"Cause our little baby's the new honcho."*

*He took out Hogan, and then Dave Peck
And a few before that, but what the heck;
He's always been up near the top
And now he's gonna be tough to stop . . .
It's tough to beat him, and his Mom and Pop*

Dear RACQUETBALL TODAY,

Your September puzzle was the best one yet — 87 words! Did you know that there were three names in the puzzle that not appear on your list at the bottom: Hoff, Simborg and Christensen. Do I get an extra prize for finding them?

Ben Oliphant
Detroit

Dear RACQUETBALL TODAY,

I have been getting your paper for a while now and it is super. I was wondering if you could help me out. I am still having a little trouble with my racquetball game . . . do you have any information that could help me? Please.

Denise Pocuca
Tampa, Florida

Dear Denise,

If you're having trouble with your game we can't help you — that's normal. WE ALL HAVE PROBLEMS — even Marty Hogan!

I gave your letter to Tom Grobmisi for him to study and he has some advise that he feels has helped many people's games. He said, "Why don't you try hitting the ball on fewer bounces.?"

Ed.

Dear RACQUETBALL TODAY,

I have just read my first issue of RACQUETBALL TODAY (Aug. 1980), and I can say that I enjoyed it very much. I noticed in your magazine that you have subscription rates for a yearly subscriber. What I would like to know is if you have subscription rates for a racquetball club receiving a certain number of issues? Our YMCA here in Canton, Ill., is interested in receiving your paper . . . could you send me some information?

Sincerely,
Terry Beecham
Canton, Ill.

Dear Terry,

We'll add YMCA clubs and any other racquetball facility FREE. Just send us the name, address and how many courts (so we know how many issues to send).

Ed.

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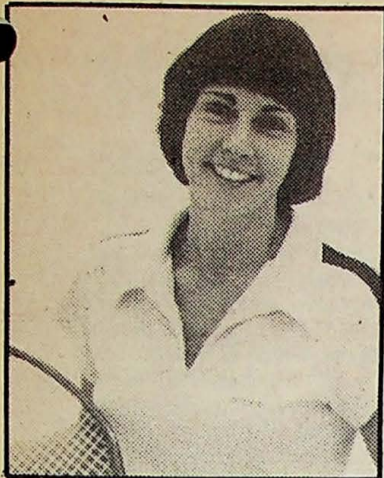
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Strategy

By JEAN SAUSER

Editor's Note: Jean Sauser, the sixth ranked women's racquetball pro, and photographer Arthur Shay, are the co-authors of "Racquetball Strategy," a book devoted to those racquetball players who are absolutely determined to get better and better. With permission of the author and publisher, RACQUETBALL TODAY will reprint portions of that book.

Situation: You've given your opponent front wall/back wall set up shot — that is, you've hit the ball to the front wall hard enough so that it comes off the back wall for an easy shot by foe.

Strategy: Anticipate from center court.

Don't give up. Hurry to center court position and focus your complete attention on the ball. You'll be able to anticipate the next shot by watching your opponent's racquet swing. The arc of the swing telegraphs the shot that will result. So stay on your toes and get ready to recover the second you see the direction the ball is going.

Situation: Your opponent gives you a front wall/back wall set up. You are now running toward the front wall space with the ball. As you are waiting for the ball to drop, you find that when you do hit the ball you will be too far forward in front court.

Strategy: Kill, pinch, or pass.

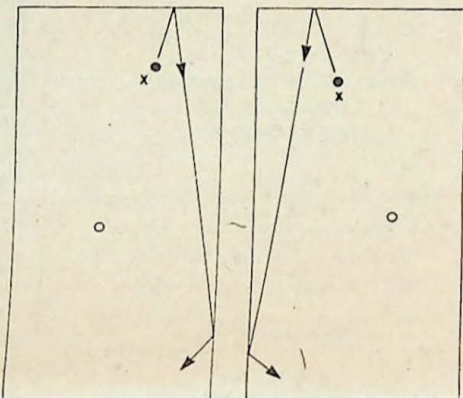
In this situation you have three shots to choose from. You can hit the ball straight in for a kill, pinch to the near corner, or pass it across to the opposite side of the court for a wide angle low pass. (You can also bobble — but let's not!)

1. Straight kill: This works best on either side of the court if your opponent comes to center court while you are hitting the ball. If you kill the ball successfully, the point is yours. If you hit the ball too high for a good kill, it may still turn into a good down-the-line pass that will possibly win you the point, or at least give you time to get back to center court while your opponent scurries after your shot. (Diagrams 1 and 2)

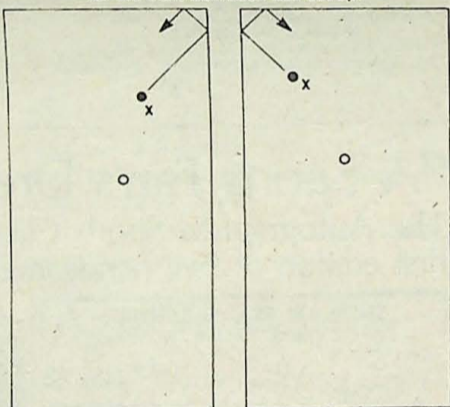
2. Pinch: This works if you are not too close to the front wall when contacting the ball, and if your opponent is on the same

side of the court you are. (Diagrams 3 and 4)

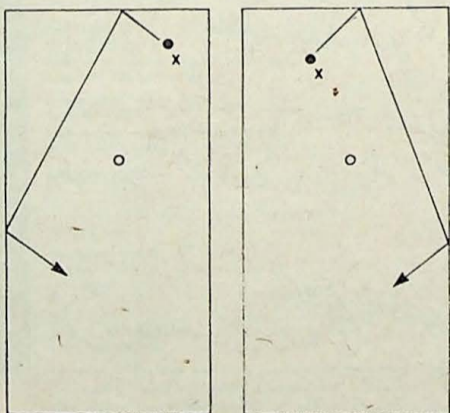
3. Wide angle low pass: This shot works if your opponent makes the mistake of coming up just in front of center court. Your shot should strike the front wall low and hard, angling away and, with luck, catching a "crack" (where the floor meets the wall) either directly across from where your opponent is standing or slightly behind him for the winner. (Diagrams 5 and 6)



Diagrams 1 and 2. Straight kill for the front wall/back wall set up.



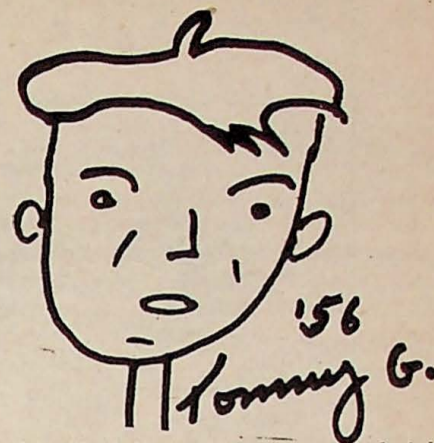
Diagrams 3 and 4. Pinch.



Diagrams 5 and 6. Wide angle low pass.

Sportsman of the Month

In an effort to encourage and reward good sportsmanship, RACQUETBALL TODAY is each month features: Sportsman of the Month. Each month we will feature a person selected for his/her high sportsmanship demonstrated in and around the racquetball court. The winner will be selected from letters sent in by readers. If you know of someone deserving of recognition for demonstrating good sportsmanship, send us a note about it (a picture, if available, would also be good).



Dear RACQUETBALL TODAY,

I wish to nominate your Mr. Tom Grobmi for Sportsman of the Month. His articles and poems do more to bring humor and sunshine into the court than everyone else in the sport put together. My husband and I have cut out and saved many of his articles, and we read them from time to time and get a good laugh. This is not a joke . . . he really deserves the award! Could you please run a picture of Tom

with this letter so we can see what he looks like?

Marsha Billings
Springfield, Ill.

Dear Marsha,

Tom says he doesn't have any pictures, but he did supply us with a self-portrait he did a few years ago.

Ed.

Words from the Super Wise

The three steps to healthy competition:
1) know thyself, 2) set reasonable goals,
3) use appropriate tools.

Dr. Harvey Ruben

The most expensive thing about playing a lot of racquetball is the divorce.

Alan Shetzer



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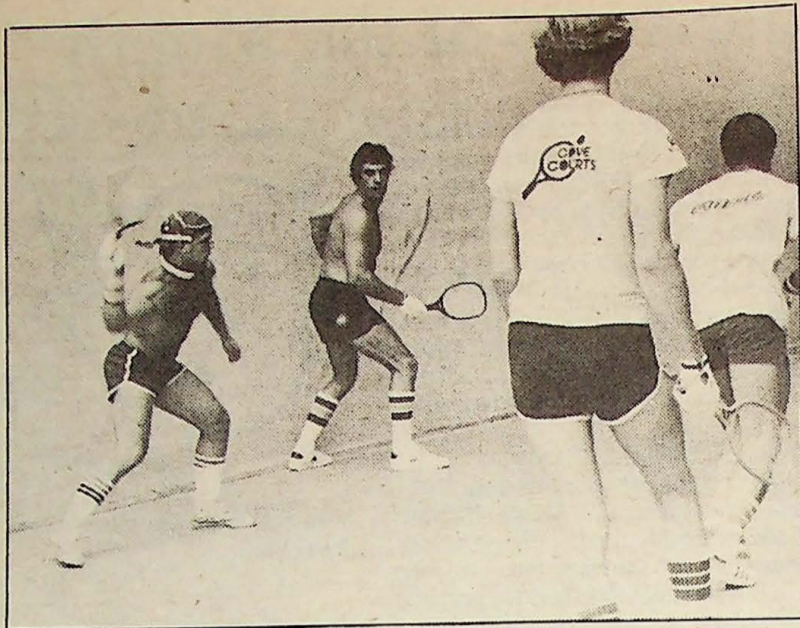
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 Address _____ Session II
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Next Session please advise

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Pictured above: Andy Witt (left) prepares to shoot in a first round match of the 1st Annual Killshot Outdoor 3-wall Invitational Doubles, held at Killshot, Ltd., Bloomington, Ill., September 13. Andy, and his partner, Tom Golueke (a Chicago Heights executive), defeated Harvey Miller and Phil Simborg in the finals of the event which featured some of the worst teams in the area. (Photo by Bill Precht)



Bobby Bolan (left) shakes hands with Don Thomas after winning the exhibition match, 11-10 in the tie-breaker. (Photo by John Bookwalter)



Visalia Open Invitational. Pictured left to right, Randy Scott (Visalia Club manager), winners Green and Peterson, and Jim Schatz, pro coach. (Photo by John Bookwalter).

RESULTS
Visalia Open Invitational
Visalia, California
August 22, 23 & 24, 1980

Men's Open: Peterson d. Green
Men's B: Whitehead d. Chargin
Men's C: Wittemore d. Oliver
Men's Novice: Fricke d. Tomlinson
Women's C: Oliver d. Tomlinson
Men's Open Doubles: Peterson/Green d. Harvey/Bookwalter
Men's B Doubles: Whitehead/Collins d. Morales/Whittemore

RESULTS
4th Annual S & S
Insurance Agency Open
Charlie Club
Palatine, Illinois
August 22, 23 & 24, 1980

Men's Open: 1st: Dave Negrete; 2nd: Ric Dern
Men's A: 1st: Jeff Plazak; 2nd: Dale Eggert
Men's B: 1st: Neil Scheyer; 2nd: Kevin McGrath
Men's C: 1st: John Negrete; 2nd: Ron Zolno
Men's D: 1st: Ron Salemm; 2nd: Rowland Davies
Men's Veteran Open: 1st: Harvey Miller; 2nd: Clyde Selters
Men's Seniors: 1st: Scott Berry; 2nd: Ron Johnson
Men's Senior B: 1st: Rich Kamper; 2nd: Bill Weyer
Men's Masters: 1st: Jim Harper; 2nd: Saul Sandoval
Women's Open: 1st: Sue Carow; 2nd: Colleen Shields
Women's A: 1st: Cathy Nemeth; 2nd: Judy Sands
Women's B: 1st: Terry Cubberley; 2nd: Sally Diller
Women's C: 1st: Kathie Simpson; 2nd: Patty Korsgard
Women's D: 1st: Debbie Gardner; 2nd: Joyce Paul
Open Mixed Doubles: 1st: Carow/Selters; 2nd: Shields/Negrete
A Mixed Doubles: 1st: Mistovich/Sillus; 2nd: Kelleher/Yucevicious
B Mixed Doubles: 1st: Newman/Osmond; 2nd: Markus/Kronenfeld
C Mixed Doubles: 1st: Filter/Krause; 2nd: Schwartz/Lichtfuss

Third NCCA Nationals

By IVAN FULDAUER

The culmination of a summer-long national grass roots tournament took shape at the Glass Court Club, Lombard, Illinois, when the National Court Clubs Association (NCCA), the international group of racquetball court club owners, staged the final round of its third annual tournament. Over 3,000 participants, all members of NCCA-affiliated clubs, competed.

Though Chicago area players showed well in the early rounds, the only player to walk off the Glass Court Club's exhibition court a winner was Debbie Adams of Evanston. She defeated Pat Evanitski, South Plainfield, New Jersey, 21-17, 21-10.

Other winners included Greg Maloley, Arlington, Mass., who took the Men's A, defeating Jeff McDowell, Bloomington, Ill., 6-21, 21-7, 11-2.

Barry Lipson, the smallest fellow in the tournament, won the Men's Novice division, defeating Dave McElroy, Lincoln Park, Mich., 21-10, 21-13.

The Women's A, a round robin event, went to Janet Ceglinski, Decatur, Ill. In the Women's Novice, Robin Cunningham, South Plainfield, N.J., defeated Bertha Menendez, Coral Gables, Fla., 21-7, 21-14.

Chuck Leve, NCCA's executive director, noted that the tournament was a huge success. "By running tournaments of this kind, we're proving that racquetball is a year 'round sport simply because people love to compete and stay fit."



Chicagoan Marshall Waldo (foreground) takes aim on a Greg Maloley shot during their semifinal round match in the third annual National Court Clubs Association tournament finals at the Glass Court Club, Lombard, Ill. Maloley, of Arlington, Mass., the eventual title winner, defeated Waldo, 21-14, 21-15. (Photo by Ivan Fuldauer)

RESULTS
First Annual Labor Day
Swing and Swim Tournament
Strongsville, Ohio
August 29-31, 1980

MEN'S OPEN
Jeff Riehl d. Tom Travers, 21-16, 12-13 (injury default)
MEN'S SENIORS
Bobby Sanders d. Steve Hockenberry, 21-11, 21-9
MEN'S B
Tim Deigham d. Jim Durant, 21-14, 21-14
MEN'S C
Mark Mitchell d. Ron Coates, 21-20, 21-10
JUNIORS
Jeff Baldassari d. Tom Embrogno, 21-16, 18-21, 11-3
MEN'S OPEN DOUBLES
Mike Stern/Jeff Riehl d. Adam McKay/Brian Deigham, 21-15, 21-9
WOMEN'S OPEN
Karen Perlic d. Sherry Armstrong, 21-12, 21-19
Debbie Knaus d. Sally Green, 21-5, 21-11
WOMEN'S C
Holley Rose Mallett d. Sue Kunkle, 20-21, 21-11, 11-6
WOMEN'S OPEN DOUBLES
1st: Linda Shalkhauser/Sherry Armstrong; 2nd: Nancy Vaughn/Pat Martin; 3rd: Shirley Strickland/Laurie Thomas

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Tom Seaver, Cincinnati Reds

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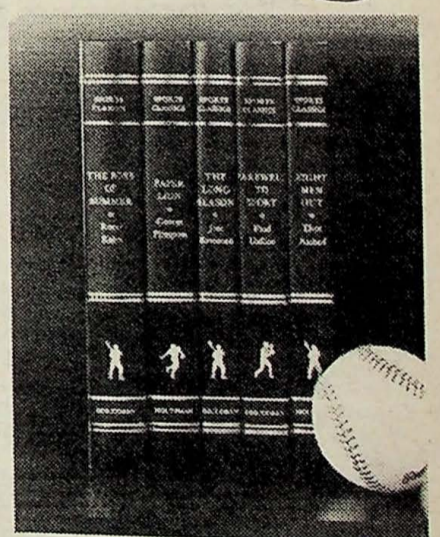
Roger Kahn The Boys of Summer by Roger Kahn
The unforgettable Dodgers...Reese, Robinson and Campy...then and now

George Plimpton Paper Lion by George Plimpton
Pro football from the inside of the inside...told with warmth and humor

James Brosnan The Long Season by James Brosnan
The first of the ball player diaries...witty, candid, illuminating

Eliot Asinof Eight Men Out by Eliot Asinof
The crooked World Series...Eight White Sox players banned for life

Paul Gallico Farewell to Sport by Paul Gallico
The signature of Mr. Gallico (deceased) is a reproduction of the grandfather classic...The Golden Age of Ruth, Dempsey and Tilden



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TOURNAMENT NEWS

Doug Cohen

Sun Prairie Pro Champ

By GEOFF PETERS

Doug Cohen's tie-breaker victory in the finals over Ben Koltun highlighted the fourth annual Don Simon Realtors Pro/Am held September 14-16 at the Sun Prairie Racquetball Club in Sun Prairie, Wis., where over 250 players and many spectators packed the club to witness some excellent pro and amateur competition. The Women's Pro finals featured Karin Walton polishing off Rita Hoff in two.

In the Men's Pro, the quarter's went like this: Cohen over Dennis McDowell, 19, 21-8; Brumfield over Don Constable, 21-4, 21-16; Koltun over Paul Ikier, 21-15, 21-19, and Steve Mondry over Bill Schmidtke, 21-16, 21-9.

In the semi's, 18-year-old Cohen took care of veteran Charlie Brumfield, 21-13, 21-17, while Koltun dealt Steve Mondry a 21-15, 21-10 defeat, which set the scene for the all-St. Louis finals.

COHEN CAME OUT blasting in the first game, taking a 14-5 lead before Koltun managed to make a run and pull to an 18-17 lead; but the youngster kept his cool and took the first game 21-18. The second game was a real seesaw battle. At the end end of a long rally, Cohen asked Koltun in a sarcastic manner if he wasn't going to appeal one of Doug's gets. Koltun did so; the linesmen overturned the ref and that gave the rally, the serve, the rest of the points and the game to Koltun! Cohen came out smoking in the tie-breaker, and clearly gave Koltun a very tough time with his drive serves, and won 11-5.

As the Women's Pro division offered considerably less prize money, that division did not draw the quality field the men drew, but that does not take anything away from the fact that two of the nations better players, Hoff and Walton, provided some really classy play. Karin surged to a 15-2 lead in the first game before Rita started putting some shots together, but she fell short, losing 21-17. Game two was close all the way until Walton seemed to "bear down" and pull away at the end, winning 21-15.

In the amateur divisions, the results were as follows: Men's Open - Jack Newman; Men's Seniors - Bill Schmidtke (he had to take an 11-6 tie-breaker in the finals over Mike Gorman); Men's B - Jay Griffin; Men's C - Jim Jeffers; Women's Open - Dianne Singler; Women's B - Sally Dearborn; Women's C - Kim Swedberg.

RESULTS

Brookfield Summer Smasher for Multiple Sclerosis
Brookfield Racquetball Club
Waukesha, Wisconsin
September 12, 13 & 14, 1980

Finals Only:
Men's Open: Ed Arias d. Ray Bohl, 21-20, 21-20
Women's Open: Joan Azeka d. Margaret Olawoye, 21-13, 16-21, 11-8
Men's Seniors: Daryl Greenmier d. Dick Theodo, 21-5, 21-7
Men's B: Scott Shanks d. Phil Mydlach, 21-20, 21-5
Women's B: Gail Oppenorth d. Carolyn Kobbord, 21-7, 21-12
Men's C: Scott Hernke d. Jeff Bakken, 21-13, 21-16
Women's C: Karen Riemersma d. Kasia Janka, 21-8, 21-12
Men's Novice: J.P. Kidwell d. Paul Bartkowiak, 21-4, 21-17
Women's Novice: Jamie Romanski d. Karen Bertoff, 21-9, 21-11

King's Pro/Am

RESULTS
Kings Bank of Newport Pro/Am
Newport Beach, California
August 27-31, 1980

MEN'S PROFESSIONAL

Finals: Jerry Hilecher d. Dave Peck, 21-20, 21-20
Semis: Hilecher d. Marty Hogan, 21-20, 16-21, 11-8; Peck d. Mike Yellen, 21-13, 21-14
Quarters: Hilecher d. McCoy, 21-10, 16-21, 11-8; Hogan d. Bobby Bolan, 21-10, 21-11; Peck d. Lindsay Myers, 21-16, 21-4; Yellen d. Rich Wagner, 21-13, 21-14
16'S: Hogan d. Steve Serot; Bolan d. Doug Cohen (11-9 tie-breaker), McCoy d. Charlie Brumfield (11-5); Hilecher d. Bruce Christensen; Peck d. John Egerman; Myers d. Don Thomas (11-1); Wagner d. Mark Morrow (11-7); Yellen d. Davey Bledsoe (11-1)
32'S: Hogan d. Gregg Peck; Serot d. Scott Hawkins; Bolan d. Jeff Bowman; Cohen d. Kirk Williams; Brumfield d. Jerry Zuckerman; McCoy d. Dave Bush; Christensen d. Gary Berberet (11-2); Hilecher d. Steve Mondry; Peck d. Dan Factor; Egerman d. Larry Meyers (11-5); Myers d. Beaver Wickham (11-4); Thomas d. Mike Levine; Wagner d. Ben Koltun; Morrow d. Matt Mathews; Bledsoe d. Bret Harnett; Yellen d. Ross Harvey (11-9)

MEN'S OPEN

Finals: Bret Harnett def. Ed Andrews, 10-21, 21-15, 11-4
Semis: Harnett d. Matt Mathews, 21-14, 21-12; Andrews d. Gregg Peck, 19-21, 21-19, 11-3
Men's Seniors: Roger Ehrens d. Dan Harnett, 21-7, 21-17
Men's Masters: Lee Pretner injury default over Duke Libby
Men's Golden Masters: Bob Frazier d. Bill Carroll, 5-21, 21-17, 11-8
Men's B: Bill Huffman d. Glenn Gross, 21-12, 21-12
Men's C: Glen Valencia d. Adam Katz, 15-21, 21-8, 11-2
Men's Novice: Mike McAllister d. Ralph Wolf, 21-7, 21-3
Women's B: Andi Rountree d. Teresa Newel, 21-11, 21-13
Women's C: Stacey Ring d. Deb Seskin, 21-12, 10-21, 11-6
Women's Novice: Sharon Robertson d. Jeanie Reece, 21-9, 21-13



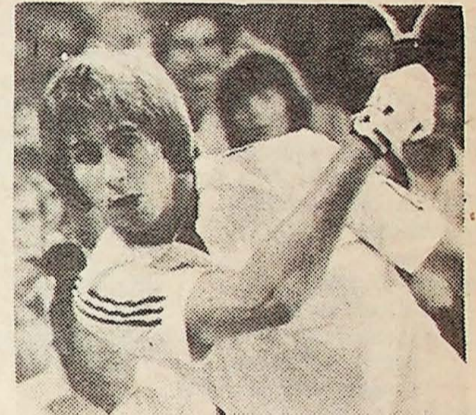
Craig McCoy



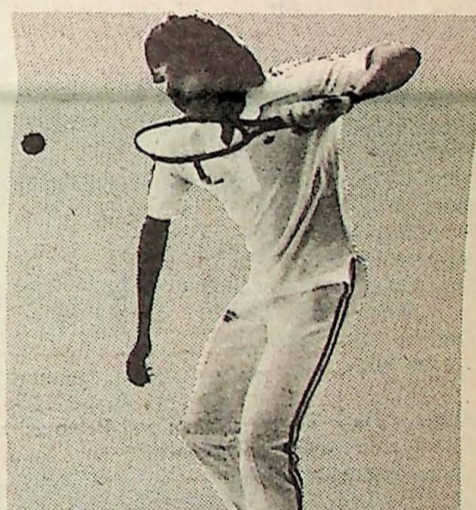
Ben Koltun



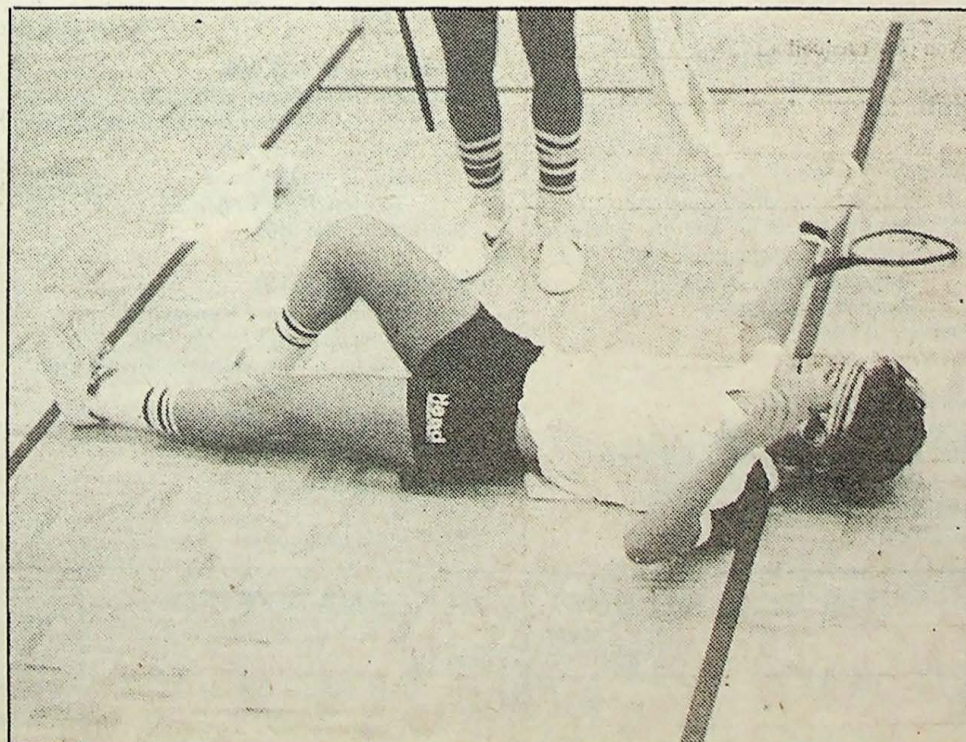
Lindsay Myers



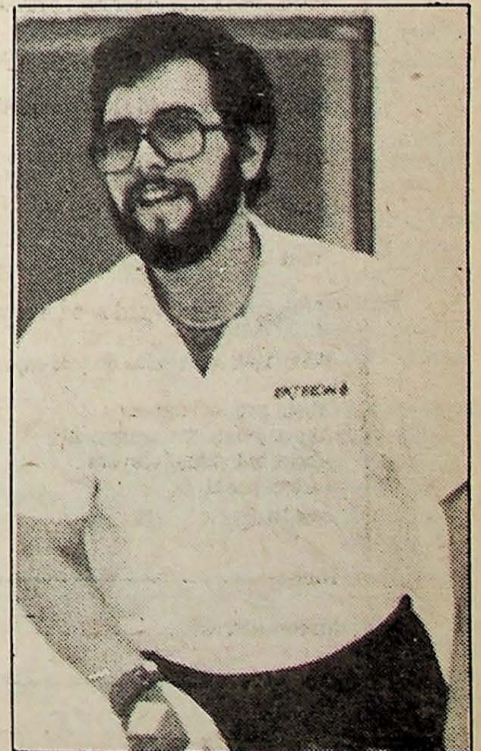
Rich Wagner



Steve Serot



Doug Cohen takes a break.



Dave Negrete surfaces again to win the Men's Open title of the Second Annual Circle City Open in Indianapolis, Ind.

RACQUETBALL TODAY

1980-81

Tournament Schedule

October 3, 4 & 5, 1980

AMF Voit, Inc. & AMF Head, Inc.
National Mixed Doubles -
Racquetball Championships
Site: Winning Walls Racquetball Club
Portchester, New York
Contact: Mel Carrozza
914-939-5000

October 8-12, 1980

Coors Gran Prix I
Site: Sports Courts of Omaha
4812 S. 114th Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68137
Contact: 402-339-0410

October 10, 11 & 12, 1980

MRA-2
Site: Dearborn Athletic Club
2145 S. Telegraph
Dearborn, Michigan
Contact: Match Point Enterprises
517-372-2886

October 10, 11 & 12, 1980

3rd Annual Men's Open
Southwest Side Shootout
Site: Tinley Park Racquetball Club
Tinley Park, Illinois
Contact: Mike Bazzo
312-532-7900

October 10, 11 & 12, 1980

Lite Beer/Penn Super Racquetball
Championship Series for Multiple Sclerosis
Site: Thirteenth Street Racquet Club
1901 East 13th Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
Contact: 216-696-1365

October 10, 11 & 12, 1980

Janesville Fall Open
Site: The Supreme Court
Janesville, Wisconsin
Contact: Will Mulvaney
608-756-3737

October 11, 12 & 13, 1980

USRA New Jersey State Championships
Site: Hopewell Valley Racquetball Club
Pennington, New Jersey
Contact: Thomas Bonanne
609-737-1555

October 17, 18 & 19, 1980

Kahler Midwest Doubles Tournament
Site: The Supreme Court
Rochester, Minnesota
Contact: Mike Gorman
507-281-1551

October 24, 25 & 26, 1980

Women's Greater Madison Open
Site: Madison East YMCA
Madison, Wisconsin
Contact: 608-221-1571

October 24, 25 & 26, 1980

The Finally's/Metro Club Open
Site: Arlington Heights Court House
Arlington Heights, Illinois
Contact: Lynne Farmer
312-441-6700

October 24, 25 & 26, 1980

Lite Beer/Penn Super Racquetball
Championship Series for Multiple Sclerosis
Site: Town & Country Racquetball Club
1777 Des Peres Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63131
Contact: 314-965-7777

October 24, 25 & 26, 1980

Lite Beer/Penn Super Racquetball
Championship Series for Multiple Sclerosis
Site: Racquet Club
1 Racquet Lane
Monroeville, Penn. 15146
Contact: 412-244-8400

October 31, November 1 & 2, 1980

Third Annual Halloween Tournament
Site: Cherokee Golf & Tennis Club
Madison, Wisconsin
Contact: Gregg Johnson
608-241-4601

October 31, November 1 & 2, 1980

3rd Annual Forest View Open
Site: Forest View Racquet Club
Arlington Heights, Ill.
Contact: Jeff Wilke
312-640-2574

October 31, November 1 & 2, 1980

Lite Beer/Penn Super Racquetball
Championship Series for Multiple Sclerosis
Site: Continental Racquetball Club
14880 Bammel N. Houston
Houston, Texas 77014
Contact: 713-893-5146

November 7, 8 & 9, 1980

MRA-3
Site: Michigan Racquetball & Fitness
Lansing, Michigan
Contact: Match Point Enterprises
517-372-2886

November 7, 8 & 9, 1980

All-Women's Turkey Tournament
Site: Spaulding Racquetball Club
2702 Brooktree Lane
Gladstone, Missouri 64119
Contact: Kay Yarnell
816-452-1516

November 7, 8 & 9, 1980

3rd Annual Women's Sharpshooter Open
Site: Tinley Park Racquetball Club
Tinley Park, Illinois
Contact: Mike Bazzo
312-532-7900

November 7, 8 & 9, 1980

Lite Beer/Penn Super Racquetball
Championship Series for Multiple Sclerosis
Site: Perfect Racquet
405 Camino Del Rio South
San Diego, Cal. 92108
Contact: 714-297-6062

November 11-16, 1980

Lite Beer/Penn Super Racquetball
Championship Series for Multiple Sclerosis
Site: Denver International Athletic Club
1630 Welton Street
Denver, Colorado 80202
Contact: 303-623-2100

November 14, 15 & 16, 1980

Midwest Invitational
Site: Metro Clubs
Contact: Lynne Farmer
312-441-6700

November 21, 22 & 23, 1980

Thanksgiving Classic
Site: To be announced
Contact: S/S/S Promotions
312-371-2555

November 21, 22 & 23, 1980

Lite Beer/Penn Super Racquetball
Championship Series for Multiple Sclerosis
Site: Towson Court Club
8757 Mylander Lane
Towson, Maryland 21204
Contact: 301-821-0160

December 5, 6 & 7, 1980

Lite Beer/Penn Super Racquetball
Championship Series for Multiple Sclerosis
Site: Louisiana Racquetball & Health Club
2121 38th Street
Kenner, Louisiana 70062
Contact: 504-443-4512

December 12, 13 & 14, 1980

MRA-4
Site: To be announced

December 19, 20 & 21, 1980

2nd Annual Tinley Park Open Doubles
Site: Tinley Park Racquetball Club
Tinley Park, Illinois
Contact: Mike Bazzo
312-532-7900

January 9, 10 & 11, 1981

MRA-5
Site: Flint Racquetball & Fitness Club
Flint, Michigan
Contact: Match Point Enterprises
517-372-2886

January 9, 10 & 11, 1981

First Annual Playboy Pro Invitational
Racquetball Tournament
Site: Lake Geneva Fitness & Racquet
Centre
Lake Geneva, Wisconsin
Entry is by invitation only

January 15, 16 & 17, 1981

Lite Beer/Penn Super Racquetball
Championship Series for Multiple Sclerosis
Site: Supreme Court
3033 Alvarado Street
San Leandro, Cal. 94577
Contact: 415-351-5323

January 23, 24 & 25, 1981

1st Annual Junior Hotshot Tourney
Site: Tinley Park Racquetball Club
Tinley Park, Illinois
Contact: Mike Bazzo
312-532-7900

February 6, 7 & 8, 1981

MRA-6
Site: Home Court Adv.
Kalamazoo, Michigan
Contact: Match Point Enterprises
517-372-2886

February 20, 21, 22 & 23, 1981

Second Annual American Cancer Society
Racquetball Classic
Site: Courtside
Springfield, Illinois
Contact: Mike Klemm
217-787-6891

February 27, 28 & March 1

Second Annual Tinley Park Invitational
Site: Tinley Park Racquetball Club
Tinley Park, Illinois
Contact: Mike Bazzo
312-532-7900

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The Technical — Uncontrolled Anger

Editor's Note: RACQUETBALL TODAY is proud to welcome Jim Schatz, "Professor Schatz," as a regular contributor and as our West Coast correspondent. Professor Schatz was a tennis coach for 10 years and studied psychology and physical education in college. In the past five years he has helped coach such pro players as Charlie Brumfield, Richie Wagner, Steve Keeley, Marci Greer, Don Thomas, Bruce Christensen and others. Jim travels around the country giving Referee Clinics, exhibitions with various pros, and Power Racquetball Clinics, a system of racquetball instruction Jim spent three years developing with his "mentor" Carl Loveday. Jim is racquetball editor of Tennis Talk and Racquetball Report of Southern California, and is currently on the player advisory staff of Leach Industries, Adidas USA, and is a consultant for various other racquetball enterprises.

By JIM SCHATZ

Recently at a NRC Pro Stop in California, Jerry Hilecher was ahead 21-20, 13-12, in the finals against Dave Peck, when Peck received a technical and lost a point for kicking the glass back door. Although Hilecher's 13th point seemed unimportant at the time, Peck hated losing it.

Controlled anger is what makes winners so tough to beat. Winners hate to lose a rally or point at any time. Peck's outburst of anger was an example of his desire and intensity to win. Unfortunately his uncontrollable anger, which he displayed at 13-12, adversely affected his intensity,

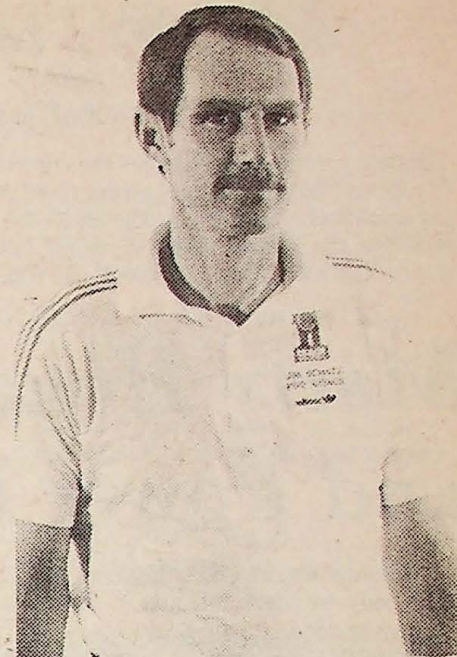
judgement and concentration just enough to lose the match 21-20, 21-20.

Too much adrenalin EVENTUALLY will take its physical and mental toll. The chemical reaction from anger is a severe jolt to the nervous system. This jolt creates a 'rush' or explosion of stored blood sugar. The rush is then followed by a letdown. This is exactly what happened to Peck.

PECK PLAYED THE next point tough, but lost the point. Then, still pumped, he regained his serve and scored two quick points while on his "high." At that point his letdown appeared and Hilecher was practically given three straight points on two Peck plum-skips and an easy set up. Peck's concentration and will to win deserted him during this period, in fact, to this day Dave probably is unaware of that lack of intensity and why.

Then, regaining his confidence, Peck won six straight points to go ahead 19-16. (In the first game Dave was also ahead 19-16 only to lose 21-20.) Coming from behind 16-19 in the second game Hilecher had the push he needed. By being behind, he created his own momentum which carried him to 20-20. When the score reached 20-20 Hilecher had the psychological advantage. Without the technical Peck would have won the game. After several exchanges of near perfect serves and roll outs from both players, Hilecher hit a miracle service return backhand roll out to regain his serve. He then served an ace — hard drive right — for match point. Peck, on another letdown, looked paralyzed and didn't even see the ball.

Dave Peck's lack of controlled anger at 13-12 cost him game point, consistent intensity and the match, a tough lesson to learn.



"Professor" Schatz

Racquetball—Corporate Fitness Investment

By ALAN SHETZER

The end of summer usually triggers the end of physical activities that the warm weather brings. Jogging, swimming, bike riding, even long walks seem to end, as many people return to the sedentary life brought on by our modern culture.

This trend can be stopped by corporate employers taking an active interest in the health of their employees with an invest-

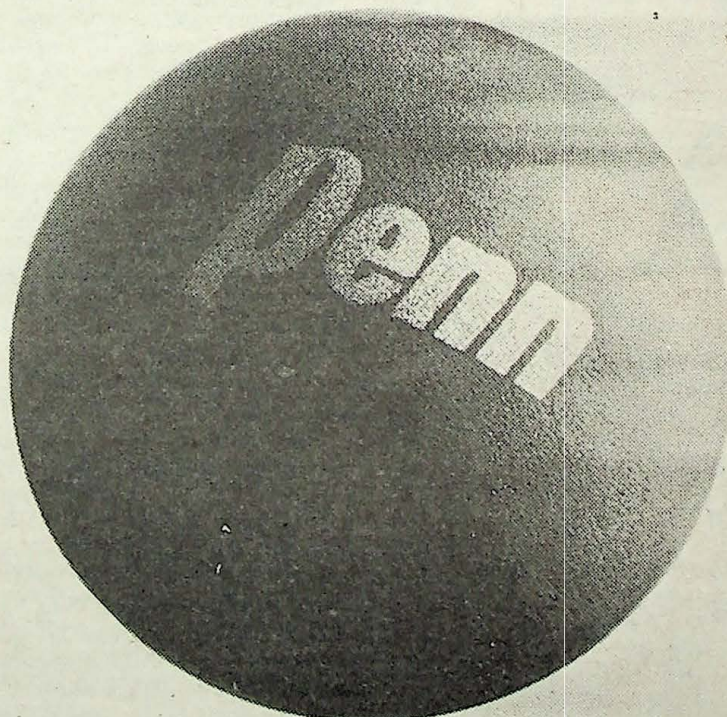
ment in fitness . . . and racquetball is the ideal way to buck this trend. Regular play several times a week is not only fun, but healthy and you don't need in-house facilities to promote physical fitness among your employees.

Court clubs around the country are now in full swing with membership drives and most have very attractive plans for corporate memberships. These plans offer

substantial reductions in cost for individual employees. Consider this from a selfish standpoint — companies that invest in the health of their employees are paid back in reduced absenteeism and increased productivity. You could even see a long term reduction in your health insurance costs.

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October, 1980

RACQUETBALL TODAY

How to Play Power Racquetball

By MARTY HOGAN and CHARLIE BRUMFIELD

Editor's Note: Marty Hogan, the current national champ and the guy known as the hardest hitting racquetball player alive, has teamed up with Charlie Brumfield, five times national champ and known as the smartest player alive, to produce a book based on the "power" style of racquetball. With permission of the authors and publisher, RACQUETBALL TODAY will reprint portions of that book.

Marty Hogan's Stance and Power Base

When he has or takes the time, Marty Hogan's "set-up" — the way he prepares his body to meet the ball — is no different from the orthodox set-up usually recommended.

To hit his forehand, he lines up with his feet parallel to the right wall, as every right-handed player should. From this proper position he should be able to hit the ball straight ahead if *his contact point is correct*.

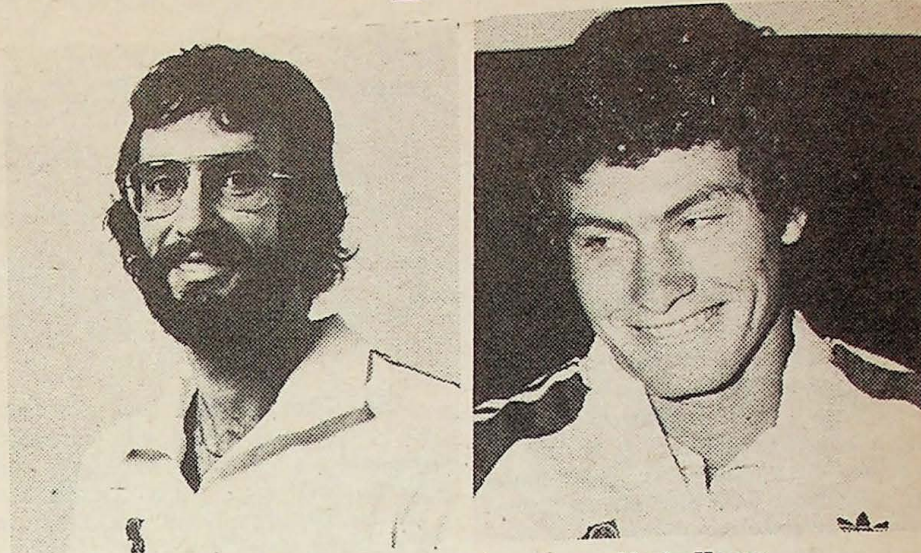
In other words, as Marty moves his feet, the direction in which the lead left foot points is basically the direction in which the ball should go — no matter what power is applied.

AS WE KNOW, Hogan hits the ball well back in his stance for his forehand, practically behind his body — that is, "off" that rear foot. But he still exerts masterful control over the direction of his shot, as measured by the classic front-foot-points yardstick.

The same is true of his backhand, except that Hogan's contact area for the backhand is nearer the middle of his body, although still well back of the classic front-foot hitting area.

Hogan's relatively "late" shooting at the ball gives him that extra microsecond to get his swing into its optimum position. It's as if a baseball batter somehow were allowed to back up and hit the ball approximately where the catcher's face is located.

Hogan's unorthodox play from an orthodox stance, or set position, gives him an edge of deception — the same kind of deception one sees in the tennis games of stars such as Jimmy Connors, Bjorn Borg, and Chrissie Evert. You hit the ball where you're not expected to; it's that simple.



Charlie Brumfield

Marty Hogan

THE FALSE expectation in the heart of your opponent comes from imagining that you will follow the rules of the dynamics of your sport and hit where you're looking or where your body seems to be pointing. Hogan still has a long way to go in adding deception to his game, but he does just fine operating from the basic set-up and stance one can learn from almost any book or instructor.

Of course, Hogan's range of execution is a mile beyond anything most players ever get to see, much less develop. The orthodox stance works for him and will work for any player who strives to play for power and gives it four or five hours a day.

There's just one other point about Hogan's stance. In general, it usually is narrower — that is, legs are closer together — than the stance of most players who try for that broad-based, biped stance that works so well for some kinds of weight lifting — but not for power racquetball.

The Sources of Power

One of the goals of this book is to analyze the form and technique of racquetball's most powerful hitter so that B and A players can move up in class by applying some of the lessons inherent in that analysis. It is, therefore, important to analyze the sources of power in racquetball, Hogan's power and your own actual or potential power. Remember, power first must be generated by the body before it can be transmitted to the ball.

In power racquetball, the power comes from a combination of fast-moving physical events. A sequence of pictures showing Marty Hogan hitting reveals the six elements that produce his power.

As coach Carl Loveday says, "Those six things are all in the world you possibly can do to produce speed on the **blank, blank** racquet to be applied to the darn ball!"

THERE IS, of course, the intangible mental, interior game of racquetball that always is going on within the four walls of the racquetball player's brain, voluntarily or involuntarily: the desire, the *need* to hit that ball with *power every time*.

It is this ultimate element, unpicturable except in results, that probably will make the ultimate difference between your moving into the ranks of the power players or staying where you are. It might well be that the production of power in your swing — as the production of power in the cold world — will take time and much effort.

Nobody is promising you a racquetball garden! If it were easy to become a Marty Hogan, there'd be quite a few of them out there. (And five or six potential challengers are rising fast among the 16-year-olds!) The pursuit of excellence is, quite literally, a pursuit, and it makes heavy demands on the pursuer. But once you get the knack you start feeling the power you never thought you had and chances are you'll keep working at it. Beginners, newcomers to power racquetball, have the advantage of starting a lot earlier in their power game and consolidating it into victories.

Power Production Exercises

Here is a warning to the player who is attempting to generate body power with which to clobber the ball: it's very important not to turn your hips and shoulders past the point of contact prior to hitting the ball with the racquet. Brumfield likens the fairly common over-swivel to holding a stretched rubber band and moving it in an arc, as if trying to strike a balloon with it. If one hand moves one end of the rubber band out of sync with the other, much forward thrust is lost.

You must be careful, right-handers, that at the moment you strike that forehand, your left side is fairly firm, including the left shoulder. The same is true for your backhand. Your chest should not "open up" and face the front wall.

Racquetball, generally, is a sideways game. When you hit the ball, your shoulders must impart their power just as they come square to the ball. That allows your racquet head to accelerate swiftly and impart its power to the ball. Too many players swing fiercely but don't hit the ball three-fourths as hard as they could by a well-timed stroke, using the wrist primarily!

IF THERE IS any secret to power hitting, it lies in "snapping" the wrist at impact — thus transmitting the body's and wrist's power to the ball in a snapping, popping motion. The wrist's action at that moment of impact, which results in a power stroke, most closely resembles snapping a towel! Or cracking a whip! That moment of maximum power as the towel snaps fiercely at someone's leg (playfully, of course) or as the whip bites into the air so hard that the returning air makes a crackling noise — that's the "feel" of a good power stroke.

Carrying the towel analogy a bit further, Charlie Brumfield feels that you almost should have the feeling of stopping your arm at impact for a split second and exploding through with your wrist as the final motion. This can be practiced in two ways.

Drop-and-hit is the first way. Drop the ball off your back foot, and try to hit it to the front wall. If you let your stance open up (that is, let your chest face the front

(Continued on Page 13)

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WPRA News On Schedule

By JANELL MARRIOTT

The first WPRA tournament of the 1980-81 season was held August 14-17 at the Newport Beach Sporting House in Newport Beach, California. It was a very successful tournament with a total of 450 participants, 50 pros, and both men's and women's amateur draws. The Pro division was won by Shannon Wright who defeated Heather McKay in an exciting finals match. Ms. Wright received \$4,000 for her efforts as the women played for one of our biggest purses yet — a total of \$15,000. The Men's and Women's Open amateur division winners received free trips to Hawaii.

The Sporting House was an exceptional host for the tournament. The WPRA extends our thanks to John Gulasso, manager of the Sporting House, for a fine tournament, for helping to find a sponsor, and for putting the tourney together. We also thank Jim Johnson, the sponsor, for the opportunity to play.

At this first tournament several items of business were discussed and perhaps are of interest to you.

THE FIRST ITEM is our next WPRA tournament. It will be held September 25-28 at the Escondido Athletic Club in Escondido, Cal. The tournament will include \$10,000 prize money for the women pros and a full classification of amateur men's and women's events.

We also have a tournament scheduled for November 12-16 in Boise, Idaho at the Courthouse. It will have a minimum of \$10,000 prize money for the women pros plus a full schedule of amateur events. This annual tournament is a fun event for pro and amateur alike; there are nightly activities scheduled for all players.

So far we have nothing scheduled for October, but the season is starting to shape up well with five tournament sponsors committed. The dates and sites of these tournaments are still being decided, but I hope to announce the full schedule soon.

The WPRA announced its rule on pro/amateur status at the Newport tournament. It's an important rule that each racquetball organization must decide.

RACQUETBALL TODAY suggested a universal amateur rule that would be based on rankings. The WPRA agrees that it would be good if all racquetball interests could decide upon a common rule. However, we have finalized our rule based on money won which is really the true distinction of a pro. The new WPRA rule on the definition of a pro is: *Anyone who has won \$1,000 or more over the past 12 months, in any tournaments (WPRA, independent, local, etc.) will be considered a professional racquetball player and ineligible to compete in amateur divisions.*

THE STAGE THAT racquetball has reached at this point in time gives players a chance to earn small amounts of money in local tourneys and use that money to cover expenses to compete in national pro/amateur tournaments around the country. The decision also helps to increase the pro ranks of the WPRA without punishing the player who is not ready to be a full time pro, from still participating in amateur events. Still, players who have won \$1,000 must be considered full-time pros.

The new rule may also act as a guideline for clubs putting on tournaments. They can provide amateur divisions with prizes and pro divisions with money, instead of

giving out prize money to both divisions. There comes a time when players must make a decision on their status and dedication to the sport. All sports have a distinction between pro and amateur, but how the distinction is made varies. I personally hope that one day racquetball will reach the point where it is profitable for a pro to earn a good living playing the game. Then, perhaps, we can change the rule saying, "anyone who wins money is a pro."

More Grobmisi Quick Tips

GROBMISI QUICK TIP NO. 1

What's the best way to prevent "racquetball elbow?"

Play a lot of tennis.

GROBMISI QUICK TIP NO. 2

If you have trouble hitting backhand pinch-kill shots:

If you have trouble hitting "pinch-kills" with your backhand (shots that hit the side wall, then the front wall, and then roll out), hit them with your forehand.

GROBMISI QUICK TIP NO. 3

How to make a living as a racquetball pro:

1. Be the best there is for at least three years.
2. Be really good at other sports so you can make big money on "Superstars."
3. Marry somebody really rich.

GROBMISI QUICK TIP NO. 4

What do you think about when you're swinging?

Not letting my wife find out.

GROBMISI QUICK TIP NO. 5

What do you do if you have a bad cold? Sneeze.

GROBMISI QUICK TIP NO. 6

When to use the ceiling shot:

If you cannot hit a kill, pass, jamb, splat, dinc, drive, pinch, reverse-pinch, lob, overhead kill, around-the-walls, or overhead-drive, you might consider the ceiling shot.

GROBMISI QUICK TIP NO. 7

The best strategy for the tie-breaker: Win the first two games.

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Hogan Defeats Yellen at Michigan Natural Light

By BOB SCHMENDRICK

It looks pretty clear that the folks up in Davison, Mich., with the help and sponsorship of Natural Light, have proven that you can have a truly major, successful pro/am outside of the regular NRC tour, as over 450 amateurs, as well as many of the top pros, were on hand for a most successful and exciting tournament September 5-7. With pros like Hogan, Yellen, Hilecher, Thomas, Fleetwood, Koltun, Myers, Bledsoe, Cohen and Mondry on hand, one could hardly bill this as anything but a "major event."

In addition to the "big names" a lot of exciting action was provided by others. Host-pro, Bob Wilhelm, provided Marty Hogan with his only tie-breaker of the weekend, losing to Marty 11-5 in the tie-breaker in the first round. Young Mike

Levine upset Doug Cohen (11-1 tie-breaker) and had Jerry Hilecher on the ropes before losing the second game and match 20-21.

In the quarterfinals it was Hogan over Fleetwood, Thomas over Koltun, Hilecher over Levine, and Yellen over Lindsay Myers in the only tie-breaker of the quarters (21-13, 20-21, 11-3). In the semis, Hogan had no problem with Don Thomas, and Yellen completely dominated Hilecher (21-7, 21-2) before a large crowd of Yellen's hometown supporters.

THAT SET UP a finals between the number 1 and 2 ranked players in the country, and as Yellen is the only player around who has demonstrated anything that *might* be called a degree of consistency in ability to beat the king of the courts,

the crowds jammed in and filled every corner of the Michigan club. And the fans were not disappointed.

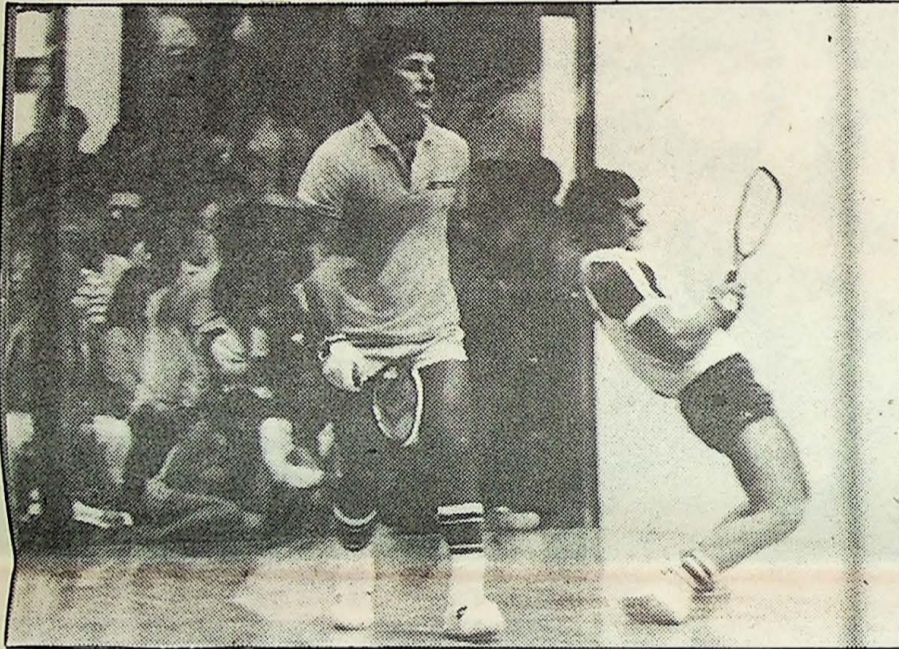
With Yellen serving in the first game and the score 17-18, Hogan hit a shot that the ref called "good," but Yellen and most of the fans felt sure skipped. Yellen appealed, getting a "split decision" by the linesmen, and giving Hogan the serve and the rest of the points to end the game. From then on it was all Hogan as he took the second game, and the match 21-12.

There was also a good showing by a couple of Illinois "semi-pros" as Dennis

McDowell and Dave Negrete gave Hilecher and Myers quite respectable matches before going down to them in the 16's.

In the 450-entrant amateur field, here's how they fared:

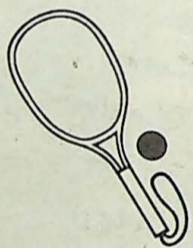
Men's Open: 1st: Don Constable; 2nd: Bob Adam
 Women's Open: 1st: Pam Prina; 2nd: E. Mildenberger
 Men's Senior A: 1st: B. Lippin; 2nd: L. Valenciano
 Men's Senior B: 1st: C. Ojalo; 2nd: J. Ginrich
 Women's Senior: 1st: A. Cummings; 2nd: P. Krause
 Men's Masters: 1st: L. Hahn; 2nd: L. Ciockajlo
 Men's A: 1st: B. Chermiside; 2nd: C. Ennis
 Men's B: 1st: M. Matz; 2nd: R. Berlin
 Women's B: 1st: S. Moody; 2nd: K. Miller
 Men's C: 1st: S. Tompczak; 2nd: B. Oddo
 Women's C: 1st: T. Ashworth; 2nd: D. Langdon
 Men's Novice: 1st: T. Fitzpatrick; 2nd: B. Dore
 17 & Under: 1st: M. Magnoli; 2nd: D. Webster
 15 & Under: 1st: S. Brechon; 2nd: C. Tects



Hogan hopping for a successful backhand pinch against Yellen in the finals.



Hogan retrieving backhand against Yellen in the finals.



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OAK LAWN RACQUET CLUB: 10444 South Central Avenue, Oak Lawn, Ill. 499-3628. 5 racquetball/handball courts, 8 tennis courts, saunas, whirlpools, exercise room, carpeted locker rooms, attended nursery, T.V. lounge.

KILLSHOT, LTD: 321 Edgewater Drive, Bloomingdale, Ill. 893-9575. 15 climate controlled racquetball/handball courts, fully carpeted locker rooms, large co-ed whirlpool, separate saunas, and massage rooms, extensive exercise room, fully equipped pro shop, attended nursery, spacious lounge with viewing gallery. Horseshoe-shaped bar with 2 way fireplace. Private and group lessons. General Manager/Head Pro: Don Jenkins. Manager/Pro: Sue Sullivan.

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clude saunas, steam rooms, massage, showers, and private Swedish massage. Supervised nursery. Members over 18 years. Corporate memberships available.

SILVER LAKE COUNTRY CLUB: 147th Street and 82nd Avenue, Orland Park, Ill. 349-6947. 9 racquetball/handball courts (1 glass walled court for viewing), saunas, free attended nursery, exercise rooms, full length lockers, extensive bar and lounge. Private and group lessons available.

FOREST VIEW RACQUET CLUB: 800 East Falcon Drive, Arlington Heights, Ill. 640-2574. 8 air-conditioned racquetball/handball courts, 6 indoor tennis courts, 6 outdoor tennis courts. Separate saunas and whirlpools, men's and women's locker rooms, attended nursery. Manager/head pro: Jeff Wilke. Racquetball pros: Georgia Maskalunas, Scott Thurber.

TINLEY PARK RACQUETBALL CLUB: 17500 Duvan Drive, Tinley Park, Ill. 532-7900. Open 7 days, 6 a.m. to 12 a.m. 15 regulation racquetball/handball courts with unique use of glass for uninterrupted playing and viewing. Luxurious health facilities including saunas, steam bath, whirlpools, Universal exercise areas. Free attended nursery. Pro shop, racquet rental, complete lessons program. Temperature controlled for comfortable year-round play. Home of the plush Prime Time Lounge. Managed by Five Stars International Enterprises, Inc.

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2. THORNDALE RACQUET HOUSE: 1220 Mark St., Bensenville, Ill. 595-2020. Club Pro: Colleen Shields.
3. HILLSIDE RACQUET HOUSE: 4401 W. Roosevelt Road, Hillside, Ill. 449-2255. Club Pro: Crystal Durdill.
4. HARLEM IRVING RACQUET HOUSE: 4203 North Harlem, Norridge, Ill. 457-2040. Club Pro: Sam Rizzio.
5. ELMHURST RACQUET HOUSE: 233 West Grand Avenue, Bensenville, Ill. 595-5060. Club Pro: Rose Magliano.

All clubs have racquetball/handball on 8 regulation courts. Carpeted locker rooms, saunas, whirlpools, steamrooms, exercise facilities, free attended nursery, pro shop, racquet rental, group and private lessons, instructional and non-instructional leagues. Open 7 days a week. Director of all club operations: Carol Armstrong. Program Director/Public Relations: Mary Lou Burny

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CONTINENTAL CLUB: 1701 Golf Road, Rolling Meadows, Ill. 981-7777. Ten racquetball/handball courts, two squash courts, indoor swimming pool and whirlpool, indoor running track. Nautilus equipment, basketball, volleyball, Judo, Karate, golf driving. Separate Paramount equipment workout rooms for men and women. Carpeted locker rooms for men and women with sauna, steam, sun rooms. Color TV in lounges, towels & toiletries, massages. Free attended nursery, pro shop, group and private lessons available. Open 7 days a week. This club is built in conjunction with restaurants, Deli, shops and three twelve story office towers. Individual and Corporate memberships available; Charter membership available until June 1; call Debbie Engle, Director of Membership, 312-981-7777. General Manager: Norb Duba.

CHALET SPORTS CORE: 8300 South Wolf Road, Willow Springs, Ill. 246-4030. Conveniently located 1 mile from the Tri-State and Stevenson expressways. 22 racquetball/handball courts, indoor swimming pool, indoor running track, exercise room, saunas, whirlpools, steamroom, sunroom, free attended nursery, pro shop, cocktail lounge and disco.

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HIGHLAND PARK CLUB: 2699 Skokie Valley Road, Highland Park, Ill. 60035. 433-6000.
NORTHBROOK CLUB: 2175 Commercial Avenue, Northbrook, Ill. 60062. 498-9890.
LINCOLN PARK CLUB: 220 West North Avenue, Chicago, Ill. 60610. 943-2266.

All clubs have 12 air-conditioned racquetball/handball courts, carpeted locker rooms, saunas, whirlpools, nursery school program available, pro shop, racquet rentals, group and private lessons, leagues, programs and parties. Open 7 days a week.

WHEATON SPORT CENTER: 1000 Prairie Avenue, Wheaton, Ill. (312) 690-0887. Featuring 12, indoor racquetball courts, three with back wall glass for viewing; six indoor tennis courts; two outdoor tennis courts, 25-yard, six-lane, indoor pool; free attended nursery; dance studio; indoor running track; complete pro shop; steam, saunas and whirlpools; racquetball and tennis lessons available; other outdoor activities including golf driving range for members.

MICHIGAN

SPORTS ILLUSTRATED COURT CLUB No. 1: 2111 Golf-side Road, Ypsilanti, Mich. (313) 434-2111. 10 courts, Nautilus fitness center, free nursery, saunas, lounge, racquetball instruction, pro shop and much more!

FLINT RACQUETBALL AND FITNESS CENTER: G-3237 Beecher Road, Flint, Mich. (313) 733-3000. 10 regulation courts (1 glass), 2 saunas, co-ed whirlpool, fully-equipped pro shop, leagues, lessons and parties. Aerobic Dance classes. Group discounts available. Club manager: Terry Graham.

SPORTS ILLUSTRATED COURT CLUB No. 7: 2717 Schust Road, Saginaw, Mich. (517) 790-0150. 15 regulation courts, Swedish sauna, whirlpool, free nursery from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday, Universal fitness center with jogging area, and pro shop.

SPORTS ILLUSTRATED COURT CLUB No. 12: 42140 Van Dyke, Sterling Heights, Mich. (313) 254-1012. 8 regulation courts, 2 saunas, 2 whirlpools, 1 badminton court. Special women's programs, free nursery, men's and women's traveling leagues. Aerobic dance classes. 2 professional instructors (APRO). Manager: Kathleen Zale. Program director: Debbie Fultz.

FLINT RACQUETBALL AND FITNESS CENTER: G-5219 W. Pierson Road, Flushing, MI. (313) 733-7730. 15 regulation courts, Swedish sauna, whirlpool, free attended nursery from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Universal fitness center with jogging area. Pro shop. Located 1 mile west of I-75 on Pierson Road. Club Manager: Al Nuechterlein.

Court Talk

Shopping for Balls Can Make You Blue



By BOB GURA

I recently spent a lunch hour browsing the aisles of a large sporting goods store. I was on the hunt for a racquet for a friend of mine. This guy is uncoordinated at best and I wanted something that could stand an unthinkable battering. I figured it would be easy to make a selection from the stacks of racquets on display.

It wasn't too tough and I soon made the purchase. It was an aluminum framed model, a name brand in the \$30 range. The strings were wound nice and tight and the handle had a comfortable leather grip. When no one was looking I smacked the ball against the wall and checked for stress. It passed with flying colors. While in the swing of things, I thought I'd buy a can of balls.

When it comes to racquetballs I've never been a very adventure-some type. I always bought plain black balls until many clubs refused to allow them on court. The management had a point as they did leave marks on the walls. Faced with the veto I went for the basic green colored ball. I was looking for the old standby when I glanced at the counter that held the racquetballs.

THERE WERE black balls and green balls and red balls and brown balls and plum balls and blue balls. There were balls that were supposed to be pressureless and other you inflated with a huge syringe. There was even a ball that had dimples like a golf ball and was supposed to help put spin or "English" on the shot.

I was puzzled, being unaccustomed to dealing with such a variety of bouncers. I thought of asking a salesperson, but hit on another route. I went to a bookshelf and found what I was after. According to rule 2.2 (a) of the official USRA-NRC rules the ball had to be 2 1/4 inches in diameter. It had to weigh approximately 1.40 ounces. In addition it should bounce 68-72 inches from a 100 inch drop at a temperature of 76 degrees Fahrenheit.

As soon as I read it I did my best to forget the information and called for help. A second or so later (he must have been hid-

ing behind a display) a salesman arrived. I told him I was a traditional green ball man, but wondered if any of these other balls were really different. Well, he said, eyes aglow, some of the balls can help in the area of "visual acuity." I asked if that meant I could see it quicker. He said yes, peered at me as if I was worse than an ignoramus, smiled and continued.

SOME BALLS have a longer court life than others, while many become favorites merely on the strength of their coloration. Some people even go so far, he chimed, as to buy matching balls, racquets and court ware.

I groaned, started to walk away, but couldn't help myself. What about that ball with the syringe, I asked? How does it work? Well, he said, you use the syringe to pump the desired amount of air pressure into the ball. Whenever the pressure falls, the ball can be reinflated for longer life. It came to me I'd played a game once with a guy that used the syringe-ball. The thing was so jacked up with air it flew like a meteor. While I usually play to win I remember thinking only of getting off the court unscathed. I figured I wouldn't buy that ball for my buddy. In his hands it could become a lethal weapon.

Next, I was informed about the qualities of the dimpled ball. According to the salesman, many players who he was aware of, loved the ball. They were able to make it bounce at wild angles off the wall and the like. I asked if it was in wide usage. He said no, and I agreed, nodding sagely. I'd never even seen one on court before. He went on to talk about the advantages of the pressureless ball and new developments in durability and appearance.

Enough is enough I shrieked inwardly, picking up a can of green balls and running to the cash register. No matter how much the art of racquetball manufacture has progressed my friend would make do with the green ball. What he didn't know wouldn't hurt him. It probably wouldn't help him either.

Playing Power Racquetball

Hogan's Stance, Power Base

(Continued from Page 10)

wall as you swing), your shot will go into the right wall. Learning to hit the ball when it's closer to the rear foot gives you the advantage of a little more time to get set, and if you can remember not to open that stance, you can learn to hit accurately.

For the second drill, throw the ball up into the air and practice hitting it on the fly, without letting it bounce. Remember to bend your body and your knees, and try to concentrate on "popping," "snapping" and "cracking" the whip or towel.

YOUR OBJECT is to develop maximum racquet-head speed and impart it to the ball for power. As your skills improve, you will learn to add a little more back swing to develop that extra 15 or 20 per cent of power that's probably residing in your frame.

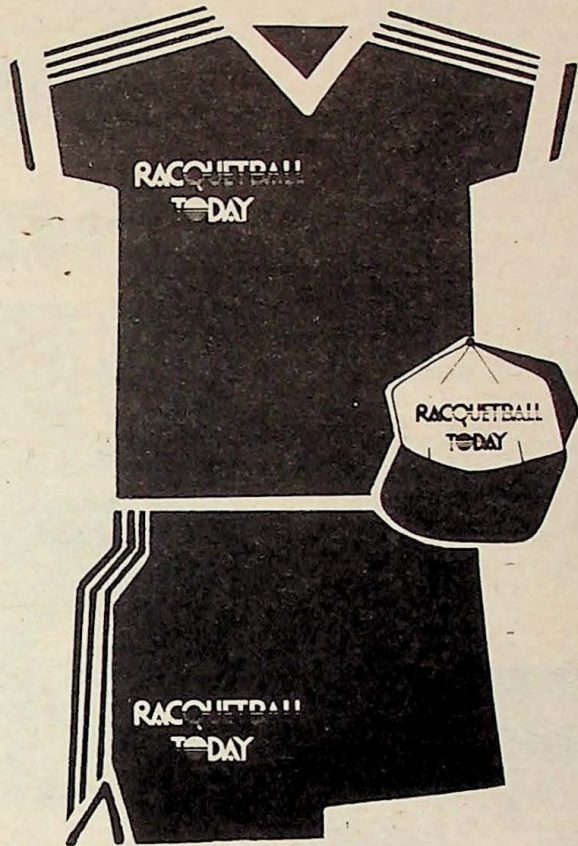
But for the time being work on your snap, pop and crackle! If you have experience in other sports, a "good" racquetball hit for power will remind you of that perfect golf hit, tennis shot, or softball double.

We are pursuing perfection, which is always elusive, and trying to translate into words something that is sheer action. You must practice consistently — an hour a day, three times a week isn't too much. And for a time you must practice alone. The loneliness of the long-distance runner has its counterpart in the newcomer to power racquetball! Pros regularly work on just one department of their game for 300 shots

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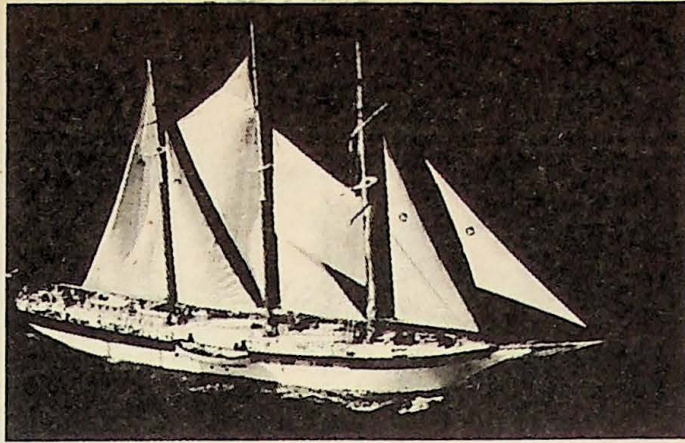
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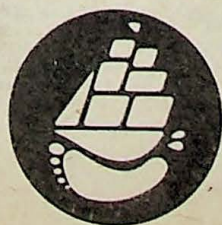
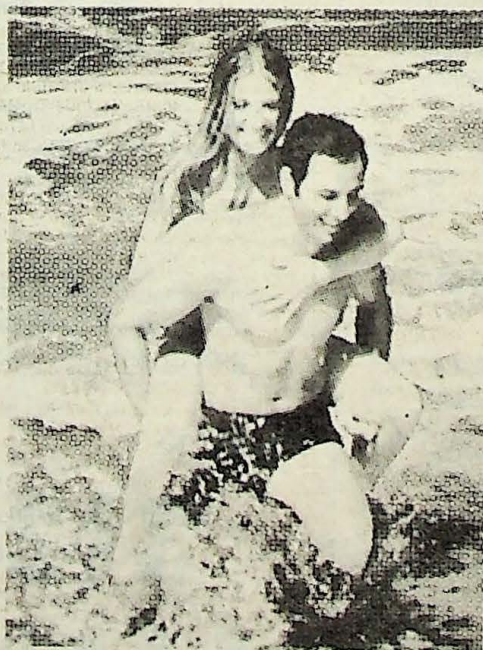
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Charlie Brumfield Outspoken on PRA

By GEOFF PETERS
RACQUETBALL TODAY reporter, Geoff Peters, cornered racquetball's most outspoken spokesperson at the recent Sun Prairie Pro/Am in Wisconsin, shortly after the Brum's semifinal defeat at the hands of 18-year-old Doug Cohen. The discussion centered around the newly-formed men's pro racquetball association, the PRA, which is composed of the top 16 players on the pro tour, of which Charlie is part of a three-man executive committee along with Steve Strandemo and Dave Peck.

RACQUETBALL TODAY: Does the PRA intend to set a minimum purse for tournaments to guarantee its members will attend?

CHARLIE BRUMFIELD: Eventually it will be necessary to establish a minimum. Smaller tournaments like this might be great for the sport but it doesn't do much for the pros if they can get top names by offering only \$5,000 in prize money. Eventually we will have to set standards. It's kind of a difficult question to answer because there's only five guys in racquetball that really make any money. Now if Doug Cohen can come here and make \$1,500, that's \$1,500 he wouldn't have made. So I do think a minimum is gonna hurt the numbers six through 16, but I think for at least the first couple of seasons I'm going to push for the smallest limit practical.

R.T.: What do you think that might be around \$4,000?

C.B.: No, more like \$7,500.

R.T.: That will eliminate a lot of smaller tournaments like this one.

C.B.: Well, it won't go into effect immediately. What will happen is if we're suc-

cessful, I think racquetball will take a great stride forward as far as its ability to be promoted. Right now, with the fast ball and other problems, the game suffers as it's very difficult to get sponsorship because it's difficult to expose — you can't get it on television.

R.T.: Do you think the ball will be slowed down? I know it wouldn't hurt your game any.

C.B.: It's not a matter of self-serving interest. I want to be the television commentator. I've already won my titles — I've achieved everything I could hope to achieve as a player in racquetball. What I'd like to do is to go into television and the game cannot go on to television the way it's now played with the fast ball.

R.T.: Can it go on with the type of scoring system we have now?

C.B.: No. That's another thing that's on the agenda to be discussed (by the PRA)

The Grobmisi Letters to Almost Everyone

To Jerry Hilecher:

Dear Jerry,

Well, you finally decided to take my advice and start killing the ball more! Of course it worked! Even Marty Hogan can't get them when they're rolling. Now start concentrating on getting to the ball before it bounces the second time and no one will ever beat you. And when you're king of the courts, don't forget your old friend and coach.

Tom Grobmisi

To Ronald Reagan:

Dear Ron,

He's never going to agree to debate you so let it rest, will ya? Why don't you challenge him to a game of racquetball. We could get lots of sponsors, rent a big glass court, and sell tickets. Nah... forget it. It would never make TV (unless you agreed to use a slower ball).

Tom Grobmisi

Dear Women Pros,

Whatever happened to "please" and "thank you?" Didn't your mummies ever teach you manners? I'm sure they'll let you back on the men's tour if you grovel a little and agree to wash the windows on the glass courts where the men get to play. And it wouldn't hurt if you'd all learn to type.

Sincerely,
Tom Grobmisi

Dear Phineas T. Barnum III,

I was going to write you to see if you had any ideas as to how to make racquetball more exciting for TV, but when I thought about it, it occurred to me that we had something to offer you! You've already got three rings equipped for handling animals, why don't you put an exhibition racquetball court in one and invite the pros to come play? The fans would love it!

Sincerely,
Tom Grobmisi

Dear Heather McKay,

I was so sad when I heard Shannon beat you last month. I know how hard it must be for you to accept losing... I know you're not used to it. Anyway, now you know what the rest of us have to face almost every day of our lives and I'm sure it will make you a "better person" as a result of it. Why don't you kill the ball more? Like I told my friend, Jerry (Hilecher), they can't beat you when you're rolling them out. Good luck, and don't forget my advice.

Tom Grobmisi

... rule changes to make the game more exciting. We're talking about best of seven games to seven points maybe. The main thing is that I think with a player's association there'll be more of a tendency to experiment. I'm gonna try to encourage each of the pros to go back to their hometowns where they have a lot of influence and get their local leagues and tournaments to experiment with some of these new rules, because they've never been tried. The thing is though, that it's very, very important that you maintain interest in the game, and right now there's nothing of interest to watch. It's a joke! And I don't want to sound negative about the game, 'cause I love racquetball. It's hard for me to believe that it has been allowed to move in the direction it has for so long.

R.T.: Do you think that's because of overly conservative leadership?

C.B.: No. It's not a matter of leadership, it's just I don't think people realize where the hell the game was. Even the old-timers who've been around a long time don't see it. When you're with it day to day it's very difficult to see the game gradually eroding. The slow ball would do so much to improve the nature of the game. If you look at it as a cardio-vascular recreation, it isn't that with the fast ball. Two C players can't even get a workout!

R.T.: Just what kind of a ball do you have in mind?

C.B.: Any ball that is slower will be easier to televise and is going to produce more action. You know what the crowd cheered in my match against Doug Cohen? When the ball was hit five times by

each guy! As pitiful as it was, because rallies with a fast ball happen really when the guy screws up — otherwise there is no rally. So Cohen and I both missed four shots and left them up and the crowd cheered!

R.T.: Is the PRA going to decide which tournaments the players should go to and which to say no to?

C.B.: The group is not going to say no. The only thing the group is going to do is give us a chance to negotiate for better playing conditions and more pay. Right now, because of the nature of the sport, the players aren't in a commanding bargaining position. So it would be foolhardy to do what the women have done — equal pay or we won't play — they'd just cancel us out. So what I would hope we could do is present a collective front; negotiate for better refereeing, rule changes, slower balls — whatever the players agree on.

R.T.: What are you looking for, for yourself, out of this season?

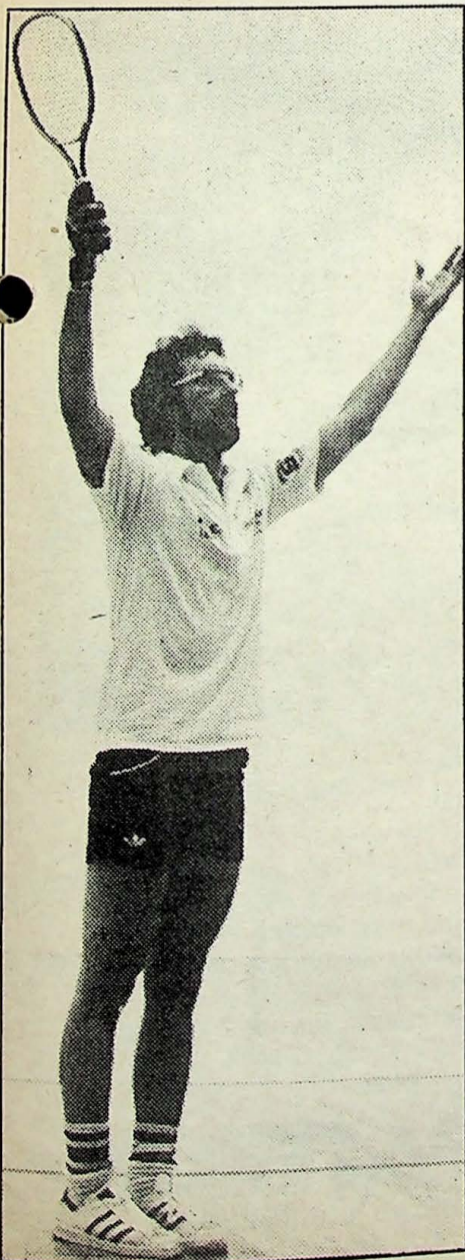
C.B.: If they slow the ball down, I'm gonna train. Because with a slow ball, I can still beat anybody, anytime.

R.T.: Who will make that final decision on the ball?

C.B.: The NRC. Nobody can continue to think that the fast ball is for the good of racquetball. They don't have to stop using Seamco balls, they can just slow down what they've got.

R.T.: What if they stay with the fast ball.

C.B.: Well, I do a lot of clinics, but I'll still shoot for being in the top eight. There's no reason why I can't stay in the top eight.



Charlie Brumfield

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READ THIS
 Before starting on any weight loss program we advise you to consult your doctor to make sure you are in normal health and your only problem is being overweight. We strongly urge you to show the total weight loss program to your doctor. See if he doesn't agree that this total weight loss program including time and hydrotherapy is the most effective approach to weight problems ever developed by medical science.

Automatic Appeal System



By PHIL SIMBORG

A New, Improved Method of the Appeal System

As every frustrated fan who has ever watched a pro or top amateur match knows, the current system of appeals terribly detracts from the flow and enjoyment of the game of racquetball. It is necessary to have a method of appeal when these top athletes perform, as the speed of the ball and their movement is such that it is nearly impossible for any one person to make every call correctly, while at the same time watching for hinders, screens, and other infractions. With the current system, however, after nearly every rally, one or both of the players makes an appeal, and the process is so cumbersome, confusing, and time-consuming that the game, at times, seems to drag on forever! Further, players often use, or rather, abuse the appeal system as a method of trying to intimidate the ref, the other player, or the linesmen, and often just to stall for time and let off a little steam. I have devised an alternative method of "checking" the ref which affords the players all the protection (and then some) of the current method, but totally eliminates all the stalling, conversation, delays, and general mess inherent with the system as it now stands. If adopted, I think top-level racquetball will be much more enjoyable to play, ref and watch.

The system works like this: the two linesmen are situated the same as currently — on courts with side-wall glass, they are on the sides, and in conventional courts they are at the back corners. At the end of any rally where the linesman believes the referee has made a call on a double-bounce pickup or skip ball which caused the wrong player to be awarded the rally, that linesman shall raise a red flag (or handkerchief). If both linesmen raise a red flag, without discussion, the referee shall award the rally to the other player. If one linesman raises a red flag, and the other linesman agrees with the outcome of the rally as called by the ref, the second linesman shall make no signal, (and therefore, the ref's call shall stand). If the second linesman, however, was TOTALLY blocked from seeing a close shot, or has "serious doubts" that the ref made the right call, he shall raise a white flag, and the rally shall be replayed. In any event, play will continue without conversation, without delay, and the player will have automatically been informed of the linesmen's opinion of the ref's calls. This will end an enormous amount of verbal exchanges between the players and the ref, and since the players will not have to worry about what to and how to appeal given shots, they can keep their minds on the game, where it belongs, and leave the officiating to the officials.

The only reasonable arguments against this system that I have yet to hear are: 1) what if both linesmen raise flags, but for two entirely different shots; 2) what if one linesman is red-flagging one shot and the other is white-flagging another, and 3) what if there were wrong calls made in favor of both players on a single rally.

IN ANSWER TO No. 1, I believe that if both linesmen felt SURE enough that the ref blew the call on two separate issues,

the other player is still entitled to win the rally and probably should have been awarded the rally in the first place if all calls were made "EXACTLY" right.

In the case of No. 2, if one linesman felt compelled to use the red and the other the white, again, even on two separate instances, there is certainly enough doubt as to what should have been the outcome that the fairest thing is to replay the rally.

In the case of No. 3, the argument is not valid because the linesman is only supposed to raise the flag if he felt the rally was awarded to the wrong player. If, for example, the linesman felt that player A hit a double bounce (which the ref did not call) and then player B hit a double bounce (which the ref did not call either), and the ref awarded the rally to B, then the linesman WOULD NOT raise his flag. He would not because he agreed with the outcome of the rally.

Applying this new system to the service calls becomes a little bit more complicated to explain, but is quite easy to implement. In the first place, if and when racquetball changes its rules to allow the server only one serve, which I believe is also necessary to make the game fairer and more enjoyable with less delays, the new system works quite easily. But with the current two-serve system it works like this: If the ref calls a short serve and the linesman thinks it was good, he immediately raises his red flag so-signifying, while the other shall either raise a red if he, too, disagrees with the ref (and the ref would then change his call to good serve, awarding an ace if applicable or giving the server another serve), or if the other linesman did not see well, or could not tell, would rise a white flag (then the serve would automatically go over) or if the second linesman agreed with the ref he would make no signal and the ref's call would stand. If the ref calls the serve good and the linesman thought the serve was a "fault" (short, long, ceiling, three-wall, footfault) or "out" serve (non-front, etc.), he makes no signal until the end of the rally, at which time he will raise his hand (with no flag). Here, the linesman must also indicate, verbally, if he felt the serve was a fault or out serve.

THE BEST METHOD of handling service calls, however, when we do have the advantage of side-wall glass, is to take a lesson from tennis. Station one linesman along the short (back) line, and one along the service (front) line, and make the linesmen TOTALLY responsible for calling footfaults and short serves on their line only (using the red flag to so indicate). The call would then be made by the official in the best position to make the call, and though it would NOT be subject to appeal, the referee, as in tennis, will have the authority to overrule the linesman if he feels the linesman truly "blew" the call.

I like the use of the flags as they make it much easier for the fans, players, the ref, and future television audiences to see and understand what is transpiring.

I have sent copies of this proposal to the WPRA, NRC, AARA, USRA, NARP and PRA in the hopes that they will consider it and push for its adoption. It's called the "Automatic Appeal System," and if you agree with the idea, why don't you drop them or us a note.

Order your books from RACQUETBALL TODAY

The phenomenal growth of racquetball in the past few years, first in the Midwest, then on to both coasts, and now almost everywhere, is to a large extent attributable to the active participation by women in the sport. Meeting the growing demand for a book on racquetball directed at women players, Jean Sauser, a top-ranked women's teaching and playing pro, and Arthur Shay, the official United States Racquetball Association photographer, have produced a unique instructional picture book on racquetball for women—a real much-needed first in the sport.

Inside Racquetball for Women, designed to correct the mistakes and clear up the problems women commonly encounter in playing racquetball, provides clearly explained and photographed techniques for a better game. Using a uniquely descriptive terminology to name each error, the authors explain how to eliminate problems such as Dancer's Stance, the Frying Pan, and the Arabesque in order to develop the kind of game that wins matches. In addition, the book includes a complete glossary of important racquetball terms and a section on the new 1977 rules of the game.

Jean Sauser, ranked 6th in women's racquetball in the United States, teaches racquetball in Chicago.

Arthur Shay is the author-photographer of some 35 books, including *Inside Racquetball* and *Winning Racquetball*.



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Most racquetball teachers recommend that a player start out with a metal racquet since it is a little easier for beginners to control the ball.

As players progress in their ability and read more about racquetball equipment and watch the better players, most will at one time or another try a different racquet.

Fiberglass racquets have long been a standard for the better players and one of the best is the "Spitfire" by Vittert. This racquet is a light weight (255 grams), one piece fiberglass construction that provides exceptional quickness and flex. It has a modified quad head-shape for a larger hitting surface and ball control. Additionally it's relatively inexpensive (\$18-22). If you are contemplating a change, try this one.

I LIKE TO remind readers about safety

How to Play Imaginatively

By TOM GROBMISI

There are a great variety of ways to play racquetball, and though I personally prefer the more traditional methods which include the use of a racquet, I do urge people not to become so set in their ways that they get in a rut.

There's basically two reasons why the rule books insist on racquets — the people that write the rules are greatly influenced by the racquet manufacturers (more of Charlie Drake's work here), and they simply don't have the guts to advise you to hit the ball with a cucumber. And that's just one way to make the game more interesting!

If people would open their minds just a little, I'm sure just about everyone would agree that the game would be much more fun and relaxing if we *didn't* have to hit the ball on *one* bounce. Why do they have to be so uptight? What about using larger balls... say, the size of a tennis ball? That would sure make the sport more attractive to TV. And what about the old "I Love Lucy" shows, how soon we forget those valuable lessons.

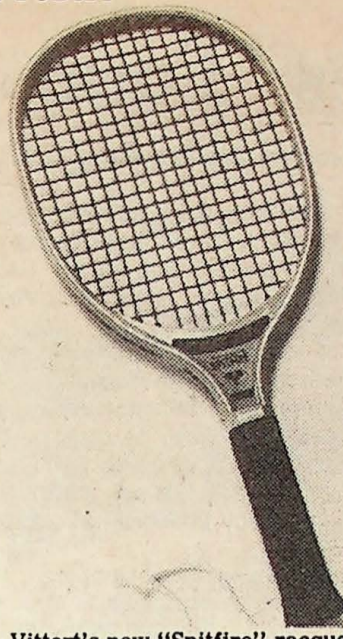
CO-ED LOCKER ROOMS! There's an idea for you! It could be the biggest thing that ever happened to court clubs... they'd have to take out some courts and add more lockers and showers! I know there's a lot of "squeemish" people who might object, but you could post a big sign in the lobby that will help them accept co-ed locker rooms, like: "Attention — it had become the policy of this club to combine the men's and women's locker rooms. This was necessary to end all the confusion about which keys were for which lockers."

People are used to seeing signs like this around racquetball clubs... they'll just scratch their heads and accept it. And next time they come back they'll bring lunch!

Maybe you don't like some of these ideas, but what I'm trying to do is to get people to *think*. Use your imagination. Experiment. And don't be afraid to try something new. Playing with a cucumber may sound funny, but it looks even funnier. And that's what it's all about. And that's the truth. Pffgghhhhttt!

glasses because too many people don't realize how dangerous it is NOT to wear them. The standard excuses are that they impair vision, are uncomfortable and don't look good. Protect, Inc., the largest manufacturer of wrap-around glasses has come up with a new product that eliminates all of these objections. Their new glasses, the Gargoyle, are made from a new-special-formula polycarbonate material that is designed and manufactured to conform to the performance requirements of the American National Standards Institute.

Coming in various colors, the glasses are attractive looking and light weight.



Vittert's new "Spitfire" racquet.



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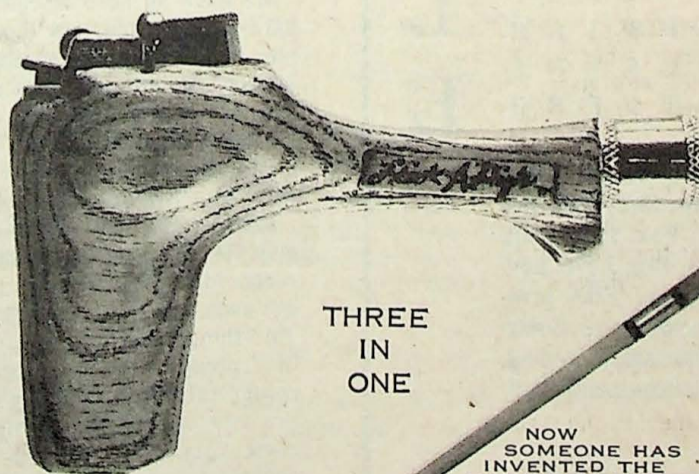
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Ektelon Pledges 'Total Commitment' to Sport

Editor's Note: Ron Grimes, 28, joined Ektelon in 1975 as assistant to the president. His new position is director of marketing and in that capacity he is responsible for all marketing and sales for Ektelon's complete product line.

By RON GRIMES

Total commitment both on and off the court would best describe Ektelon's role in racquetball today.

Since Ektelon was founded by Bud Held in 1967, our first priority has always been to produce the best equipment available. That commitment to quality began with a line of aluminum racquets and has taken us through the Magnum, our ultimate in aluminum, and our new BlueLite, the most flexible women's racquet.

But as our consumers searched for something else, so has Ektelon. Today we offer the 250G and the Marathon, two of the finest graphite-matrix racquets made.

STILL, EKTELON had never stopped with just racquets. Our new Tournament Model Glove was two years in the making. Our Actionwear line of clothes has consistently featured distinctive, yet functional material. The same could be said for our

other products such as eyewear, balls and bags.

Only after these products have been developed and produced has Ektelon increased its commitment to our second most important goal — that of improving the nature of the sport.

One of our primary concerns has always been for the grass roots player. Currently, more than 1,100 amateurs and pros are under some form of equipment or sponsorship agreement. That includes local, regional and national players who tour on our behalf giving clinics and exhibitions.

Part of this educational campaign is the sponsorship of pros Dave Peck, Mike Yellen and Jennifer Harding. Not only are they great players, but great teachers as well. All have authored instructional articles designed to help you improve your game. They have also given clinics around the country, returning something to the sport they love.

BUT LIKE ITS Greek derivative ektein (to stretch out) telon (perfection), Ektelon has done more. This year, more than one million copies of the "Guide to Better Racquetball" will be produced and dis-



Ron Grimes with products of National Juniors Program, pros Scott Hawkins and John Egerman. Advisor Bob Petersen is in the background.

CONGRATULATIONS! The following people won our September Puzzle drawing and have been sent either a can of balls or a racquetball key ring.

Terry Hennigan, Springfield, Ohio; Naomi Uri, Fort Collins, Colo.; Stephen Todd, Sturgis, Mich.; Gail Wise, Denver, Colo.; John O'Donovan (with help from his son), San Carlos, Calif.; Jim Hock, Newton, New Jersey; Patsy White, Medford, Oregon; Bruce Falberg, Traverse City, Mich.; Joanie Ennessy, Prospect Heights, Ill., and Leslie Huserman, Cleveland, Ohio.

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AARA, ace, Andrews, award, beta, Bledsoe, boss, call, calm, Cohen, Coors, Dee, default, Dern, door, draw, fans, fast, fee, finals, flail, Fletcher, flip, footfault, Foton, Fox, front wall, Garfinkle, Gonzales, Grobmisl, Hoff, Kunnan, Lee, Leve, Levine, long, lose, mean, NARP, nationals, pass, play, PRA, pressure, rest, Rubenstein, SEAMCO, Seaton, semis, Serot, Shetzer, shots, sideout, Simborg, sport, sportsmanship, Steding, Stoll, Strandemo, strings, technical, tie, tip, tournaments, Walton, Wirkus, WPRA, zeal.

These racquetball names and terms can be found in the above puzzle. Circle them and send us the puzzle with your name and address. We will have a drawing for some nice prizes.

NAME _____

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tributed to clubs across the country.

In addition, to help the media better understand the game and its future, we produced the "Racquetball Report," a 55-page manuscript detailing the history of the sport, who plays, how often, where and for what reasons.

Finally, on a nationwide basis, we are committed to the Ektelon-Perrier Championships and the AARA National Juniors program. To us, this multi-faceted ap-

proach to two important goals is a key. We want to appeal to all levels of players. We want to interest television and newspapers in the sport's potential.

Therefore, in 1980 and beyond, Ektelon's name and Flame of Excellence will continue to represent our philosophy, integrity and leadership, and, our never-ending quest to be the best, in whatever we do.

Unique New Giftware and Trophy Suggestions

By RENE SOKOLSKI

Racquetball jewelry, paperweights, tiles . . . what kind of trophies are these? It seems that the people playing the fastest growing sport in the country are calling for more interesting awards than just another metal cup or plaque to collect dust on the trophy shelf.

We have all been relegated to an IBM card number, but now there are companies that are making available handsome jewelry designs that can personalize us and our sporting interest. Authentically crafted racquetball design keyrings, pendants, money clips, stick pins, etc., can be worn as a symbol of our favorite sport.

Many a pro has been stuck on what to give for the next club tournament. The racquetball jewelry becomes a welcome gift award to your club members. It is an "in" thing, signifying membership in the "in" group of the racquetball world and recognizable by all interested in the sport. For very special tournaments, it has become very swish to award 14 K. gold charms for the ladies or tie tacs for the men.

SOME OF THE nicest giftware designs we have seen lately, have been paperweights done in crystal clear lucite; one larger with two polished gold racquets suspended in the lucite and the other a smaller piece also with suspended gold racquet and having a black lucite base. They both have a place for an engraveable plate and no one will want to hide

these beauties. These pieces also can be used very successfully for a recognition night at the club.

We have seen some very nice mugs and stationery that can be used with success for small tournaments. And, of course there are always T-shirts.

Finding the right trophy often becomes difficult and the pro who hasn't time to plan will end up with the trite pieces found in the local trophy shop.

Naturally cash is always acceptable and appreciated for awards, but for ego's sake, if nothing else, there is no doubt that a winner likes to have something tangible to take home and display.

ANOTHER UNIQUE idea recently viewed is a trophy plaque, which is composed of a tile with graphic racquetball racquets set in a walnut frame. This can be hung or, if creatively inclined, used as a cheese board.

Most companies who handle these items need about six weeks lead time to get the pieces to the club on time. This is a good rule of thumb to follow, so that your club members will not be disappointed and so that you as the tournament director can offer them something special. You can request the plates be mailed in advance of the pieces so that you can have them engraved beforehand. Try something different the next time you run a tournament and get those racquetball addicts really turned on!

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Send us a nude shot of yourself or a friend holding a racquet, along with your check for \$9, and we'll send you a T-shirt and your membership certificate to one of America's most exclusive organizations!

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Looking for a job in a racquetball club? Check out the new job finder service in this publication. There's no better way to expose yourself to the club owners and find the best job available.

Help! Our classified ads section is brand new and we need ads. Do you want to find someone looking for a game at 6 a.m. in Waco, Texas? Do you want to congratulate a friend for winning? Looking for someone to share a room at the upcoming pro stop? Here's the place to put the ad. See order form below.

CLASSIFIED ADS
The Market Place of Thousands

WE'RE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE to help RACQUETBALL TODAY in a few, specific metropolitan areas where we currently have no representative. We need people to help give us reports on major tournaments when they are in the area, help us run our tournaments around the country, and help establish the club guide. We currently need people in Atlanta, Boston, Denver, Houston, Seattle and St. Louis.

I'm a handsome, 23-year-old single male living in the Chicago area, looking for fun-loving females who like to swing, both on and off the court. Write: R.T., Box 101.

Personal to Karen Mellow: I know you're out there somewhere! Please write and let me know how to get a hold of you.

Phil

Amateur photographers! We're always in need of fresh, new, and original pictures of top amateurs and pros, and will PAY for pictures sent to us exclusively, that have not appeared in any other publication. Write R.T.

Joe Frazier.
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Look who switched to Natural Light.

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