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# RACQUETBALL TODAY®

## *Behind the 30-Day Revolution*

# Shakeup Hits Amateur Racquetball

By PHIL SIMBORG

Thirty days. That's how long it took, start-to-finish. Amateur racquetball has been completely restructured and reorganized, and the implications and potential for the future of the sport are enormous! And it all happened in thirty days — from December 19, 1980, to January 18, 1981.

SUDDENLY, state associations which used to be under the control of the USRA have either "disaffiliated," restructured so as not to require USRA membership, or the state chairman has resigned and formed a new, independent racquetball association. SUDDENLY, the major associations that used to supply membership and support for the AARA are either totally independent, or no longer require AARA membership to play in their tournaments. SUDDENLY, states which used to have two (or more) racquetball associations now only have ONE UNITED GROUP which is totally independent of any "national association." SUDDENLY, the cost to join most major state associations has dropped from \$12 or \$15 a year to as low as \$3 or \$2 a year. And SUDDENLY, the "control" of amateur racquetball has been placed totally in the hands of the individual state associations.

Through a new promotion in the clubs throughout the country in conjunction with major ball manufacturers and this paper, SUDDENLY, and FINALLY there is a joint, all-encompassing combination of efforts to create large numbers of members and funds for the state associations (which they have never had before) for the promotion and advancement of the sport. The possibilities and implications, the potential for the growth of the sport, and the total "turn-around" of philosophy is beyond anyone's wildest dreams. RACQUETBALL TODAY was directly involved in this "revolution," and is proud to share the story with you.

OVER THE YEARS, the publishers of this paper, Alan Shetzer, Phil Simborg and Tom Street, through our work with the Illinois State Racquetball Association, the United States Racquetball Association, and in virtually all areas of the sport nationally and locally, had become more and more concerned about the direction in which the sport appeared to be headed. We felt that if major changes were not made, and made quickly, the sport was headed for disaster. We feared, and were beginning to sense a



The 30-day revolution that gave a facelift to amateur racquetball drew heavy involvement from these three men, publishers of RACQUETBALL TODAY. From left are Tom Street, Alan Shetzer and Phil Simborg. Simborg describes those changes and their impact on the sport in the accompanying article.

"stalling out." We were seeing the leadership of the sport heavily committed to each of their own self-interests and small areas of concern — everyone just seemed to be doing their own thing. There was little or no long-term plans or co-ordination between the associations, club owners, manufacturers, publications and players organizations. There seemed to be no coherent or effective national approach to junior development, in-club programs, family-oriented activities, clinics and exhibitions, and tournament promoters were fighting each other for the same players and market. The national associations were bitterly competing for "control" of the sport, and in the larger states, people with the same goals and interests found themselves on opposite sides as a result of their national "affiliation."

There was a strong national emphasis on the "tournament player" only, and the sport of racquetball was rapidly building a reputation as a "macho sport" — one which required power and fierce competition in order to be enjoyed. The idea that racquetball is a sport that provides exercise and enjoyment for any level of player was mostly forgotten, and programs and publicity to en-

courage the less "athletic" and less "competitive" were nearly non-existent. Particularly in recent months, we had seen a tremendous reduction in funds available for the promotion of racquetball even on the tournament level, and major corporations which once channelled large sums of money into racquetball concluded that they could now get a better "return" investing in other sports.

Nobody seemed to be investing in the long-term future of the sport, as those projects did not provide an immediate financial return, and, typical of the short-comings of many American businesses, all were failing to recognize the tremendous need and potential for return that can be derived from long-range plans such as junior development, collegiate programs, and programs designed to give the sport a more positive image and encourage growth.

We had ideas and plans that we believed would help correct many of these problems. We recognized that the tournament player represents less than one per cent of the total racquetball community. WE recognized that all segments and factions of the sport were interdependent. Each private-interest group

which seemed to be striking out on its own without regard or co-ordination with the other areas of the sport could not continue to succeed for very long if the other segments failed. (The men and women pros will never "make it big" unless the clubs are thriving and there is a national junior development program. The equipment manufacturers will not succeed if the amateur associations are floundering. And the privately-owned publications will not receive advertising income and subscriptions if the sport does not continue to grow and attract the masses.) We not only thought we had some insight into the problems with the sport, we had some very definite suggestions for improvement! So we took our ideas, hopes and plans to both national amateur racquetball associations...

**WE RECEIVED VIRTUALLY NO SUPPORT OR ENCOURAGEMENT.** After a tremendous amount of frustration and rejection, we came to the conclusion that if any of our ideas were going to be carried out, **WE WOULD HAVE TO DO IT OURSELVES!** And we were in a very unique position to do it: we had years of experience in the sport, both locally and nationally, and probably understood as much or more about the politics and structure as anyone in the country, we were primarily businessmen with a high degree of expertise in creative financing and corporate management; and we already had the sport's No. 1 circulation publication (by far) to publicize and advance our ideas. We are fortunate enough to have the personal capital and financial support necessary to plan and initiate programs that do not require immediate return on investment, but offer the long-term programs the sport so desperately needs. At our age, we're old and experienced enough to have witnessed and observed the mistakes of others, but still young enough to possess the child-like optimism, enthusiasm and idealism required to bring about a REVOLUTION for the future of racquetball. So here, specifically, is what we did.

On December 19, 1980, we invited the leaders of the 21 largest and most active state racquetball associations to come to Chicago at our expense to hear our plans and ideas for the future of the sport. Seventeen attended the meeting, and we proposed a "service contract" with Racquetball Today Promotions, Inc., which would provide to their

(Continued on Page 18)

# Racquetball Today® West Region

# We Get Letters . . .



Marci Greer . . . she likes us

## Marci's a Fan

Dear RACQUETBALL TODAY,  
I enjoyed reading Betsy Koza's article for juniors. I hope the juniors recognize that becoming a pro is "no bed of roses," as well as the club owners take heed of her advice and provide opportunities for the up and coming juniors.

What an insight Tom Grobmisi has for racquetball humor. I find his comments and wit about racquetball really clever.

Thank you for printing Denise Santangelo's interview. The interview provided me the chance to express some of my thoughts. She was not a run of the mill reporter. Her knowledge of the sport was impressive, as was her style as a reporter.

Marci Greer

P.S.: Thank you for your wonderful support of the WPRA.

## Regional Idea

Dear RACQUETBALL TODAY,  
When I picked up my January issue of your paper I was amazed to see such a comprehensive report of local tournaments in my area, and then I realized you had "regionalized" your paper. What a great idea! Now please see if you can spell my name right next time I win a C Division championship!

Stan Wjoklieski

## Crazy Tom

Dear Sirs:  
What is a Tom Grobmisi? He gets crazier every month, but he sure makes your paper more fun to read. I understand he's been writing for you for a couple of years before you went national . . . are we going to get to see some of his old classics my Illinois friends have been telling me about? The rest of the paper's great too, but I'm sorry to see you go to subscription instead of having it free at the club . . . anyway, enclosed is my check.

Rita Wentzel

## Try for Six

Dear R.T.,  
Enclosed is my finished puzzle. This is my fifth try and I haven't won a prize yet . . . do you really send out free balls and shirts to puzzle winners or is it just a come-on?

Jerry Reeves

Dear Jerry,  
For you, it's just a come-on, 'cause you lost again this month! We get a lot of puzzles each month and really do just draw them out of a hat, but your letter brought tears to our eyes so we decided to send you a can of used balls even though you didn't win.

Ed.

## Getting Better

Dear Diane,  
I've been reading your paper here in Illinois for over two years and it amazes me how it keeps getting better! I was sorry to see you go national because I thought we'd miss out on all the local news, but now that you've regionalized you're back to covering local players and tournaments as well as ever. Enclosed is my subscription for another year. Keep up the good work.

Allen Simmons



# My Point

From the Editor:

## A Timely Pat on the Back

There are two kinds of pats-on-the-back. The first is characterized by short, soft strokes (usually four) administered in the shoulder blade area and accompanied by such comforting phrases as "Don't feel bad, you'll do better next time" or "So what, it's only a game." The second falls under the heading of "Nice going!" and is manifested by two hard whacks to the center of the back amidst exclamations of praise and elation. Both kinds of "pats" produce the same result: they make somebody feel good (or at least, better). I guess that's why "everyone needs a pat on the back now and then," even racquetball players. And having a national medium at my disposal gives me the opportunity to dole out a few. So all you racquetball players out there in need of a pat-on-the-back, here's your chance to get one from me.

If you played with a child today, or with someone who really doesn't give you a game;  
if you won graciously, or lost without excuses;  
if you offered encouragement to a beginner;  
if you acknowledged your opponent's good shots;  
if you gave your time, patience, praise and attention to somebody else today,  
you deserve a pat-on-the-back.

A professor of mine once gave me a paper entitled "Sixty Ways to Say 'Good for You!'" I do not know who first took the time to compile a list, but I have added to it every day since then. You might be surprised how many three-word phrases can make someone feel good.

One final note: To the man who played racquetball with his wife this week, and didn't LABEL her . . .

Atta boy, ace.

## Zigzag Puzzle Winners Listed

CONGRATULATIONS to last months Zigzag Puzzle winners. For those of you who checked the box marked "yes" to subscribe to RACQUETBALL TODAY for \$100, it was decided that we would not take your money so you could use it for a psychiatrist.

Our winners will be receiving RACQUETBALL TODAY keychains or a can

of balls. They are: Elizabeth Currie, Phoenix, Ariz.; Tracy Biernat, Nevada, Colo.; Nadine Butler, Salem, Ore.; Alfred Viramontes, Presidio S.F., Calif.; Carol Schuessler, Omaha, Neb.; Joe Smart, Stafford, Va.; Tom Woloszyn, Greenville, S.C.; Rita Hoff, Richmond Heights, Mo.; A.A. Urolatis, Bracklon, Mass., and Martha Adams, Gainesville, Ga.



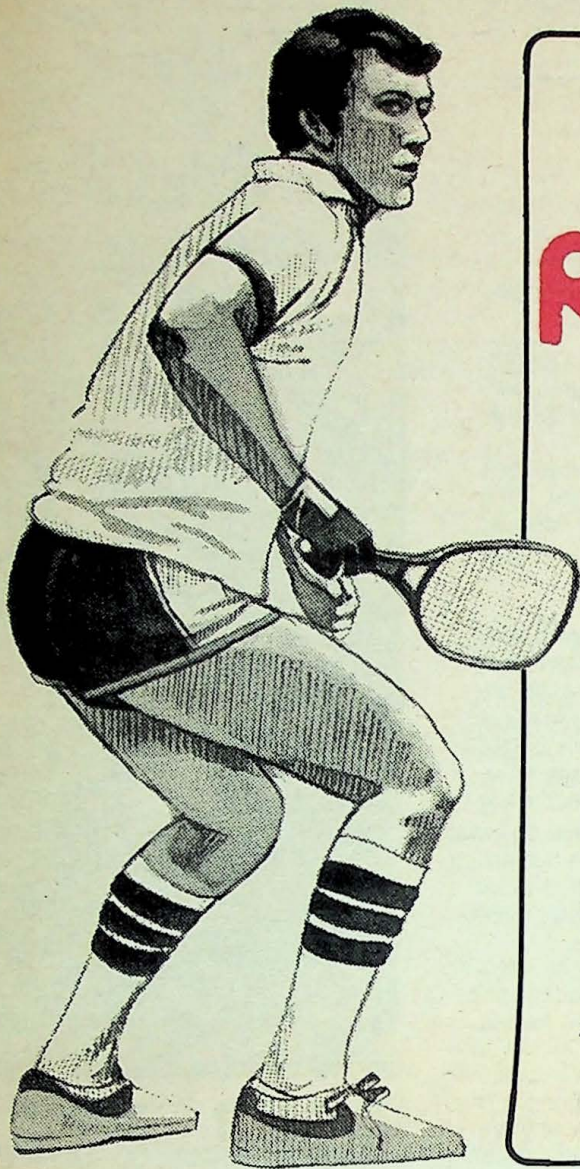
Shannon Wright competes on SUPERSTARS! The ten-women event will be filmed by ABC in mid-February, and offers a \$35,000 prize to the winner.

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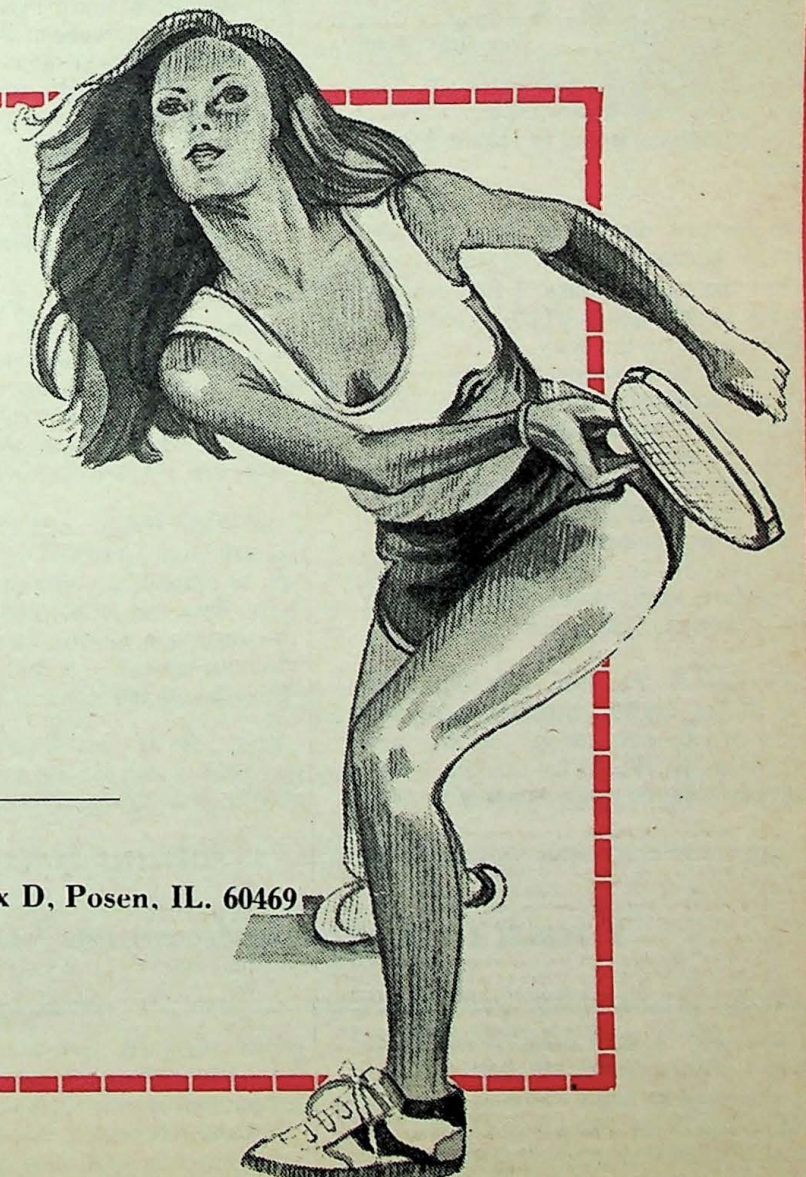
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# Mike Lawrence vs. All Odds

By LEN ZIEHM

The life of Mike Lawrence spans just 33 years, but it's difficult to tell where to begin telling you about him.

Lawrence's life has been marred by obesity, drugs, divorce, suicide attempts, court fights, bankruptcy and Multiple Sclerosis. He talks about his troubles openly now, he says, to serve as an inspiration to others.

As you will soon learn, racquetball has played a major part in Lawrence's life. Without racquetball, it's possible Lawrence wouldn't be telling his amazing story now.

**LAWRENCE IS** a resident of Denver, Colo. Until the last few years he had little athletic reputation, perhaps because his formative years were marked by a weight problem. As an 18-year-old college freshman he stood 5-foot-7 and weighed 240 pounds. Between the ages of 18 and 20 Lawrence grew five inches and lost a lot of weight because "I was sick a lot." He



His foundation works to inspire MS patients.

said he was discharged from military service because he had migraine headaches; he wonders now if they weren't caused by Multiple Sclerosis — but that's getting ahead of the story.

Once out of the service, Lawrence went into the clothing business in Denver. Complicated by "tremendous financial pressure," his health problems continued. He encountered eye trouble and was treated with a drug "that almost killed me."

The drug problem was caught in time, but to cure his eye trouble Lawrence had to regularly visit a doctor who would give him injections in his eye socket.

**AT ABOUT** this time Lawrence was also having marital troubles. Lawrence lost a custody fight for his son, who will soon be seven. He has not seen his son in four years. He no longer sends him cards

*"We want to show that an MS victim can do things."*

rence little hope; all the graphs suggested Lawrence wouldn't live longer than his 36th birthday.

Lawrence moved into an apartment by himself and prepared to die. He got into the drug scene heavily at a time when drugs were even more easily obtained than they are today. "I supported my drug habit by manipulating doctors," he says now. "I could get anything I wanted from them. Looking back, the drug traffic is alarming."

He bought a handgun and says he considered suicide several times but didn't know exactly how to go about it.

**HE TRIED** to hit his father when his father wouldn't give him money for drugs and wound up seriously injuring his knee. On August 12, 1976, his birthday, he underwent knee surgery and later re-injured the knee. He developed back problems and had surgery for the removal of a disc. And he had mental problems.

Friends tried to help him. In an effort to rehabilitate his knee, they persuaded him to join the Sporting Houses in Denver. At first he only used the saunas. "Seventy per cent of MS victims can't take humid heat," said Lawrence. "I love it."

He later moved on to the International Athletic Club where its president, Rich Schleibe, is one of his biggest boosters. With the help of touring professional Davey Bledsoe, Lawrence took up racquetball and worked his way up to a B-level player. Along the way he broke his thumb eight times and required 62 stitches in his head when he was hit by an opponent's racquet. He caught pneumonia and cracked his ankle, but he kept playing.

"I got to a point where I wanted to make a statement to the world," said Lawrence. "One way was to progress playing racquetball. I'll never win an Open tournament, but I can win in A division. I have won a B tournament in Denver and made the semis in three A tournaments." He says his serve has been clocked at 117 miles per hour.

**BEFORE WE** go any further, we should point out that Lawrence had a special reason to rehabilitate himself. Her name is Kate. They met in 1977 and were married two years ago. Shortly thereafter, he lost vision in one eye — a development which he blames on the MS.

Kate, who has lost 45 pounds since she met Mike, is one of Colorado's top squash players. Now the Lawrences work out to-

Steve Garvey. Lawrence spoke to a gathering of over 2,000 people at the post-tournament banquet, sharing his problems, particularly in fighting MS.

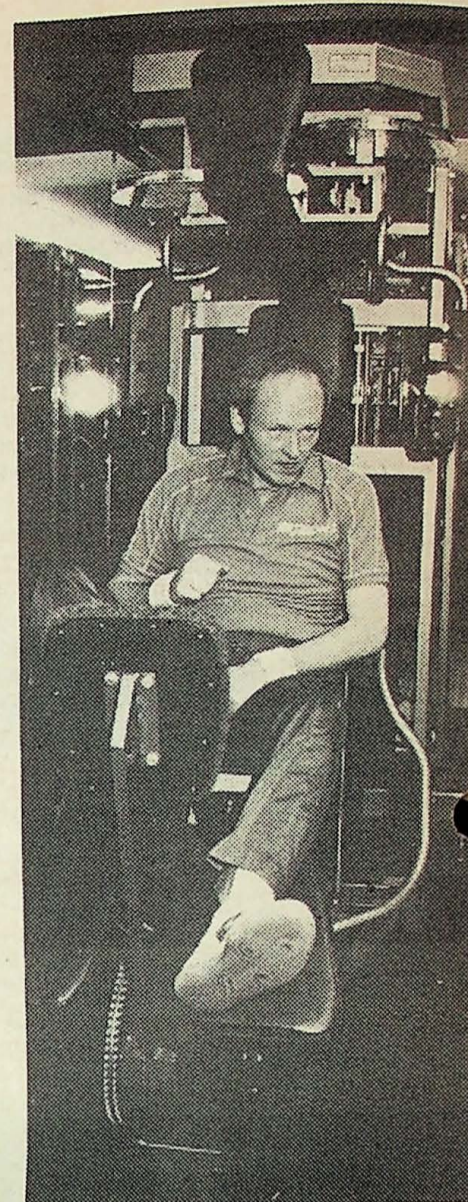
"What I'm doing for people now is what Kate did for me," said Lawrence. "It's called participation therapy. I stopped being an MS victim and now I'm just a patient."

**HE'D LIKE** other people afflicted with the dreaded disease to do the same, but the disease is a real challenge to the human spirit. "It manifests itself in so many ways," said Lawrence. "You have to fight it everyday." Mike's main therapy is racquetball and his other workout routines at the International Athletic Club.

Tying in with his racquetball is his plan to push running. He's built up to 45 miles a week and plans to run four marathons in 1981.

His main project, however, is the establishment of the Michael R. Lawrence MS Foundation. He hopes to use the foundation to find jobs for MS victims and build a support network for them. "We want to show that an MS victim can do things that will make them viable in the community," he said. "Our goal is to eradicate MS in 15 years, but the foundation is not working for cure as much as it is trying to develop an inspiration for those with MS."

Lawrence has established a five-man board for his foundation, with the Interna-



Lawrence builds his way back from disabilities.

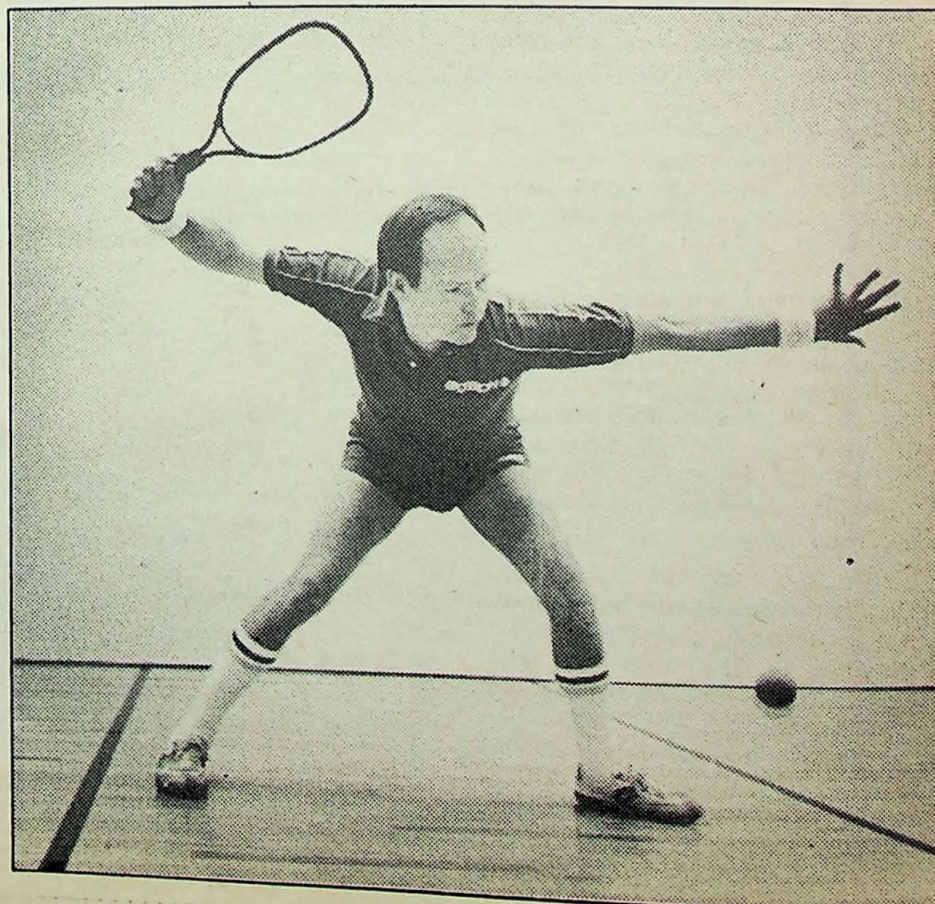
gether financially," said Lawrence. "It is difficult raising money. But I can handle it. I can handle anything now."

"I know what I want to do with my life."

*"I want to be remembered."*

tional Athletic Club's Schleibe among the members. Lawrence will be the foundation's executive director. "The only thing I've got to figure out is how to put it to-

By playing racquetball and running marathons, I can expose what I want to say to people. I want to make a difference. I want to be remembered."



"I can handle anything now."

*"I want to make a difference."*

or presents. "I don't think he would get them," said Lawrence. "I heard that my ex-wife told him that I was dead."

Mike was living with a lady who was not his wife when he learned he had Multiple Sclerosis in January of 1976. She "couldn't take it" and left him. The doctor left Law-

gether regularly and Kate "kicks my butt" when Mike has trouble getting himself to the club for a workout.

Michael Lawrence's rise in racquetball led to his participation in several tournaments, most notably a celebrity fundraiser in Los Angeles staged by baseball star

# Junior Forum

## Finding a Place to Play



By **BETSY KOZA**

*RACQUETBALL TODAY is proud to welcome an accomplished Junior player, Betsy Koza, as a regular columnist. Betsy, sponsored by Omega and Nike, graduated cum laude from Lake Forest high school in Illinois after her junior year and now plays in the Pro and Open divisions in tournaments around the country. At seventeen, Betsy has come up against (and still does) many of the problems young people face when trying to play racquetball. Junior players are encouraged to send their questions and comments to Betsy in care of RACQUETBALL TODAY.*

Of the many difficulties the aspiring Junior racquetball player encounters, perhaps the most fundamental is that of obtaining court time. I'm assuming that our future champ has surmounted other difficulties, and is able to get to the courts, has racquet, ball, eyeguards and a person to play, but just can't find a place to play. Unfortunately, most Juniors can't walk up to the front desk of a club, announce "I'm here," and have a red carpet to court number one rolled out for them.

Problems associated with courts for the Junior fall into two categories: court availability, and cost. Even when parents pay court costs, they find it expensive to keep an avid Junior on the court. No matter how empty and cheap those racquetball courts may be during the day, they sure fill up quickly at 4:30 and 5:00, when the kids — and everybody else — get time

to play. And because everybody wants to play at prime times, the rates go up.

There are several methods of attack for kids who want to get as much court time as possible as cheaply as possible. The first I really don't have to mention: see if the court club has Junior rates. Besides offering reduced membership rates to Juniors, many clubs also have reduced court fees. Junior walk-on time is usually about half the regular court price. Another "cheapie" is unlimited time: for a set fee (usually per month), you get an unlimited number of court hours. However, both of these arrangements have their drawbacks: they are often only available at non-prime times, and are to be used on a no reservation basis, so you run the risk of not finding an open court. Although they may not be of much help to Juniors during the school year, walk-on and unlimited time are ideal in the summer, when kids are free to play, and are often the only people found in clubs.

**IT MIGHT** help if Juniors establish an understanding with the club owner/manager. Show the club operators that you, and other kids as well, are sincerely interested in racquetball. Perhaps you can convince club operators that by helping you, the Junior, get free or inexpensive court time, you can help them in various ways.

You can do this on a single basis by

working at the club in exchange for free court time. You could work the desk, help clean the courts or locker rooms, watch the smaller kids in the nursery, or lend a hand during tournaments for some free time on the courts. You could even talk to the managers about a sponsorship: maybe they'll give you free, or at least reduced, court time if you agree to wear club T-shirts and shorts in tournaments.

These and other individual arrangements may benefit you, but they don't help the clubs out much, and they certainly don't help the other Juniors in your area. Everything seems to work best in large quantities, and working with club operators is no exception. The more you can help the club operators, the more they can help you. Instead of folding towels each night in exchange for court time, offer to help establish or run Junior programs for some time on the courts. Get some other Juniors interested in racquetball and out to the club. Once the new kids start playing, they'll want to keep playing, and because you're helping the club by bringing in more business, the club will want to put forth more effort to keep all of the kids happy so that you'll bring in yet more new kids and business! The more kids in a club, the more the club can do for the kids' benefit.

But how can you (with the help of an adult or two) get more kids out to the club?

There are too many ways to list, but a few starters are helpful. For instance, you could bring in a specified number of kids once or twice a week to play at reduced rates, or find enough kids to start a round robin or league. A six or ten week, one night a week league is easy to set up, gives kids courts and a partner, and keeps you playing for a guaranteed period of time, all for a reasonable price. If you can get a Saturday league going, the club could give each participant an hour or two of free practice time during the week. Perhaps you could start a racquetball club at school and get a group membership.

The possibilities for Junior programs are endless. Of course, kids can't run Junior programs by themselves; they need support from clubs and associations.

**TRY TO WORK** out a deal with the club so that when the number of active Juniors in the club increases, Junior court rates are lowered. If you can get enough Juniors into the club, the manager may agree to set aside a certain number of courts after school each day for Juniors only — at rock bottom prices.

# Court Talk:

## Way to Go, Joe



By **BOB GURA**

Joe Mitchell was a deliberate sort of guy. He always took his time before making a decision. He believed in looking at a situation twice before analyzing the possibilities. Then, when all the options were clear, he would make his move.

This approach played a big role in his success in the banking business. Among his working buddies, Joe Mitchell was considered a conservative, profit-oriented investor. He was also good-looking and athletic. Daily workouts helped keep his six-foot and 165 pounds in good shape. An expensive razor cut and stylish wardrobe did the rest.

Along with enjoying sports and being competitive by nature, Joe always wanted an edge. He knew the athletic field was a good place to make useful contacts. He did his best, which was good enough, to become a proficient tennis player, jogger, golfer and occasional long distance runner.

**THE DEVOTION** to mandatory sweating paid big dividends. He had met his wife-to-be playing mixed doubles and his stockbroker on the jogging track. With the coming of the 1980's, Joe's thoughts turned to racquetball. He had never played, but many of his business cronies did. They liked the game and belonged to fancy private clubs.

Joe took some time, scouted around, and chose a racquetball club in the downtown area. He made a few trips to the sporting goods store and came away loaded with gear and some how-to books. He practiced alone. Playing by himself, the game was easy and his tennis background helped out. Happy with the results, he was ready to carve out a rep as a top player and nice guy. So he set up a match with a buddy.

Moments after stepping on court, the daydream turned to disaster. The ball

moved a lot faster when the other guy hit it, and Joe was making mistakes. He had big problems returning serves to the backhand corner and ran into the wall once. Sweat began to drip across the alligator stitched on his shirt when a crowd gathered to watch. By game's end, Joe Mitchell was a soaking mess. The final score was 21-3 and his composure was shot.

After showering and taking a sauna bath, Joe walked to the bar at courtside. He was in a bad mood and was surprised

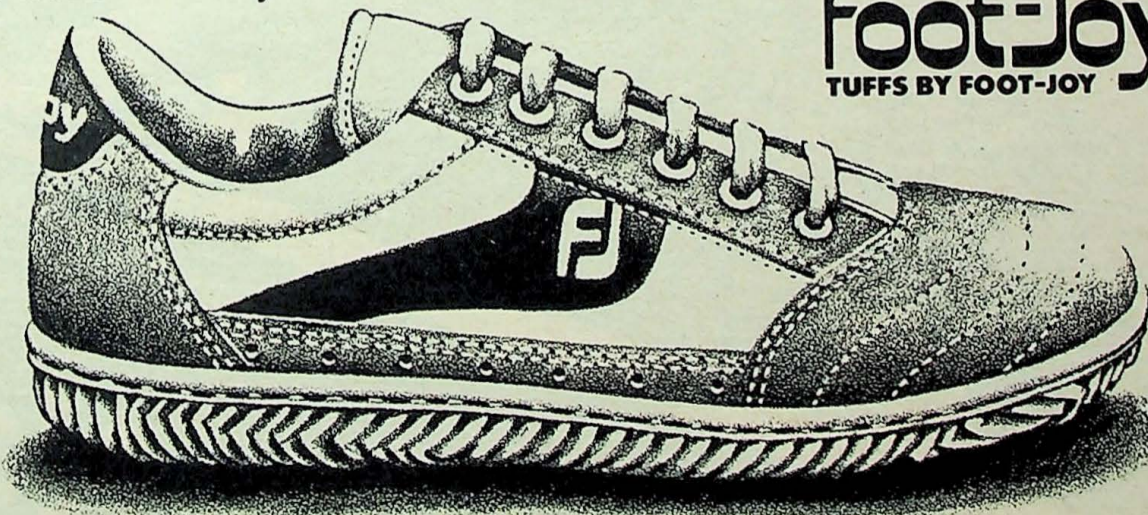
when a prosperous-looking gent struck up a conversation. The talker was dressed in a designer warmup and his racquet was packed in an expensive leather case. He offered to stand a round of drinks, commenting to Joe that racquetball wasn't as easy as it seemed. Still embarrassed by the slaughter, Joe appreciated the sympathy. The two got to chatting and it turned out the well-wisher was rolling in the bucks. He was also a beginning racquetball player who had trouble finding partners. He was afraid of being humiliated

By **BOB GURA**

and checked out all the new members. Joe's game, he mentioned with a smile, was just about right.

Before the drinks were finished the pair had arranged a time to play and a future dinner date. Later on, as he left the club, Joe Mitchell congratulated himself. No doubt at all, he figured, racquetball was the way to go. With luck, he may even get good at it. But not for a while.

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# Changes Shuffle Rankings

By ALAN SHETZER

The mid-season rankings (end of January) are out, and as I predicted in September there have been considerable changes.

While we hit the mark on a lot of things, Jerry Hilecher's third place ranking demonstrates that foresight doesn't always come through. Jerry's intensity and concentration has improved dramatically since the Nationals and he along with Yellen and Peck are still the major threats to Hogan.

Hogan's vast superiority has slipped since last year, not because he is playing poorly, but because the others have gotten better.

It's good to see Wagner back in the Top Ten. He got his act together and should be a continuing threat.

Look at all the new kids on the list. Almost half of the top 24 players are new and under 20 — the old guys still have a lock on the ten and should remain there for the rest of the season, but they sure don't have an automatic win in the 32's.

Here's how they look at mid-season:

- |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Marty Hogan     | 13. B. Christensen |
| 2. Mike Yellen     | 14. Doug Cohen     |
| 3. Jerry Hilecher  | 15. Davey Bledsoe  |
| 4. Dave Peck       | 16. John Eggerman  |
| 5. Don Thomas      | 17. Dave Fleetwood |
| 6. Rich Wagner     | 18. Keith Dunlop   |
| 7. Lindsay Myers   | 19. Scott Hawkins  |
| 8. Steve Strandemo | 20. C. Brumfield   |
| 9. Craig McCoy     | 21. Mike Levine    |
| 10. Ben Koltun     | 22. D. McDowell    |
| 11. Bobby Bolan    | 23. Mark Morrow    |
| 12. Gregg Peck     | 24. Larry Meyers   |

## Morrow Wins Schoebers; Greer in Tough Victory

By JIM COLLA

Christmas came early for Mark Morrow when on December 21 he defeated Charlie Brumfield in the Fifth Annual Schoebers Christmas tournament in Fremont, Calif. For Morrow this was the second Schoebers title, having won this event in 1978.

Morrow had back-to-back tough matches with an improving Scott Hawkins (15-12, 5-15, 11-4) and a surprising semifinalist Steve Lerner (15-12, 4-15, 11-10). Lerner knocked off No. 1 seed Rich Wagner in the 16's.

Brumfield was in control in the quarters, defeating John Eggerman, 15-7, 15-9. Things changed in the semi's, as Brumfield met Brett Harnett, a youngster having a good tournament as evidenced by his quarterfinal win over a tough No. 2 seed Craig McCoy.

**IN THE FIRST** game, Harnett shot everything almost perfectly as he downed Brumfield 15-5. Brumfield completely turned the match around with a mixture of excellent passing shots and fly-kills. Harnett was doomed, losing 15-3, the tie-breaker being more of the same, 11-5.

The finals now matched the hard hitting Morrow vs. the slow-down tactics of Brumfield. In the first game, Brumfield repeatedly missed pinches and fly-kills as Morrow controlled the game winning 15-11. The second game was a turnaround as Brumfield reeled off seven straight to take a 7-1 lead.

Now emotionally psyched up, Brumfield continued to control center court, and won easily 15-6. An exciting tie-breaker was to follow. Morrow took a 6-1 lead, but Brumfield battled back to tie it at 6-6. Then a minor confrontation occurred. Morrow, going for a shot, went *through* Charlie. The result: a "nose-to-nose" shouting match, with a little pushing and shoving for good measure. After the referee regained control, Brumfield turned around, looked at Morrow and smiled. The crowd loved it.

Morrow now "visibly" determined, hit pinch-kill shots from all over, and went on to win 11-7. The "master" wasn't smiling after this one.

In the Women's Pro division, as expected, Marci Greer, the No. 1 seed, subdued No. 3 seeded Karin Walton-Trent, 19-17, 15-6.

The first game had everything that makes the Pro Women's matches exciting to watch; long rallies and unbelievable "gets." At 13-all, Marci and Karin traded, in this "win by two" battle, until finally at

17-17, Greer hit a winning pass followed by a fly-kill to the right corner. Winning this tough one was all the incentive Greer needed. Game two was hers easily 15-6.

Walton-Trent earned her way to the finals via a surprising match with Lynn Adams. Said Lynn, "Karin played very well, and I haven't lost to her in almost three years. I guess she was due." Karin winning a close one, 16-14, delivered a doughnut to Lynn in the second game, 15-0.

### RESULTS

5th Annual Christmas  
Racquetball Classic  
Schoeber's  
Fremont, San Francisco,  
and San Jose, California  
December 17-21, 1980

### MEN'S PRO

Finals: Morrow d. Brumfield, 15-11, 6-15, 11-7.  
Semi's: Morrow d. Lerner, 15-12, 4-15, 11-10; Brumfield d. Harnett, 5-15, 15-3, 11-5.  
Quarters: Morrow d. Hawkins; Brumfield d. Eggerman, Lerner d. Andrews; Harnett d. McCoy.

### MEN'S PRO DOUBLES

Finals: Wright/Trent d. Martino/Carson, 13-15, 15-3, 11-6.

### WOMEN'S PRO

Finals: Greer d. Walton-Trent, 19-17, 15-6.  
Semi's: Greer d. Prefontaine, 15-6, 15-11; Walton-Trent d. Adams, 16-14, 15-0.  
Quarters: Greer d. Martino; Walton-Trent d. Panzeri; Prefontaine d. Lee; Adams d. Ambler.

### PRO MIXED DOUBLES

Finals: Adams/Carson d. Meyers/Trent, 15-11, 7-15, 11-9.

### RESULTS

Tanner Classic Tournament  
Memphis State  
Memphis, Tennessee  
December 14, 1980

Finals: Marty Hogan d. Jerry Hilecher, 11-21, 21-7, 11-5.  
Semi's: Hogan d. Dave Peck, 21-16, 10-21, 11-10; Hilecher d. Mike Yellen, 21-15, 21-10.  
Quarters: Yellen d. Wagner, 21-20, 21-15; Hilecher d. Myers, 21-7, 21-20; Peck d. Levine, 21-10, 21-12; Hogan d. Fleetwood, 21-11, 21-11.



Marci Greer won the Schoeber's Christmas tournament in California, defeating Karin Walton-Trent in the final.

## WPRO Outlook

# Busy Slate Looms

By JANELL MARRIOTT

The holidays are past, the parties finished and those extra pounds have been deposited. The vacation is over, it's back to the courts — practicing, playing, running, weight training, or whatever your workouts entail. Stick to those New Year's resolutions and make them work. The second half of the 1980-81 season is upon us. We have a full schedule to keep us busy this new year and here it is:

February 25-March 1 — Seattle, Wash. — Pacific West Sport and Racquet Club of Federal Way.

March 12-15 — Albany, N.Y. — the Court Club.

April 2-5 — Providence, R.I. — Celebrity Courts.

April 23-26 — Fishkill, N.Y. — Allsport II Fitness and Racquetball Club.

April 30-May 3 — Hollywood, Calif. — Ekelton/Perrier Championships.

This month we return to Killshot, Ltd., site of last year's national tournament. We expect a large draw from throughout the country, because of the centralized location. Killshot provided excellent hospitality for the players. The WPRO looks

forward to the first 1981 tournament at Killshot.

The second tournament is at Pacific West Sport and Racquet Club of Federal Way. This will be our first venture into the Northwest, and the women are excited. This will be the first pro tournament for the Pacific West Club. They are planning to make it one you won't forget. Pepsi Cola will sponsor the tournament. It will have a four-day format. One of the planned events will be skiing at a nearby resort.

One other thing to keep in mind — find a doubles partner for the Fishkill tournament. This will be a Pro Mixed Doubles with \$2,500 prize money for the first place team.

**REMEMBER**, Penn is the official ball of the WPRO and will be used at all tournaments in both pro and amateur events.

We will again use an experimental scoring system. The scoring system is as follows: play an eleven point game scoring on every rally, and you must win a game by two points; 3 out of 5 games is one set, play 2 out of 3 sets; the third set if needed is only 2 out of 3 games instead of 3 out of 5. We will play the next two tournaments with this system — get use to it now!

*Great performances occur when both the mind and body are working together to accomplish a particular goal.*



A diving effort by Jerry Hilecher wasn't enough as he lost to Marty Hogan in the finals of the Tanner Classic in Memphis, Tenn.

Mickey Mantle.  
Famous ex-Miller Lite  
drinker.

# Look who switched to Natural Light.

Mickey Mantle switched to Natural Light because he prefers the taste.

He had no idea that Natural Light's great taste comes from using only the finest natural ingredients.

Or that there are no artificial ingredients in Natural Light, unlike

some other light beers he had tried.

We don't think he even noticed the ingredients listed right on the label: Water, Barley malt, Rice, Hops, Yeast.

What counts for Mickey is taste. And on that score, we've both made a hit.

## Natural Light. Taste is why you'll switch.



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# RACQUETBALL TODAY<sup>®</sup>

## TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

### West

February 6, 7 & 8, 1981

Berien Open  
Site: Berien Family Fitness Center  
Berien, Washington  
206-481-4081

Ektelon/Perrier Championship Series  
Site: Continental Racquetball  
14880 Bammel/No. Houston Road  
Houston, Texas  
713-893-5146

February 12, 13, 14 & 15, 1981

Ektelon/Perrier Championship Series  
Site: Racquetball World & Aerobic  
Health Center  
1910 East First Street  
Santa Ana, California  
Contact: Bobby Green or Cindy Fisher  
714-972-2999

February 13, 14 & 15, 1981

St. Valentine's Day Massacre  
Site: Bay Area Racquetball Club  
Coos Bay, Oregon

February 19, 20, 21 & 22, 1981

Ektelon/Perrier Championship Series  
Site: Denver Sporting Club  
5151 DTC Parkway  
Englewood, Colorado  
303-779-0700

February 20, 21 & 22, 1981

Second Annual Grand Slam of Racquetball  
Benefit of the Guide Dogs for the Blind  
Site: Albany Superior Courts  
Albany, Oregon

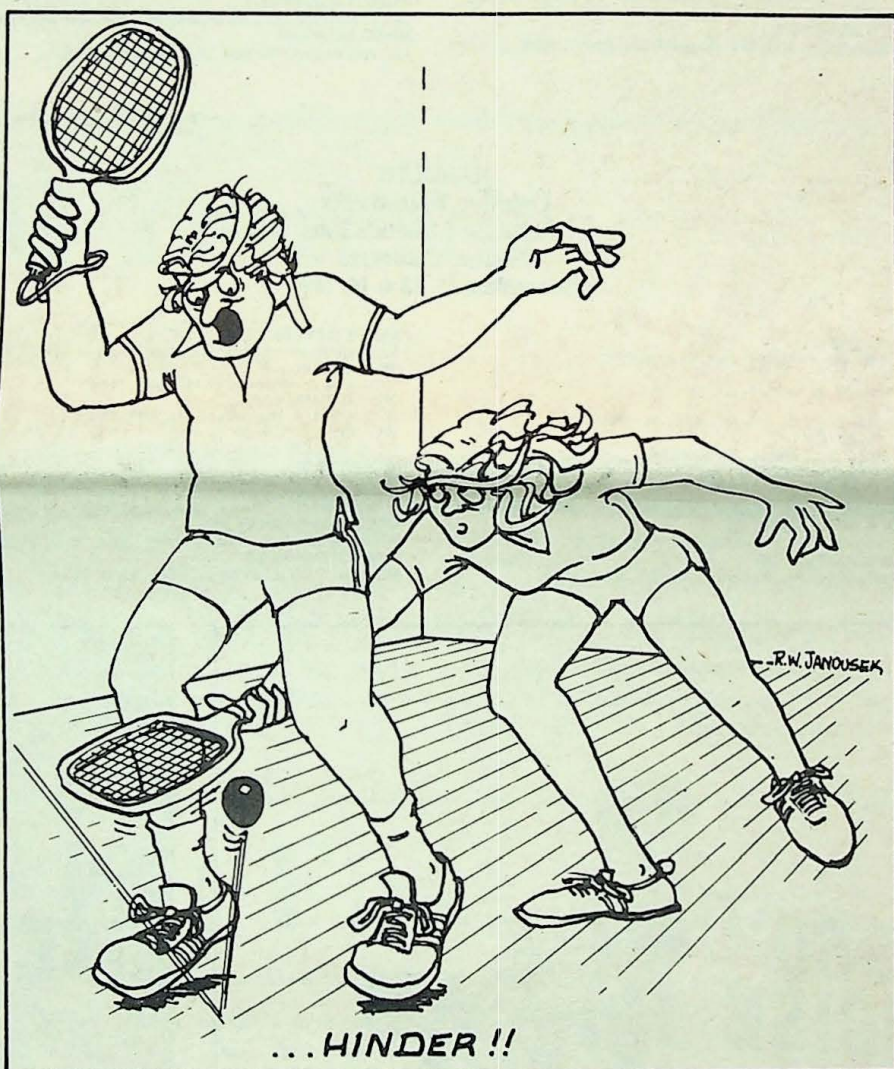
February 25, 26, 27, 28 & March 1, 1981

WPRA Pepsi Challenge Pro/Am  
Site: Pacific West Sports & Racquet Club  
Federal Way, Washington  
Contact: Jim Henderson  
206-927-3312

February 26, 27 & 28, 1981

2nd Annual Heart Federal  
Coors Lite Open  
Site: Kangaroo Courts IV  
Redding, California  
916-241-7711

### THE FUN • DAMENTALS OF RACQUETBALL by R.W. JANOUSEK



Ektelon/Perrier Championship Series  
Site: Telegraph Hill Club  
1850 Kearny Street  
San Francisco, California  
415-982-4700

March 12, 13, 14 & 15, 1981

Ektelon/Perrier Championship Series  
Site: Civic Center Racquetball Club  
7303 East Earll Drive  
Scottsdale, Arizona  
602-949-0643

March 19, 20 & 21, 1981

Third Annual Hush Puppy Open  
Site: Gresham Court Club  
Gresham, Oregon

March 20, 21 & 22, 1981

AARA Junior Regional - Northwest Re-  
gion  
Site: Gresham Court Club  
19201 South East Division Street  
Gresham, Oregon  
Contact: Dave Lewis  
503-666-1245

Capitol Courts/Ormsby House Open  
Site: Capitol Courts Athletic Center  
3759 Gross Circle  
Carson City, Nevada

Contact: Michael Longero or Rich Bennett  
702-882-9566

March 27, 28 & 29, 1981

Third Annual Grand Slam of Racquetball  
Benefit of the Guide Dogs for the Blind  
Site: First Serve Club  
Emunds, Washington

April 10, 11 & 12, 1981

Muscular Dystrophy Benefit  
Site: Redwood Health Club  
3101 S. State Street  
Ukiah, California  
Contact: Dean Hutton/Bob Page  
707-488-0441

April 16, 17, 18 & 19, 1981

JUNIOR NATIONALS  
Site: Supreme Courts West  
Wichita, Kansas  
Contact: Dewane Grimes, 316-945-8331  
Ed Martin, 916-221-4405

Beverton Pro/Am  
Site: Beaverton Racquetball  
& Fitness Center  
Beaverton, Oregon  
503-644-3900

February 27, 28 & March 1, 1981

Alaska State Championships  
Site: Racquetball Fairbanks  
2nd & Eagle Streets  
Fairbanks, Alaska  
Contact: Marvin Andresen  
907-456-1914

March 5, 6, 7 & 8, 1981

March of Dimes/Court House II  
5th Annual State AARA Championships  
Site: The Court House No. 2  
Salem, Oregon  
Contact: Denny Hebel (503) 222-4422 or  
Linda Lopez (503) 363-3862

March 6, 7 & 8, 1981

AARA Junior Regional - Western Region  
Site: Fairfield Court Club  
1471 Holiday Lane  
Fairfield, California  
Contact: Lou Wallman  
707-429-4363

AARA Junior Regional - Southwest Region  
Site: Las Vegas Racquet Ball Club  
1070 E. Sahara Avenue  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
Contact: Ray Anderson  
702-733-1919

3rd Annual Grand Prix  
Site: Family Fitness Centers  
Tacoma, Washington  
206-473-2266

# TOURNAMENT RESULTS

## West

### RESULTS Western Slope Invitational Tournament Court Club of Durango Durango, Colorado November 6, 7, 8 & 9, 1980

**MEN'S OPEN**  
Gary Mazaroff d. Jack Nolan, 19-21, 21-15, 11-4.  
**MEN'S B**  
Gary Scoggins d. John Wilson, 17-21, 21-17, 11-6.  
**MEN'S C**  
Jim Hart d. Juan Montoya, 21-19, 21-10.  
**MEN'S NOVICE**  
Greg Woodrodd d. Barry Massey, 21-6, 21-13.  
**MEN'S OPEN DOUBLES**  
Gary Mazaroff/Rich Hill d. Tom Neill/Steve Rozzell, 12-15, 15-10, 11-8.  
**MEN'S C DOUBLES**  
Ray LaBate/Everett Castle d. Al Hoak/Juan Montoya, 15-3, 15-12.  
**WOMEN'S OPEN**  
Jan Corsie d. Linda Repp, 21-5, 21-13.  
**WOMEN'S B**  
Kathy Vigil d. Ann Wyckoff, 14-21, 21-12, 11-5.  
**WOMEN'S C**  
Shelley Hale d. Vicki Basingame, 21-16, 21-14.  
**WOMEN'S NOVICE**  
Penny Worth d. Berdel Contreras, 8-21, 21-13, 11-8.  
**WOMEN'S OPEN DOUBLES**  
Jan Corsie/Linda Repp d. Wrenne Saunders/Karla Barela, 15-1, 15-8.  
**WOMEN'S C DOUBLES**  
Shelley Hale/MaryLee Hinds d. Kathy Harrington/Kathy Hart, 15-7, 15-3.  
**OPEN MIXED DOUBLES**  
Rich Hill/MaryLee Hinds d. Everett and Teresa Castle, 21-20, 21-15.  
**C MIXED DOUBLES**  
Ray LaBate/ Cory Coyle d. Jay Turner/Bonnie Cockrum, 21-17, 21-9.

### RESULTS 3rd Annual Northwest Paint & Wallpaper Christmas Classic Milwaukie Racquetball Club Milwaukie, Oregon December 26 & 27, 1980

**MEN'S OPEN**  
1st: Ed Burns; 2nd: Glen Vanderpool.  
**MEN'S A**  
1st: Mike Speer; 2nd: Dave Johnson.  
**MEN'S B**  
1st: Mark Frank; 2nd: Doug Geyman.  
**MEN'S C**  
1st: Bill Breitenstein; 2nd: Tim Pate.  
**MEN'S NOVICE**  
1st: Mark Morgan; 2nd: Mike Egger.  
**MEN'S A/B DOUBLES**  
1st: Lindblad/Vanderpool; 2nd: Gabriel/Sparks.  
**MEN'S B/C DOUBLES**  
1st: Smith/Moore; 2nd: Saltmarsh/Topper.  
**WOMEN'S A/B**  
1st: Marcia Hellum; 2nd: Connie Wilson.  
**WOMEN'S C/NOVICE**  
1st: Nancy Hodge; 2nd: Janey Decker.  
**WOMEN'S NOVICE**  
1st: Bev Davilla; 2nd: Sue Watson.  
**MIXED DOUBLES**  
1st: Anderson/Anderson; 2nd: Gill/McPartland.

### RESULTS 5th Annual Christmas Racquetball Classic Schoeber's Fremont, San Francisco, and San Jose, California December 17-21, 1980

#### AMATEURS

**MEN'S OPEN**  
Haskell d. Krause, 6-15, 15-2, 11-8.  
**MEN'S B**  
Zimmer d. Colby, 15-0, 15-11.  
**MEN'S C**  
Smith d. Hays, 15-4, 8-15, 11-1.  
**MEN'S D**  
Goodwin d. Fudennia, 15-9, 15-12.  
**MEN'S NOVICE**  
Christman d. Leines, 15-6, 15-5.  
**MEN'S 35-PLUS**  
Thomas d. Lose, 15-12, 16-14.  
**MEN'S 45-PLUS**  
Landrum d. Dabney, 15-10, 15-1.  
**MEN'S 55-PLUS**  
Bugel d. Green, 15-2, 15-10.  
**MEN'S B DOUBLES**  
Keith/Thomas d. Brokowsky/Soares, 15-10, 15-6.  
**WOMEN'S OPEN**  
Gilreath d. Ferris, 15-2, 15-9.  
**WOMEN'S B**  
McDonald d. Willson, 15-8, 15-10.  
**WOMEN'S C**  
Gustlin d. Mathews, 8-15, 15-13, 11-7.  
**WOMEN'S D**  
Filgate d. Gutierrez, 12-15, 15-13, 11-2.  
**WOMEN'S NOVICE**  
Goldsborough d. Greunke, 15-11, 15-9.  
**WOMEN'S 30-PLUS**  
Ferris d. McDonald, 15-0, 15-6.  
**B MIXED DOUBLES**  
Genroy/Bain d. Davis/Zinsman, 15-11, 15-4.

### RESULTS Holiday Open Gresham Court Club Gresham, Oregon December 11, 12, 13 & 14, 1980

**MEN'S OPEN**  
1st: Jeff Larson; 2nd: Tony Krause; 3rd: Glen Vanderpool.  
**MEN'S A**  
1st: Jim Ford; 2nd: Kenny Gilbert; 3rd: Dave Matheson.  
**MEN'S B**  
1st: Ross Adams; 2nd: Kevin Joppe; 3rd: Jim Willis.  
**MEN'S C**  
1st: Mark Frank; 2nd: Don Vermeer; 3rd: Bowen Blair.  
**MEN'S D**  
1st: Doug Geyman; 2nd: Gary Case; 3rd: Russ McAlmond.  
**MEN'S NOVICE**  
1st: M. Morgan; 2nd: J. Bouquet; 3rd: G. Sprigg.  
**MEN'S MASTERS**  
1st: Dave McCourt; 2nd: Frank Morris; 3rd: Carl Tipton.  
**MEN'S SENIORS A**  
1st: Mike Harden; 2nd: Jeff Eberle; 3rd: David Rasmusen.  
**MEN'S SENIORS C**  
1st: Don Patch; 2nd: Bob Daggett; 3rd: Curt Knight.

**MEN'S OPEN DOUBLES**  
1st: Krause/Westwood; 2nd: Grijalva/Hardin.  
**MEN'S A-B-C DOUBLES**  
1st: Chamberlin/Hubel; 2nd: Giunta/Hodgson.  
**WOMEN'S OPEN**  
1st: Christy Tinker; 2nd: Jan Newton; 3rd: Patricia Curtis.  
**WOMEN'S B**  
1st: Gloria Eggers; 2nd: Donna Plummer; 3rd: Dana Henry.  
**WOMEN'S C**  
1st: Suzanna Scott; 2nd: Cheryl Fisher; 3rd: Teresa Fuhrer.  
**WOMEN'S D/NOVICE**  
1st: K. Skarison; 2nd: Dana Amato; 3rd: Judith Becker.  
**WOMEN'S SENIORS**  
1st: Betty Vanderpool; 2nd: Ruth Sherman; 3rd: Cheryl Fisher.  
**WOMEN'S DOUBLES**  
1st: Y. Rowland/K. Officer; 2nd: R. Sherman/Woolhiser.  
**MIXED DOUBLES**  
1st: Vanderpool/Carlson; 2nd: Borchers/Peters.

### RESULTS Creative Touraments Raintree Athletic Club Fresno, California December 12, 13 & 14, 1980

**MEN'S OPEN**  
T. Haskell d. B. Whitehead, 21-9, 21-2.  
**MEN'S B**  
L. Olmos d. B. Whitehead, 21-9, 21-13.  
**MEN'S C**  
F. Vargas d. D. Colson, 11-21, 21-14, 11-10.  
**MEN'S NOVICE**  
R. Fujjoka d. L. Perez, 21-19, 21-19.  
**MEN'S BEG. NOVICE**  
M. Jensen-Akula d. J. Webster, 21-12, 21-4.  
**MEN'S SENIORS**  
M. Antonino d. R. Stauffer, 21-9, 21-15.  
**MEN'S OPEN DOUBLES**  
Algra/Portune d. Quinn/Green, 21-10, 21-17.  
**MEN'S B DOUBLES**  
Oliver/Marasco d. Ballard/Johnson, 21-13, 21-18.

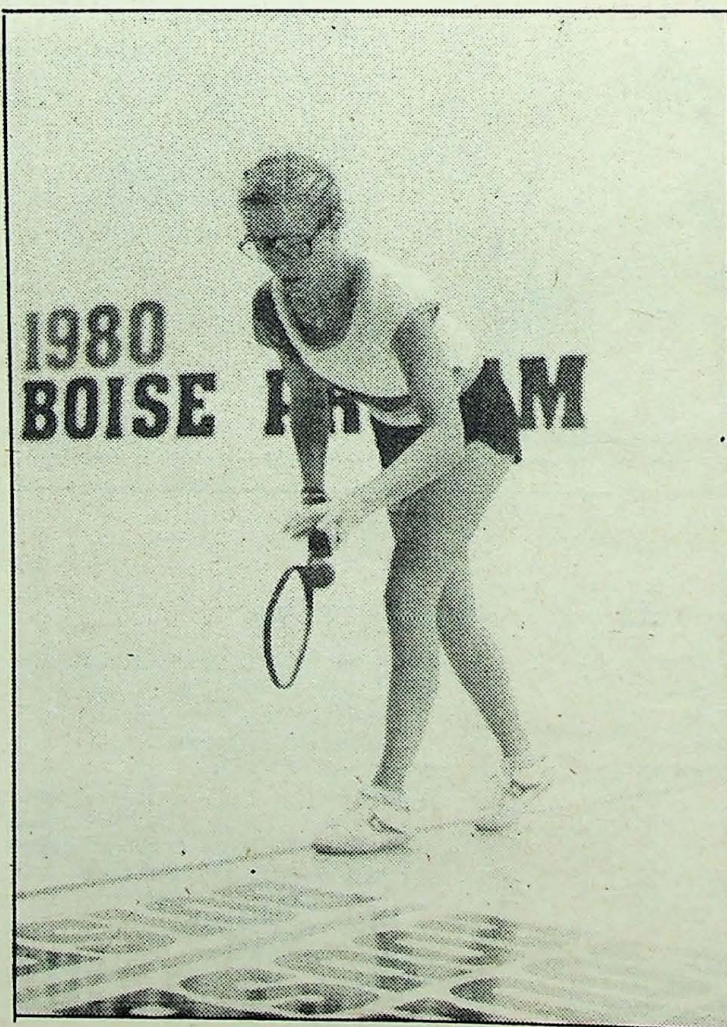
**MEN'S C DOUBLES**  
Smith/Farnum d. Oliver/Husted, 21-13, 21-14.  
**JRS. 17 & UNDER**  
Husted d. K. Watson, 21-14, 15-21, 11-10.  
**JRS. 11 & UNDER**  
G. Smith d. J. Runnels, 8-21, 21-12, 11-10.  
**WOMEN'S OPEN**  
C. Moore d. S. MacInnis, 21-7, 21-3.  
**WOMEN'S C**  
S. Adams d. L. Oliver, 21-16, 13-21, 11-6.  
**WOMEN'S NOVICE**  
D. Mourret d. S. Koller, 11-21, 21-18, 11-7.  
**OPEN MIXED DOUBLES**  
Williams/Moore d. Fitekin/Williamson, 21-13, 21-20.  
**C MIXED DOUBLES**  
Mahnke/Knoll d. Williams/Gong, 21-11, 21-15.

### RESULTS 1st Annual Holiday Classic Timberhill Athletic Club of Corvallis Corvallis, Oregon December, 6 & 7, 1980

**MEN'S A**  
1st: Bill O'Brien; 2nd: Susie Carlos.  
**MEN'S B**  
1st: Terry Whitehall; 2nd: Sandy Moore; 3rd: Keith Pearson.  
**MEN'S C**  
1st: Dennis Schultz; 2nd: Larry Stark; 3rd: Steve Taylor.  
**MEN'S D**  
1st: Ruben Escatell; 2nd: Steve Adams; 3rd: David Wheeler.  
**WOMEN'S A**  
1st: Karen Whitehall; 2nd: Sharon Hastings-Welty.  
**WOMEN'S C**  
1st: Jann Lavender; 2nd: Pam Wright; 3rd: Carol Carson.  
**A DOUBLES**  
1st: T. Fischer/C. Rudolph; 2nd: S. Moore/D. Miller.  
**B/C DOUBLES**  
1st: S. Carlos/W. Hanna; 2nd: S. Douglas/M. Hermens; 3rd: M. Jacobsen/K. LaCoursiere.

### RESULTS Creative Tournaments Arrowhead Athletic Club San Bernardino, California December 12, 13 & 14, 1980

**MEN'S OPEN**  
J. Mack d. G. Sheffield, 21-18, 21-17.  
**MEN'S B**  
M. Troxel d. B. McClinton, 21-16, 20-21, 11-3.  
**MEN'S C**  
T. Burnett d. W. Jue, 21-17, 21-19.  
**MEN'S NOVICE**  
M. Beasley d. D. Moss, 21-12, 21-10.  
**MEN'S BEG. NOVICE**  
B. Adams d. D. Davis, 21-10, 21-12.  
**MEN'S SENIORS**  
J. Flores d. V. Lerner, 13-21, 21-12, 11-3.  
**MEN'S B DOUBLES**  
Savarese/Troxel d. Favorite/Carlone, 21-17, 21-19.  
**MEN'S C DOUBLES**  
Bordato/Johnson d. Love/Robles, 21-16, 18-21, 11-6.  
**WOMEN'S B**  
M. Frigone d. Adame, 21-11, 21-20.  
**WOMEN'S C**  
Y. Allen d. D. Dunwoody (round robin)  
**WOMEN'S NOVICE**  
M. Fee d. P. Franitti, 21-16, 17-21, 11-2.



An Honest  
Mistake . . .

Last month we ran the above left photo of Sheryl Ambler in our Southern Regional issue, identifying her as Susie Dugan, winner of the Dallas Mentholatum Women's Open. We were quickly corrected, and the photo of Susie appears above right. Our apologies, ladies, but we think anyone can see how we could make such a mistake . . . Ed.

# 'What Possessed Me?'

## Confessions of a Club Owner

By TOM GROBMISI

Alan R. Siegel was a perfectly normal, happy person with a nice job, a nice family and generally a nice life until one day when he stepped into racquetball's own version of "the twilight zone." Almost overnight, Al Siegel was transformed into that hideous, pathetic creature — **THE RACQUETBALL CLUB OWNER!** And his life has turned into a living hell; but lets hear the story in Al's own words:

"I don't know what possessed me to buy the club . . . maybe it was the idea of owning all those courts; or maybe the thought

of owning my very own women's locker room complete with sauna and whirlpool, but I'll never be a happy man again. I bought the club three months ago, and since then, my wife and kids have left, I've lost 30 pounds and look 15 years older. I've developed a stutter and a twitch, and I have such horrible nightmares I'm afraid to go to sleep at night.

"Hour after hour I lay there staring at the ceiling trying to fall asleep counting towels, and when I finally do drift off I dream of towels growing little feet and marching out the front door, or flying out the windows like little magic carpets. I

dream I'm walking down an endless corridor with empty courts on both sides, and all the lights are on! Finally I come to a court being used, and it's some friends of my manager who never pay for their court time!

"I enter the locker room and find the whirlpool full of shampoo, and someone has pulled the hair dryer out of the wall leaving a large hole. I go upstairs to answer a phone call from the captain of the club's traveling team who is demanding more benefits (they want time-and-a-half if they have to play a tie-breaker). Then I open the mail to find that I'm being sued

by someone who was hit in the eye and we didn't require them to wear eyeguards . . . and it happened in the nursery!

"I wake up and take a shower, go down to the club, only to find out that my nightmares aren't that at all . . . those things really happened the day before!"

A visit with Alan R. Siegel, club owner; a trip into the dark side of the world of racquetball's twilight zone. Think twice before YOU allow yourself to be taken in by the forces of evil and wake up to find yourself **A RACQUETBALL CLUB OWNER!**

### The 'Catch 22' of Competition

## Why Do Women Players Shun Tournaments?

By DIANE MASON

In recent years, racquetball has become known as a sport which attracts — and welcomes — women of all ages. Each year finds more women on the courts and in club league play.

But a glance at tournament statistics might suggest otherwise. Men's amateur divisions continue to outnumber women's, and the reason for this is simply that not as many women are entering tournaments.

It is doubtful that this disproportion reflects the percentage of all women who play racquetball. Nor should we conclude that women are not becoming skilled at the same rate as men. It is just that women are not surfacing for tournaments.

#### WHY?

Wendell Marriott, president of the WPRA, believes that women are not as comfortable in competition as men.

"Many of the older women, who play regularly in their own clubs and on challenge courts, never had an opportunity in high school or college to compete formally. That was the boys' thing. Girls were taught to look at sports in a non-competitive way. These women are social players, and are in it for the exercise. Competition doesn't hold the interest as it does for men."

But this is not the whole story. Women are also reluctant to enter tournaments because they have not had any experience, and are perhaps a bit intimidated by the official aura of tournament play.

"IN A SINGLE elimination tournament, it is usually the least experienced players who get eliminated first, so a new person entering for the first time has this working against her too."

For many, this "Catch 22" can be the single biggest drawback.

"Competition needs experience," Marriott confirmed. "It's hard to gain tournament experience when you only play one game and go home."

Marriott suggested that tournaments be designed on a round robin format. Through consolation rounds, a player could be insured at least two, maybe more, matches.

OR, THE "POOL" system could be used. Players are assigned and play within their pool, and the winners of each pool enter playoff matches.

What else can be done to promote women's tournament play?

"Focus on C and Novice players," said Marriott. She thinks that they are the ones needing the most experience, and the ones least likely to take the plunge into tournament play.

"These women should be encouraged to compete in small local tournaments first. If they have good time, they will be more likely to enter more, eventually gaining the experience and skill needed to move up in the ranks."

THIS LAST POINT suggests the important part that tournament news coverage could play. Pictures, stories and highlights of results in women's divisions, par-

ticularly C and Novice, could contribute much toward promoting enthusiasm for tournament play at all levels. Spotting new women players — those competing for the first time — would inspire courage with the message: *There are others out there like you!*

Club owners can also add a lot to a woman's incentive. Knowing that her club

is behind her, receiving a supportive send-off, and perhaps seeing her picture displayed on the club's newsboard would provide a woman participant positive reinforcement.

Women need to be shown that tournaments can be fun, and that competition is a rewarding experience. After all, racquetball is everybody's game.

## AARA JUNIOR REGIONALS

Sponsored By Penn Athletic Products, Co.

\* MARCH 6, 7, 8, 1980

The Junior Regionals will be "OPEN" this year and players may compete in any regional he or she desires; however no player may compete in more than one regional.

**ENTRY FEE:** \$15.00 (Limit one event) Make all checks payable to: AARA Junior Regionals (list the name of your regional)

**ENTRY DEADLINE:** Postmarked February 27, 1981. ALL ENTRIES ARE FINAL. No applications will be accepted after this date. Mail all entries to: the address listed for each individual region.

**OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT BALL:** Penn Ultra-blue.

**AWARDS:** For first three places in each division and consolation. Regional winners will be seeded in the Junior Nationals — April 13-16, 1981 at Supreme Courts West, Wichita, Kansas.

**RULES:** Age as of January 1, 1981. AARA official rules will apply. Only amateurs may participate. AARA rules state the definition of an amateur racquetball player as anyone who has not received money (any amount) in any prosanctioned tournament (NRC, PRA, IPRO, WPRA, NARP or any other association so deemed by the AARA Board of Directors), for one year. Validation of age must accompany entry.

Proof of current AARA membership required. (Membership may be purchased at registration.)

Eye protection is necessary to play in any event.

\* Eastern Regional and Northwest Regional will be held March 20-22, 1981.

DIVISIONS: Check One

<b>BOYS</b>	<b>GIRLS</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> 10 and under	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 and under
<input type="checkbox"/> 13 and under	<input type="checkbox"/> 13 and under
<input type="checkbox"/> 15 and under	<input type="checkbox"/> 15 and under
<input type="checkbox"/> 17 and under	<input type="checkbox"/> 17 and under

PLEASE PRINT

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

WIAVER:

I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators waive and release any and all rights and claims I may have against the American Amateur Racquetball Association or its representative agents for any and all injuries.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_  
 SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN \_\_\_\_\_

(Validation of age must accompany entry.)

JUNIOR REGIONAL SITES  
 March 6-8, 1981

**Central Regional**  
 Du Page Racquet Club  
 475 Grace Street  
 Addison, Illinois  
 Ray Mitchell  
 312-745-9400

**Northeast Regional**  
 All Sport Racquetball Club  
 240 A. North Road  
 Roughkeepsie, New York 12601  
 James Barysh  
 914-452-5050

**Midwest Regional**  
 Racquetball of Omaha  
 3415 South 67th Street  
 Omaha, Nebraska 68106  
 Terry Elgeihun  
 402-393-3311

**Southeast Regional**  
 The Courtrooms  
 750 West Sunrise Blvd.  
 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311  
 Fred Blaess  
 305-764-8700

**Western Regional**  
 Fairfield Court Club  
 1471 Holiday Lane  
 Fairfield, CA  
 Lou Wallman  
 707-429-4363

**Penn**

**SPECIAL DATE**  
 March 20-22, 1981

**Midwest Regional**  
 Athletic Express  
 700 Russell Avenue  
 Gaitesburg, Maryland 20700  
 D. C. Lantz  
 302-654-2231  
 John Ware  
 (W) 800-638-2612

**Southwest Regional**  
 Las Vegas Racquet Ball Club  
 1070 E. Sahara Ave.  
 Las Vegas, NV 89104  
 Ray Anderson  
 702-733-1919

**Eastern Regional**  
 The Playoff Racquetball & Handball Club  
 288 Wood Road  
 Braintree, MA 02184  
 Jim Daly  
 617-348-8080

**Northwest Regional**  
 Gresham Court Club  
 19201 South East Division Street  
 Gresham, Oregon 97030  
 Mark Eisenzimmer 503-665-4142  
 Dave Lewis 503-666-1245

Junior Regional Tournaments are AARA level 5.

### Attention

## Tournament Directors!

SEND US THE RESULTS OF YOUR TOURNAMENTS, ALONG WITH BLACK AND WHITE PICTURES, OR CALL TOLLFREE 800-323-9167. WE WILL PRINT ALL RESULTS

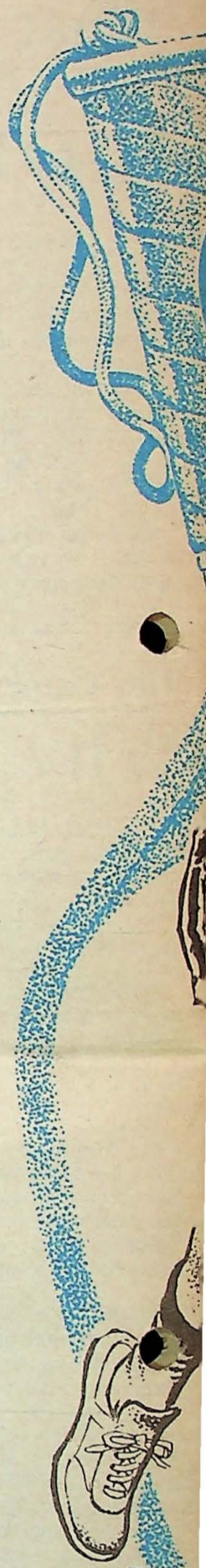
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at the regular price and receive

# FREE...

- 1 year membership to your State Racquetball Association
- 6 month subscription to **RACQUETBALL TODAY**

RACQUETBALL TODAY will soon be available by direct mail subscription ONLY, and will carry the "official" newsletter of your state association.



Offer limited to one per customer, and expires May 31, 1981.

# VISIT A PARTICIPATING CLUB IN YOUR AREA



Membership to your state association offers you:

- participation in many tournaments, clinics and events
- discounts to various exhibitions
- discounts on consumer goods
- free rule books and other helpful racquetball materials

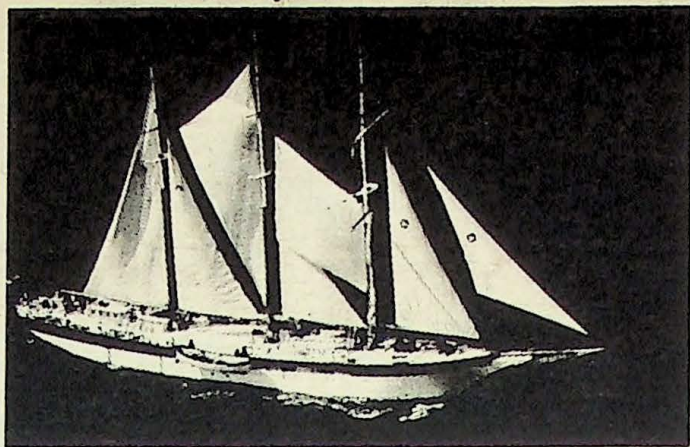
And . . . by joining your state association, you are contributing to the advancement of the sport in your area!

*For the names of clubs participating in your area - call*

**RACQUETBALL TODAY®**

**TOLL FREE AT 800-323-9167**

**(Or subscribe directly by filling out the order form on Page 3)**



# Sail to a Caribbean Adventure.

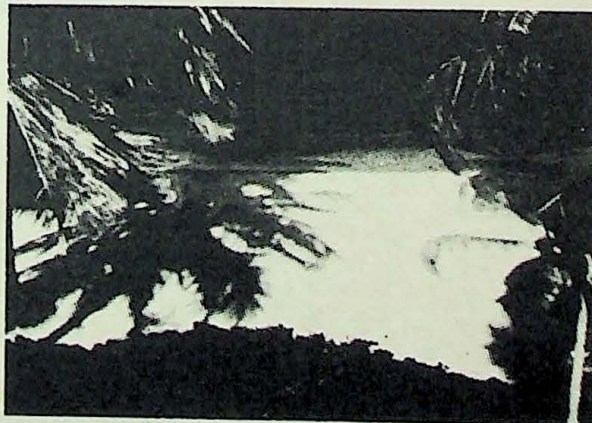
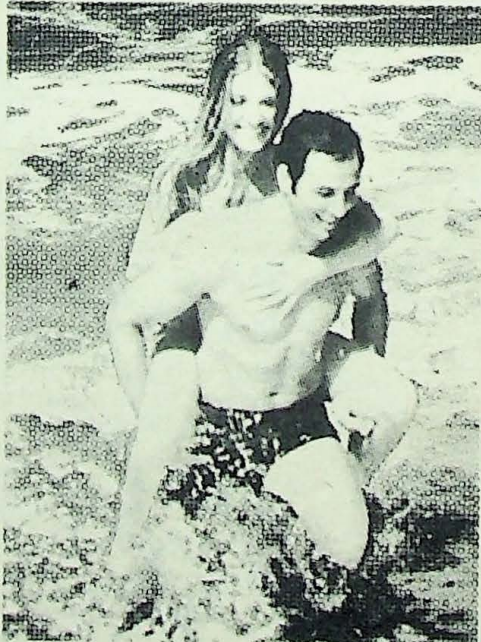
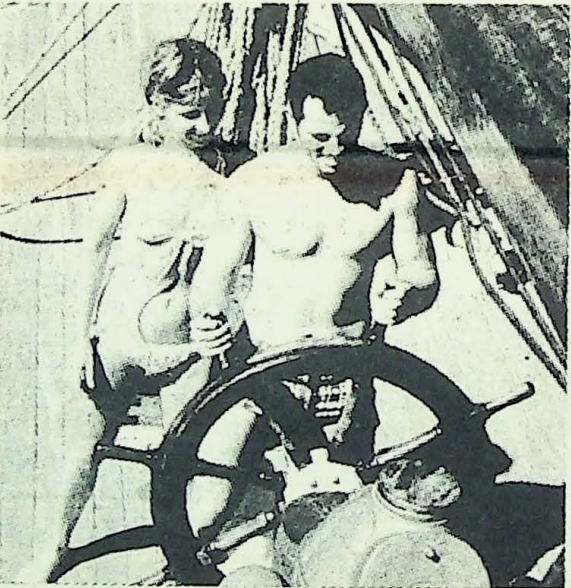
We have a love affair going with a beautiful schooner in the tropical Caribbean. Tan your hide, soothe your soul, and share the adventure of a lifetime with other free spirits.

Six days of sun, sea and sand. Six nights of music, stars and wishes come true.

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Write Cap'n Mike for your free full color Great Adventure Book, or call Toll Free 1-800-327-2600.

Do it now!



## Windjammer Barefoot Cruises

P.O. Box 120, Dept. 782, Miami Beach, Florida 33139

WORLDWIDE TRAVEL

# Announcements Overheard

"Will the referee for Court 6 please report to the court . . . the players have begun fighting without you."

"We'd like to remind you that hospitality is for the players, only. Anyone else caught eating the potato chips will be charged."

"Will the owner of the white Jaguar parked in front of the club please come to the front desk and marry my daughter."

"We're running a little late so those of you who are here for your nine o'clock matches can relax. Six o'clock matches can check in now, please."

"We need a volunteer ref and two bouncers for the Men's Open finals, please."

"We'd like to cordially invite all first-round losers to be our guests in the Consolation division which begins at 5 a.m. tomorrow morning."

"Attention please. We've run out of lockers in the men's locker room. Are there any men who would be willing to use the women's locker room?"

"Ladies and gentlemen, the management has asked me to remind you that your bags and purses will be checked upon leaving for the missing towels, the Men's D Consolation trophy, three missing showerheads, the 22 foot Lite Beer banner and the Women's A drawsheet. Thank you."

"Welcome to the Lite Beer, Virginia Slims, Seagram 7, Heart Association Championships!"

"Attention please! We're missing a little boy, blond hair, about 4-foot-2-inches tall, last seen in blue shorts. He's wanted on Court 1 for the Men's Open finals."

"Congratulations to Ileen Vesci who has just won her third straight Women's Novice championship."

## Racquetball Yesterday

### Health Farm's Exercise Boy Turns Handball Into Racquetball

By BEN CLARKE

Many lay claim to the origination of the now very popular game of racquetball. Who was responsible for the introduction of this game and where did it take place? Let's go back to the year 1924. The place is Bill Brown's Health Farm at Garrison, N.Y., about fifty miles from the heart of New York City. Bill Brown's clientele was of the elite. Successful businessmen, well known actors, politicians and exceedingly wealthy men: Barnard Baruch, John Philip Souza, Burgess Merrideth, Babe Ruth, Chrystie Walsh, General Ochs Adler and many others.

It was born in the brain of one of the exercise boys who was spending the summer working there while he was a freshman at the Savage College for Physical Education . . . a college that supplied most of the physical education teachers for the New York City Board of Education. The exercise boy's name was Barney Felix. He was eighteen at the time. His job was to take guests on hikes, give them a workout with the medicine ball then play handball with them either on the handball court or the two squash racquets courts. In those days Bill Brown's was the intercollegiate squash racquets center. All the Ivy League Squash Racquets Championships were played there.

Bill Brown's guests were all old-timers who had spent a lifetime working out in gymnasiums and finishing off with a game of handball. The only problem was that they were getting old, in fact, too old to play handball, being short in wind and fragile of hands. So one day, Barney cut the handles on two squash racquets to half size, taped-up the ends, and with a couple of high-bouncing pink spaulding balls played the game of "racquetball" with handball rules. This became a very popular game at Brown's and lasted for years.

Twenty years later Artie McGovern's Gym on 42nd Street picked it up as did the Midtown Health Club located next to the Holy Cross Parochial school. Father

McCaffery at the school and the same Barney Felix played racquetball there.

In the ensuing years, Barney graduated from Savage, served as a physical education teacher in the New York City school system; became the nation's Senior Professional Boxing Referee, refereeing many championship bouts (he gave Cassius Clay (Mohammed Ali) the title in his first bout with Sonny Liston for the world's heavyweight championship in 1964). On a part-time basis, Barney

coached boxing and self-defense at the academy at West Point.

Barney Felix at the age of 74 is still active in the racquetball business. Five years ago he accepted the position of racquetball pro at the Fort Lee Racquet Club in New Jersey. Last year he became the Ambassador of Good Will at the Spring Valley Racquet Club at Nanuet, N.Y.

Barney's latest undertaking is his discovery of the ideal and perfect Marathon Course along the Palisades Interstate

Park. Plans are being formulated to run the first International Nelson Rockefeller Memorial Marathon along this course in the very near future.

*Editor's Note: Our thanks to Ben Clarke for sharing this story with us. RACQUETBALL TODAY will bring you more history from time to time. If you have a question about the history of the sport, or a story to share, let us hear from you.*

## Feet First Tennis Shoes

Dr. Gliege is a practicing podiatrist in Chicago, Ill., and has done a great deal of research on the female in sports medicine and in sports shoes for females.

**QUESTION: Is the ordinary tennis shoe adequate for racquetball playing?**

**ANSWER:** It is a known fact that racquetball requires a great deal of pivoting, pushing off, and short, quick vertical moves. Therefore, the ideal shoe construction demands a thicker, heavier, and "stickier" sole for good traction on a wooden floor. Soles consisting of cylindrically studded gum-rubber or polyurethane are superb for gripping, yet wear quickly.

The outer material of the shoe should be lightweight and porous, yet supportive. Uppers of suede or high-quality canvas are triple-stitched for reinforcement in the better shoes.

The shank, or mid-portion of the shoe should allow breathability and, therefore, minimize perspiring feet. This is true of a nylon mesh. Lateral support is essential in a racquetball shoe and enhanced by multiple rows of vertical seams.

THE QUALITY of the shoe can further be assessed by the form-fitting heel-cup with a vinyl posterior tongue that completes a snug fit. Finally, the interior of the shoe should be examined for smoothness and comfort. Inside seams should be concealed with foam/nylon cushioning throughout for good shock absorption.

With these guidelines in vogue, it is apparent that an ordinary tennis, jogging, or basketball shoe does not afford the best fit for maneuverability on the court. These shoes are only built for heel-to-toe follow-through, or horizontal stress. A novice

By DR. EVELYN D. GLIEGE



may find the non-specific shoe comfortable for the first few times on the court, but the experienced player will seek footwear that will not only be a beneficial adjunct to his foot health, but a necessary requirement for a competitive game.

Consult the shoe department of your local sports store for more information on the ten to twenty manufacturing companies to find a fit that suits your foot best.

RACQUETBALL TODAY will feature monthly articles on foot care provided by the Community Health Information Council, a not-for-profit organization of consumers, health professionals and media professionals co-operating in the development and dissemination of health related information at the community level. Dr. Lawrence M. Rubin, Co-ordinator of Podiatry for the council will be available to answer questions on foot care and foot injuries. In addition, readers are

invited to submit questions to be answered by other members of the council. Address your inquiries to Dr. Rubin at Community Health Information Council, 5744 Dempster Street, Morton Grove, Illinois 60053.

RACQUETBALL TODAY, of course, cannot and does not warrant the accuracy of the medical advice contained herein. Anyone experiencing symptoms of injury or illness should consult with the medical professional of their own selection.

# Membership Explosion

## New England Racquetball Association's Success Story

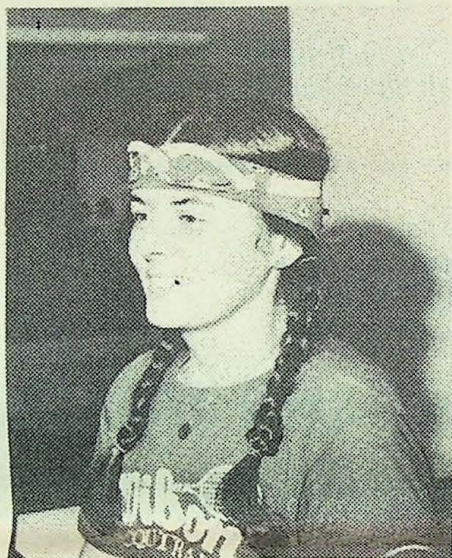
It started in Massachusetts with the AARA state chairman, Maureen Boulette appointed head of the AARA group in October 1979, and Paul Henrickson elevated to Northeast Regional Commissioner for the AARA. At that time, about 16 months ago, the Massachusetts Racquetball Association (MRA) had 400 members. Today, they have close to 2,000 members and they are expanding at a clip of 250-300 per month! The Massachusetts association sanctions a major tournament every weekend and have been able to gain the co-operation of clubs throughout the state to virtually eliminate all conflicts. Under Paul's direction, the rest of the New England states have organized in the same manner and are showing the same kind of growth rates, and that's just the start.

Paul was selected to head the state association in April of 1979 and at that time the state advisory board, working closely with the state director, concluded that before the association could grow and prosper, it must gain the co-operation and respect of court club owners in Massachusetts. In order to establish credibility the following items were voted on and passed by the advisory board: 1. The state director would attend all sanctioned tournaments for the 1979-80 season; 2. The state newsletter would become a monthly publication; 3. All sanctioned tournaments would be required to have the MRA-AARA logo on tournament shirts; 4. All applications for sanctioned tournaments must include the phrase "MRA/AARA

Membership is required; membership may be obtained at the tournament."

During the 1979-80 season, 26 facilities opted to have their tournaments sanctioned, an increase from five sanctioned tournaments the previous year! Membership rose from 400 to 1500. With this new strength in numbers the MRA became the "guiding force" in the direction of racquetball in Massachusetts.

MANY PLAYERS stated that they joined the MRA for no other reason, but to be able to obtain the newsletter which was



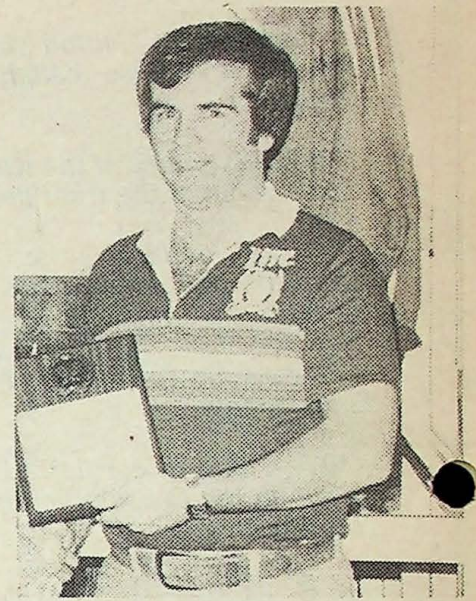
Maureen Henrickson

rapidly gaining tremendous recognition throughout the state.

The 1980-81 tournament season is witnessing an increasing number of sanctioned events as well as an expanded membership, making Massachusetts the largest AARA affiliate in the country. And now the potential for growth is even greater.

The Massachusetts Racquetball Association was the very first state association in the country to accept the Racquetball Today Promotions Service Contract Agreement whereby state associations could derive virtually all the benefits formally promised by the AARA and the SRA for a fee of \$1 per member per year (as opposed to \$12 or \$15 from the national organizations). The Massachusetts newsletter will now be carried in the Eastern regional issue of RACQUETBALL TODAY, (along with the newsletters of all other state associations which have affiliated). The Henricksons have revised the membership structure of the MRA so that membership with the AARA is no longer a requirement and players can now join the MRA for as little as \$2 and receive all of the benefits provided through Racquetball Today Promotions, Inc.

But that was not enough for the organizational genius of Paul Henrickson, as he immediately met with the leaders of state associations throughout New England. They too have revised their membership policies, and they too have joined Racquetball Today Promotions plan. He then met with John McCarthy, Executive Director of the New England Sports Associa-



Paul Henrickson

tion and with the aid of RACQUETBALL TODAY, was able to show McCarthy the advantages of working directly with and for the state racquetball associations. McCarthy and his association have actively endorsed the RACQUETBALL TODAY promotions which will provide many new memberships to the associations.

The Henricksons will just keep going. They are actively working on many programs. The Henricksons believe the key to success of the MRA is the active concern and interest in the players. Their continuous involvement contributes enormously to the growth and expansion of the sport of racquetball.

## Did Ball Skip In?

By PHIL SIMBORG

Especially when you're watching, playing or reffing top-level racquetball players, it can be very difficult to tell if a ball skipped in or was good. There are three tricks that, in combination, will usually help you make the call on even the closest shots.

1. Listen: A good kill generally has a single, solid sound, while a skip has an impact with both the floor and the wall and therefore makes a slightly different sound than a shot that hit the wall clean.

2. Watch the ball after it hits. A ball that hit the front wall first develops top spin and generally "rolls out" flat and smooth. But a shot that hits the floor and then the front wall will pick up back spin and will either pop up, or "grab" slightly after hitting.

3. When you can't tell either way for sure, you'll be right more times than not if you call it a skip ball. The reason for this is because the rule book states that if the ball hits the crotch, (the floor and the wall) at the same time, it is considered "no good." If you can't quite tell if a shot was good or not, there's a very good chance that the reason you couldn't tell was because it hit the crotch, so go ahead and make that assumption and call the shot no good. When two people are playing without a referee and you get a close one where neither of you are absolutely sure, you will also be more accurate assuming the ball hit the crotch and calling the shot

no good.

If you're reffing and come across such a close call, remember Tom Grobmisi's advice, "When in doubt, shout!" Decide what you think the call is as quickly as possible, and yell it out like you haven't the slightest doubt in the world. The more confidence you project the less your calls will be questioned.

## Troubles

- You know you're in trouble when . . .
- . . . you find out the "B" division doesn't stand for "beginner."
  - . . . the ref winks at your opponent during the pre-match instructions.
  - . . . your doubles partner says, "just listen to me and we'll do fine."
  - . . . your opponent can't fit through the door!
  - . . . the referee asks you, "Do you have any questions, honey?"
  - . . . you suddenly notice that your bag feels unusually light.
  - . . . you ask if they're running on time and they just laugh.
  - . . . you look up in the gallery and see 20 faces you've never seen before.
  - . . . you hear the announcement, "Last call for pizza" and you're in the shower.
  - . . . you find out your opponent just flew in from Alaska for the tournament.

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The following pros can be found in the zig above. No letter is used more than once and there are no diagonals. Circle the names and send the puzzle to us to get into our drawing for prizes.

Adams, Bledsoe, Cohen, Grobmisi, Hawkins, Hoff, Hogan, Koltun, Muehleisen, Peterson, Serot, Strandemo, Stoll.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be willing to pay \$100 for a 1-year subscription to RACQUETBALL TODAY? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

(If yes, please add phone number \_\_\_\_\_)

# In the Shops

## New Balls Lead Product Lineup

By BOB SCHMENDRICK

When 1981 is finished, it will be noted for a major change in the balls now being marketed by all the major companies. You can expect to see new balls being produced by Ram, Seamco, Vittert and Wilson. I suspect that all of the balls will have the same basic characteristics — blue color, pressureless and a speed somewhere between the Voit Rollout Bleu and the Seamco 600.

The Ram ball will be unique in its marketing concept coming one ball to a box and sold, I am told, exclusively through court clubs.

Look for Voit to add a little more velocity to their current product, and Seamco to slow theirs down. The ball market will be extremely competitive, and it appears that Head and Leach will drop out of the market.

VITTERT will introduce its new live racquets this month at the National Sporting Goods Association show in Chicago. I previewed this line several weeks ago, and shared Vittert's enthusiasm over their new racquets. One of the racquets, of graphite composition and similar in design to their Spitfire, should be a winner with the proper pricing.

We will also see a major push on eyeguards from numerous manufacturers, as more emphasis will be placed on safety than in the past. The Michigan Racquetball Association proved that playing with eyeguards is not a hindrance to play and there are enough different products out there to suit everyone. Don't ignore this important piece of equipment.

Lastly, there is a new glove on the market called the Buckskin glove. This glove is synthetic and completely washable.

Watch for next month's column for a review of new products introduced at the 1981 National Sporting Goods Association show.

## Eye Injury? Culprit Is You

By LAWRENCE TABAK

Feel like hitting yourself in the head lately? You may not be alone. A report surfaced in the November issue of *Archives of Ophthalmology* that indicated that the growing s/m movement in the country had hit racquetball.

Two Baltimore doctors, Marcos Doxanas and Carl Soderstrom, surveyed records of 1,071 emergency room patients. Thirty-seven cases of eye injuries occurred while playing racquetball, with 22 of these from self-induced racquet blows!

Of the fifteen injuries caused by ball impact, the most common were cases where the player in the front court turned to check out the action behind him. Deflections from mishits were second, and the third most common were the result of miscalculated back wall shots.

**THE SELF-INFLICTED** injuries usually occurred after "an abortive attempt at striking the ball." Need we add insult to injury?

Attempts to correlate injuries with level of play were inconclusive. **INJURIES OCCURRED AT ALL LEVELS.**

But the single most important statistic was that of the 37 players that showed up at the emergency room over a three month period, **NONE**, (that is zero) had been wearing eye guards. Take heed.



# THE 1981 EKTELON/PERRIER RACQUETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

PERRIER, THE NATURALLY SPARKLING THIRST QUENCHER. EKTELON, THE MOST RECOMMENDED RACQUET IN RACQUETBALL.\*

### FREE TRIP TO NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, APRIL 1981.

Air fare and lodging for regional winners\*\* provided by Ektelon/Perrier and your host court facility.

### \$40,000 PROFESSIONAL INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT.

Regional winners compete for Amateur Championship while top professionals vie for national title.

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Exciting vacations for two in Mexico, the Bahamas or Caribbean for each of the four National Champions.†

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Prizes for finalists and commemorative awards for top eight finishers in all divisions.

### COMPLIMENTARY EKTELON/PERRIER BAGS.

Free Ektelon/Perrier canvas racquetball bag for each player who participates.

### REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS IN 16 MAJOR CITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

\*Research results available from Ektelon. \*\*Men's and Women's Open and Senior. †From one of five U.S. departure points.

February 6-8, Continental Racquetball, 14880 Bammel/No. Houston Road, Houston, TX 77014, (713) 893-5146. Entry Deadline, January 31.

February 5-8, Omni Court Club and Fitness Center, 2451 Grant Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19114, (215) 969-6600. Entry Deadline, January 31.

February 12-15, Racquetball World & Aerobic Health Center, 1901 East First Street, Santa Ana, CA 92705, (714) 972-2999. Entry Deadline, February 6.

February 11-14, Dales Courts, 11301 West 88th Street, Overland Parks, KS 66214, (913) 888-9247. Entry Deadline, February 6.

February 13-16, Centre Court Racquetball Club, 40 Maple Avenue, Rockville Centre, NY 11570, (516) 536-8700. Entry Deadline, February 6.

February 19-22, Denver Sporting Club, 5151 DTC Parkway, Englewood, CO 80111, (303) 779-0700. Entry Deadline, February 13.

February 20-22, Racquet King Courts, 1630 Fort Street, Trenton, MI 48183, (313) 675-5850. Entry Deadline, February 15.

February 20-22, Sportrooms of Coral Gables, 1500 Douglas Road, Coral Gables, FL 33134, (305) 443-4228. Entry Deadline, February 15.

February 26-March 1, Cambridge Racquetball Club, 215 First Street, Cambridge, MA 02142, (617) 491-8989. Entry Deadline, February 20.

March 5-8, The Racquethouse, 4951 Lower Roswell Road, Marietta, GA 30067, (404) 971-1700. Entry Deadline, February 27.

March 6-8, Telegraph Hill Club, 1850 Kearny Street, San Francisco, CA 94111, (415) 982-4700. Entry Deadline, February 27.

March 5-8, Glass Court Club, 830 East Roosevelt Road, Lombard, IL 60148, (312) 629-3390. Entry Deadline, February 27.

March 12-15, Security Court Club, 2076 Lord Baltimore Drive, Baltimore, MD 21207, (301) 298-8700. Entry Deadline, March 6.

March 12-15, Civic Center Racquetball Club, 7303 East Earl Drive, Scottsdale, AZ 85251, (602) 949-0643. Entry Deadline, March 6.

March 13-15, Racqueteer Club, 501 Morrison Road, Columbus, OH 43230, (614) 476-5656. Entry Deadline, March 6.

March 13-15, Northtown Racquetball Club, 1071 Highway 10, Minneapolis, MN 55432, (612) 780-2322. Entry Deadline, March 6.

March 13-15, Northeast Racquetball Club, 5160 Central Avenue, N.E., Columbia Heights, MN 55421, (612) 571-5840. Entry Deadline, March 6.



**OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM** DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (DAY) \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (NIGHT) \_\_\_\_\_

CLUB AFFILIATIONS \_\_\_\_\_

PARTNER'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

SEX  M  F BIRTHDATE \_\_\_\_\_ Mo/Day/Yr

EVENTS			
Men's		Women's	
<input type="checkbox"/> Open**	\$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Open**	\$30.00
<input type="checkbox"/> B	\$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> B	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> C	\$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> C	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Novice	\$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Novice	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior (35+)**	\$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior (35+)**	\$30.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Master (45+)	\$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Open Doubles	\$25.00 each
<input type="checkbox"/> Golden Masters (55+)	\$25.00		
<input type="checkbox"/> Open Doubles	\$25.00 each		

\*\* Grand Prize: CLUB MED VACATIONS

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: EKTELON

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**WAIVER CLAUSE:** I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the host club, Ektelon, Perrier and their respective representatives for any and all injuries suffered by me in connection with any participation in the Ektelon/Perrier Championships tournament.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
(SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN IF UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE.)

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MOFFICE 125W

# Thirty-Day Revolution Revitalizes Racquetball

(Continued from Page 1)

state associations a direct media outlet for their news, tournaments and activities, and which would provide regional and national tournaments, and the materials, information and guidance needed to promote and advance the sport. **Our fee for these services is \$1 per member per year.** Compared to the \$10 or \$15 per year charged by the national associations (for far less services) our offer was difficult to turn down. Eleven of the seventeen committed themselves and their associations on the spot, and the other six promised to take our proposal back to their members for approval. Immediately, we wrote to associations in every state and, as of this writing, virtually every major state amateur racquetball association in the country has accepted our proposal! What we had set up was just the opposite of a national association — instead of exerting any authority or control over the states and the players, we were pledged by contract to provide goods and services to them for a fee; a contract they can cancel anytime they believe we are not "producing."

WE STRESSED THE importance of lowering membership fees (our low fee allows this quite easily) so that the associations can attract the "day-to-day" player as well as the more seriously-involved tournament competitor. With lower fees, we offered them an immediate program in which the cost of membership was included in the purchase price of racquetballs (and later court fees, club membership, gloves, and other goods and services). They will now be able to attract literally tens of thousands of members IN EACH STATE and tens of thousands of dollars as well, as the cost of membership comes out of the cost of the balls, and the players are encouraged to buy those balls because of many benefits which are included with the purchase.

The fact that we could so easily get the support of so many throughout the country proves how much our concerns and hopes were shared by all.

The final "testing ground" came exactly one month after that historic meeting in Chicago with the association leaders. We had signed contracts with all the major state associations, and we had the support of major ball manufacturers. Now we had to go to the NCCA Convention, (the club owners convention) in Las Vegas January 17-19, and convince the major club owners to support our associations and projects, and act as the retail outlet for the ball sales which would provide the members and funds to make all our plans and hopes possible.

By the end of the weekend, our promotion was enthusiastically endorsed and accepted by the current president of the NCCA, Chuck Spaulding, who is the owner of the largest chain of racquetball clubs in the country! The promotion was accepted by Jim Bronner, immediate past-president of the NCCA and part-owner of the Chicago Metro Clubs (also one of the largest chains of clubs in the country). And the promotion was accepted by the new president of the NCCA, Norm Cates, of Courtsouth out of Atlanta, another of the largest chains. John McCarthy, executive director of NERSA, an organization representing over 100 racquetball clubs throughout New England, personally endorsed our programs and promotion and has recommended acceptance by all the New England clubs. EVERY club owner we talked to immediately understood and supported our hopes and plans for the future, and accepted our ball promotion on the spot or promised to give it serious consideration and get back to us right away! **SUCCESS!**

IN JUST 30 DAYS, we had united the major state associations, club owners and manufacturers with the sport's leading publication to promote the sport of racquetball.

Now, how does it happen? In Illinois, the

ISRA currently has 1,500 members — all tournament players who paid \$12 to join, \$10 of which went to the USRA. Now the ISRA fee is \$3, and under this current ball promotion, it is effectively \$2. It is reasonable to assume that 50,000 people in Illinois will purchase the right brand of racquetballs at least one time during the next five months, and that will bring in \$100,000 to the Illinois association to be used for the promotion and advancement of the sport! Those 50,000 people will derive many benefits as a result of membership, will receive this paper by direct mail (which will include the Illinois newsletter and calendar of events) and will be eligible for tournaments, clinics and leagues as well as many new programs which the association will finally have the money to implement for the non-tournament players. And all this is included in the regu-

lar price of the balls! After the ball promotion ends, we'll bring similar programs to the clubs and players whereby membership and dollars are included in club memberships, court time, special events, and other products and services. By setting low fees and not funneling the money into privately-owned companies or publications, it will be possible to eventually attract MILLIONS of members and dollars to the state associations. *That the national associations were offered and explained these principles and ideas and did not grasp or accept them will always be one of the greatest mysteries we have yet encountered.*

**THE FUTURE:** We foresee the future of racquetball as a sport which truly has a "national identity" in which all factions share a mutual pride and involvement in all areas of the sport, where the day-to-day

"hacker" feels a kinship with the pro he sees regularly competing on TV, and where the manufacturers would never dream of going into promotional projects without the support and co-ordination of the club owners and players associations.

To those club owners, association leaders, equipment manufacturers and friends who supported us, we extend our sincerest thanks for making the 30 days between December 19, 1980, and January 19, 1981, the most exciting and pleasurable 30 days of our lives. To the rest of the racquetball community — to those we have not yet personally reached with our specific ideas and programs — we invite you to join us! There's a place for everyone and together we will all grow with the sport. Get involved! Call your local state racquetball association or RACQUETBALL TODAY. Join the revolution!

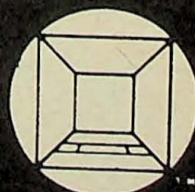
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# Conditioning— Turning What You Have to Full Advantage



By JOHN DONATI & KEN HUTCHINS

*Editor's Note: Each month in this column John Donati and Ken Hutchins of Nautilus Sports/Medical Industries answer questions pertaining to training and conditioning. Questions may be submitted to John Donati and Ken Hutchins, P.O. Box 1783, DeLand, Florida 32720.*

**QUESTION:** Racquetball is a very fast game. How can I develop additional quickness to improve my playing potential?

**S.G., Rough and Ready, Calif.**  
**ANSWER:** Generally speaking, quickness is genetically determined. However, it is important that each individual reach his full genetic potential. This is accomplished through a total fitness program. In addition, practicing the specific skill involving quickness will develop motor-neurological readiness which will improve quickness.

**QUESTION:** I have an uncommon problem. I'm skinny! I need to gain weight. What can I do?

**C.W., Gainseville, Fla.**  
**ANSWER:** Obviously, one of the ways to gain weight is to consume additional calories. However, what many people don't realize is that muscle weighs more than fat. By participating in a strength training program, muscle size can be increased. Rather than turning the additional calories into fat, turn it into something that performs better.

Consider eating several times per day rather than at the three standard meal-times. Consume some form of high calorie liquid food approximately one hour before retiring. These eating habits will allow additional calories to be consumed without the discomfort of over-eating at the three main meals.

**QUESTION:** When playing racquetball, my knees hurt. Are there any exercises specifically designed to work weak knees.  
**H.L.H., Lame Deer, Montana**

**ANSWER:** Without having first-hand knowledge of your situation, it is very difficult to suggest treatment. There are some generalities that can be assumed,

however. The best preventative action a person can do to overcome knee problems is to participate in a properly designed muscular fitness program which includes exercises for the thighs, calves and hamstrings. Some suggested exercises would be leg extensions, leg curls, stiff-legged deadlifts, calf raises, and full squats.

**QUESTION:** What is the most important factor in weight training?  
**W.T.K., Enigma, Ga.**

**ANSWER:** Within an individual's training routine, intensity is the key to muscle growth. In order to stimulate muscular growth, a maximum number of fibers

must be called upon. Perform each set in good form, to point of momentary muscular failure. Without this high intensity form of training, maximum fiber recruitment is not possible.

**QUESTION:** Is there a right way to breathe during weight training?

**T.M.A., Bullhead City, Ariz.**  
**ANSWER:** There is no special technique to breathing during strength training. The basic rule to follow is to never hold your breath, just breathe! But, surprisingly enough, many people fail to do just that. Holding the breath will elevate the blood pressure and may cause severe headaches.

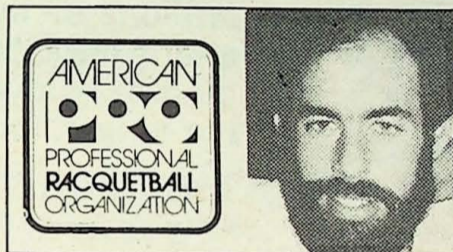
## APRO Brings Clinics Closer to Teachers

By CHUCK SHEFTEL

The Board of Directors of APRO have set up regions and appointed regional directors so that teaching professionals in all areas of the United States will be able to experience the teacher's clinic and attempt to become certified.

The regional directors will meet with the Board to become completely familiar with the clinic and test procedures. This meeting will attempt to standardize the procedures for the entire United States.

Test and clinic areas will then be set up



near your clubs. Anyone interested in taking the clinic and test can write the APRO offices for more information.

The following clinics and tests have been scheduled:

February 14 & 15  
CALIFORNIA

Oak Ridge Racquet Club  
2655 Erringer Road  
Simi Valley, Calif. 93065  
Director: Ronald Meek  
Telephone: 805-522-5454

SOUTH DAKOTA

Racquetball of Sioux Falls  
817 W. Russel  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57104  
Director: Tony Upkes  
Telephone: 605-336-9494

(Continued on Page 21)

### Racquetball Today Promotions

Presents

## Special Events for Racquetball Clubs Seminar

With Connie Peterson

Recommended for Owners, Managers, Club Pros

**SITE:** Courtsports II, 4242 Commerce, Eugene, Oregon 97402

**DATES:** Friday, March 6 - 9 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Sat., March 7, 1981 9 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

**TOPICS INCLUDE:** • Motivating Players • Setting Up and Running Special Events, Leagues, Tournaments • Special Programs for Women, Summer, Daytime • Money Management • Use of Advertising

**COST:** \$150/person - \$250/2 persons from same club

Includes: 10 hours of clinics • Written materials • Continental Breakfast and Lunch



#### ABOUT CONNIE PETERSON

- B.S. in Physical Education
- WPRA ranked player
- APRO certified professional
- AMF Head Advisory staff member
- 4 yrs. experience in club management & teaching

### APRO PRESENTS

## APRO TEACHING CLINIC AND TEST

SATURDAY, MARCH 7 - SUNDAY, MARCH 8

SITE: COURTSPTS II - EUGENE, OREGON

Following The Racquetball Today/Connie Peterson Seminar.

For Teachers or Perspective Teachers of Racquetball

**SCHEDULE:** Saturday - 1:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

Sunday - 9:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Clinic Topics include • Teaching beginners • Rules • Games • Safety • Handling and setting up group and private lessons • How to teach and what to teach • Psychology of Play • Qualities of a good teacher.

You may register for the Clinic, APRO test or both. Testing begins Sunday at 1:00 P.M.

<b>FEES: CLINIC</b>	<b>\$40.00*</b>
<b>TEST</b>	<b>15.00</b>
<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	<b>35.00</b>
	<b>90.00</b>

\*(30 if you are already an APRO member)

(APPLICATION DEADLINE: MONDAY, MARCH 2ND)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ HOME NO. \_\_\_\_\_ WORK NO. \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

REPRESENTING WHAT CLUB? \_\_\_\_\_ YOUR TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: CLP SPORTS CREATIONS  
MAIL TO: CONNIE PETERSON - COURTSPTS II - 4242 COMMERCE - EUGENE, OREGON

If attending the Seminar and you will need transportation from the airport, please list your flight number and time of arrival. We will pick you up. If you are in need of a motel room, please list the nights you will need one and we will book a room for you. (approximately \$24.00/night)

ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT CONNIE PETERSON (502) 687-2255

#### I AM ATTENDING THE FOLLOWING:

_____ SPECIAL EVENTS SEMINAR	<b>\$150</b>
_____ APRO CLINIC	<b>\$40*</b>
_____ APRO TEST	<b>\$15</b>
_____ APRO MEMBERSHIP	<b>\$35</b>

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

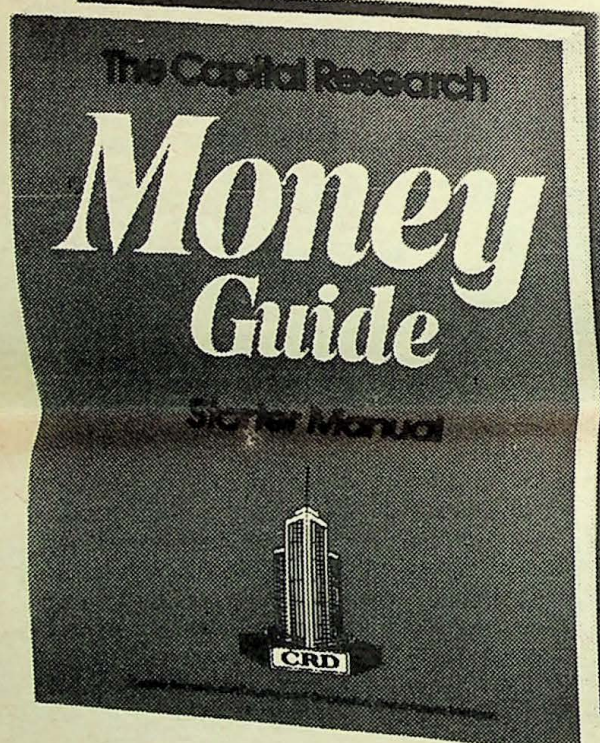
\* \$30 FOR APRO MEMBERS

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who has it...  
 where to get it...  
 and how!

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THE MONEY GUIDE starter manual was written by Gill Phillips, the author of the MONEY GUIDE Financial Coordinator Manual, The Money Market Report, The Director of Lending Sources and the Venture Capital Money Guide. THE MONEY GUIDE shows you ways of getting business capital — for yourself or as a business securing capital for others — by ways and means you never believed possible. You can make more money than you ever dreamed of. AND IT'S ALL FOR REAL!



"I was past forty, and had blundered through several businesses before I discovered the "magic" of making more money than I ever dreamed possible. I made \$4500.00 my first day in business! \$500.00, \$1,000, \$1,500 and \$2,500 in a day — time and time again. I've received fees of \$10,000 in a single day, and am currently involved in a transaction representing a One Million Dollar Commission."

—Gill Phillips

WHAT OTHERS SAY ABOUT THE MONEY GUIDE

"We were in need of \$2,500,000 to save a recently acquired business. Because of your help, our loan was approved"  
 (D Eller, VP. DR Corp)

"I want to thank your company for a magnificent manual. I'm already in the process of attaining a \$1,000,000 loan package"  
 (D. Tameurtz., WA)

"Your manual is superb! Our second client was a solid \$2 Million"  
 (Dr Tarangle, MI)

"Thank you, indeed! I needed but a small loan to save my business, and your manual provided all the information I needed to have my loan approved"  
 (E Rameruez, CA)

Millions of business capital dollars are available if you know how and where to get it. And the MONEY GUIDE Financial Coordinator Manual shows you all the "what's" and "how's" of securing almost any kind of business capital.

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- Locate and secure difficult venture or High-risk capital
- Earn fees and commissions of \$1500.00 a day, and more!
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 263 Mart, S.W., Grand Rapids, MI 49508

## 'Name Tom Grobmisi's Dog' Contest Winners Listed

- 1st Place: "Bleu" (Carl Sullivan — one dozen Head Plum balls)
- 2nd Place: "Old Yellen" (Bruce Olsen — two dozen Head Plum balls)
- 3rd Place: "Matches" (Louise Olsen — replica of a color TV)
- 4th Place: "Shannon" (H. McKay — box of shoe goo)
- 5th Place: "Dr. Bud" (B. Kenler — 100 dozen 557 balls)

Losers of the "Name Tom Grobmisi's Dog" contest:  
Forfeit, Hinder, Killer, Mr. Drake, Donut, Thomas, Brummy, Pecker, Skippy,  
Foton, Sauser, Champ, Ace.

*Editor's Note: Please stop sending us your entries!*

## APRO Report — Clinics Get Closer

(Continued from Page 19)

February 21 & 22

OHIO

Congress Park Circuit Courts  
891 E. Congress Park  
Centerville, Ohio 45459  
Manager: Bruce Dawson  
Telephone: 513-885-5260  
Director: Chuck Sheftel  
Telephone: 312-991-4646

OREGON

Court Sports II  
4242 Commerce  
Eugene, Oregon 97402  
Director: Connie Peterson  
Telephone: 503-687-2255

March 14 & 15

ARIZONA

Tucson Athletic Club

4220 E. Bellevue  
Tucson, Arizona 85710  
Director: Linda Siau  
Telephone: 602-881-0140

March 28 & 29

ILLINOIS

Forest Grove Swim & Racquet Club  
1760 N. Hicks Road  
Palatine, Illinois 60067  
Director: Chuck Sheftel  
Telephone: 312-991-4646

April 4 & 5

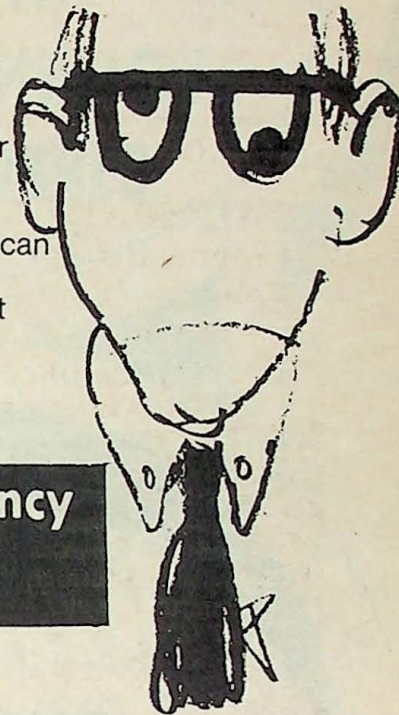
MICHIGAN

Franklin Racquet Club  
29350 Northwestern Highway  
Southfield, Michigan 48034  
Director: Jim Easterling  
Telephone: 313-352-8004

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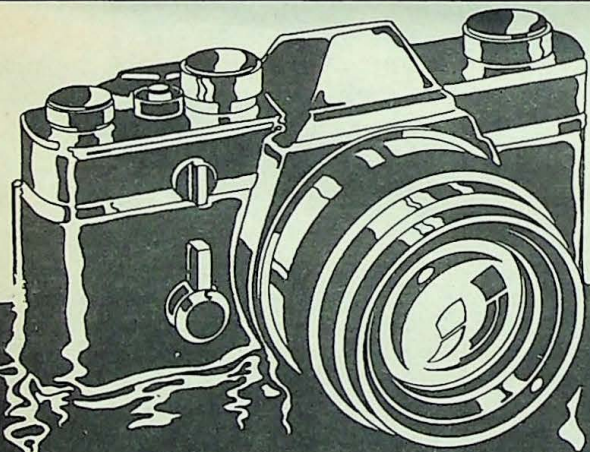


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# RACQUETBALL

## TODAY®

# PHOTO CONTEST

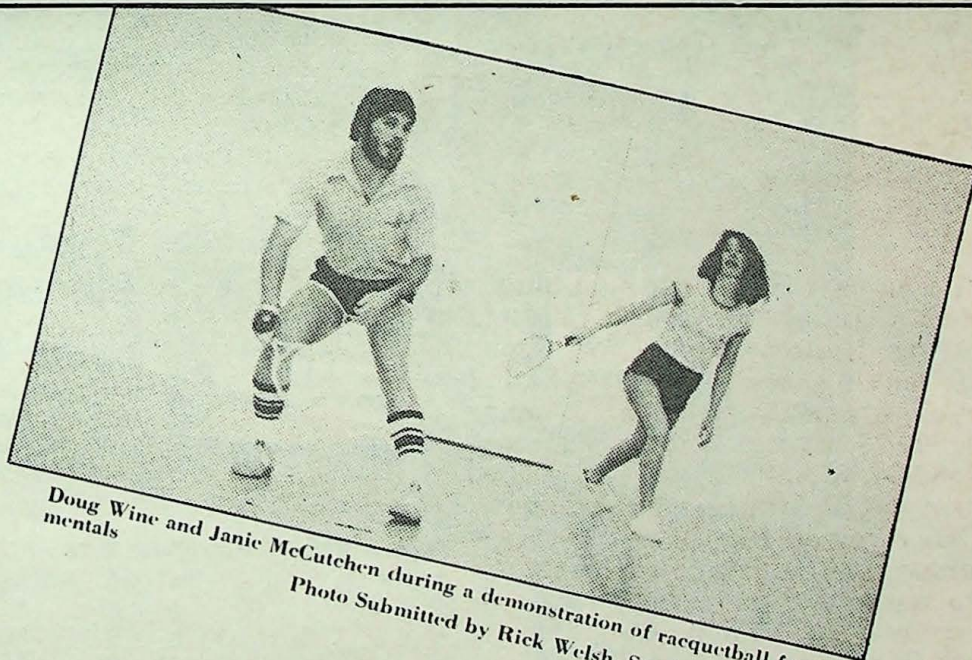
FIRST PRIZE:

**\$1000**

SECOND PRIZE:

**\$500**

20 Honorable Mentions Receive  
**RACQUETBALL TODAY  
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Doug Wine and Janie McCutchen during a demonstration of racquetball fundamentals

Photo Submitted by Rick Welsh, South Hampton, PA

### CONTEST RULES:

1. You must be an amateur photographer
2. Photo must be a black and white glossy
3. Subject must be racquetball or racquetball-related
4. Photo must not have appeared in any other publication
5. Back of photo must be clearly labeled:

#### RACQUETBALL TODAY PHOTO CONTEST

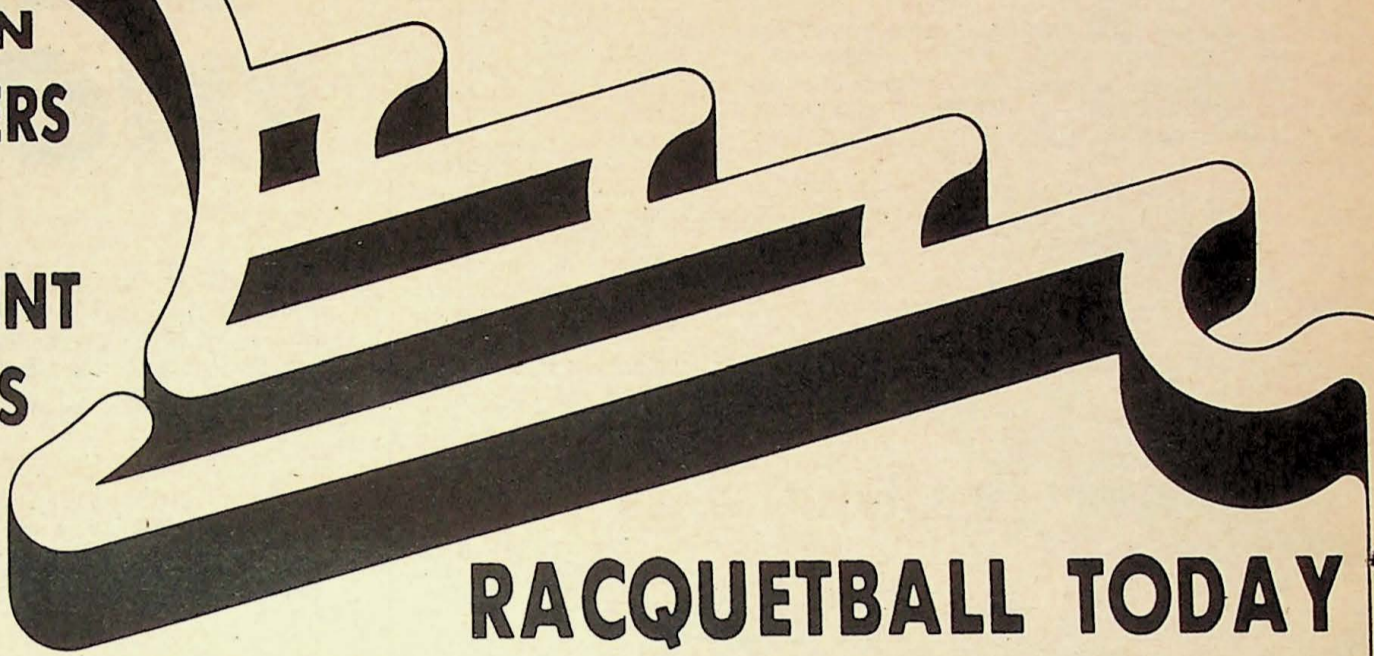
Photographer's name, address, phone, shirt size. Name of subject, when and where photo was taken (and any other interesting information.)

All photographs are non-returnable and become the property of RACQUETBALL TODAY. We reserve the right to publish and use photos as we see fit.

Winners will be selected by our panel of expert photographers at the end of the year. Photographs will be judged on the basis of quality, originality, etc. All decisions of our judges will be final.


SEND ENTRIES TO: **RACQUETBALL TODAY Photo Contest**  
P.O. BOX D POSEN, IL 60469

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AND  
TOURNAMENT  
DIRECTORS**





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(PP7 available either way)



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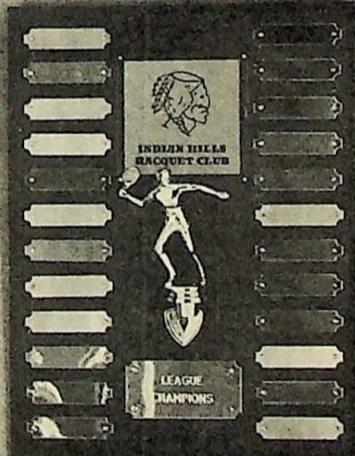
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1-15 16-30 31 up  
PP5 \$6.50 \$6.25 \$6.00

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# RACQUETBALL TODAY

## Classifieds

Davey Bledsoe and the Tulsa Racquetball Aerobics Club will be offering two instructional programs: a Pro Clinic, March 27-29, and an amateur camp March 30-April 2. The Pro Clinic will focus on certification of teachers. The camp will deal with improving the individual abilities of players of all levels. To attend either session, write or call T.R.A.C., 4535 S. Harvard, Tulsa, Okla. 74135. (918) 749-9347. Ask for Mark or Clayton.

### ATTENTION CLUB OWNERS AND MANAGERS

Now that our paper is regional, so is our club guide! What a terrific way for everyone in your area to find out all about your club for only \$220 per year. There's no better way to reach the public! Call us for more information at 800-323-9167, or write.

### RACQUETBALL WINTER CAMP

Featuring The Courtrooms in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Air fare from Chicago, 7 nights hotel, car rental, intensive camp program. Special offer only through RACQUETBALL TODAY, \$775 per person, double occupancy. March 7-14 and April 4-11. Contact LAMPERT TOURS at (312) 951-2866 — Official Co-ordinators for the camp.

Check our Prices — Best buys on racquetball equipment, Leach, etc: freight free — All Season Sports, 101 Aberdeen Avenue, Iselin, New Jersey 08830 — call now (201) 283-0167.

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 Racquetball and Fitness Center in Southern California, six courts, complete Nautilus fitness center, two locker rooms, two steam rooms, two saunas and whirlpool. Call (714) 324-8204.

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**Athletic & Racquet Club**  
 Three racquetball courts, 2 outdoor tennis courts, fully equipped gym and exercise room, 25-yard swimming pool, kiddies pool, 2 steam rooms, 2 sauna rooms, 2 therapy pools, pro shop, outdoor track, volleyball court. Established business in Colorado. For inquiries write to RT Box 111.

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**RACQUETBALL INSTRUCTORS AND CLUB PROS**  
 Attend the APRO Clinic and Testing in Eugene, Oregon, March 7-8 with Connie Peterson. See information and application on page 19 of this paper.

**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, make sure our paper is getting to EVERY club in the area, and help establish the club guide.

**CLUB OWNERS MANAGERS AND PROS**  
 Attend the Special Events two-day seminar in Eugene, Oregon, March 6-7 with Connie Peterson. See information and application on page 19 of this paper.

Manager-Pro of 12 court Midwest club seeking Sun Belt employment. Present club includes glass exhibition court and full amenities. The club hosts large tournaments and employs 16 people. Write RT Box 110.

**HEARD A GOOD ONE LATELY?** Our Tom Grob-misi is compiling a "Racquetball Jokes for the John and Jill." Send it in to Tom's attention.

Help! Our classified ads section is 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.

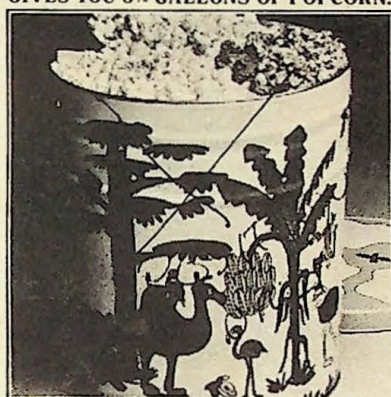
# John's

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## Attention Tournament Directors!

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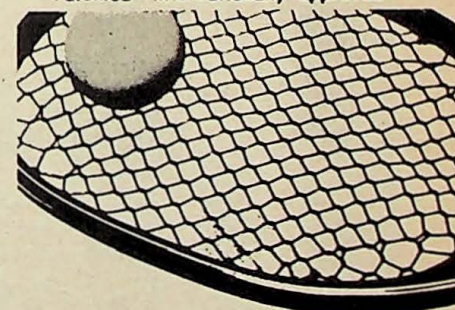
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