









Vol. 2 No. 2

### Table of Contents

## February 1984







February Publisher's Column	Page	4
Letters to the Editor	Page	5
Sportsmanship in Kacquetban	rage	
News and New Products	Page	9
Great Matches: Yellen vs. Brumfield — 1978	Page	11
Photographing Racquetball	Page	13
The AARA Meet in Colorado Springs	Page	22
Interview: Dave Peck  Looking Inside the Superstar	Page	24
The foliable court is field,	1 age	32
Europe Yellen Style	Page	37
Hogan Upsets Yeller in Bangor	Page	38
Instruction: Situational Racquetball	Page	40
Instruction: The Pre-Match Warm-Upby Mike Yellen	Page	41
Next Month	Page	42
Head to Head Competition Chart	Page	43
Master Tournament Schedule	Page	44
Rankings	Page	46

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# February...



Jason Holloman Publisher

February is an in-between month. I always have a hard time getting motivated in February. The holidays are over, the new year has begun, but everything is still cold (for most of us) and spring is still months away. Every body's talking about 1984 and the great expectations of the coming months, but February doesn't feel like the month when things are really happening. May be that's why it's the shortest month of the year. People want to get it over with as soon as possible. Unfortunately, it is "leap year" and there's an extra day in February. I wonder. Couldn't we have a "leap month" for a change and just skip February?

I guess it must be a case of "cabin fever." Of course, it doesn't help when you know that all those people in Florida, California and the Sun Belt are soaking up the sunshine. Drew, our Editor, has been a little glassy-eyed lately. I've caught him several times drooling over travel posters of Hawaii, and these little brochures about Mexico and the Caribbean keep falling out of his winter overcoat pocket. I think he was trying to give me a hint that since he works so hard, (and he does), and since it is February, (that in-between month), that he indeed deserves a small vacation, to say, Rio de Janeiro for six weeks or so.

I thought about it. Maybe we could go together? But there's madness in that line of reasoning, so I locked Drew in an office without windows and told him he could come out when he finished editing and writing our February issue. Afterall, we have a responsibility to enlighten and entertain our subscribers

and we do, we really do enjoy doing it for you. This month is no exception, and I think you'll find the pages that follow well worth reading.

First of all, I'd like you to flip to our interview with Dave Peck. The man is volatile as dynamite, but he has a heart as big as the Great Outdoors. He walks loudly and carries a mean stick, but you just can't help but like this man. I thoroughly recommend you read the interview.

On page 6 is an important article. Please read it and then let us know what you think. It's on sportsmanship, refe-

reeing, rules and conduct in the sport of racquetball. It is an appeal for a unified code in the game, and, though you might disagree with our points of view, we feel it is imperative we express them.

Then, you might turn to our article on how to photograph racquetball. It's full of f stops and flashes of knowledge that all you photo-bugs out there will appreciate. It's written by Drew (our Editor, remember?) and, if you didn't know, he's also a professional photographer with many years under his belt photographing racquetball tournaments for our competitors. Their loss is our most fortunate gain.

The next article you might enjoy is "Here Comes the Portable Court!" This took a little research and some patience to get the information, but it was worth it. The portable court could revolutionize the way we watch racquetball tournaments and it's certainly an idea whose time has come.

Other articles in this issue include Mike Yellen's most memorable match against Charlie Brumfield, Mike Yellen's clinics in Europe and Mike Yellen's instructional tips. (Mike's been busy.) Also there's an excellent overview of what's happening in the AARA in our special report on the meeting that took place in Colorado Springs. All of the regional directors got together for the first time a couple of weeks ago and I know you'll find what they discussed there very interesting.

Check out our new Master Tournament Schedule. Along with the most complete listing of amateur tournaments, you'll also find that our professional listings hold some new event surprises. There's a new stop for the men and women in Las Vegas in April and a new men's stop in Austin slated for May. Plus, the women's Nationals in Ft. Worth have upped their prize money to \$22,000! Looking good!

Well. Writing this article has perked me up a bit. February isn't so bad, is it? There's still plenty of snow. I could always dig out my skis and fall down the slopes a couple of times. Oh, oh. I hear Drew rattling his chains. He must want lunch. See you next month!

#### A Slap in the Face

I recently had a chance to review your most recent issue. The issue I am referring to was filled with racquet evaluations. I am a little, no, I am a lot upset. Olympian was hoping to receive a fair and honest evaluation of its product by your "non-biased" player group. That obviously was not reality, even in its simplest form. Not only did we receive a slap in the face, but we were not even given the courtesy of mention or inclusion in your magazine racquet review issue.

My feelings are that we at Olympian Sports Products have been treated discourteously and non-professionally. I would welcome the opportunity to hear International Racquetball's side of the story.

Robert H. Black, Jr. Vice President of Marketing/Sales Olympian Sports Products

With regards to the racquet test, we stand by our results. We are eager to hear suggestions on how we might improve the test next year. Unfortunately, those few who disliked the test results, such as Mr. Black, have not seen fit to identify the areas of the test they would like to see changed.

Concerning the racquet review issue, (October, 1983) Olympian was very much included. Seven Olympian racquets were detailed therein, as anyone who had read the issue would have been aware.

#### On The Other Hand. . .

First let me compliment you on yet another fine publication of International Racquet ball. The articles are both informative and fun to read. The in-depth interviews with both players and others affiliated with the sport offer an education not otherwise attainable.

Secondly, let me congratulate you and your staff on your marketing expertise. Somehow you have managed within a few months to have the coverage that other publications have not attained over a period of years. The response to our ads has been overwhelming, which just goes to show what the combination of a great product and advertising in a great publication can do.

Doug Smith National Sales Manager Tacki-Mac Grips

#### What's The Score

You have such an outstanding publication that I was indeed surprised when I read your incomplete article on the California State Championships. There were many events where you did not list the results. I also felt that the scores of the finals for each event should have been given.

Also, just to set the record straight, The Natural Lite Open is not the longest running independent professional event in racquetball. Schoeber's Racquetball Spa has just finished its eighth annual Christmas Classic and the tournament has always been independent.

William R. Dunn Ass't Director of Operations Schoeber's Racquetball Spas, Inc.

Probably one of the most common complaints we receive is that we do not give enough coverage to local and regional tournaments, and that in those few cases where we provide coverage, it is incomplete. Perhaps it is time to restate our policy concerning tournament coverage.

We consider our position to be that of a national news magazine, and as such we try to restrict our tournament coverage to events that are of national interest. As many of our readers have noticed, we have provided coverage of some regional and state events where we judged those events to have importance beyond just the local area. Two recent examples were the Long Island Open and the California State Championships, both of which we gave partial coverage because of their unusual prominence within the sport. Unfortunately, we can't even come close to listing all of the categories for events like these because of the room it would take.

On the second point, we stand corrected. The Schoeber's tournament is indeed the record holder. Sorry, Bill.

#### What About A Ball Machine?

In this day and age of advanced technology, the ball machines of the tennis industry have changed the tactics of teaching tremendously. Why can't these same advantages of learning tactics be applied in the sport of racquetball? Why not a ball machine for the racquetball court? Being an experienced player and instructor for several years, the idea of

this has surfaced many times. By using the machine to practice shots and technique, the actual play in a game situation could be enhanced tremendously, especially for the beginners and intermediates, as well as the advanced. With a good machine, actual practice time and instruction time could be more productive for the time spent in a court.

Mark Holzer Pocatello, Idaho

Yes. Why not a racquetball machine for practice? There are a number of racquetball machines on the market right now that operate very well. The one we're most familiar with is the Racqueteer supplied by R.P.M. Distributors, 1107 Rivara Road, Stockton, California 95207. Call 209.957-3642 for more information.

#### Gracias, Amigo!

We received a copy of the December issue of International Racquetball from Mr. Ed Martin, and we want to congratulate you and Carole George for the excellent article on our Torneo de la Raza '83. The article was very accurate (with the exception of making me the owner of Polymer of which I am Vice-President and is a wholly owned subsidiary of United Brands Company, a large U.S. corporation) and it covered all the main aspects of the tournament and the status of racquetball in Latin America. Your article has added prestige to our tournament and will help us in making it the most important yearly tournament in the Americas.

Rodolfo Echeverria Asociation Nacional de Racquetball Costa Rica

If you have comments you'd like to send in, please address your letter to: Letters to the Editor, International Racquetball, P.O. Box 7548, Reno, Nevada 89510. Letters become the property of IRB and may be edited for clarity. Thank you.

# Sportsmanship in Racquetball . . .



Drew Stoddard Editor

A couple of months ago I was standing by the tournament desk at the California State Championships when a very agitated player stormed through the crowd and began raving at one of the tournament officials about the extreme incompetence of his referee. After a few moments of exchanging invectives, the official ordered the player back to his court, turned to me with a disgusted expression and said, "Why don't you write an article on sportsmanship!"

Ah yes, sportsmanship—a favorite topic of racquetballers everywhere. In fact, we discuss sportsmanship in this sport the way Congress discusses the

# How Bad Is It?

national debt; we delight in publicly displaying our disgust, but spend little time trying to intelligently solve the problem.

So let's spend some time. Here's my article on sportsmanship. (I'm sure I'm going to get feedback on this one.)

It has become fashionable in our sport to talk about what a well-known tennis writer recently termed the "perpetual adolescence" of our most visible players. Current wisdom has it that racquetball's bad reputation can be directly traced to the immaturity of the players themselves. I think that is hogwash.

Much has been made of the recent problems between professional players and referees. I think it is hypocritical, and grossly unfair, for the leaders in this sport to blame the players for poor court behavior, when the sport itself has never even attempted to define what acceptable behavior is. In the last few years, as I have become familiar with some of the game's top players, I've been a little surprised to find that they are not anything like the tempramental "bad boys" many would have us believe. They are dedicate athletes, and as such they are accustomed to performing within whatever guidelines are established. The problem in racquetball is that there are no consistent guidelines.

Let me illustrate:

I used to play with a very talented player who was known in our area as a "bad sport." He usually won the tournaments he entered, but he seldom got through a match without flying off the handle at someone—usually the referee. Like many racquetball players he played squash to stay in shape. One day I decided to go watch him compete in a local squash tournament. I couldn't



believe my eyes: he was a perfect gentleman throughout the tournament. When I asked him about the shocking change in his attitude he answered simply, "That's the way squash is played."

The difference in the two sports is that squash has had 150 years to hone down its code of conduct. That code is so precise that no player has any question about what he or his opponent may do. Racquetball has none, and that forces each player to establish his own code. For some that means stretching behavior to the limit to find what will be allowed. As one pro said to me, "You don't change the players, you change the rules."

So, what does racquetball have to do to establish a code of conduct? We must

SPORTSMANSHIP continued on page 8

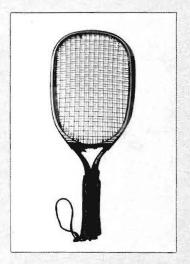
# Racquet Test Update

Those who read our racquet test results in the December 1983 issue may recall that we obtained some very strange results when we tested the DP Leach Graphite USA, a highly respected racquet and one which we frankly expected to finish quite high. Since that time we have heard from a number of owners of the USA who felt our results were in error, and since we were perplexed ourselves, we arranged to obtain another racquet from DP Leach. It took about three shots with the new racquet to determine that there had indeed been something radically wrong with our first sample.

While we have still not been able to determine what was wrong with the first racquet (we suspect the string tension), we felt it was important to inform our readers that the test results do not accurately reflect the playing character-

istics of the Graphite USA.

There is of course no way to determine where the USA might have placed in the test had our sample not been defective,



but we suspect it would have placed high. As we mentioned in the test, the Graphite USA is the racquet that was used by Marty Hogan to win his five national championships, and it is currently used by a number of professional players including Bret Harnett and Jack Newman.

We want to thank Greg Eveland of DP Leach for his constructive help in clearing up this situation.

Also, in the introduction to the racquet test we said that AMF Head had requested that their racquets not be included in the test. Following publication, we were informed by Mike Skinner that Head had indeed sent samples of their racquets to be tested, which, for some reason, we never received. Our apologies to Head, and our congratulations to whoever got those racquets.

#### **Sneak Preview**

While I was working with Greg Eveland of DP Leach to clear up the Graphite USA problem, he let me swing a prototype of DP's latest project. I can't tell you much about it, but I can tell you this racquet is going to open a few eyes. It is an exotically constructed, highperformance racquet that has one of the most unusual and beautiful finishes I have ever seen. Greg couldn't say exactly when the racquet would be available, but it should be some time this spring.



#### SPORTSMANSHIP continued from page 6

recognize that this sport is unique, set uprules that realistically match the realities of the game, and then consistently enforce those rules. It sounds simple, but to date we have done none of the three. And until we do it we have no right to blame the players for simply performing their job.

Let's talk specifics. There are four general areas where we need change.

1. Fix the refereeing system. Most people are not aware that our current refereeing system is the result of ten years of unguided evolution—and it usually performs that way.

We have to recognize that racquetball is unlike any sport in the world. It is a high-speed sport, played in an enclosed space, with virtually no good viewing angle. Racquetball is difficult, and sometimes impossible, to referee well.

Most of us would agree that no match can be competently called by a single person. So let's admit to ourselves that the sport is tough to call and tackle the problem.

Sometime around 1975 we began to realize this and added linesmen (forgive me ladies but linespeople takes too long to type) and gave players the right to appeal. The system has helped, but there are still problems. Certain crucial calls, such as avoidable hinders, remain un-appealable. And some of the top players have made an art form out of intimidating linesmen. (If you've never seen Hogan or Brumfield threaten a linesman, you'd be surprised how effective it can be.)

Two rule changes are needed here: (1) make all calls appealable to take some of the pressure off the referee, and (2) prohibit players from ever directly addressing any linesman for any reason. (The AARA has already instituted this rule.)

In addition, we need to specifically identify when technical fouls are to be called, and then call them. Let's give the referee power to control the game.

2. Get rid of the impossible calls. There are only a couple, but they cause a lot of trouble.

First, don't require the referee to call front line foot-faults. The ref does not exist that can watch the server's front foot and the short serve line at the same time. If front-line foot-faults are to be called, they should be the responsibility of one linesman.

Second, let's solve the five foot rule problem forever, by making it illegal for the receiver to enter the five foot zone on the serve, period. It is becoming obvious that none of the current versions of this rule can be competently called by even



"I once saw an enraged player sever six teeth in his opponent's mouth with a precise blow from his metal racquet."

the best referee. This change would also eliminate one of the most dangerous situations in the game.

- 3. Stop the intentional abuse of the rules. This is a simple one. An intentional foot-fault should be a side out, and a screen serve should be a fault.
- 4. Let's be consistent. We need to play every tournament by the same rules—not out of some blind devotion to order but so that the players know what to expect.

Also, we have to make up our minds what we want to see. Too often we act

like boxing fans who decry violence. It is not fair to call Marty Hogan entertaining and Dave Peck unsportsmanlike, if they are doing the same things. This has been the problem in tennis. Everyone criticizes McEnroe for his behavior, but no one really wants him to change because he draws a crowd.

While I'm on my soapbox I want to make one final point. I think it's time we come to grips with the safety hazards inherent in this sport (and I'm not talking about eyeguards). If we don't change racquetball's accepted code of conduct soon, I predict that someone is going to be seriously injured, not by accident, but by an enraged opponent. Racquetball is not like tennis; we don't have the luxury of a net and 40 feet to act as a buffer between players. Instead we put two volatile, powerful athletes in a small place playing within inches of each other, and we ignore what might happen if one of those players should momentarily lose control. I once saw an enraged player sever six teeth in his opponent's mouth with a precise blow from his metal racquet. Had the blow been higher...

In the end, safety may be the most compelling reason of all for mandating and enforcing an improvement in sportsmanship in racquetball.

So, there's my column on sportsmanship. If you agreed with everything I said, you're probably my mother (hi, mom). If you didn't, let me know. We'll never solve the problem if we don't get the dialogue going.

#### Two Pro Stops Set

Two new independent professional tournaments have been scheduled for

the months of April and May.

The Las Vegas Athletic Club has confirmed a Pro/Am for April 15-19. Prize money has been tentatively set at \$15,000 for the men's division and \$6,000 for the women's.

The Third Annual Pro/Am at the Supreme Court in Austin, Texas, has been set for May 9-13. Prize money for the men's pro division has been set at \$15,000

For details see the schedule on page 45.

The Cowboy Open, a men's pro tournament that had been scheduled for February 20-24, has been cancelled. According tournament director Clint Koble cancellation was caused by closure of the host club.

#### **WPRA Nationals Confirmed**

The Women's Professional Racquetball Association has announced that it has signed a three-year agreement with the RiverBend Athletic Club in Ft. Worth, Texas, to host the WPRA Nationals. According to Sandy Genelius of IMG, the prize money for this year's event has been set at \$22,000, making it the largest purse ever for a WPRA event. The WPRA Nationals are scheduled for May 31-June

For information about the WPRA contact Sandy Genelius at IMG, 216-522-1200.

#### RMA Delays Release

The Racquetball Manufacturers Association delayed a press conference and release following a lengthy meeting at the NSGA show in Chicago on January 21. The RMA was expected to announce plans for the pro tour for 1984-85.

According to Don Bushor, the Executive Director of the RMA, the group decided during the meeting that it needed additional time to formulate a proper statement.

#### AARA Sets Training Camp

Luke St. Onge, Executive Director of the AARA, announced plans for a National Racquet ball Training Camp to be held at the U.S. Olympic Training Center for four weeks during the month of August.

For more information contact the AARA in Colorado Springs, 303-635-5396.

#### Low Response to IMG Plan

Jim Carson reported that 14 men pros responded, all favorably, to the "IMG Plan" which he formulated and sent to all professional players for their consideration. The plan, which called for the men's players association to employ IMG for all future negotiations, fell far short of the 50% response required for approval.

The men are expected to discuss the plan, and other orders of PRO business, at a players meeting at the Beaverton pro-stop in February.

#### New Eyeguards Announced

Smith Sport Optics, manufacturers and distributors of Smith Goggles and Sportglasses, has introduced their new racquetball protective goggle.

The goggle is designed to give optimum protection while allowing the most comfortable fit. Packaged with the goggle are pre-cut stick-on foam pads for custom designing the fit.

For further details: Smith Sport Optics P.O. Box 2999 Ketchum, Idaho 83340



#### Universal Catalog

The complete product line manufactured by Universal Gym equipment is featured in this 40-page, full-color catalog.

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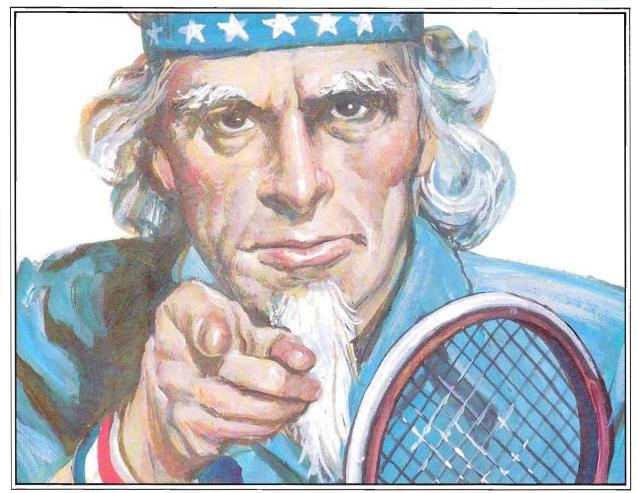
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### **GREAT MATCHES:**



# YELLEN VS. BRUMFIELD 1978 Nationals Lemontree, Michigan



don't remember too well the matches that I lose." Mike Yellen says flatly about his 1978 Nationals match with Charlie Brumfield.

Fact is, Yellen remembers very well his semi-final match that tournament. It was a heartbreaker: the classic case of the young upstart kid versus the old champ. And the very mention of the match still brings back vivid remembrances of one of the most heated, nailbiting matches of Yellen's career.

"Yellen Fails in Efforts to Make Finals," he reads from the headline of an article published in a local newspaper following the match. "That's ridiculous."

Actually, Yellen is somewhat generous in his recollections of the encounter once he fesses up to remembering the details. One racquetball commentator at the time was not as diplomatic and called it as many spectators described it—"Brumfield pick-pocketry," plain and simple.

"That was my first full season as a pro," Yellen remembers. "I was only 18. You usually need a season or two to get used to all the changes that are happening in your life when you start the tour."

The changes that year for the young Hogan look-alike were plenty. Yellen wrapped up the season ranked 14th and faced racquetball's foremost at the Nationals with as many chances to make it to the finals as any wet-behind-the-ears rookie.

Marty Hogan, on the other hand, had earned the number-one ranking for the year and was the most recognized pro in the game, even though he had not yet won a national championship and even though Brumfield had completely dominated racquetball for the previous five

years.

Brumfield, needless to say, was a bit put off by all the attention Hogan was starting to garner. The 1978 Nationals tournament was strategic in that it would set the record straight on who was number one in the sport.

Yellen much impressed everyone by managing to upset Jerry Hilecher in a quarterfinal tie-breaker 11-5 after losing the first game 14-21 and coming back in

"That's when Brumfield started all the B.S. with the refs, Yellen says. And it got to the point where they wouldn't make a call against him."

the second 21-17. Suddenly Yellen found himself facing the King and Master of Racquetball in the semis for what was to be the biggest match of his early career.

"It was big, big match for me pressure wise," Yellen says. "And it turned out to be a real reversal of roles between us. You know, Brumfield should have been the old veteran keeping his cool. But as it turned out I was the one who kept my cool while Brumfield got out of line."

Brumfield took the first game of the match 21-17. Yellen, however, rallied and won the second game 21-17 and faced a hotly contested tie-breaker in the first major semi-final showing of his career.

"We played point to point at the beginning of the game," Yellen remembers. "But then at one point I took a 10-8 lead.

"That's when Brumfield started all the B.S. with the refs," Yellen says. "And it got to the point where they wouldn't make a call against him.

"I mean, there were points where they just acted like they hadn't seen the shots," Yellen says without a hint of bitterness in his voice. "But if it hadn't been for all the poor calls and all the no calls, I really feel that I would have won that match at least two or three times over.

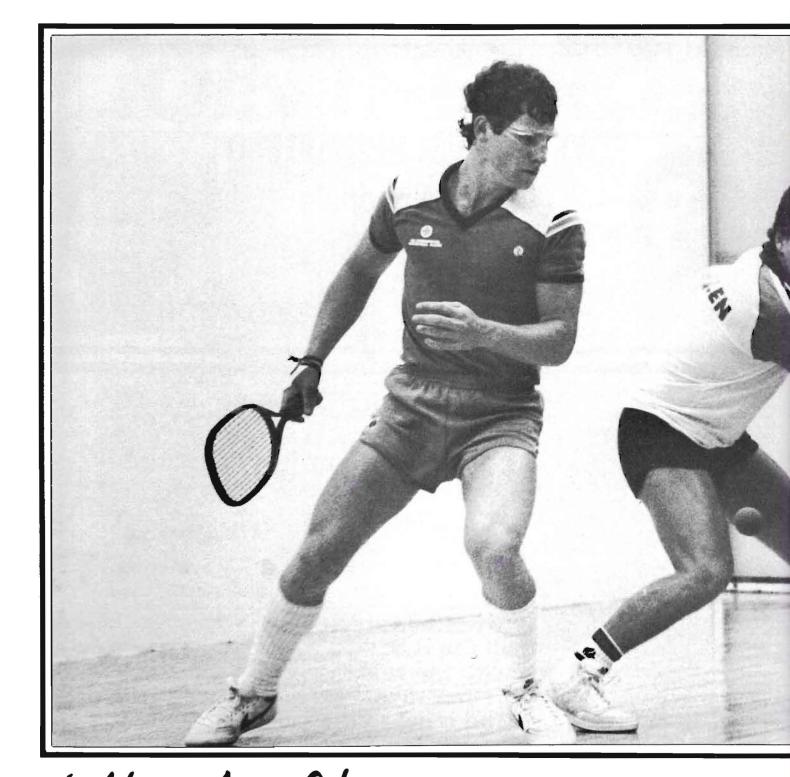
"Those refs just would not let Brumfield lose," he says.

Indeed, Brumfield didn't lose. After almost two hours of dog fight racquetball, the King downed the Kid 11-10 and advanced to the finals.

And if justice was to be found, it was only in watching Hogan down Brumfield with swift retribution 21-12, 21-20.

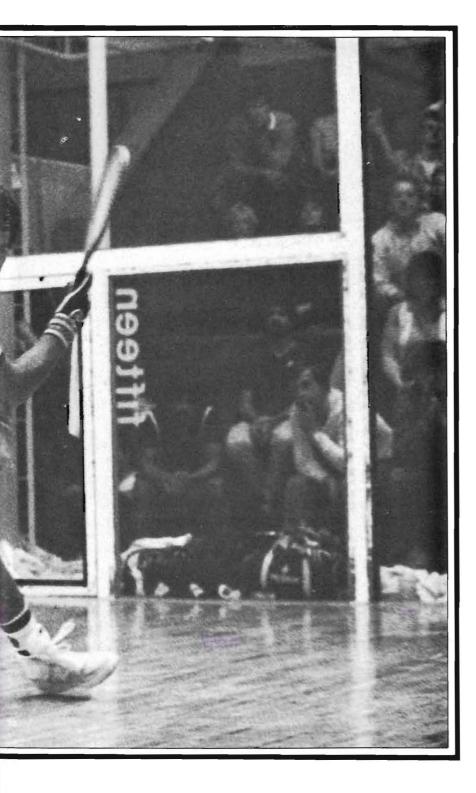
"That match with Brumfield definitely helped to launch my career," Yellen says now, sitting in the hot number-one seat of the sport. "It was not only a match of great racquetball, but I was trying to show that I was there to stay and Brumfield was trying hard to show that he was not over the hill."

"We played evenly in that match," he says, "and I think it was suddenly evident to everyone that Mike Yellen was not just another rookie trying to break into the ranks."



The Art Of
PROTOGRAPHING RAC

Racquetball is one of the toughest of all sports to photograph



# QUETBALL

#### by Drew Stoddard

I suspect that as I travel around the country covering professional tournaments I get asked more questions about how to photograph racquetball than I do anything else—there are a lot of frustrated photographers out there. Since photography is really my first love, it is a pleasure to spend a few moments talking about this fairly specialized subject.

This article is based on one I wrote a couple of years ago that was published in the late "Racquetball" magazine.

D.S.

couple of years ago I was photographing a professional racquetball tournament in Boston when I had the amusing experience of watching a very self-confident *Sports Illustrated* photographer nearly driven to tears trying to photograph his first racquetball match. Like so many others I have seen, he had mistakenly assumed that shooting racquetball action wouldn't be any different than photographing any other sport. He was wrong. Racquetball is, without question, one of the most difficult of all sports to photograph well.

Obviously, it would be impossible, in one short article, to detail everything involved in producing racquetball photos of publication quality. Those shots are usually a result of much experience and creativity, combined with miles of film and, frequently, good luck. The sections that follow are intended to present what I have found to be the best tech-

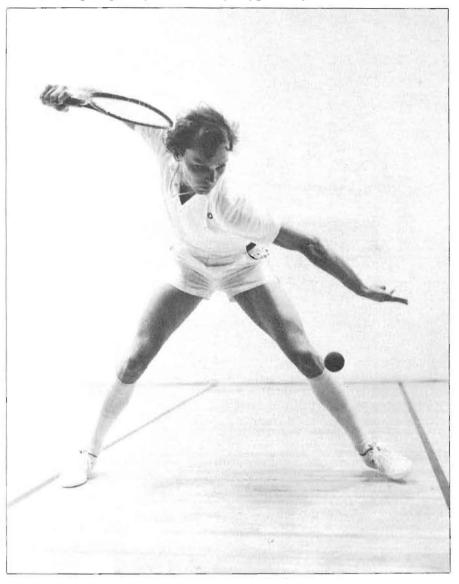
Contrary to what many "pros" may tell you, you do not need exotic or expensive equipment to photograph racquetball.

niques for producing basically good racquetball shots.

Because it is a rather specialized subject, some of what follows may seem confusing to you if you do not already have some knowledge of the fundamental principles of photography. If that is the case, you may wish to read through a book on general photography, which should be available in any bookstore or at the library.

Equipment

Contrary to what many "pros" may tell you, you do not need exotic or expensive equipment to photograph racquetball. A single-lens-reflex camera body with selectable shutter speeds and either a 35mm or 50mm lens (preferably both) with a maximum aperture of at least f2.0 will be adequate for almost all shooting situations. You should have a tripod and cable release to insure camera stability and a light meter, either built into your camera body or separate handheld type. A motor-driven or autowinder





Timing is the most critical ingredient in racquetball photography.

for your camera, while certainly not mandatory, can give you the option of rapid fire when you need it, and can generally make shooting easier.

Don't attempt to shoot racquetball with non-adjustable cameras such as instamatics, pocket cameras, or cameras which set themselves automatically. Although fine for many shooting situations, these cameras are generally not capable of shooting under the unusual lighting conditions encountered in racquetball courts. Also, for obvious reasons, never use flash units of any kind while photographing a racquetball match in progress (unless you enjoy the taste of graphite).

**Shooting Positions** 

Your shooting position will usually be dictated by the layout of the court itself. If you are forced to shoot from a balcony or through small window in a door, go ahead but realize you have almost no chance of producing a good shot. When you're photographing racquetball, the name of the game is glass! Once you

# Graphite 8000°



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DP LEACH

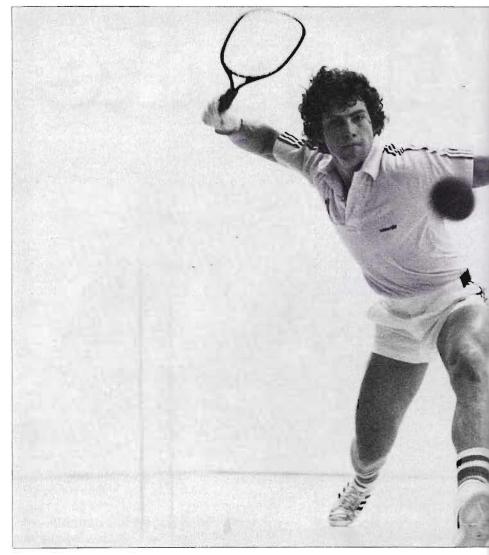
string life and added protection. The narrow, contoured throat creates a perfectly balanced racquet. Put these unique features together and the result is a racquet that gives you power for the kill shots, control for the finesse shots, and consistency for an overall better game.

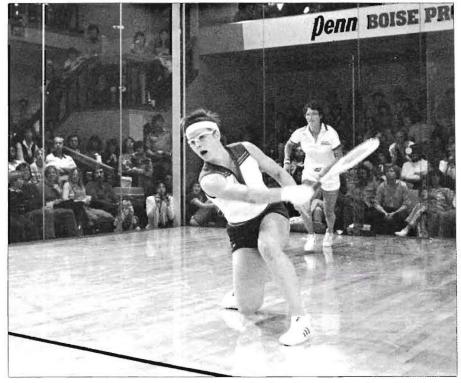
The Graphite 8000 gives you every advantage.

If you are forced to shoot from a balcony or through a small window in a door, go ahead but realize you have almost no chance of producing a good shot.

conquer the technical problems involved, a glass side or front wall on a racquetball court can offer an incredibly good viewpoint.

My favorite shooting situation is working with a 35mm wide-angle lens from a left side glass wall or window, slightly above floor level and about 10 feet towards the playing area from the front wall. I prefer the left side to the right because that position provides a straight-on view of a right-handed player's backhand from center court. That's important for two reasons. First, upperlevel players usually get more backhand set-ups than forehand, giving you more potential shooting opportunities. And, second, unlike the forehand, the backhand stroke and its follow-through tend to open up the player's body position,





A typical view through a side-wall window.

giving you a good view of his facial expression.

The second best spot, and one which is more commonly available, is the same relative position on the right wall. If I can't shoot from either of the side walls, my next two choices are front wall window or glass and back wall glass, in that order. Although many photographers choose the front wall first, I have found that front wall shots, because you have to use a stronger 50mm lens, are more difficult to shoot and tend to flatten the perspective so much that they don't show the action quite as well as do side wall shots. I use the back wall only as a last resort, simply because from that position you seldom see the players' faces, and facial expression is one of the key elements of a good photograph.

One of the challenges of shooting through glass, particularly at an angle, is eliminating unwanted reflection. My favorite method for doing this is quite simple. With your camera in shooting position, put your lens as close to the glass as possible and tape a black card (8 x 10 mount board works fine) to the glass on the side of the camera toward



which the lens is angled, and just outside the viewing area of the lens. You may need to experiment with this a little, but once the card is positioned correctly you should have a perfectly clear shot through the glass.

Focusing

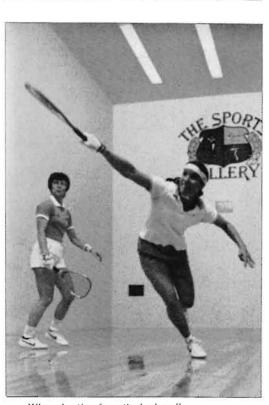
Without question, the toughest part of shooting racquetball is keeping the players in focus. While the standard method of focusing by hand just prior to each exposure works fine in other types of photography, the human hand does not exist that can change focus as quickly as racquetball players can move. The solution to this is called "zone focusing."

At this point it is necessary to discuss a principle of photography with which you may not be familiar called "depth-offield." This principle is so important to racquetball photography that if you are not used to working with depth-of-field, I strongly suggest that you either re-read that section of your camera's instructions or locate a book on basic photo-

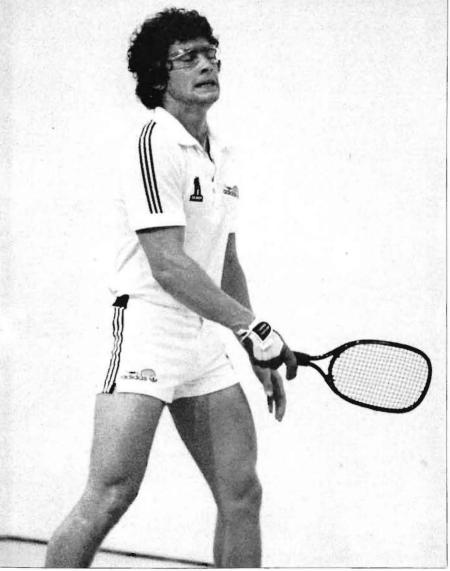
graphy. Briefly, the principle states that when you focus a lens on a particular object, the area in front of and behind the object that is also in focus is determined by the lens aperture (f-stop). The larger the aperture (or smaller the f-number), the smaller the area that is in focus, and vice-versa.

For example, on a 35mm camera, a 50mm normal lens set at f1.4, and focused on an object 10 feet away, has a depth-offield of approximately 12 inches, meaning an area only 6 inches on either side of the object is also in focus. At f2.8 that area extends to about 4 feet, at f11, 25 feet and so on. If the object on which you are trying to focus happens to be constantly moving, like a racquetball player, you have almost no chance of capturing that object in the area of focus at f1.4, but at f11 the depth of field becomes so great you needn't focus at all! This is the idea behind zone focusing.

As I mentioned before, I prefer to shoot from the side wall with a 35mm



When shooting from the back wall, wait for the players to turn around.



Sometimes an expression is better than action.



wide angle lens. When focused at 15 feet and set at f2.8, a 35mm lens has an area of focus tha extends from about 10 to 30 feet. That allows me to simply set my motorized camera on a tripod, aim into the main playing area and fire away without ever changing focus. With a couple of variations, I use this method for 90 percent of my racquetball work.

Exposure

A good exposure is determined by a proper combination of shutter speed and lens aperture, as dictated by the film speed and light available. At first thought, selecting those settings for racquetball might seem easy. Set a high shutter speed (1/1000) to stop the action and a small aperture (f16) to maximize the area of focus. Unfortunately, to use

those settings it would be necessary to light the playing area with a nuclear warhead. The lighting that exists on most courts dictates using one of a very limited number of possible shooting combinations.

For any given court, you need take a light meter reading only once, because the light never changes. The best way to measure the lighting on a racquetball court is with an incident light meter, but if you wish to use the meter in your own camera, take a reading of the floor of the court from your shooting position. Never take a meter reading of an area that includes a white wall because as anyone who has ever tried to shoot snow can tell you, light meters are always fooled by the color white. This is the reason auto-

You must become adept at anticipating the peak action, because once you've seen it, it's too late to shoot it.

matic cameras don't work well for shooting on racquetball courts.

On the average court, your meter will most likely tell you to use one of the following combinations for ASA 400 film; 1/60 at f4, 1/125 at f2.8, 1/250 at f2.0, 1/500 at f1.4, or 1/1000 at f1.2. The first combination won't sufficiently stop the action and the last two make it impossible to focus. On that basis I almost always shoot at either 1/125 at f2.8 or 1/250 at f2.0, depending on which lens I am using and how much action I need to stop. On very few occasions, usually when auxilary lighting is used, I use a 1/500 shutter speed at f2.0, a setting that freezes everything, including the ball.

There is a peculiar lighting problem on some courts called "phasing," which occurs when all or most of the lights on a given court are wired in like phase, going off and then on at the same time. Although this "flickering" is usually not discernable to the eye, it shows up in the finished print or slide as a uniform dark streak. Unfortunately, the only cure for phasing is to re-wire the lights out of phase, but if you are forced to shoot on a court with in-phase light, you



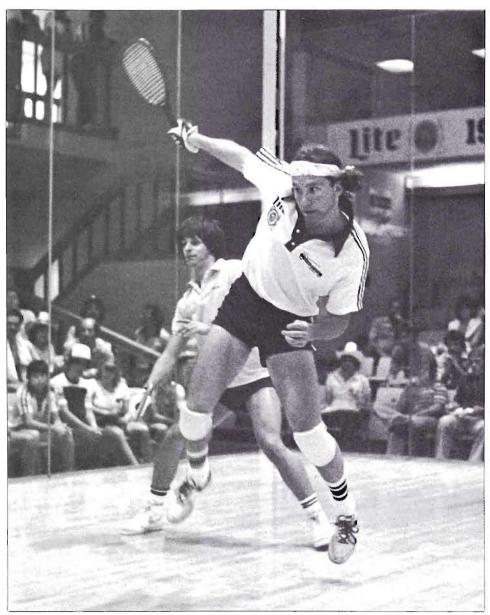


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A backhand opens up the player's body.

can minimize the streaking effect by using the shutter speed at which your camera synchronizes with electronic flash. (Don't try to figure it out, it works.)

#### Film

For racquetball photography you need only be concerned with three types of film all with an ASA speed of 400. They are black and white negative film, color film and color transparency (slide) film.

Probably the most commonly used films among racquetball photographers are the high speed black and white films, two of the most popular being Kodak Tri-X and Ilford HP-5. I have found these two to work about equally well, but I use HP-5 because it is the only film available in 72 exposure rolls. These films have relatively fine grain, and are capable of producing prints as large as 11 x 14 inches when they are exposed and developed properly.

You may be tempted to use a method popular among many photographers called "pushing," which involves underexposing and then overdeveloping the film, effectively yielding speeds much higher (800, 1600 etc.) than the stated ASA. My advice is if you want to blow your prints up greater than 5" x 7" don't doit. Over-development always increases grain, and grain is one of the easiest ways to ruin an otherwise good photograph. Unless you want to play "connect-the-dots" on your finished prints, shoot and process your film at its recommended ASA speed. This applies to color as well as black and white films.

If you want to shoot color film on a racquetball court, you will have to contend with yet another problem: color balance. If you have ever taken a picture in a room with artificial light, you know that film records some light sources differently than the eye sees them. Rac-

quetball court lighting has a nasty tendency to turn pure white into slime green. There are a number of ways to correct color balance, but let me describe the two I feel are the easiest.

When you are shooting slides, simply use Kodak Ektachrome 400 and overexpose slightly (about ½ stop). This relatively new film has an almost unbelievable ability to balance itself to any light source without auxiliary filtration, if you are careful not to underexpose it.

If you're shooting color negatives, use Kodak Kodacolor 400 (or an equivalent) film and expose it as accurately as you can. The easiest method of color correct-



Zone focusing: wait for the action to move into the

ing negative film is by adjustments in the enlarger's colorhead during the printing process. This can be done whether you make your own prints or have a custom lab do them. My best color shots have been produced using this method and I use it whenever I have a choice.

#### Anticipation and Timing

After you have mastered the "science" of photographing racquetball you can turn your attention to the "art." Great photographs are no accident, and your consistency in producing them depends on your proficiency in three areas: your

# The AARA Regional Directors Conference In Colorado Springs

ver the last few years there have been many explanations given for why the sport of racquetball has had such a difficult time putting its house in order. But the one that rings truest was the one voiced by Steve Strandemo when we interviewed him a couple of months ago in San Diego.

"I think the sport just grew too fast," he said. "Everything went crazy. All the facilities were built and there wasn't any organization. We wanted great juniors, but there wasn't even an organization for juniors. We wanted good instructors, but there was no organization. The whole thing was built on quicksand. Now we all are going to have to go in and do that real hard work to build the base racquetball never had."

Looking back over the last fifteen years, it does seem like we were amazingly short sighted. We somehow assumed that the growth we saw would always continue, and the growing pains would take care of themselves. We put most of our effort into the pro game and gave little thought to building an organization for those who constitute the true strength of any sport—the amateur players.

Going back now and trying to build "the base that racquet ball never had" is indeed proving to be hard work. This late in the game, it's like trying to control a dragon by holding his tail. Fortunately, there is now some good progress being made.

By far, the most successful effort ever undertaken to organize the huge body of amateur racquetball players in this country has been that of the American Amateur Racquetball Association or AARA. From its headquarters at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, the AARA has made surprising headway in many areas, not the least of which was the recent establishment of racquetball as a Class-C Olympic sport.

The AARA held a historic meeting at the Olympic Training Center on January 13-14. The 1984 AARA Regional Directors' Conference marked the first time that directors from every region in the country were brought together in a single meeting to discuss the future direction of Amateur racquetball. Those directors present were:

Region 1 - Paul Hendrickson - MA

Region 2 - Al Seitleman - NY

Region 3 - Bernie Howard - PA

Region 4 - Van Dublosky - FL

Region 5 - Bob Husky - AL

Region 6 - Ron Wickers - MO

Region 7 - Bruce Hendin - TX

Region 8 - Alvin Barash - IA

Region 9 - Jim Hiser - MI

Region 10 - Mike Arnolt - IN

Region 11 - Garner White - SD

Region 12 - John Faust - CO

Region 13 - Clint Koble · WY

Region 14 - Ed Martin - CA

Region 15 - Bill Gillespie - WA

Also in attendance were representatives from the three major sponsors of this year's AARA regional and national events: Lite Beer from Miller, DP Leach, and Penn Athletics Products. The meeting was conducted by AARA Executive Director Luke St. Onge.

One of the most serious obstacles to unifying the sport of racquetball has been its fragmented nature—it has been organized and, sometimes, played differently in different parts of the country. That has caused a number of problems, particularly for the increasing number of players who are becoming involved in national competition. It has also made it difficult for the sport to attract and retain large sponsors who desire visibility on a national scale.

The meeting's first day was devoted to the sponsors. The dialogue between

Luke St. Onge (lower left) in discussion with AARA regional directors.



technical ability, your familiarity with the subject, and your timing.

When I started shooting racquetball about 5 years ago, I thought I had a good knowledge o the game, having already played it seriously for a number of years. My real understanding of the game, though, began when I started observing it through the viewfinder of my camera. The intricacies of positioning and strategy take on a whole new significance when you are trying to predict where a player or players will be at a particular moment.

Probably the most important lesson I've learned is that the higher a player's

ability, the more time you can depend on hm being in center court. When I'm shooting professionals, my favorite technique is to zone focus my camera through the center court area, wait for the action to develop there, and fire away. If it is a well played match, most of the good action will take place within the camera's field of view. Then, if anything noteworthy takes place elsewhere on the court, I can shoot it with a second, hand held camera.

Most sports photographers concentrate on shooting at that critical moment of play called the "peak of action," and

this practice works particularly well with racquetball. It is that instant when both the action and the emotion of the play momentarily peak, or reach their apex, and is the perfect moment to capture on film because it encompasses so much feeling. One side benefit of shooting for the peak of action is that it is frequently a moment when the motion of play comes to a virtual stop before resuming in a different direction, such as a basketball player executing a jump shot, or a wide receiver just at the moment he leaps to catch a football.

In normal racquetball play there are actually two peaks, one when a player sets up to hit the ball, and the other at the end of his follow-through. This second peak is my favorite because it can show so many things: the expression on both players' faces, the direction of the shot by the position of their eyes, the players' position relative to each other, the reaction of the crowd, etc.

It takes a little practice to trip the shutter at the precise instant, once you have identified the peak. Remember, when you fire the camera, there is a delay of about a quarter second between your movement and the actual exposure. Therefore, you must become adept at anticipating the peak, because once you've seen it, it's too late to shoot it.

There's one final thing to keep in mind. Don't expect to get 20 good shots out of a 20 exposure roll of film. Shoot as much as you can, because no matter how hard you try most of your shots won't be any good. One of the reasons good photographers are good is because they shoot so many frames. In my own shooting I usually expect to get one or two good frames on every roll—the rest are never even printed. So be patient. And remember, photography is like anything else—the best teacher is experience.

43



the sposors (Lynne Schlaeger and Steve Forsythe-Lite Beer, Greg Eveland-DP Leach, and Bob Bebee-Penn) and the regional directors centered on how to achieve visibility for the sport and its sponsors in each individual area. The discussion itself was a milestone of sorts; it was probably the first time major sponsors have had the opportunity to communicate directly with those who actually stage the country's major tournaments.

Racquet ball's serious eye-injury problem came into question when the directors asked Eveland and Bebee why their companies did not market some type of eve protection to support the AARA's attempt to mandate the use of eveguards in tournament play. Both responded that their companies could market such a product only after the industry sets some standards by which eveguards would be judged. To do so without those standards, they said, would leave them open to lawsuits, a number of which have recently been filed against eyeguard manufacturers. Luke St. Onge added that at this point the threat of litigation prevents even the AARA from mandating the use of eveguards.

Most of the second day of the meeting was devoted to various facets of AARA business, with Luke St. Onge addressing the group about the current state of the association and its plans for the near

future.

Ed Martin, who is the coach for the AARA U.S. Racquetball Team, spoke about the progress the AARA has made toward full Olympic recognition. According to Martin, racquetball has now met all the requirements necessary to earn Class-A Olympic status which would make it eligible for the Olympic games. The only obstacle that remains is acceptance by the International Olympic Committee. Martin also informed the group that it now appears that racquetball will be a demonstration sport at the 1987 Pan American Games in Quito, Ecquador, followed by full participation in Pan Am in 1991. Matin suggested that the most likely timetable for racquetball's inclusion in the Olympic games would be demonstration status in 1992, and, hopefully, full participation in 1996.

Ed Martin also spoke about progress in juniors programs, and the successes and plans for the U.S. Racquet ball Team, which include upcoming trips to South America and Japan.

Mike Arnolt led a discussion about a new referee certification program, which has been a priority for the AARA for some time. That program is expected to be in place by the time the nationals are held in Houston.

Maureen Hendrickson, the AARA's newly appointed Commissioner of Women's Racquetball, called the group's attention to what appears to be a disturbing downward trend in the participation of women in tournaments throughout the country. Some members of the group suggested that women may be losing interest in organized competition because the sport has failed to recognize that their motivation for becoming involved in sports differs from that of men.

One of the most important functions of the AARA is to establish rules for racquetball that will be used in state, regional, and national tournaments. And, with the pro game now in chaos, the AARA's rule book is rapidly becoming the defacto bible for the game. So, predictably, some of the meeting's most interesting moments came in the Saturday afternoon rules discussion.

In all, 11 rules are being considered for change. And, although most of them generated "inspired" discussion, nothing inspired as much passionate debate as racquetball's beloved five-foot rule. The rule, which dictates whether a player may enter the five foot zone when receiving serve, has become a standard point of controversy in both amateur and professional racquetball. Without going into all the interpretations of the rule (which

would take the rest of the magazine) suffice to say that the AARA is considering formally changing their current rulebook version to the old USRA rule, which seems to be the more accepted version throughout the country. The distinction is an important one because it involves the safety of the server. After lengthy discussion the vote was split almost evenly, with a slight margin in favor of the change.

Following the rules votes, the results were referred to the rules committee for their recommendations which will be made to the AARA Board of Directors for a final vote at the Houston nationals.

While the individual issues that were addressed at the Regional Directors Conference were certainly crucial to the sport, the real significance of the meeting was that it was held at all. With as much pride as we take in our sport, it is incredible that never, until now, has one group of dedicated (and voluntary) leaders been able to sit down together and make real decisions about the direction of every area of the sport.

We should also note that much of the credit for the success of the conference should go to Lite, DP, and Penn, who together provided the necessary funding for the meeting.

**(\$** 

Maureen Hendrickson discusses the state of women's racquetball.



# DAVE

# 同国の区

This Pro Superstar Is Likeable, Powerful, And Volatile. And, He Wants To Be #1 Again.

It should go without saying that Dave Peck is one of the greatest players professional racquetball has ever known. But, it doesn't. At any other time Peck's accomplishments would probably be viewed as nothing less than spectacular, but since his first day as a pro he has been forced to perform his miracles in the long cold shadow of Marty Hogan. Someday, when the events of pro racquetball's first decade have been put into perspective, Dave Peck may finally get the credit he is due. It is safe to say that in the last five years no player has had a greater impact on the programme

Dave Peck first picked up a racquetball in 1975. By 1978 he was ranked in the top



#### But, if Peck's wild behavior was shocking to some, his explanation for the problem is not entirely without merit.

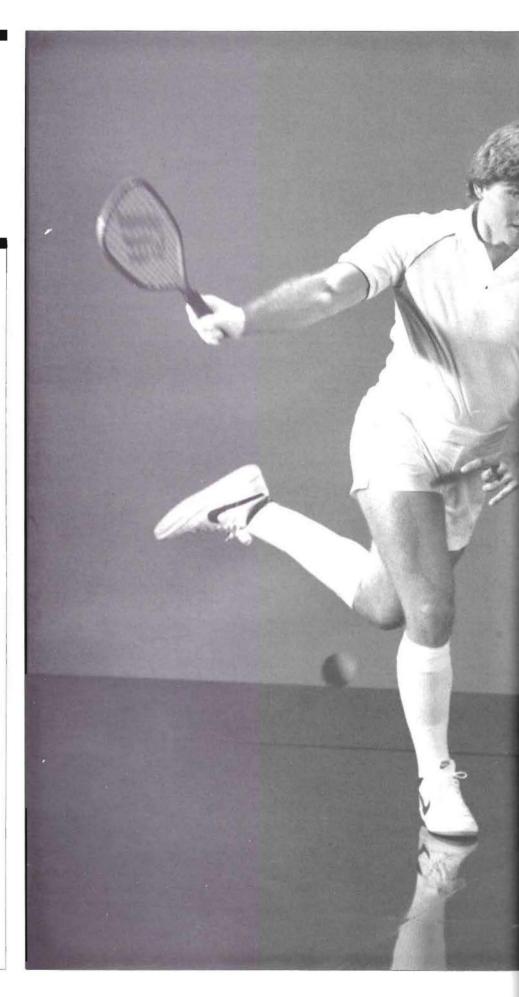
10 players in the world. And four years later, in 1982, he defied the experts by accomplishing what everyone said could not be done: he won the National Championship and relegated Marty Hogan to the #2 spot for the first time since 1976.

Only two other players have ever been able to equal Peck's incredible record of 11 major tournament victories. He has won two National Championships—the Ektelon Nationals and the Catalina Nationals, both in 1982. He was named "Rookie of the Year" in 1979, and "Player of the Year" in 1982.

Peck was one of the first players to discover how to effectively counter the overwhelming power game of Marty Hogan. Peck's game style, which is probably best described as "high-percentage power," has earned him the deserved reputation as one of the game's most consistent players. Even in 1983, which Dave admits was not his finest year, he failed to reach the semifinals only once. When he is healthy, he is a serious threat to win every event he enters.

Surprisingly, Dave Peck's notariety in 1983 came not so much from his highcaliber blav as from his on-court behavior. His confrontations with referees, particularly Dan Bertolucci, reached classic levels and culminated in his astounding first-round disqualification at the DP Leach/Catalina National Championships in Chicago. But, if Peck's wild behavior was shocking to some, his explanation for the problem is not entirely without merit. In retrospect there does seem to be some justification for Peck's claim that inconsistent refereeing was an important factor in the outcome of last season. In fact, for Dave Peck, the last 90 days of the 1982-83 season was a nightmare. Consider what took place in the final three tournaments:

Following Hogan's quarterfinal loss at the Ektelon Nationals, #2 Peck and #3 Yellen played a classic semifinal match that gave Peck the opportunity to nearly overtake #1 Hogan in the rankings. With Peck serving for the match at 10-10 in the fifth game, Yellen trapped himself on the left wall with his own shot and committed what Peck (and many others who watched



Yeah. Some if it is psychological—wanting to protect my leg. But also, because they couldn't seal the leg they had to graft it, and the graft is attached to the quadracep muscle. So now everytime I step or bend my knee it pulls on my kneecap, and that causes a little inflammation. I've decided now that I'm going to go back to El Paso and get it fixed immediately, because I think it's really going to keep holding me back.

It is really frustrating when you're hitting the ball real solid, like I did in this tournament, but you can't push off and get the ball when you need to.

Do you have any question about whether your leg will get back to

I'm only at about 80% right now. I'm letting a lot of guys get their shots at me. . . when I'm back to 100%, it's going to be a different story.





Peck grimaces from pain following leg injury in Atlanta.

#### normal?

No, none whatsoever. I think my playing in this tournament is indicative of what I'm willing to do to get back in top form. I'm only at about 80% right now and I'm letting a lot of guys get their shots at me, and that's fine. When I'm back to 100% it's going to be a different story.

## Has the injury changed your outlook on the game?

There's a tendency when you play pro racquetball to blow things out of proportion, to think, "My racquetball game is the only thing that goes on in this world," which is incorrect. I've never really been too bad with that; I've always had a fairly realistic outlook. But still, sometimes you have a tendency to take yourself a little bit too seriously. When I hurt my leg it just helped me to sit back

and reflect on what it could be like to never be able to play racquetball again, much less be able to walk.

When you look at things that way everything looks a little better. You know, when I got out of the hospital I couldn't even sit down in the car because my leg was straight. Being like that for a while you can't help but appreciate the game more.

Now, some people might take that and think I'm going to lose my intensity and my drive to win. I'm enjoying it more, but at no time will I sit back and say, "I'm having a great time, if I lose, I lose." I appreciate being able to play, but I also still appreciate winning.

Then, you haven't lost any of your drive to be the National Champion.

None.

Do you still think you can be?

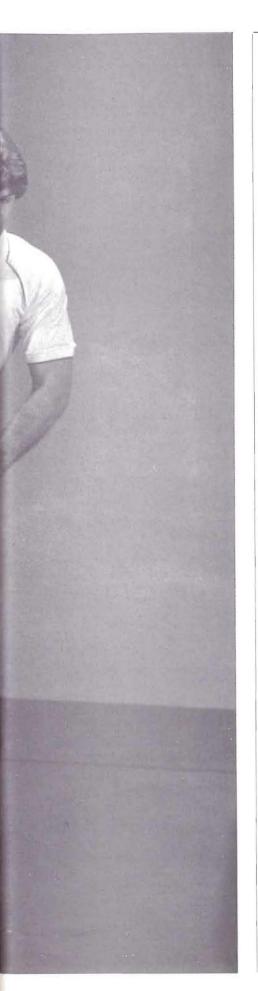
Yes. The bottom line is, I'm a survivor. You know, they say there are no heroes only survivors. I know what I need to do—I've done it before and I can do it again.

Two years ago you became the first player to take the National Championship away from Marty Hogan. Do you feel like you got enough credit for that?

Not really. You know, it's one of those things were you work your tail off to become the best in your sport, and when you do it some people act like it never happened.

Scouting his competition.





the match) felt was an obvious avoidable hinder. Despite a venomous tirade by Peck, referee Dan Bertolucci called a hinder and ordered the point replayed, allowing Yellen to come back and win the match. Three weeks later the Peck-Bertolucci war continued in Chicago, and Peck was ousted on a technical foul in the first round of a tournament where he would almost certainly have gone to the finals. That ejection ended Peck's hopes of becoming #1. But, had the call in Anaheim gone the other way, Dave Peck would probably have been the National Champion—instead he finished third.

And Peck's nightmare didn't end in Chicago. In another semifinal with Yellen at the DP Leach Nationals in Atlanta (the season's last stop) he suffered a freak leg injury which effectively ended his season, and from which he is only now recovering.

Dave Peck is an unusual commodity in pro racquetball: not only does he play consistently top-level racquetball but he has proven himself to be a highly skilled instructor. Among his students are his younger brother Gregg, and a number of current junior champions including Ray Navarro and Cliff Swain.

Because of his teaching reputation and his solid fundamentals, Peck was recently chosen as the model for Sybervision Systems' racquetball instructional program.

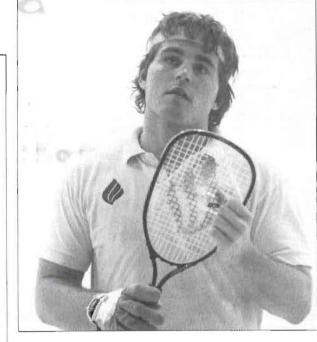
Few players have ever possessed as much drive or as much passion for the game as Dave Peck. He is consumed by the thought of proving to his critics that he can win the National Championship again. And, considering his record, only a fool would doubt his ability to do it.

## What specifically happened to your leg in Atlanta?

In between the leg bone and the quadracep muscle there's some tissue called the fascia sheet. When I contacted Mike's knee the blood vessels and microcapillaries under that sheet burst, and within that little compartment there was nowhere for the blood to go so it just began to push out. The more it bled, the more it pushed out and that just caused more bleeding and more pressure.

The bad thing about that injury is that if it isn't taken care of it can cut off all the circulation to the lower leg which can mean losing your foot—that's a real fun thing to think about. Also, the lack of circulation within the area can kill the muscle and cause a lot of nerve damage. So, I was fortunate to get to the doctor when I did.

I'll tell you how bad it was: the normal pressure readings in that area are 15 to 20 pounds per square inch, and when they took the readings that night mine was 68 pounds and going up. That's why the doctor had to go in and cut.



## They operated that night, didn't they?

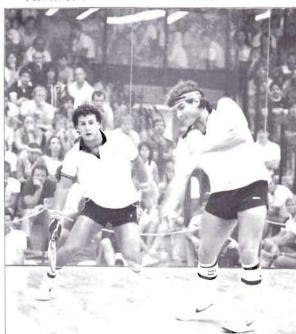
Yes, they cut on it about one o'clock in the morning. I just didn't know how serious it was. I'll tell you this, if I'd have known about the problem when it happened I would have quit immediately. I just thought it was a charlie horse.

## Are you disappointed with the way you played in this tournament?

Obviously I'm disappointed. I've never been one to enjoy losing, but I have to look at it realistically. My game has come along real well; four months ago I wasn't even able to play. I'm still having some problems, though. My leg isn't at 100% yet but it is at the point where I can compete. On a scale of 1 to 10 I think I'm back to about an 8. Now, going from here to a 10 is going to be the hardest part.

#### Is it still painful when you play?

Peck vs. Yellen in Ektelon Nationals match.





You can't put a guy who has a limited concept of the game in a high pressure situation calling a professional match and not have trouble. that just because I'm losing right now that this boy is out of contention, they've got a big surprise coming.

### How did you get started in racquetball?

I started playing in about 1975, to lose weight. I had been playing freshman football at the University of Texas, and my weight got up to 220 lbs. If you think I'm short and squatty now, you should have seen me then—I looked like a bowling ball. Anyway, I had quit playing football and I wanted to lose weight.

#### Why did you quit playing football?

Because these big guys were just killing me! I mean some of these guys were

I won the Catalina Championships, the Ektelon Nationals, and finished #1 in the rankings and Marty acted like it didn't even count. He came along and won the DP Nationals and started saying he was the National Champion just because that tournament had more money. Marty and his group emphasized that one victory and because of his connections, the racquetball publications bit—hook, line, and sinker.

Listen to this, I got Player of the Year from "Racquetball Illustrated," and you know what the opening line in the magazine was? It said, "Even though Dave Peck finished first in the rankings, Marty

Playing younger brother Gregg at Nationals.

Decked out in Sybervision outfit.

Hogan is still #1!"

Yeah, I think I got screwed around a little bit, but there isn't anything you can do about it. It sounds corny but I know I finished #1 and that's what counts.

# Do you feel like your overall playing level is still rising?

Sure. At the end of last season my game was better than it had ever been. And this year, by the time I get finished my game will better than last year. Of course, because of my injury I'm going to have to work a little bit harder. The key to my game is getting this thing back to where I can move well again. In proracquetball mobility is really important—you have to be able to hit the ball on the run. I'm doing OK now but it still has a long way to go.

I'll tell you one thing: if anyone thinks

hitting me so hard that I started to get this dent in my forehead that just kept getting deeper. I never had any illusions about being a great football player. I wanted to play for fun and it was no longer fun.

So I got into racquetball through my sister. I really liked it because it was such an aggressive game. I played in a couple of local tournaments and did pretty well so I went up to the regionals in Oklahoma City. I got beat in the first round, but I got to see what all the better players were doing.

Then one day I found out you could make money at it. I started going to some of the events and started qualifying. In my rookie year I signed with Wilson. I won the regionals in Tempe, in 1977, and got the the finals of the Nationals.

My first season as a pro I started ranked 39th and ended 6th, and won



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Rookie of the Year. My second year I finished #2, my third year I was #3, then I finished #1, and last year I was third again.

You've been very vocal about the poor refereeing in the game. Did it really make a difference in your performance last year?

It cost me the #1 ranking.

But I really think it gets blown out of proportion. A couple of things happened last year that everybody heard about, but I don't have a problem with referees all the time. I can be really calm and mellow when we have a good ref, and that's someone who is decisive, who understands the game, and who has enough sense to get two good linespeople. When that happens, I have no problem. The reason I become belligerent with some refs is because I have no respect for them. I have no respect for them or their qualifications to ref that match.

I think people forget that for us racquetball is a business—it's a job. In the last three years, because of bad calls, I'll bet that including bonuses I've lost thousands of dollars. I once lost a car by one point because of a bad call, just because of incompetence. You can't put a guy who has a limited concept of the game in a high pressure situation calling a professional match and not have trouble. Some players can shake that stuff off, and for a couple of years I didn't get too upset—I thought everything would even out in the end. I no longer believe that. There's a big difference between making a bad call at 1-1 in the first game and 10-10 in the tie-breaker in the semis of the Ektelon Nationals.

# You're referring to Dan Bertolucci's call in your match with Yellen, aren't you?

The thing I don't understand is how can a guy write all these articles about refereeing, be the commissioner of racquetball and then make such an obviously ridiculous call at a moment like that? It was an obvious, outright avoidable hinder, and that call cost me the Ektelon Nationals and, in my mind, the #1 ranking. But in retrospect, who else even remembers that situation now, and who cares? I'm still hot about that. I say it's over, but I'm still hot.

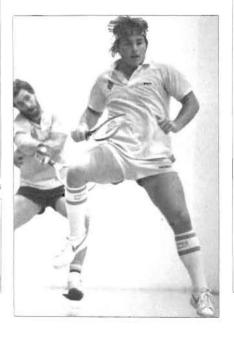
## Is that why you lost so badly in Chicago?

The reason that match in Chicago even went to the tie-breaker was because of what happened in Anaheim. All I wanted to do was razz, and... strangle Bertolucci. I went in there with this tremendous hostility. I had no respect



Dave's mother shot this picture of the wound before it was closed. Thanks a lot, Mrs. Peck!

It was an obvious, outright avoidable hinder, and that call cost me the Ektelon Nationals and the #1 ranking. . . I'm still hot about that.



for Dan and he knew it. When he called a technical warning at 10-7 that was just it, that was the last straw.

The way I acted in Chicago was a disgrace, I know that. I went upstairs after that match and sat down in a chair—I was still all wet from playing. I took off my shirt, and I thought to myself, "That was probably the dumbest thing you've ever done in your career." And it was.

## You seemed to be much more volitile last year than ever before. Why?

What I really wanted to do was shut everybody up. The year before I finished #1 and everybody was saying, "Oh, it was so lucky, it was a fluke." And all I wanted to do last year was finish back to back years as #1 to just shut everybody up, Marty and everybody. That's why, I think, I was so intense last year, because I wanted to make sure I finished #1. It didn't turn out that way—that's just one of those things.

# Why did the meeting take place a few months ago between the top four players?

The top four players—Marty Hogan, Mike Yellen, Bret Harnett, and myself—met down in California in late August. The purpose was to set up the guidelines for what would be needed for the top four players to show up at a tournament. Not that we were better than anyone else, but there is a draw involved with the top four. What we were trying to avoid was all the players showing up for an event for \$750 and really lowering the stature of the sport.

All we were trying to do was set it up so that for a minimum of \$15,000 we would all show up. The idea was to keep the money at a higher level and give every body a chance to make more money.

What has happened is that we've all been chastised as though we thought we were better than every body else.

#### Was there a vote taken?

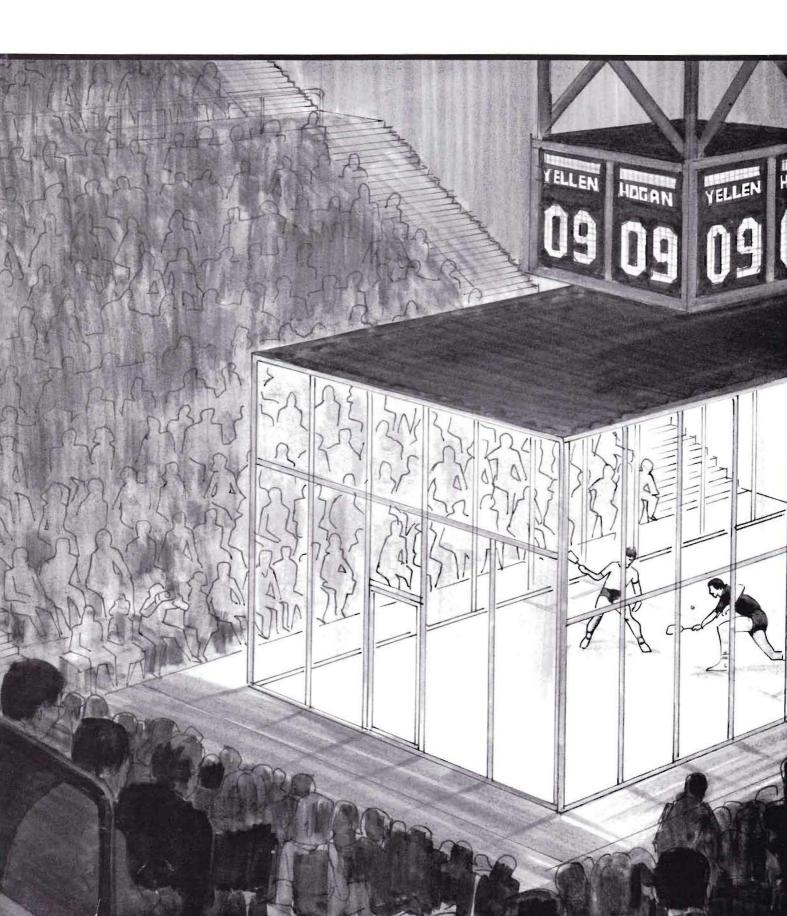
A vote was taken on whether we should all become affiliated with the PRO and I was outvoted. I suggested we all work together and I was outvoted 3-1. Marty doesn't want to be involved because he's afraid that everybody else is going to capitalize on his name. And that's true to a certain extent. I just feel that in order to make the sport stronger we're going to have to allow for some of that to take place.

#### So what happens now?

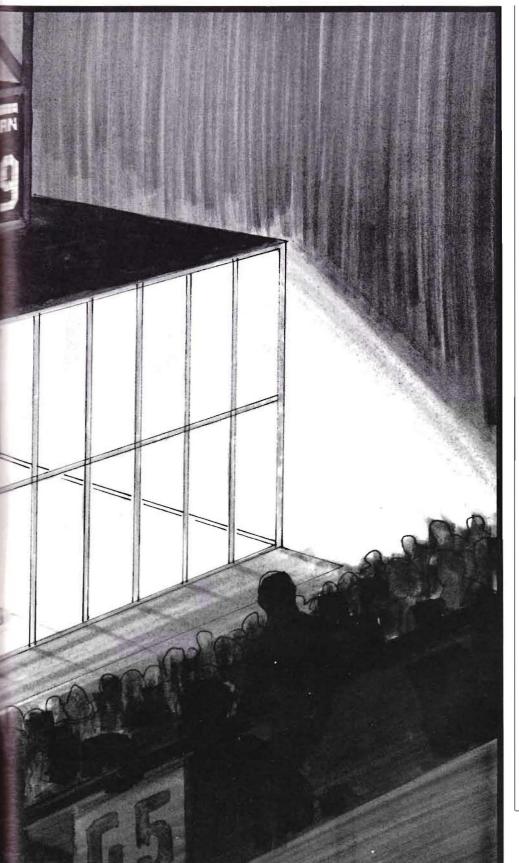
Something needs to be done. Something has to be done. The sponsors have got to have the guts to hold their tournaments and not worry about which

PECK continued on page 39

# The Portable



# Court Is Here!



#### by Jason Holloman

dream for many has been that racquetball would someday throw off the shackles of obscurity and emerge triumphant as a world-class spectator sport. Perhaps that time is not too far away.

Racquetball's first courts were a private world where two to four players enjoyed a game of human billards. The excitement was intense and the pleasure mixed with physical fun soon launched racquetball into a craze that has yet to abate. The players got better, the racquets and balls changed to meet the growing demand for durable and consistant play, but, for many years, the courts remained isolated cubicles where the only way a spectator could enjoy the battle of the players was to peek through the open backcourt wall twelve feet off the ground. That was reasonable, at first, when only a handful of players wanted to watch. But soon, as the city, state, and national tournaments grew in size, the backcourt view became too crowded and restricted the number of spectators.

The question has become, "How can I design and build a court that can be watched by thousands of people who want to watch a racquetball tournament?"

Thus entered the glass backwall, then the glass back and sidewalls and now the three-sided glass court. But for all the visibility the glass walls give, the average seating on such "tournament courts" is still only enough for 300 to 1,000 people. As a result of such cramped seating, the money that tournaments can generate is limited. Less money means lower tournament purses, lower visibility for the sport, and less money being spent on promotion for the tournaments. Even now, with limited pro-



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Reese designed a special framing for the system that broke the court down to 100 4-by-10 foot pieces that two men could assemble and disassemble on the spot.

motion for the tournaments, you can see there isn't any lack of interest from spectators to see the sport. No, the status quo at pro tournaments is standing room only!

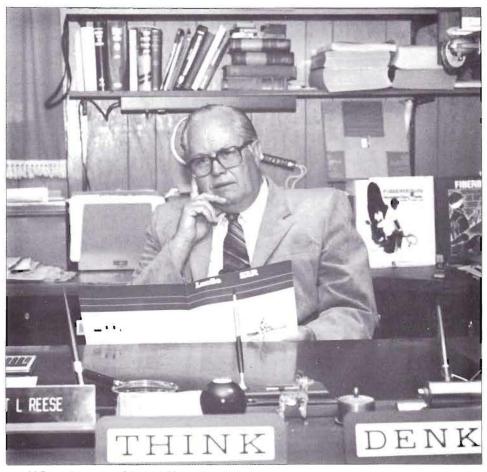
The question has become, "How can I design and build a court that can be watched by the thousands of people who want to watch a racquetball tournament?"

One answer, of course, has been to build bigger court arenas inside the racquetball facility. Unfortunately, arena seating takes up a lot of room inside a club and becomes idle, "wasted space" between tournaments. It is a costly extra most clubs are wise to avoid. Another answer is a protable three-wall glass court that could be set up in an existing arena or coliseum for the duration of the tournament and then removed when not in use. The trouble with glass is that it is too heavy to be portable and too costly to be used only temporarily.

The answer to this problem comes from DuPont in the form of an acrylic, clear plastic sheet called "Lucite S-A-R" (which stands for Super Abrasion Resistant) and a man called Al Reese from Houston, Texas.

"Lucite SAR wears better than tempered glass, weighs only half as much, and costs 30% to 35% less than tempered glass," Reese explained in an interview with International Racquetball. "The weight of tempered glass requires special handling and lifting equipment on the job site, and that can add to construction costs. Plus, it must be made exactly to size in the shop. In comparison, Lucite SAR can be cut and trimmed on the construction site with a carbide tipped electric saw."

Lucite SAR has another advantage over glass—it won't break, and that can mean a lot to spectators watching with their nose to the glass when a 250 pound



Al Reese, innovator of the portable court

man runs into the wall at full force.

Lucite SAR has been around for years, but it took Al Reese, a retired veteran of 33 years at Union Carbide, to put two and two together. "It was about a year and a half ago that some people were talking to me about the cost of a portable court," reminisced Reese, "and they mentioned to me of one they knew over in England that had a price tag of \$150,000. I said, 'Shoot! With the clear Lucite SAR material, I can build one a heck of a lot cheaper than that!""

Hitting the drawing board, Reese designed a special framing for the system that broke the court down to 100 4-by-10 foot pieces that two men could assemble and disassemble on the spot. The portable court was born.

"I built a model. Now, when I say model, this is not like something you put on your desk. The model that I built is ten feet long and eight feet wide and eight feet high. I unveiled it in Las Vegas last January, at the International Racquet Association convention and then again at Nashville in another trade show. But so far, even though everybody expresses interest in the portable court, nobody hs written a purchase order yet."

The lack of orders are probably due to two things: (1) the cost, though much lower than \$150,000, is still high, and (2)

few have caught the vision on how a portable court could be used.

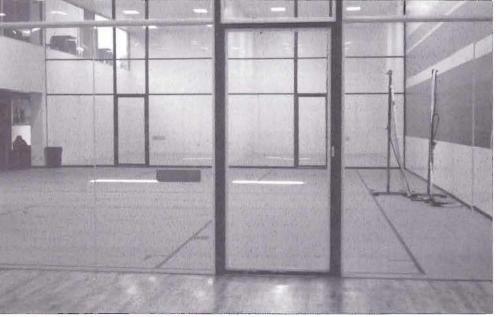
Okay. The bottom line. How much does the portable cost? It varies according to what you want. Reese has broken down the variations into three plans. Plan One gives you two side walls and a back wall of Lucite SAR with a price tag of \$80,000. Plan Two offers one side wall and the back wall of Lucite SAR for \$65,000 and Plan Three has just the back wall of the clear acrylic for \$50,800. All three plans include maple fooring, lights, ceiling, walls, air-conditioning, and, most importantly, it's portable. Now a court can be set up anywhere.

"That's the reason I designed this portable court. I can put it in an existing gymnasium or stadium and with the three-sided clear walls of Lucite, you could use it in conjunction with the permanent bleachers or seats. Or, if you want to put it in the ballroom of the Roosevelt Hotel or in Caesar's Palace, you could put bleachers around it and you could seat 2,000 to 4,000 people to watch racquetball. With ticket prices between \$25 to \$50 for a racquetball tournament ticket, you could bring in \$50,000 to \$200,000 in revenue for an event!"

Another use for the portable court is converting racquetball courts to squash



World Champion squash player Mark Talbot on converted racquetball court



Racquetball courts of Lucite SAR



Another use of the portable court is converting racquetball courts to squash courts either permanently or temporarily.

courts either permanently or temporarily. Often a club will have an abundance of racquetball courts but few, if any, squash courts. Al Reese gives an example:

"Last May, The Texas Club in Houston put on a professional squash tournament. They had four squash courts there but they only had hallways in back of them for viewing. So, I took three of my portable Lucite SAR back walls and converted three of their glass back wall racquetball courts into squash courts. With the conversion, they were able to seat an additional 250 people for the professional event."

All these uses for the portable court sound great, and it's just a matter of time before more people begin implementing them. In fact, Mr. Reese is meeting with Elliot Rovinsky of Geostar this month to discuss the plans of using the portable court as part of a franchise package for national racquetball league play. International Racquetball couldn't get ahold of Mr. Rovinsky at press time to reveal all the details of his plan, but by next issue we should have more information. Soon thousands, even millions of people may be seeing racquet ball for the first time as an arena sport, and the portable court may be destined for the movies. As of this writing, Al Reese is meeting with a film company in Los Angeles which is interested in building a four-sided Lucite SAR court with an 8 by 20 foot Lucite window in the ceiling for filming "a la blimp."

With the advent of the portable court, racquetball will enter an era of larger visibility and the possibility of increased prize money and growth. Add this to the growing numbers of racquetballers internationally and the desire to make racquetball an Olympic sport, and it looks as if we're headed for some excit-

ing years ahead.

For more information on the portable court, contact:

Reese Industries P.O. Box 35846 Houston, Texas 77235 713-723-8628

17

# Europe Yellen-Style

It's one thing to vacation in Europe. It's quite another to work there.

Mike Yellen got an unusual opportunity to do both in a quick—almost too quick—three weeks last October.

It all started in the summer when Mike got a call from his sponsor Ektelon. Ektelon's European parent company, Fabrique Nationale, had invited Mike to do a promotional tour to help introduce Ektelon products. For Mike it would be the basic promotion schedule of clinics, exhibition matches and personal appearances.

Only this time it would be for Belgian, German and Dutch players—and it would be on their home turfs.

"I definitely wanted to go," Mike says. "I knew it would be a great opportunity and one I was very proud to be a part of."

Mike's tour began in Brussels. Fabrique Nationale's corporate head-quarters are based in nearby Herstal, Belgium, and Mike spent a day there getting to know the company and its employees before embarking on his trip with Jean Marie Martin, a salesman and representative for the company.

Jean Marie had scheduled Mike to do 12 exhibitions, including visits to five American military bases. Several clinics were also held for the national teams from Germany and the Netherlands whose top players, Mike says, would be highly competitive in the open ranks here in the states. In fact, what started out as easy-going exhibition matches with the national teams often turned into all-out competition as the Europeans tried their best to test their level of play against America's number one player.

"Everywhere we went, though, the people were very, very hospitable and nice to me," Mike says. "I had really neat experiences everywhere I went.

"Fortunately, I was able to spend time doing some of the normal tourist stuff and usually was able to get a feel for what that country or city was like before I had to leave.

"I've done a lot of traveling for racquetball," he says. "But it's really great when you have an opportunity to work **plus** do a little sightseeing at the same time—how can you miss?

Mike's exposure to Europe was con-

densed, but plenty.

"Because of all the connections I had with people in each of the different places I went, I saw in three weeks what it probably would have taken me three months to see if I had been on my own."

One person who was willing to share the sights with Mike was Bob Gordon, a military officer based in Germany who spent six days touring to clinics at the U.S. military bases. Bob's friend Andrea Shwartz is the Swiss, German and Belgian women's racquetball champ and Mike spent a good deal of time talking with them both about how racquetball is growing in the European countries.

"They are hoping that the sport in general, but especially for the women, will grow as the number of courts grow in Europe," he says. "The women's draws are relatively small at most of the tournaments still."

France was not originally scheduled on the tour. However, the French Racquetball Association happened to hear that Mike was touring in Europe and extended a special invitation for him to attend the opening of a new facility in Paris. From what the club owner said, it

Mike Yellen "doing some of the normal tourist stuff" in Europe.

What started out as easy-going exhibition matches turned into all-out competition as the Europeans tested America's #1 player.



# TOURNAMENT:

France was not originally scheduled on the tour. However, the French Racquetball Association heard Mike was touring and extended a special invitation.

was the first and only racquetball court in all of France and the club put on quite a party to celebrate it.

Mike agreed to swing through France before wrapping up the tour and so spent three days in Paris for the grand

While he was there, Mike happened to run into an American player who was at the club. As the two were introduced. Mike learned that the American was an Ektelon sponsored player named Brian Wink who hailed from Kansas City,

Brian was in France to attend the famed Cordon Bleau University, a culinary arts school in Paris. Before leaving to attend the university Brian had contacted Luke St. Onge of the AARA to find out where he could play in France and Luke notified him of the court opening. Brian, in turn, contacted the club owner and offered to work as the resident pro at the club and give instruction to the many players who needed to start with the basics of the game.

"I ended up doing the exhibition matches for the clinic with Brian and two other players—Willie Wenzel, a top ranked player for the German national team, and Vinnie Crispo, an American military man based in the Netherlandsonly because there were so few French players who could play racquetball with any level of experience.

"The only down side to the whole thing was that Brian promised to fix me a gourmet meal before I left and never got around to it," Mike says lightheartedly. "He owes me one."

Altogether the trip was an enriching experience for America's top ranked racquet baller.

"I always enjoy seeing how different people live. And when I can do that and also help to promote the game of racquetball at the same time, well who could ask for more?'

# **HOGAN UPSETS YELLEN IN BANGOR**



Photo courtesy of Bangor Daily News.

Marty Hogan outlasted #1 seed Mike Yellen to win the \$10,000 Budweiser Light Pro/Am, held at the Holiday Health and Racquet Club in Bangor, Maine. Hogan required five games to score the upset over defending national champion Yellen, 11-7, 11-8, 9-11, 4-9, 11-7.

The tournament, which was being held for its fifth consecutive year, was a non-ranking invitational event.

Yellen became the fourth #1 seed in five years to go down to defeat.

"I've come into this thing ranked No. 1 twice, and I never made it to the finals before today," said the 23-year-old from Michigan. Yellen entered the 1980 event ranked first but bowed out early in the tournament.

Hogan captured his third title in five tries in the Bangor event, and increased his earning to \$14,000 of the \$50,000 which has been up for grabs.

After taking the first game 11-7, Hogan ran to a 9-0 lead in game two, before Yellen roared back to 8-9. Sensing the need to take the lead in the match, Hogan surged back with two forehand kills to win game two.

Yellen then came back from a 5-0 deficit in game three to win the third and fourth games, and appeared to have enough momentum to take the match. But Hogan cranked up and pulled away from a 4-4 tie in the tiebreaker to win the

The Bangor tournament marked the major tournament comeback of Dave

Peck, who is still recovering from a serious leg injury. Peck played surprisingly well, defeating 6th ranked Ruben Gonzalez and going to the semifinals before he fell to Hogan.

Gregg Peck had another outstanding tournament by beating Bret Harnett for the third straight time. The younger of the Peck brothers lost in the semifinals to Mike Yellen.

For his first place finish, Hogan pocketed \$4,000, and Yellen took home \$2,000.

# 1983 Budwieser Light Pro/Am Bangor, Maine

#### Round of 16:

Levine def. Vazzan. Wagner def. Fitzpatrick Gonzalez def. Gervais G. Peck def. Olson Harnett def. Eddy D. Peck def. Cox Hogan def. Nogler Yellen def. Bouchard Quarterfinal Round:

Yellen def. Levine

D. Peck def. Gonzalez G. Peck def. Harnett Hogan def. Wagner Semifinal Round:

Yellen def. G. Peck Hogan def. D. Peck

Final Round: HOGAN def. Yellen TOTAL PURSE: \$10,000

13

PECK continued from page 31

players might not show. If Marty doesn't show, tough luck—if I don't show, tough luck. A perfect example of that strategy is this Schoeber's tournament. Marty has never played in this tournament before, but now the prize money is up and look who's here.

# What's your opinion of your younger brother Gregg's ability?

Gregg's dynamite. He has all the tools to beat anybody, any day. He's mentally tough, he's fundamentally excellent. Whoever taught him did a great job.

Gregg's also real lucky; mentally, he's not as excitable as I am. He's seen me at my worst on the practice court, and he's learned to ignore what people say to him on the court because I've razzed him for so long. He's able to stay real calm and mellow, an that's become one of his best assets.

I think in some ways it's also been tough on Gregg. For example, last year in Atlanta Gregg and I were scheduled to play in the quarterfinals, and before the match all these guys kept coming up to me and saying, "We want you to kick Hogan's butt," and Gregg was standing right there. He's had to put up with that for a long time. That's one of the nega-

Something has to be done. The sponsors have got to have the guts to hold their tournaments and not worry about which players might not show.

tive aspects.

How did you get involved with the Sybervision project?

Yeah, that was a lot of fun. I think

they contacted me because I have a lot of teaching experience, and I'm pretty solid fundamentally. And it really interested me because it's a way to learn by watching without all the problems that come with verbal teaching. Also, even before I began working with them I had experienced the principle for myself. Sybervision is really the state-of-the-art in teaching. It's a real privilege for me to be involved.

# Some players think your stroke is not fundamentally "correct." Do you ever hear that?

I hear that. But I just ask them why? I'll take on anybody on mechanics. What's funny to me is to see all of these articles by all of these players who have never really proven that they can teach, or even play. I'll take them on anytime. Like Marty—he's a great athlete; he has to be to hit with that stroke. The fundamentals I use, and teach, are better for most of the pros, and most average players.

The reason I've been successful is that I can hit my shots when the pressure is on, and that's what's important. Some really good players can't do that because their strokes require such pinpoint timing. Yeah, I'll take any body on.

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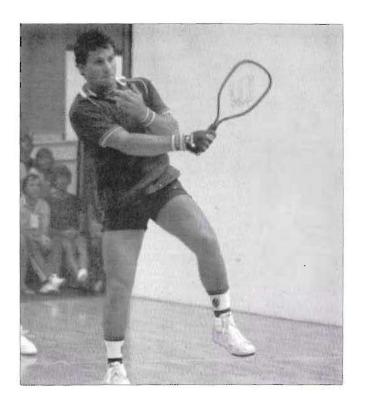
4





SARANAC GLOVE COMPANY Green Bay, Wisconsin

# INSTRUCTIONAL:



# Situational Racquetball

by Mike Yellen

(Editor's Note: Mike Yellen recently won the 1983 National Championships by winning four tournaments in a row, sweeping the racquetball grand slam. He is a valued member of the Ektelon Pro Advisory Staff.)

acquetball is nothing if not a game of situations. Once the mechanics are mastered, improvement is most often measured mentally in how a player reacts, anticipates, improvises—how he or she produces under these situations. Remember, it is one thing to know how to hit a racquetball. It's entirely another to know when and where to hit it.

In my mind, much of situation racquetball's roots are buried in one spot: When you begin to lose control of a rally, by (a) being out of position, (b) "missing" shots, or (c) leaving the ball "up" and not hitting the proper angles.

The only way to really cure this control problem is that two-syllable word common to every instructional article ever written—practice. There is no other way.

My suggestion is to practice alone for a half-hour, twice a week. No more, because you don't want to be bored. During this time, stress consistency in your shot selection, be mindful of keeping yourself and your game on balance and in control.

With that in mind, what follows is a reminder of what to do in three on-court situations—what to do when you feel balance and control slipping away.

# A Very Common On-Court Situation

Opponent crowding. Everyone has experienced it. And yet not everyone knows how to handle it. Some players call hinders, and that's fine. Other skilled players, however, turn common crowding situations into points for them. Let me explain

Let's say you're four feet off the right side wall, right around the receiving line. Your opponent has either served or, during the course of play, has become situated just in front of you to your left. It's a tight squeeze.

You can't go cross court—it's a shot into the back of your opponent; the ceiling is silly at this point; all that's left is that hinder call. Not quite.

The really skilled player will go for the pinch shot off the near side (right) wall. Hit the ball about three-quarters up the right side wall. The ball will bounce off the front wall away from your opponent.

The same shot holds true on the other side of the court—a backhand sidewall-

frontwall pinch will keep a crowding opponent on his or her toes.

# A Rather Common On-Court Situation

You're receiving. The serve hits that frustrating sucker lob, that half lobthat seems to take forever to enter the backcourt.

To top it off, the server knows it's a great serve—waist high or better, hugging the side wall. As soon as it's hit, the server is already walking back off his or her serve, edging into the backcourt, tempting you to hit a low frontwall kill or bullet a pass into the backcourt.

Don't take that temptation. The serve is good, no, great! The only chance you have is to take that backhand ceiling return.

I agree this is not a complex situation, but the lesson is not in the shot you must hit. It's in the shot you must NOT hit. You've reacted and anticipated the shot properly (there really isn't much else to do but wait for the serve to come down). All you can do now is NOT improvise and try a crazy kill shot or cross court pass. It won't work. Be patient. Go to the ceiling. Stay in control of the situation and your game.

# Not So Common On-Court Situation

Your opponent is in center court. You're a bit out of position when the drive or cross court shot catches you playing off your back foot.

There's no time to re-set your stance. It's hit it now or count the point. Since you're not Dave Peck my Ektelon teammate, hitting off your back foot is anything but a common occurrence. What do you do?

There's only one thing to do: get maximum wrist snap into your shot. And I mean max-i-mum. Really snap that wrist quickly and pivot your body with the shot to get as much forward momentum as possible.

So there you have it—situational racquetball described in three separate situations. I'd like to say you'll never have to practice what I've preached, but as I said in the beginning. . racquetball is nothing if not a game of situations.

18

# The Pre-Match Warm-Up

# by Mike Yellen

few months back in an article entitled "Exercise for the Un-Thin," I described how any racquetball player could improve his game and condition prior to a match.

For those that missed it, my philosophy is simply summed up by using stretching exercises to warmup, jumping rope for quickness and Star and Carioca drills to increase your reflexes and conditioning.

Now let's pretend, you've stretched, your heart is racing from exercises and you're ready to play a match. What's next on the agenda? Probably one of the most important, yet overlooked, aspects of the sport: The Pre-Match Warmup.

Generally, most racquetball players figure the five-to-10 minute pre-match warmup period is one for casual conversation with your opponent, a chance to really blast the ball around the court, or basically, kill time before the bell rings.

The good players have a different idea.

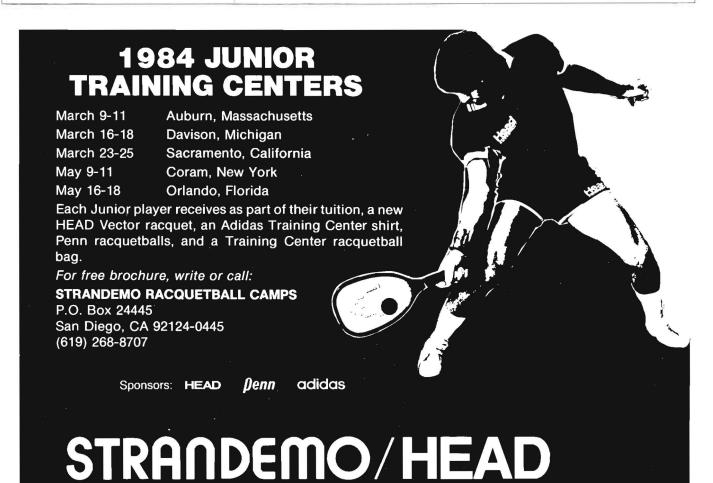
When I walk onto a court before any match, I have a set plan on how I want to use that warmup period. I just don't aimlessly flail away. Depending on my opponent, I'll work on skills and shots that will benefit me in the minutes to come.

You should too.

How do I gear up both myself and my game? Easy, I break the time into easily divided periods. Say the warmup time is 10 minutes, I may use one minute of the 10 for different shots and angles I want to cover. Or, perhaps I'll use two minutes on five important areas. Either way, as that imaginary hand moves around the clock face, I slowly, but surely, get ready to play. My intensity increases, as does my concentration and speed of my shots.

The best method I've found, after watching the likes of Dave Peck, who also plays for Ektelon, is to start at the

continued on page 42



Next Month

back of the court with ceiling balls, and basic ground strokes, move back and forth with pinches and passes, then finish up with serves.

I usually start at the ceiling to get a feel for the type ball and consistency of the court. In five or 10 swings, my right arm is loose and I know what I can and cannot do.

I start with the forehand ceiling ball. Sometimes, when the ball comes off the back wall, I'll go for a kill. But usually you have another person warming up next to you, so you don't want to distract them (at least too much!).

After hitting about 10-15 forehand and backhands off the ceiling, I move along to ground strokes. After hitting about 10 forehands off the side and back wall, I'll slide over and do the same thing on the backhand side. The secret here is just making good, solid contact with the ball. Watch your hand-eye movement. See the ball hit the racquet. You hit more of these shots than any others, so feel comfortable before moving on.

At this point, I move to just off center court and concentrate on pinches. Usually I start with a short drive off the front wall, then work the corners, starting about 18 inches up and moving down.

Don't overload your concentration level at this point. Just look for a spot

and try to hit it. Work both sides of the court so you feel comfortable enough to pinch either corner.

Now that I'm pretty warmed up shot wise, I move along to drives and passes, looking for spots on the wall I want to hit.

As my imaginary clock starts to work toward 20 minutes to the hour (which means I have about four or five minutes left), I start practicing kills and serves.

Kills I take anywhere I can get them. By that I mean I'll drop the ball in various spots, simulating a game condition, then shoot for the bottom board. After two minutes of this, I move into the server's box.

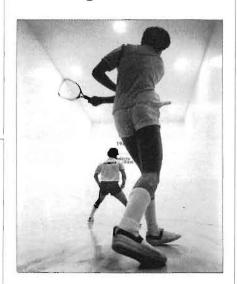
Depending on my opponent, I'll start with lobs, or Z's or drives. Since I'm a drive server, I like to set up, concentrate on my footwork and form, then really work over the service line.

After I feel comfortable moving the ball around the court that way, I switch to my "off" serves, usually lobs and Z's and take a couple of each just to make sure I have confidence in them when the time comes.

At this point, I've covered the court both mentally and physically. My game face is starting to show through and all I need is a change of glove, perhaps, a toweling off and I'm really ready to play.

Hopefully, if you follow these hints, you will be too.

March. First will come the tournament results for the men's prostop in Beaverton, Oregon. Last year, Marty Hogan met Bret Harnett in a blasting final that left the crowds gasping. When the smoke cleared, Marty walked out a winner. The scenario is a little different this year with more pros than ever wanting to feel the thrill of victory at the top, but the action will be just as intense. Will Marty succeed again?



The Pro Tour has been floundering around like a fish out of water for months now. What is going on? In March we will have a news flash from the Racquetball Manufacturer's Association (RMA). Do they have big plans for the pro tour? If they do, where and when will it start?

Find out the answers to these questions and enjoy our other in-depth articles and interviews about the pros in the March issue of International Racquetball!



Name \_

Address \_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_Phone \_\_

# Head to Head Competition

Here are the head to head statistics for the top 15 men and women professionals.

The women's chart was compiled by IMG for the Women's Professional Racquetball Association. Those tournaments included on the chart are: (1982-83) Toronto, CBC, Vancouver, Lafayette, Atlanta, Quebec, Melbourne, Ft. Worth, Tucson, Bangor, San Francisco, Seattle, Anaheim, Chicago, (1983-84) Atlanta, Auburn, and Plymouth.

The men's chart was compiled by International Racquetball Magazine from tournament records. Those events included on the chart are: (1982-83) Stockton, Westminster, Burnsville, CBC, New Haven, Pleasanton, Hawaii, Palm Desert, Beaverton, Cheyenne, Austin, Toronto, Anaheim, Chicago, Atlanta, (1983-84) Davison, Stockton, Amarillo, Walnut Creek, and Pleasanton.

Women's	Н МСКАУ	L ADAMS	SWRIGHT	L MARTINO	V PANZERI	J MARRIOTT	M GREER	T GILREATH	P GARDNER	н STUPP	C McKINNEY	J HARDING	B POE-BARRETT	JACKSON	S FLETCHER
HEATHER McKAY		4-5	5-1	2-0	2-0	5-0	2-0	2-0	2-0	2-0	2-0	3-0		3-0	2-0
LYNN ADAMS	5-4		3-0	2-0	2-2	1-0	5-0	5-0	1-0	3-0	3-0	2-0	1-1	3-0	3-0
SHANNON WRIGHT	1-5	0-3	350	1-0	3-1	2-1		1-1	1-0		4-0	2-0			2-0
LAURA MARTINO	0-2	0-2	0-1		1-2		1-1	0-1	1-0	0-1	1-2	1-1	2-0	1-0	1-0
VICKI PANZERI	0-2	2-2	1-3	2-1			2-2				1-0			1-0	1-1
JANELL MARRIOTT	0-5	0-1	1-2					1-1	2-0		1-1	2-0		1-1	
MARCI GREER	0-2	0-5		1-1	0-1					1-1	1-0		1-1		
TERRI GILREATH	0-2	0-5	1-1	1-0	2-2	1-1			1-0	1-1	1-0	0-2		2-0	
PEGGY GARDNER	0-2	0-1	0-1	0-1		1-2		0-1					0-1		
HEATHER STUPP	0-2	0-3		1-0			1-1								
CARYN McKINNEY	0-2	0-3	0-4	2-1		1-1	0-1	0-1				2-0			1-0
JENNIFER HARDING	0-3	0-2	0-2	1-1	0-1	0-2		2-0			0-2		10-	2-1	
BRENDA POE-BARRETT		1-1	0-2				1-1		1-0		0-1				
JOYCE JACKSON	0-3	0-3		0-1	0-1	1-1		0-2				1-2			
STACEY FLETCHER	0-2	0-3	0-2	0-1	1-1						0-1				

TO READ THIS CHART: For any player, the won/loss record against every other player is read horizontally opposite his/her name.

Men's	M HOGAN	D PECK	M YELLEN	B HARNETT	G PECK	JHILECHER	G PRICE	E ANDREWS	D THOMAS	SLERNER	J EGERMAN	R WAGNER	D COHEN	R GONZALEZ	S HAWKINS
MARTY HOGAN		3-1	2-5	4-1	2-0	3-0	1-0	3-0	4-0	2-0	2-0	1-1	1-1	1-0	1-0
DAVE PECK	1-3		3-3	1-3	4-0	0-1		1-0	1-0	2-0	1-0	1-0	1-0		
MIKE YELLEN	5-2	3-3		1-1	2-1	4-0	1-1	2-0			1-0	1-0	3-0	3-0	
BRET HARNETT	1-4	3-1	1-1		1-2		2-0	1-0			1-0	0-1	1-0	1-0	1-0
GREGG PECK	0-2	0-4	1-2	2-1		1-0	1-0	1-0			1-0	2-0	1-1	0-1	
JERRY HILECHER	0-3	1-0	0-4		0-1		0-1	1-1		1-0		1-0	0-2	0-1	1-0
GERRY PRICE	0-1		1-1	0-2	0-1	1-0			1-1		1-0	1-0	1-0	1-0	
ED ANDREWS	0-3	0-1	0-2	0-1	0-1	1-1			1-1	0-1	0-2		1-1		
DON THOMAS	0-4	0-1					1-1	1-1			1-1	0-1	1-0		
STEVE LERNER	0-2	0-2				0-1		1-0						0-1	1-0
JOHN EGERMAN	0-2	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1		0-1	2-0	1-1				0-1	0-1	1-0
RICH WAGNER	1-1	0-1	0-1	1-0	0-2	0-1	0-1		1-0					1-1	1-0
DOUG COHEN	1-1	0-1	0-3	0-1	1-1	2-0	0-1	1-1	0-1		1-0				
RUBEN GONZALES	0-1		0-3	0-1	1-0	1-0	0-1			1-0	1-0	1-1			
SCOTT HAWKINS	0-1			0-1		0-1				0-1	0-1	0-1			

# Master Tournament Schedule

#### AMATEUR EVENTS SCHEDULE

#### FEBRUARY

Feb. 3-5 Indiana State Intercollegiates Indiana Athletic Club 411 South Harbour Noblesville, IN 46060 Mike Arnolt

317-776-0222

201-735-6556

Feb. 4-6 Clinton Court Open \*3 Beaver One Box 5163 Clinton, NJ 08809

Feb. 6-10 3rd Annual Military R/B Tournament \*3 Show Boat Hotel 2800 Fremont St.

Las Vegas, NV 89104 Stephen Ducoff 702-385-9123

Feb. 9-12 Ektelon Regional - San Francisco Schoeber's 3411 Capitol Avenue

Fremont, CA 94538 415-791-6350

Feb. 9-12 Supreme Courts Open \*3 4100 Prospect Ave. N.E., Albuquerque, NM 87110

Feb. 10-12 Connecticut State Intercollegiates Site to be announced

Feb. 10-12 Ektelon Regional - Boston Gamepoint Racquetball & Health Club Aldrein Road Plymouth Industrial Park Plymouth, MA 02360 617-746-7448

Feb. 10-12 Full Count Club \*3 3501 N. Chadham Ln. Muncie, IN 47302 Jim Bartlett

Feb. 10-12 Junior Circuit \*3 Fairfield Court Club 1471 Holiday Ln. Fairfield, CA 707-429-4363

Feb. 10-12 Paul Masson Mixed Doubles \*3 Ricochet Racquet Club 219 St. Nicholas Ave. South Plainfield, NJ 07080 Lonnie Algood

201-**7**53-2300

Feb. 10-13 St. Valentine's Day Open \*3 Rally Sport 2727 29th St. Boulder, CO 80302 Phil Rhoades 303-449-4800

Feb. 10-12 St. Valentine's Massacre \*3 Rally Sport 2727 29th St. Boulder, CO 80302 Phil Rhoades 303-449-4800

Feb. 10-12 Florida State Singles \*4 Site to be announced Feb. 17-19 1984 Masters Invitational \*3 Tuscon Athletic Club 4220 E. Bellevue Tuscon, AZ 85712 602-881-0140

Feb. 17-19 Alabama State Intercollegiates Auburn University Memorial Coliseum Auburn, Alabama 36830 Bob Huskey 205-745-6295

Feb. 17-19 Courtside Open \*3 Courtside at Cromwell 10 Hillside Ave. Cromwell, CT 06416 Deb Didato 203-635-5400

Feb. 17-19 North Carolina State Intercollegiates Sports Center Fayetteville, NC Jim Yang 919-864-3303

Feb. 18-19 NY State AARA Championships \*4 All Sport Racquet Club Rt. 17 Newburgh, NY 12550

Feb. 23-25 South Dakota State Finals \*4 Supreme Courts R/B & Health Club P.O. Box 7533 4020 Jackson Blvd. Rapid City, SD 57709 Harvey Magee

Feb. 24-26 Alabama State Singles \*4 Court South 100 Olde Towne Rd. Vestavia Hills, AL 35216 Bob Huskey 205-823-2120

Feb. 24-26 1st Annual Winter Open \*3 Amador Valley Racquetball Club 7090 Johnson Industrial Pleasanton, CA 94566 Liz O'Connor 415-846-5347

Feb. 24-26 East Coast Open \*3 Woodbridge Racquet Club 295 Main St. Woodbridge, NJ 07095 Warren Searles 201-634-5000

Feb. 24-26 Eastern South Dakota State Play-offs \*3 YMCA 230 S. Minnesota

Sioux Falls SD 57102 Del Jarvers Feb. 24-26

Laconia Racquetball Club Tournament \*3 Laconia Racquetball Club O'Shea Industrial Park Laconia, NH 03246

Feb. 24-26 Michigan State Intercollegiates Eastern Michigan University Intramural Dept. Ypsilanti, MI 48423 Dan Fisher (Send Materials to Jim Hiser G-2140 Fairway Dr. Davison, MI 48423) 313-653-9602

Feb. 24-26 Miller Lite/AMF Head Open \*3 Off the Wall Racquet and Fitness Club Portsmouth, NH 03801 Steve Martcotte 617-431-1430

Feb. 24-26 Music City Open \*3 Nashville YMCA 1000 Church Street Nashville, TN 37203 Steve Tarver 615-254-0631

Feb. 24-26 National Seniors Invitational \*3 Regency Athletic Club 11403 Regency Green Dr. Cypress, TX 77429 Jim Austin 713-890-7788

Feb. 24-26 Northern South Dakota State Play-offs \*3 Aberdeen Health and Racquet Club P.O. Box 793 Aberdeen, SD 57401

Feb. 24-26
Western South Dakota State Play-offs \*3
Supreme Courts R/B/ & Health Club
P.O Box 7533
4020 Jackson Blvd.
Rapid City, SD 57709
Harvey Magee

Feb. 24-26 Woodbridge Open \*3 585 Main St. Woodbridge, NJ 07095 201-634-5000

#### MARCH

Mar. 1-4 Ektelon Regional - Houston Courts, Etc. 14690 Memorial Drive Houston, TX 77079 713-497-7570

Mar. 1-4 SGI Lite Open (Singles) \*3 Rio Grande Yacht Club 2500 Yale Blvd. S.E. Albuquerque, NM 78106

Mar. 2-4 Ektelon Regional - Baltimore Merritt Racquetball & Fitness 2076 Lord Baltimore Dr. Baltimore, MD 21207 301-298-8700

Mar. 2-4 Florida Intercollegiates The Club 825 Courtland St. Orlando, FL 32805 305-644-5411

Mar. 2-4 New Hampshire State Singles \*4 Off the Wall Racquet & Fitness Club Portsmouth, NH 03801 Steve Marcotte 617-431-1430

Mar. 2-4 New Jersey State Doubles \*4 Riverview Racquetball Club 111 Hindley New Milfdord, NJ 07646 Lonnie Algood 201-262-4500

Mar. 2-4 Off the Wall Tournament \*3 3100 Willowcreek Rd Portage, IN 46368 Sue Moran

Mar. 2-4

Connecticut State Singles \*4 Cedar Hill Racquetball Club 375 E. Cedar St. Newington, CT 06111 Bruce Barit 203-666-8451

Mar. 2-4
West Virginia State Intercollegiates \*4
West Virginia Racquet Club
Waddles Run Road
Wheeling, WV 26003
George Frazier
304-242-5688

Mar. 3-5 Juniors Only \*3 Point Athletic Club 2233 Academy Pl. Colorado Springs, CO 80909 Sandy Brennan 303-597-7775

Mar. 3-5 Pennsylvania State Intercollegiates \*4 Penn State University

Mar. 8-11 So. California Battle of the Clubs Los Caballeros Fountain Valley, CA Jim Carson 714-968-4314

Mar. 9-11 1984 Northeast Intercollegiates \*4 Providence College Friar Station, Box 689 Peterson Recreation Center Providence, RI 02918 John Colantoni

Mar. 9-11 DP Leach Captain Crunch Classic \*3 Montgomery Athletic Club 5765 Carmichael Parkway Montgomery, AL 36117 Turly Treadway 205-277-7130

Mar. 16-18 Ektelon Regional - Los Angeles Racquetball World 22235 Sherman Way Canoga Park, CA 91303 Lee Estes 213-884-5034

Mar. 16-18 Florida State Intercollegiates The Club 825 Courtland St. Orlando, FL 32805 Val Dubolsky

Mar. 16-18 Georgia State Intercollegiates Woodruff Center Emory University Atlanta, GA 30322 Mike Phillips 404-329-6552 or 6547

Mar. 16-18 Irish Fund Festival \*3 Racquet Club of Meadville Corner French and Poplar Sts. Meadville, PA 16335 Nancy Manning 814-724-3524

Mar. 16-18 Tennessee State Championships \*4 Nashville Supreme Courts 4633 Trousdale Nashville, TN 37204 Jerry Dixon

Mar. 22-25 Region #10 Championships \*5 Racquetball of Greenbriar 1275 W. 86th St.

# Master Tournament Schedule

Indianapolis, IN 46260 John Franks

Mar. 22-25

New Mexico State Singles \*4 Academy Court Club 5555 McLeod N.E. Albuquerque, NM 87109

Mar. 23-24

University of Southern Mississippi Box 5155, Hattiesburg, MS 39406 Lou Marciani

601-266-5405

Mar. 23-25 Ektelon Regional - New York/New Jersey Ricochet Racquetball Club 219 St. Nicholas Ave. South Plainfield, NJ 07080 201-753-2300

Mar. 23-25

3rd Annual Endless Motion Open \*3 Shadowbrook Racquetball Club R D #6 Tunkhannock, PA 18657 Sue Kaufmann

Sue Kaufmann 717-836-6336

Mar. 23-25 1984 Alabama State Penn Intercollegiates Auburn University Memorial Collseum Auburn, AL 36830

Bob Huskey 205-745-6295

Mar. 29-Apr. 1 RCM Sports Open \*3 Kings Court 260 Mayfield Mall Mt. View, CA 94043 Colleen Gallagher

Mar. 30-Apr. 1 Executive Court Club Spring Open \*3

Manchester, NH 03101 Mary Dee 617-668-4752

APRIL

Apr. 5-8 1984 Dr. Pepper & Bud Light Classic \*3 The Racquet Place 2401 20th Place South Birmingham, AL 35223 Bruce Gouin

Apr. 5-8 Singles & Doubles Tournament House Riverside, CA Jim Carson 714-968-4313

205-870-0144

Apr. 6-8 Ektelon Regionals · Miami/Ft. Lauderdale Holiday Courtrooms 750 West Sunrise Blvd. Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33311 305-764-8700

Apr. 6-8 Heavenly Even \*3 Sporthaven Health Club 6854 Pentz Road Paradise, CA 95969 Chuck Hawze 916-872-2515

Apr. 6-8 March of Dimes Open \*3 Off the Wall Racquet & Fitness Club Portsmouth, NH 03801 Sheila Devine. 617-431-1430

Apr. 6-8 Nevada State Singles & Doubles Championships Spring Mountain Racquet & Fitness Club 3315 Spring Mountain Rd. Las Vegas, NV 89103 Rob Barruck, 702-362-3720

Apr. 6-8
Northeast AARA Regional Championships \*4
Site to be announced

Apr. 12-15 Durango Racquetball Classic \*3 Court Club of Durango Durango, CO 81301

Apr. 12-15 Ektelon Regional - Chicago Glass Court Swim & Fitness 830 East Roosebelt Road Lombard, IL 60148 312-629-3391

Apr. 13-14 President's Council of Physical Fitness & Sports University of Tennessee Chattanooga, TN

Apr. 13-15 AARA New Jersey State Singles \*4 Court Time Meadowlands 205 Chubbs Lyndhurst, NJ 07071 Lonnie Algood 201-933-4100

Apr. 13-15 Region 4 Singles \*3 The Complex I-85 at Sewanee Rd. Sewanee, GA 30174 Theresa Collins 404-945-8977

Apr. 13-15 West Virginia State Tournament \*4 Parkersburg Health and Racquetball Club Parkersburg, WV 26101 Kevin Becker 304-277-1352

Apr. 26-29 New Mexico State Junior Championships \*2 Executive Sports Club 40 First Plaza at the Galeria Albuquerque, NM 87102

Apr. 27-29 Nigerian Open \*3 Downtown YMCA 526 North 20th St. Birmingham, AL 35203 Dennis McKee. 205-324-4563

Apr. 27-29 Regional #2 Colony Court Club 444 Sand Creek Road Albany, NY 12211 Al Seitelman 518-459-4444

May 10-13 Region 5 Regionals Sportplex 500 Gadsden Highway Birmingham, AL 35235 Bob Huskey 205-838-1213

May 19-20 Alabama State Championships \*4 Montgomery Athletic Club 5675 Carmichael Pkwy, Montgomery, AL 36177 205-277-7130

(\*2, \*3, \*4 - AARA notations for difficulty)

June 1-3 Billy Bowlegs Classic \*3 Racquetball West 125 Miracle Strip Pkwy. Ft. Waiton Beach, FL Mike Wood 904-244-6106 MEN'S TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

PRIZE

MONEY

\$10,000

PROFESSIONAL RACQUETBALL

PATE

LOCATION

FEB 9-12

Griffith Park Athletic Club
Presents the LaBatt's ProAm
4925 S.W. Griffith Drive
Beaverton, OR 97005
Devri Sharp
503-644-3900

307-634-8884

MAR 1-4 Crack Shooter Open \$7,500 Rocky Mountain Health Club 1880 Estland Road Cheyenne, WY 82001 Steve Glassini

APR 15-19 Pro-Am \$15,000\*

Las Vegas Athletic Club

1070 East Sahara

Las Vegas, NV 89104

Ed Peterson

702-733-1919

\*Amount Tentative

MAY 2-6 Ektelon Nationals \$22,500
The Sports Gallery
2560 E. Katella Ave.
Anaheim, CA 92806
Jim Carson
714-968-4313

MAY 9-13 Third Annual Pro-Am \$15,000 Supreme Court 9700 North Lamar Blvd. Austin, TX 78758 512-451-8113

JUNE TBA DP/Leach Nationals \$40,000\* Site to be announced \*Amount Tentative

WOMEN'S SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DATE LOCATION **PRIZE MONEY** FEB 5-8 Seattle, WA \$10,000 APR 8-11 Bangor, ME \$10,000 APR 15-19 Las Vegas, NV \$6.000\* MAY 2-6 Anaheim, CA \$18,700 MAY 31-JUN 3 Ft. Worth, TX \$22,000 JULY 12-15 Anchorage, AK \$6,000\* \*Amount Tentative

For more information:

AARA EVENTS WOMEN'S EVENTS
AARA - LUKE ST. ONGE IMG - SANDY GENELIUS
303-635-5396 216-522-1200

#### MEN'S RANKINGS

The men's pro rankings are based on a 10-tournament rotating schedule. For each new ranking event that is added to the list, one event (the oldest event on the previous list) is dropped. Only major ranking events are included on the 10-event list. This month the 10 events used are:

- New Haven, CT, 1982
- Honolulu, HI, 1983
- Beaverton, OR, 1983
- Austin, TX, 1983
- Toronto, ONT, 1983
- Anaheim, CA, 1983
- Chicago, IL, 1983
- Atlanta, GA, 1983
- Davison, MI, 1983
- Pleasanton, CA, 1983

The ranking system utilizes the following

point system:

Winner
Second 90 points
Semifinalist
Quarterfinalist 50 points
Round-of-16 30 points
Round-of-32 10 points
Round-of-64 2 points

The total points accumulated by a player during the 10 listed events are totaled and then divided by the number of events in which he participated. The largest possible divider is 10, and the minimum divider is four.

## WOMEN'S RANKINGS

The rankings listed for the women are the official rankings of the Women's Professional Racquetball Association (WPRA).

The current rankings include the most recent WPRA stop in Plymouth, Mass.

## AMATEUR RANKINGS

The men's and women's amateur rankings are the official rankings of the American Amateur Racquetball Association (AARA). The AARA publishes state, regional, and national rankings of all AARA members monthly. For information about amateur rankings, contact your state AARA director, or the AARA headquarters in Colorado Springs.

## MEN'S PRO RANKINGS DECEMBER 11, 1983

THIS	LAST		
MO.	MO.	PLAYER	POINTS
1	1	Mike Yellen	100.00
2	2	Marty Hogan	91.00
3	3	Dave Peck	65.00
4	4	Bret Harnett	63.00
5	6	Ruben Gonzalez	58.57
6	5	Gregg Peck	58.00
7	7	Jerry Hilecher	45.56
8	9	Ed Andrews	41.11
9	7	Don Thomas	38.89
10	10	Gerry Price	36.67
11	10	Jack Newman	34.00
12	12	John Egerman	32.00
13	13	Steve Lerner	30.00
14	20	Scott Oliver	30.00
14T	14	Mike Levine	30.00
16	16	Doug Cohen	26.00
17	19	Bill Sell	25.00
18	17	Scott Hawkins	24.40
19	18	Craig McCoy	24.29
20	15	Rich Wagner	23.00
21	20	Corey Brysman	20.00
22	23	Ben Koltun	18.00
22T	22	Brian Hawkes	18.00
24	22	Lindsay Myers	17.50
25	34	Kyle Kamalu	13.00

## WPRA RANKINGS DECEMBER 13, 1983

	_		
THIS	LAST		
MO.	MO.	PLAYER	POINTS
1	1	Lynn Adams	297.13
2	2	Heather McKay	280.50
3	3	S. Wright Hamilton	174.38
4	4	Laura Martino	115.88
5	5	Vicki Panzeri	100.63
6	6	Terri Gilreath	90.50
7	8	Janell Marriott	80.07
8	7	Marci Greer	75.50
9	9	Peggy Gardner	62.50
10	12	Caryn McKinney	55.57
11	10	Jennifer Harding	54.88
12	14	Brenda Barrett	53.33
13	13	Stacey Fletcher	42.86
14	11	Joyce Jackson	42.00
15	15	Heather Stupp	34.67
16	18	Diane Bullard	31.93
17	16	Francine Davis	31.63
18	17	Bonnie Stoll	29.00
19	19	Martha McDonald	25.63
20	20	Rita Hoff Scott	23.33
21	22	Barbara Maltby	22.50
22	21	Gail Woods	20.00
23	24	Jean Sauser	19.33
24	25	Molly O'Brien	18.86
25	23	Carol Pranka	17.50

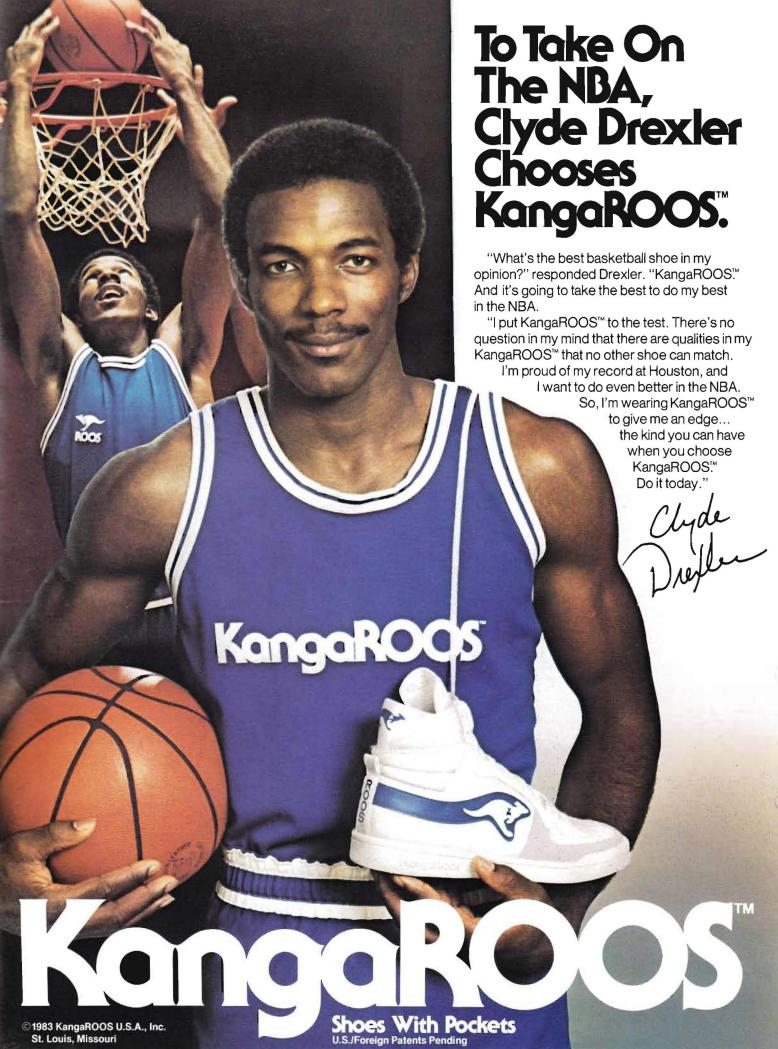
# U.S. AMATEUR MEN'S RANKINGS AARA NATIONAL RANKINGS DECEMBER 21, 1983

REG

NAME	ST	RG	POINTS
1. Sergio Gonzalez	FL	04	370
<ol><li>Dan Obremski</li></ol>	PA	03	260
<ol><li>Dan Ferris</li></ol>	MN	09	250
4. Jim Cascio	PA	03	220
<ol><li>Bubba Gautier</li></ol>	FL	04	198
6. Tim Hansen	FL	04	163
7. Fred Calabrese	FL	04	150
<ol><li>Andy Roberts</li></ol>	TN	05	150
9. Mike Ray	GA	04	130
<ol><li>Mitch Campbell</li></ol>	FL	04	115
<ol><li>Craig Guinter</li></ol>	PA	04	115
12. E Inoue	HI	14	115
<ol><li>Dennis Aceto</li></ol>	MA	01	110
<ol><li>14. Jim Bartlett</li></ol>	IN	10	100
15. John Bouzis	WY	13	100
<ol><li>Scott Elliason</li></ol>	CT	01	100
17. B Hawkes	CA	14	100
18. Rick Keefer	WY	13	100
19. Mike Levine	NY	02	100
20. A Roberts	TN	05	100

# U.S. AMATEUR WOMEN'S RANKINGS AARA NATIONAL RANKINGS DECEMBER 21, 1983

NAME	ST	RG	REG. POINTS
<ol> <li>Cindy Baxter</li> </ol>	PA	03	300
2. B Crawley	GA	04	200
<ol><li>Melanie Britton</li></ol>	FL	04	170
<ol><li>Susan Sotelo</li></ol>	FL	04	150
5. B Bell	FL	04	130
6. Chris Upson	PA	03	130
<ol><li>Mary Holroyd</li></ol>	FL	04	120
<ol><li>Elaine Mardas</li></ol>	ОН	09	115
<ol><li>Nan Higgins</li></ol>	MA	01	110
10. Mary Benson	WY	13	100
11. Mary Dee	NH	01	100
<ol><li>Kathy Kamahoahoa</li></ol>	VA	03	100
<ol><li>Gail Lauteria</li></ol>	FL	04	100
<ol><li>14. Jessica Rubin</li></ol>	NY	02	100
<ol><li>Susan Sanders</li></ol>	GA	04	100
<ol><li>16. Marie Younger</li></ol>	IN	10	100
<ol><li>A Barneburg</li></ol>	GA	04	90
18. Kate Conway	PA	03	80
·19. Joy Eon	ME	01	80
20. Dot Fisch	PA	03	80



# Mightier than the Penn.



# Tests prove Wilson TruBlue lasts longer than Penn!

Our Wilson TruBlue certainly shows its colors when it comes to durability. Because precise lab tests at tournament-level speeds prove conclusively that TruBlue can withstand more punishing hits than Penn. And that translates into more kill shots, more blazing serves, more crushing forehands where it counts most. On the court. So if you want a consistent, lively racquetball that's going to last, pick the one that finished first. Wilson TruBlue.

Keeping you ahead of the game.™