

RACQUETBALL

January - February 1991
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**Ektelon U.S. National Doubles
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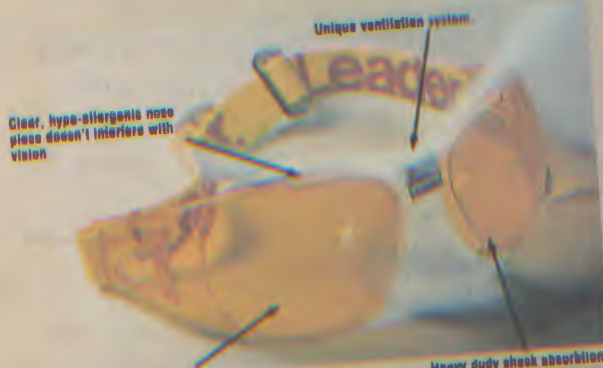


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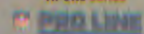
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COVER:

In the final of National Doubles, Drew Kachtik dives for a shot as the opposing team of Tim Hansen and Jim Floyd (L-R, in blue) looks on. Partner Mike Guidry covers the back court. Photo: John Foust.

RACQUETBALL magazine is the official publication of the American Amateur Racquetball Association (AARA). All ideas expressed in RACQUETBALL magazine are those of the authors or the Editor and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the AARA. Articles, photographs and letters are welcome and will be considered for inclusion. Please observe the following publication deadlines when submitting material -

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NATIONAL DOUBLES OPENS 1990-91 SEASON

An unseasonably warm and sunny Salt Lake City was the ideal backdrop for the Ektelon U.S. National Doubles Championships in late October, and provided an exciting long weekend getaway for over five hundred of the nation's top doubles players. During the four day season opener, just under 1000 starting matches dwindled down to 32 final rounds in age and skill division play, including Olympic Festival qualifying divisions in men's and women's open.

Hosted by the Sports Mall and the Utah Sports Foundation, the 22nd Annual AARA National Doubles event also served as the first and largest qualifier for the 1991 U.S. Olympic Festival in Los Angeles. Half of the 32-person Festival roster qualified at this event by reaching the semi-final rounds of the men's and women's open. This added dimension made for some rousing quarterfinal action, including a surprise upset of the top-seeded world champions, Doug Ganim (Columbus, Ohio) and Dan Obremski (Pittsburgh, Pa.), by the relatively unknown team of Louis Vogel and Tom Neill of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Louis Vogel made his first mark in national competition earlier this year at the World Intercollegiate Championships in Berkeley, California, where his remarkable "photon" serve helped him reach the quarterfinals and go to a tiebreaker against top-seeded defending champion, Jim Floyd. Later in the season, Vogel again ran into a top-seeded opponent at National Singles, when he reached the round of 32 in Men's Open before losing to Dan Obremski in two close games. Tom Neill has also consistently placed well in age division competition at National Singles, notably this year when he reached the semi-finals of the Men's 30+ and the round of 16 in Men's 25+. As a team the two meshed well, with Vogel making the big shots and ace serves, while Neill retrieved and solidly closed out rallies.

To reach the qualifying round against the world champions, Vogel and Neill defeated Scott Liparelli (Poughkeepsie, N.Y.)/Shad Thayer (Grand Junction, Colo.) 15-11, 15-8 and Rick Bezousek (Omaha, Neb.)/Bruce Erickson (Edina, Mich.) 15-6, 13-15, 11-8. Against Ganim and Obremski, the two jumped to an early lead with a first game win of 15-6, followed by an 8-15 loss. In the tiebreaker, another early lead had slipped as Ganim/Obremski pulled to within three points of the win at 8-10. At match point for the challengers, Ganim moved cross-

court to nearly collide with Obremski's forehand, only to set up Vogel's winning pinch into the forehand corner.

For the win, Vogel and Neill will make their first U.S. Olympic Festival appearance along with Mike Guidry (of Odessa, Texas, who qualified for the Festival last year



Louis Vogel (left) looks on as Tom Neill serves into the left side glass. Photo: John Foust.

but did not attend), and "old hands" Drew Kachtik (Dallas, Texas), Brian Hawkes (Santa Ana, Calif.), Egan Inoue (Honolulu, Hawaii), and event champions Jim Floyd (Davison, Mich.) and Tim Hansen (Palm Beach, Fla.).

Barrelling into the final from the #4 position, the high contrast team of Jim Floyd (5'7") and Tim Hansen (6'2") made their presence known from the first rounds, with defeats over Oswaldo Antezana (Provo, Utah)/Joel Tualleva (Orem, Utah) 15-5, 15-3; Gus Farrell/Alfonso Garcia (El Paso, Texas) 15-12, 15-4; and Jack Newman (Des Plaines, Ill.)/Andy Roberts (Memphis, Tenn.) 5-15, 15-13, 11-1.

Although they had advanced easily in early rounds, Floyd and Hansen were very close to being knocked out of the running entirely by Newman and Roberts in the quarterfinal. After losing the first game 15-5, Floyd and Hansen had to dig themselves out of a deep hole to go to a tiebreaker, but did so in a big way. From a deficit of 7-13 in the second game, the two delivered 17 unanswered points to not only take the needed win, but position themselves at 9-0 in the tiebreaker before Newman and Roberts scored another point. It was their only point, however, as Floyd and Hansen kept the pressure on to win the next two service rallies, qualify for the Festival and gain confidence they would need in the following tiebreaker against Vogel and Neill.

In that semi-final, the similarities between the two teams were striking. On the left, two intercollegiate players who had faced each other in the spring – on the right, two experienced athletes from the 30+ bracket. The combination of youth and seasoning kept the rallies even, and gave the New Mexico team a first game win of 15-11, but the important second and third games went to Floyd and Hansen in short order, 15-3, 11-5. Vogel and Neill had been hot in their defeat of the world champions, but Floyd and Hansen were learning to gel as a team in each successive round.

In the bottom half of the draw, things had shaped up quite differently. The #3 seeded Texas pair made up of southpaw Mike Guidry and U.S. Team member Drew Kachtik advanced steadily toward the expected showdown against #2 seeds Egan Inoue and Brian Hawkes in the semi-final. In early rounds, Guidry/Kachtik defeated Dave Genevay (Yorba Linda, Calif.)/Rick Sandello (Whittier, Calif.) 15-1, 10-15, 11-5; Jeff Evans (Seattle, Wash.)/Vince Kelley (Portland, Ore.) 15-6, 15-14; and Mike Bronfeld (Santa Barbara, Calif.)/Bobby Rodriguez (Denver, Colo.) 15-8, 15-11 to qualify for the Festival. To reach the final, they still had to get past Inoue and Hawkes, no strangers to national doubles finals themselves.

In a rash of new pair-ups this year, Egan Inoue and Brian Hawkes led the way in exercising trade options on former partners. Last year Inoue and Tim Doyle lost to Ganim and Obremski in the final. The year before, Hawkes and Bill Sell won the title over Tim Hansen and Sergio Gonzalez. Together, Inoue and Hawkes formed an impressive team built on strength and experience as they marched past Sean Lucky/Mike McGovern (Salt Lake City) 15-6, 15-9; Tony Boscia/Mark Helton (Highland Ranch, Colo.) 15-6, 15-11; and Joe Cline (Warren, N.J.)/Ron Digiacoia (Manorville, N.Y.) 15-1, 11-15, 11-1. In the semi-final, the teams split the first two games with

nearly identical scores, but the tiebreaker was surprisingly lopsided, with a devastating 11-0 win for the lefty-righty Texas pair.

The televised Men's Open final lived up to every expectation, with extended rallies and spectacular action in all three games. Guidry's surprising accuracy on shoulder-high shots brought in more than his fair share of points, Kachtik's scrambling and diving saves put the crowd on its feet more than once. Even though Kachtik was reading the shot well, Hansen continued to set his feet and go for the forehand pinch that is his trademark. Floyd never let up on a shot, no matter how low, how high, or how awkward the angle. In the end, it seemed that some of the most important maneuvering went on between the larger Kachtik and Hansen, each of whom insisted on being in the same place (center court) at the same time.

Midpoint in the tiebreaker, a series of crucial unforced errors by both Guidry and Kachtik allowed Floyd and Hansen to take a slim two point lead, putting the score at 8-6. Then, a hairline ace serve by Floyd put



L-R: Hansen, Kachtik, Floyd & Guidry. Photo: J. Foust

all four players into an uproar, for different reasons. Floyd, Hansen, the referee and a line judge all thought the serve had cracked out just over the service line, the receivers were convinced the serve had been short and proceeded to argue the point with Floyd after the appeal had been lost. Hansen, experiencing déjà vu from two years earlier when he had lost the championship tiebreaker after agreeing to replay a disputed rally, was adamant. Even with Kachtik "in his face", the answer was "no replay, the serve was good." Finally, Floyd convinced Hansen to take two serves on the call and the two won the rally to go to 9-6. A rare down-the-line forehand by Hansen put the pair at match point, where Guidry succumbed to the pressure in the final rally by skipping a backhand.

A much smaller Women's Open draw delayed the division's opening rounds, but the action picked up in earnest on Thursday with the round of sixteen. Paired with new partner Jackie Paraiso, Michelle Gilman lost the #1 seed position (earned with her doubles victory last year with Cindy Doyle) to the established team of Malla Bailey and Toni Bevelock. The switch didn't affect the outcome, as both top-seeded teams advanced easily into the final.

Much like their male counterparts, the height differential between Michelle Gilman (5'11") and Jackie Paraiso (5'3") seemed to form a winning combination in the final. Although Gilman played the left, she too depended on the forehand pinch shot from the set position to win a series of rallies. The shorter Paraiso did the diving and retrieving, and the two quickly took the two game match 15-6, 15-12. The victory was marred somewhat by concern for Toni Bevelock, who had to leave the court midway through the second game to attend to the sudden onset of a heart condition that causes rapid heartbeat and dizziness. Although on medication for the condition, Bevelock had neglected to bring her prescription with her and succumbed to the attack at a crucial moment in the match and was not able to get out of the way of the ball on match point.



L-R: Bailey, Bevelock, Gilman & Paraiso. Photo: Foust.

The remaining two women's open semi-final teams to qualify for Los Angeles were made up of Festival newcomers. Long-time partners Kari McDonough and Lisa Hjelm of Carmichael defeated the new pair-up of Mary Lyons (Jacksonville, Fla.)/Connie Martin (Eugene, Ore.) 15-13, 15-13, and Robin Whitmire (Lilburn, Ga.)/Pam Goddard (Waynesboro, Ga.) took an upset defeat over #4 seeded Janell Marriott (W. Warwick, R.I.)/Mary Dee Jolly (Epping, N.H.) 15-8, 12-15, 11-9 to earn the Festival spots.

Prior to both televised Open finals, the Mixed Open final had given Michelle Gilman and Tim Hansen the opportunity to fine tune their games. The two defeated Jackie Paraiso and former professional tour player Dave Peck of Denver, Colorado by pulling out of an even deeper hole than Hansen had previously experienced in his men's open quarterfinal. After losing the first game 15-10, Gilman and Hansen were down 5-13 in the second but held and came back to win it 15-13, then the tiebreaker 11-4.



Men's A Champions Mark Bustos and Arsenio Amat. Photo: John Foust.

In other division play, a lucky bi-coastal pair up of Mark Bustos (Burlingame, Calif.) and Arsenio Amat (Miami, Fla.) resulted in a Men's A title. Both players had lost their partners to last minute emergencies but came to the tournament anyway hoping to find a pick-up partner that might last a few rounds. The team did so well in fact, that they eliminated local favorites Tim and Eric Storey (Provo), who had enjoyed a remarkable string of wins. Until they met Bustos/Amat in the semi-final, the father/son Storey team had used the height and age strategy (dad is 41, Eric is 13) of the open players to remain unbeatable.



Local legends Tim and Eric Storey. Photo: John Foust.

Only a handful of teams were able to repeat title performances from 1989, including Men's 45+ winners Bob Lindsey (Denton, Texas)/Tom McKie (Garland, Texas) who defeated Graig Shaak (Gainesville, Fla.)/Roger Wehrle (Marietta, Ga.) 15-8, 3-15, 11-6. In Women's 30+, Mary Lyons was able to retain her title with the help of Fran Davis (Middlesex, N.J.) who stepped in for the very pregnant Susan Morgan-Pfahler. Davis also repeated her Mixed 35+ victory with Stu Hastings (Clarkston, Mich.) and Linda Wright-Moore (Lincoln, Neb.)/Bret Olesen (Omaha, Neb.) moved up a division and duplicated their 1989 Mixed 25+ win in the Mixed 30+.

A whopping 15% of the entrants were from surrounding communities and comprised "Team Utah." Luzell Wilde of Centerville, a member of the AARA "Hall of Fame," placed second in Men's 70+ with long-time partner Earl Acuff (Asheville, N.C.). Rick Strout, General Manager of the Sports Mall Lifecenter and Vice-President of the Utah Racquetball Association also tried his hand in two age division events.



Enjoying the banquet: (L-R) Terri Graham, Mike Yellen and Trish Kent. Upper right: Rick Strout. Lower right: Verena Rasmussen. Photos: John Foust.

Also on hand, and on the courts, were Verena Rasmussen and Trish Kent of the Utah Sports Foundation who hosted a "media challenge" to kick off the event. Local reporters and city dignitaries were invited to meet the U.S. Team members, pair up with some of the top open players and play a few rounds as a warm-up to the event itself. After experiencing some of the action from inside the court, most were impressed enough to schedule coverage of the tournament from opening rounds through the finals.

OLYMPIC FESTIVAL QUALIFIERS:

Jim Floyd (Davison, Mich.)/Tim Hansen (Palm Beach, Fla.) , Mike Guldry (Odessa, Texas)/Drew Kachtik (Dallas, Texas) , Tom Neill (Rio Rancho, N.M.)/Louie Vogel (Albuquerque, N.M.) , Brian Hawkes (Santa Ana, Calif.)/Egan Inoue (Honolulu, Hawaii)

Michelle Gilman (Ontario, Ore.)/Jackie Paraiso (El Cajon, Calif.) , Malla Bailey (Norfolk, Va.)/Toni Bevelock (Santa Ana, Calif.) , Robin Whitmire (Lilburn, Ga.)/Pam Goddard (Waynesboro, Ga.) , Lisa Hjeltn/Karl McDonough (Carmichael, Calif.)

FINAL RESULTS (All Divisions)

MEN'S OPEN — #4 Jim Floyd (Davison, Mich.)/Tim Hansen (Palm Beach, Fla.) def. #3 Mike Guldry (Arlington, Texas)/Drew Kachtik (Dallas, Texas) 8-15, 15-10, 11-8 **MEN'S A** — Mark Bualos (Burlingame, Calif.)/Arenio Amat (Miami, Fla.) def. #4 Chad Soter (Chatsworth, Calif.)/Anthony Buccino (West Hills, Calif.) 15-12, 11-15, 11-5. **MEN'S AGE DIVISIONS** — 19+ #4 Joe Cline (Warren, N.J.)/Ron DiGiuseppe (Manorville, N.Y.) def. #3 Mike Guldry (Odessa, Texas)/Dave Peck (Denver, Colo.) 15-11, 15-8. 25+ #2 Rick Bezousek (Omaha, Neb.)/Bruce Erickson (Edina, Minn.) def. #1 John Peterson (Huntington, N.Y.)/Jim Young (Langhorn, Pa.) 15-9, 15-11. 30+ #3 Gary Mazaroff (Albuquerque, N.M.)/Tom Neill (Rio Rancho, N.M.) def. #4 Dave Kovanda (Worthington, Ohio)/Ron Woolard (Columbus, Ohio) 15-10, 10-15, 11-0. 35+ Pat Page (Edina, Minn.)/Stan Wright (Fremont, Calif.) def. #2 George Deluca (Lafayette, Calif.)/Craig Kunkel (Pleasant Hill, Calif.) 15-14, 15-9. 40+ Jim Bailey (Norfolk, Va.)/Larry Liles (Memphis, Tenn.) def. Tim Lavel (Clear Lake, Minn.). Craig Olesen (Grand Island, Neb.) 8-15, 15-10, 11-7. 45+ #1 Tom McKie (Garland, Texas)/Bob Lindsay (Denton, Texas) def. #2 Graig Shaak (Gainesville, Fla.)/Roger Wehrle (Marietta, Ga.) 15-8, 3-15, 11-6. 50+ #3 Paul Banalles (Phoenix, Ariz.)/Lee Dittrich (Kassota, Minn.) def. #1 Monte McGinniff (Cedar Falls, Iowa)/Bob Sheldon (Waterloo, Iowa) 15-14, 15-13. 55+ #2 Tom Moore (Arcadia, Calif.)/Alan Weckerly (San Diego, Calif.) def. #1 Don Alt (Ft. Myers, Fla.)/Otis Chapman (Cleveland, Ohio) 9-15, 15-13, 11-10. 60+ #3 Harvey Clar (Orinda, Calif.)/Pat Whitehill (Cheney, Wash.) def. #1 Fred Briscoe (Calgary, CAN)/Al Rossi (San Rafael, Calif.) 15-11, 9-15, 11-5. 65+ #2 Saal Lesser (Mt. Vernon, N.Y.)/Victor Bacon (Norwood, N.Y.) def. #5 Arthur Goss (Colorado Spgs. Colo.)/Lake Westphal (Sun City, Ariz.) 15-10, 8-15, 11-4. 70+ #2 Jim Fitzharris (St. Cloud, Minn.)/Nick Bane (Tampa, Fla.) def. #1 Earl Acuff (Asheville, N.C.)/Luzell Wilde (Centerville, Utah) 15-9, 12-15, 11-10. 75+ Ike Gumar (Louisville, Ky.)/Allen Shepherd (Rockville, Md.) unopposed

WOMEN'S OPEN — #2 Michelle Gilman (Ontario, Ore.)/Jackie Paraiso (El Cajon, Calif.) def. #1 Malla Bailey (Norfolk, Va.)/Toni Bevelock (Santa Ana, Calif.) 15-8, 15-12. **WOMEN'S A** — #2 Samantha Daly/Lisa Laidley (Pasadena, Md.) def. #4 Pam Garcia (Pompano Beach)/Cari Kress (Davis, Fla.) 15-11, 15-10. **WOMEN'S AGE DIVISIONS** — 19+ #1 Joetta Hastings/Beth Gutowski (Clarkston, Mich.) def. Carolyn Gibson (South Hadley, Mass.)/Angela Pierson (Springfield, Mass.) 15-10, 15-6. 25+ #1 Lisa Hjeltn/Karl McDonough (Carmichael, Calif.) def. Helen Shields (Missoula, Mont.)/Cindy Tilbury (Plymouth, Minn.) 15-3, 15-9. 30+ #1 Fran Davis (Middlesex, N.J.)/Mary Lyons (Jacksonville, Fla.) def. #3 Eileen Tuckman (Pompano Beach, Fla.)/Gail Woods (Mendocino, La.) 15-7, 15-9. 35+ #2 Eileen Tuckman (Pompano Beach, Fla.)/Gail Woods (Mendocino, La.) def. #1 Terry Latham (Albuquerque, N.M.)/Linda Porter (Elgin, Ill.) 15-8, 15-14. 40+ #1 Agatha Falso (Boea Raton, Fla.)/Sharon Hastings-Welty (Corvallis, Ore.) def. #2 Lynne Farmer (Park Ridge, Ill.)/Pat Tarson (Oak Park, Ill.) 15-8, 15-8. 45+ #1 Agatha Falso (Boea Raton, Fla.)/Sharon Hastings-Welty (Corvallis, Ore.) def. #3 Kathy Mueller (St. Cloud, Minn.)/Sylvia Sawyer (Orem, Utah) 15-1, 15-3. 50+ #1 Kathy Mueller (St. Cloud, Minn.)/Sylvia Sawyer (Orem, Utah) def. #2 Marion Crawford (Minda, N.Y.)/Jo Kenyon (Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.) 8-15, 15-8, 11-7. 55+ Mary Low Acuff (Asheville, N.C.)/Phyllis Melvey (Fargo, N.D.) unopposed. 60+ Mary Low Acuff (Asheville, N.C.)/Phyllis Melvey (Fargo, N.D.) unopposed

MIXED OPEN & AGE DIVISIONS — Open #1 Michelle Gilman (Ontario, Ore.)/Tim Hansen (Palm Beach, Fla.) def. #3 Jackie Paraiso (El Cajon, Calif.)/Dave Peck (Denver, Colo.) 10-15, 15-14, 11-4. 25+ #2 Laura Fenton (Lincoln, Neb.)/Tony Upkes (Bloux Falls, S.D.) def. #1 Linda Moore (Lincoln, Neb.)/Bret Olesen (Omaha, Neb.) 15-8, 15-11. 30+ #1 Linda Moore (Lincoln, Neb.)/Graig Olsen (Grand Island, Neb.) def. Tom Shearman (Murray)/Marianne Walsh (Salt Lake City, Utah) 15-11, 7-15, 11-8. 35+ #1 Fran Davis (Middlesex, N.J.)/Stu Hastings (Clarkston, Mich.) def. Donna Beverson (Aloha, Ore.)/John Giunta (Portland, Ore.) 15-9, 15-14. 40+ #1 Karen San Filippo (East Brunswick, N.J.)/Michael Vanore (Old Bridge, N.J.) def. #4 Shelly Ogden (Cincinnati, Ohio)/Jack Bobbie (South Euclid, Ohio) 15-10, 15-11. 45+ #3 Karen San Filippo (East Brunswick, N.J.)/Michael Vanore (Old Bridge, N.J.) def. Jim Carlton (Los Gatos, Calif.)/Trish Moore (San Jose, Calif.) 15-13, 15-11. 50+ #1 Jim McPherson/Bandy McPherson (Oklahoma City, Okla.) def. #4 Roger Flick (Salt Lake City, Utah)/Sylvia Sawyer (Orem, Utah) 15-2, 15-6. 7

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NEW DIRECTIONS

by Luke St. Onge

As you know, racquetball has experienced phenomenal growth worldwide over the past ten years. From its modest beginnings in 1979, the International Racquetball Federation has grown from a fledgling organization containing 10 charter countries to a major institution boasting 77 countries on 5 continents.

Before any sport can become an Olympic sport it must first demonstrate that it has the worldwide practice so fundamental to inclusion in the Games. Secondly, it must establish that it has the leadership, organization and class to conduct the competition on the Olympic level. I am proud to say that racquetball has recently passed these tests on two separate occasions, with each being of equal importance and both catapulting our sport into the Olympic arena.

1995 PAN AMERICAN GAMES

At a recent PASO meeting in Mexico City, racquetball was officially accepted to the competition schedule of the Pan American Games in Mar del Plata, Argentina in 1995. Racquetball was selected from a program of 33 eligible sports, of which not all have been chosen for official inclusion.

1990 CENTRAL AMERICAN CARIBBEAN GAMES

Earlier this year racquetball was accepted as a full medal sport in the 1990 Central American Caribbean Games, recently conducted in Mexico. Mexico City hosted the majority of the sports, with volleyball scheduled for Guadalajara, baseball for Monterrey, and racquetball for San Luis Potosi. Under the direction of Pan American Racquetball Confederation Vice President Enrique Villagran of Mexico, a totally dedicated local organizing committee worked unceasingly to organize the Games in an extremely short period of time. Not only were the Opening and Closing Ceremonies planned down to the last detail, but a brand new stadium court with side and back wall glass was constructed by the La Lomas Racquet Club, with seating for over 1,000 spectators and perfect for television.

I was asked to attend the Games to represent the International Racquetball Federation. After attending the PASO meeting and the opening ceremonies for most of the sports in Mexico City, I flew to San Luis Potosi for the racquetball opening ceremonies.

The six competing teams of Mexico, Honduras, Panama, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, and Costa Rica, along with the Games officials, were police-escorted to the open amphitheater for the opening ceremonies. Police sirens and lots of commotion greeted us as we marched among a throng of over 5,000 cheering spectators who had taken time out to attend the strictly racquetball festivities. Mario Vasquez-Rana, President of PASO and the Mexico 90 Solidarity Games, opened the competition and, for the first time ever, the Olympic torch was lit exclusively for racquetball and doves were released. In fact, the torch was carried by past and present Olympic hopefuls who ran the entire 280 miles from Mexico City. The flags were raised, the torch was fired and Mexican youngsters provided entertainment for the athletes -- making it a very special moment for our sport.

All week the competition was fierce as the athletes advanced through the team event and finished with individual competition.

Needless to say, the Olympic Village for racquetball at the Real Plaza Hotel was outstanding and the hospitality of the city and people of San Luis Potosi was superb. Security was tight, but at the same time it made the athletes feel special. Every time the athlete shuttle went between the hotel and the club it received a police escort. If an athlete wanted to go shopping, plainclothes security officers took them by special escort.

As the competition came to an end, the expectations of the closing ceremonies grew. We were not to be disappointed as, after the medals were awarded and the last speeches made, a fantastic fireworks display brought a spectacular finish to the Games. Not much more can be said, other than racquetball is clearly ready for the Olympic Games.

Racquetball owes a special thank you to Enrique Villagran and the city of San Luis Potosi for bringing the Olympic dream ever so nearer.



Luke St. Onge raises the IRF flag at San Luis Potosi.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Keith Calkins

With the New Year upon us, the racquetball tournament season starts to gain momentum with the Regional

Championship Series leading to the Ektelon U.S. National Singles Championships. As always, this is an exciting time for the AARA and its leadership. As we prepare for the new season we must also address our roles as leaders and focus on our goals and visions for not only 1991, but for future years as well.

These intentions are boosted by the annual AARA Leadership Conference for state and regional directors, which is scheduled for January 10-13 at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs. This promises to be one of the most dynamic seminars we have ever held, and I am looking forward to participating and sharing four days with the true volunteer leaders of our organization. There is a need for greater exchange between the state and regional leadership, national staff, national board and President of the AARA. This forum provides such an opportunity.

The preliminary planning for this event has been extraordinary and I am positive the results will provide inspiration to all of those who participate. Growth then filters down throughout the membership and we become better and better each year. The theme of the 1991 Conference will be "States L.E.A.D. the Way." L for Leadership, E for Education, A for Administration and D for Dedication are all extremely appropriate for our work and what this organization is all about.

As we address leadership, I would like to share some information I recently obtained at another conference. The materials focus on the need to meet the leadership challenge in the 1990s. The following are practices of exemplary leaders when they are at their best. I hope they will be meaningful to each of our leaders in the AARA as they continue to pave the way for our young sport. A Happy New Year to each of you.

CHALLENGING THE PROCESS, LEADERS ...

- ... are pioneers
- ... search for opportunities.
- ... confront and change status quo.
- ... experiment and take risks.
- ... learn from mistakes and successes.

INSPIRING A SHARED VISION, LEADERS ...

- ... are visionaries with no dream too old to redeem.
- ... envision an uplifting and enabling future.
- ... enlist others, attracting them to common purposes.

ENABLING OTHERS TO ACT, LEADERS ...

- ... are team players, getting power from the people lead, not from stars and bars.
- ... foster collaboration by promoting cooperative goals and building trust.
- ... strengthen others by sharing power and information.

MODELING THE WAY, LEADERS ...

- ... practice what they preach. You can do what I do.
- ... set examples for others, consistent with their values.
- ... plan small wins, building commitment to action.

ENCOURAGING THE HEART, LEADERS ...

- ... are coaches and cheerleaders. If you are going to give a check, don't mail it. Have a celebration.
- ... recognize individual contributions to the success of every project.
- ... celebrate team accomplishments and change status quo.

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NOTES FROM THE NATIONAL OFFICE

by John Mooney

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

The AARA membership has jumped by almost 700 over the past two months. States that are making the biggest strides in increasing their memberships are North Dakota (up 37%); Vermont (up 16%); New Hampshire (up 12%); New Mexico (up 11%); and New Jersey (up 9%). Overall, the top five states are still California, Florida, Illinois, Texas and New York.

WOMEN'S GOLDEN MASTERS & U.S. NATIONAL SENIOR SPORTS CLASSIC

The National AARA Masters Council met in Wilmington, North Carolina in November and voted on two major items. In an historic move, the council decided that starting in 1991 the annual Golden Masters (55+) Invitational tournaments will add competitive divisions for women. The Council is also considering the addition of women's divisions to the Annual Masters (45+) Doubles National Invitational, with a final vote to be taken in February.

For almost two decades the Golden Masters tournament has been limited to "men only" and the revitalized Masters Council bridged an important gap by adding the following women's events to the tournament: Singles and Doubles in age groups 35-54, 55+, 60+, 65+, 70+, 75+, 80+, plus Mixed Open Doubles. The 35-54 age group carries the restriction that the player must be a spouse or significant other to compete. In the mixed doubles, the male partner must be 55 or over. Players may play two events, but the second event must be doubles.

The Masters Council made a second significant decision in adopting the project of getting racquetball into the 1993 U.S. National Senior Sports Classic to be held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Formerly known as the U.S. National Senior Olympics, this competition is for senior citizens 55 years of age and older. There are presently 18 sports scheduled for competition at the National

Senior Sports Classic in Syracuse in 1991, but racquetball is not among them. There are 43 states that hold related Senior State Games, but very few of them list racquetball as an official event.

The goal of getting racquetball into the U.S. National Senior Sports Classic is a giant undertaking for the Master's Council and must be started at the state level by contacting, coordinating and working with State Games organizers. If anyone wants to help with this project in their state, please contact me at the National Office for information on where to start!

NEW MEMBERSHIPS GO INTO EFFECT

Over the past four months, we've used this column in the magazine to keep you up to date on new dues, membership services and benefits. The time is here for those new programs to go into effect, so here are the answers to the most frequent questions:

1. Memberships from tournaments are called "Competitive Licenses" and cost \$15.00 per year.
2. Members who already have expiration dates in 1991 will be allowed to keep their \$10 membership in force, compete in sanctioned tournaments, but will NOT be covered by the insurance. These memberships can be upgraded to "competitive licenses" for \$5.00 and the insurance will then go into effect.
3. Any \$10.00 memberships received after DECEMBER 10, 1990 will be processed as "competitive licenses" with an expiration date of JUNE 30, 1991.
4. All tournament memberships accepted after JANUARY 1, 1991 must be accompanied by the new dues of \$15.00.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT WRITES

In a note received just before press time, Eric Muller, the first recipient of an AARA Scholarship, writes: "I wanted to thank you and the entire scholarship committee for awarding me with the first AARA scholarship. I love the sport of racquetball, and it is reassuring to know that the AARA is doing everything possible to support its players. Once, again, thank you for this very flattering honor." From all of us, "You're welcome and best of luck!"

NOSTALGIA: FIVE YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

AARA dues were increased to \$10.00, effective January 1, 1986..... A screen serve was a deadball serve and a proposal to change it to a fault was approved in May of 1986..... Paul Henrickson was President of the AARA.....

Ed Andrews and Cindy Baxter were the #1 ranked AARA open players..... Jerry Hilecher was still diving in the Head ads..... Racquetballers were surveyed and these results tallied: 70% played three or more times a week; 50% were advanced or open players; 13% owned four or more racquets while 11% had only 1 racquet; 1% still used the wood racquet; 46% had not had their racquets restrung in over a year..... Racquets used by players surveyed were: AMF Head, Voit, DP, Ektelon, Hogan/Pro Kennex, Omega, Wilson and Spaulding.

NOSTALGIA: TEN YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

Marty Hogan was in training for the finals of "TV Superstars"..... Games were to 21 points with an 11 point tiebreaker..... Ken Eigel set the marathon record of playing 155 hours, winning 401 out of 410 games and raising \$2,190.00 for muscular dystrophy..... Bob Cousey, former basketball star, plays racquetball at the Worcester Court Club and says the sport is great and will be around for a long, long time..... Paul Henrickson was Northeast Regional Commissioner, and still is..... Al Seitelman was New York State Director, and still is..... AARA National Staff consisted of Luke St. Onge and Hallie Singer..... PENN introduced the new "Penn Ultra Blue" racquetball..... Shannon Wright won the first all-women's pro tournament, beating (you guessed it) Lynn Adams.



PROGRAM REVIEW

by Jim Hiser

In last month's column I explained the new Junior Team USA program. Since that time I have received numerous inquiries about the program, with most people wanting to learn exactly how to qualify.

All interested juniors and parents should contact their state director for information. Each state director will be in charge of instituting a process to select one male and one female player from their state. This is the first and most important step, and states should consider three main areas in making their choices.

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Junior athletes will be measured equally on scholarship, racquetball ability and attitude/sportsmanship (1/3rd in each area). The Junior Team USA program is designed to select the best all-around athlete and person -- not necessarily the most outstanding player. Under the guidance of the U.S. Team coaches, it is expected that Junior Team USA players will develop into outstanding athletes who will someday represent the United States in future international games, up to and hopefully including the Olympics.

Since the state nomination is only the first hurdle to cross, and only ten juniors will advance through the regional and national selection processes to be appointed to the Junior Team USA, a number of highly qualified players may not even make the first cut. For those players, it will be important not to become discouraged but instead to seriously consider attending the U.S. Elite Junior Camp in August. The elite camp provides much of the background and information required by athletes to prepare for Junior Team USA. The camp also gives the U.S. Team coaching staff the opportunity to scout potential players for upcoming years.

The Junior Team USA and elite camp programs provide excellent opportunities for young racquetball athletes to experience the thrills of the Olympic ideal while gaining invaluable knowledge to improve their games.

JUNIOR TEAM USA

Minimum Age: 14

Qualifiers

1st - Nominated by State (to a pool of 100)

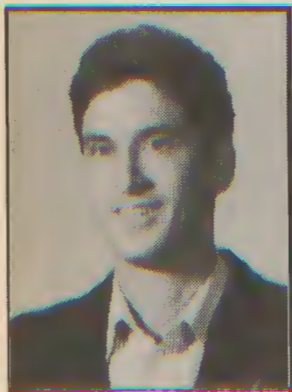
2nd - Selected by Region (to a pool of 32)

3rd - Final selection by national coaching staff, based on performance at Junior Elite Camp (10 chosen)

Automatic - U.S. National High School Champions (2)

Automatic - U.S. Junior Olympic Champions (2)

Opportunities: International travel, expert coaching, training at U.S. Olympic Training Center, scholarships.



COLLEGIATE UPDATE

by Neil Shapiro

The AARA Board of Directors, at its October meeting, resolved to divide the American Collegiate Racquetball Association

[ACRA] into two separate development areas: competitive and recreational.

This enables the ACRA Board of Directors to continue to concentrate its energies on forming leagues and coordinating regional tournaments, while governing the overall direction of intercollegiate competition. To address the recreational issue, a taskforce will research intercollegiate programs and name a group to oversee related development in May.

In the meanwhile, all collegiate racquetballers who would like to play in a league and need some information on how to start one can write to me at 128 Lancaster Street, Albany, New York 12210. Also, anyone who has formed a racquetball team can obtain equipment discounts from Ektelon and Head Sports by requesting order forms from the same address.

In the months of February and March, regional championships will be held around the country. We will send notices to those colleges and universities that competed last year as well as publish the dates in

"Racquetball USA" as they are confirmed. If you are unsure of when your regional is to take place, please call the AARA office at 719/635-5396 after the first of the year.

The Intercollegiate World Championships will be held on April 4-7 in Tucson, Arizona and entry information can be obtained from the AARA offices at 815 North Weber, Colorado Springs, CO 80903.

MIDWEST REGIONAL: February 8-10
Woodfield Racquet Club
Contact Brian Stuertz @ 708/394-3972

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL: Feb. 28 - Mar. 02
Brigham Young University
Contact Sylvia Sawyer @ 801/224-2864

NORTHWEST REGIONAL: March 15-17
New England Health & Racquet
Contact John Colantoni @ 508/922-9988



RACQUETBALL ACHES & PAINS

by Rhett Rainey

Many of us have experienced twisting injuries to our ankles while playing racquetball. This can result in a wide spectrum of disability, from a minor localized pain in the ankle to significant pain and swelling that requires medical attention. I want to discuss exactly what happens when you twist your ankle and what to do once the injury has occurred.

Ankle sprains are very common ankle injuries, and usually are the result of an inversion injury, or your ankle turning in. An ankle sprain occurs when a ligament connecting bones at a joint stretches or ruptures.

Immediately painful and sometimes incapacitating, ankle sprains can, at times, develop into a chronic problem. However, if treated quickly and properly, most ankle sprains can heal well and allow a safe and early return to your racquetball activity.

There are three degrees of ankle sprains. The more severe the sprain, the longer the time to recover.

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First degree sprains are the most common and least severe. The ligaments on the outside part of the ankle are microscopically stretched but not torn. There may be a subtle amount of swelling present and isolated pain over the outside part of your ankle. With a first degree sprain you can expect to return to regular activity within two weeks.



Second degree sprains involve a partial tearing of the ligament. The ankle usually swells immediately and there will be some bruising the following day. A second degree sprain may require a three to six week rest before returning to full activity.

Third degree sprains involve a complete rupture or tear of the lateral ligament complex. This can lead to instability in a small percentage of athletes.

Treatment of ankle sprains is divided into four stages:

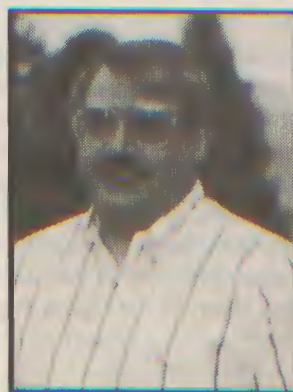
Stage 1: (Up to 72 hours) To reduce pain and swelling, ice your ankle for 60 minutes every two hours. Compression of your ankle may also limit swelling, so utilize an elastic bandage. Elevation is also important to control swelling. Depending on the degree of sprain, taping, splinting or casting may be required to immobilize your ankle. Anti-inflammatory medication may also benefit.

Stage 2: (First week) You can walk on your ankle as soon as it feels comfortable. Crutches may be necessary in the early stages to facilitate walking. Let pain be your guide in determining how much weight to apply. To prevent stiffness, it is important to maintain the full range of motion by immediate rotational exercises once the initial discomfort subsides.

Stage 3: (Second week or longer) The crucial part of the treatment is a rehabilitation program to regain ankle flexibility and strength. Specific exercises can be prescribed by your physician or therapist.

Stage 4: (Variable) Your ankle must be strong before returning to full activity or sports. Too early a return may lead to re-injury and a chronic problem. To test your readiness, stand on your toes for 20 seconds and hop 10 times. Once you have completed this without difficulty, then you may begin to run straight ahead. Once you have passed this test, then try figure eights. Finally, zig-zag and cut in different directions. When these exercises are non-painful, then you may return to racquetball.

If you have further questions, or would like specific rehabilitation programs, please drop me at line at: Colorado Bone & Joint Center, 2504 East Pikes Peak, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80909.



WHAT'S THE CALL?

by Otto Dietrich

AARA National Rules
Commissioner

If the ball breaks, you just replay the rally, right? The correct answer is a definite MAYBE! Let's take a closer look at this topic.

When the ball breaks on the serve, Rule 4.9(c) calls for replacing it and replaying the serve, but "not cancelling any prior fault serve." This means that if your first serve was a fault and you hit your second serve so hard that the ball broke, it would still be "second serve" after the ball is replaced.

The "broken ball rule" that most of us are familiar with applies only to a ball broken during a rally which, according to Rule 4.14, is all of the play occurring "after the successful return of serve..." Therefore, Rule 4.9(c) also applies to a ball broken on the return of serve—if the ball breaks as the receiver attempts to return your second serve, it will still be "second serve" once the ball has been replaced.

Not until the ball has been served AND successfully returned to the front wall does the most common

"broken ball rule" come into effect. It is Rule 4.14(g). It states that if there is any suspicion that the ball has broken during the rally, play should continue. After the rally, if the referee decides that the ball is broken, the ball should be replaced and the rally replayed with the server getting two serves. But alas, there is a catch!

According to the rule, the only proper way to check for a broken ball is to squeeze it by hand. It is NOT proper to check the ball by hitting it with a racquet. Moreover, the rule states that if a player strikes the ball with the racquet after the rally and the ball breaks, the situation will work to the disadvantage of the person who struck the ball. Consider how this applies to the following situation related by Jay Hafemeister from Sussex, Wisconsin:

During a recent doubles match, my partner hit a shot that skipped. He thought the ball might have broken, but before he could ask to check the ball, one of the opposing players hit the ball and broke it. We didn't ask to check the ball (didn't have time to) by squeezing it ... and the rally ended up not being replayed. Was this right?"

The answer is No! Because the ball was checked improperly, the outcome should have worked to the disadvantage of the team that hit it. In this instance, the disadvantage would have been to replay the rally. Note that this rally probably would have been replayed anyway if the ball had been checked properly. The only conditions that could have resulted in the rally you described NOT being replayed would have been (a.) if the ball wasn't really broken or (b.) if it had been YOUR team that checked the ball improperly.

Finally, here are two rule interpretations (issues NOT covered in the rulebook) that concern broken balls:

** The first ruling concerns a ball that is nicked or cut, but not completely broken all the way through the surface. Such a ball is NOT considered "broken" in the same sense used in the rulebook and, therefore, its discovery after a rally would not justify replaying the preceding rally. However, such a ball should be replaced immediately because it is defective.

** The second ruling concerns the appeal of a "no-call" occurring during a rally which eventually ends with a broken ball. No appeal should be allowed unless the referee can be certain that the ball was NOT broken on the shot or "get" that is to be appealed. So, if there is any doubt in the referee's mind about when the ball actually broke in relation to the shot or "get" being appealed, then the appeal should not be recognized.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NEW FOOT FAULT RULING

I would like to address the rule change proposals. Changes #1 (Avoidable hinder vs. point hinder), #2 (Junior age determination) and #4 (making court hinders appealable) are not particularly controversial. The fact that members had limited time to review and discuss these changes with other players probably won't have much impact on the game.

Change #3 (2-year rule change cycle) I wholeheartedly support. This would give players concerned with legitimate changes the opportunity to present the proposals and afford time for feedback from the membership. The new "Racquetball USA" provides a great forum for discussion of rules and issues that impact on the game across the country, not just in isolated instances or circumstances. In articles, editorials and letters from players, an issue can be examined from various points of view.

Change #5 (foot fault definition) is probably the most radical change proposal made to the rules since eyeguards became mandatory. While I recognize that this rule is not strictly enforced, I don't think this drastic change will necessarily improve that aspect. I contend the problem is that it is difficult for a referee to watch the ball (to determine short serves and screens) and also watch the serving player's front foot. Usually blatant foot faults can be observed and are called. However, if we are to require closer attention to the minor infractions, we may have to consider adding line judges (as they do in tennis) to make these close calls.

Who is to say that it will be easier to observe an entire foot outside the service area by fractions of an inch vs. just "catching the line"? If the rule is changed, players will push the rule to the limit and try to catch the line with their heel to comply with the revised rule.

Perhaps the best argument against changing the rule is the fact that millions of people play racquetball. Many of them barely know the rules. They don't know the intricate points, but they know the basics — they know that they must not cross the front line on the serve. Social racquetball players don't read "Racquetball USA" (yet). They aren't members of the AARA and don't play in tournaments. Sadly, there are many instructors in schools and even in some clubs who fall into this category. Such a drastic change to the rules would create chaos among the players. Some would be playing by the old rule and some by the new.

Before such an extreme change is made, there should be some study of the issue, feedback from a wide variety of players and if the decision is made to alter the rule, plans must be made to educate the millions of non-tournament players that will be affected.

Marta Groess, Minnesota

[Editors Note: Rule change proposals should be submitted in writing to AARA National Rules Commissioner Otto Dietrich at 4244 Russet Court, Lilburn, Georgia 30247. For a change to be considered in the following year, it must be submitted by June 1.]

REFEREEING EVOLVES

Sometimes small things happen that go almost unnoticed, until weeks, months, or even years later everyone notices that "something" did happen. I think something like that just happened in the Carolinas and I'm glad to have been there to see it.

I started playing this game in 1972 and have participated in over 70 tournaments, so I've done my share of refereeing. I've been cussed at by Dave Peck, I've been "replaced" by Rich Wagner, I've received the Mike Yellen stare, etc., during the "Bad Boy Days" of tournament play. And I've personally lost three or four matches due to poor or indecisive referee calls. I still know many players who won't play tournaments anymore due to refereeing.

During the finals of the men's open division of the combined North and South Carolina state doubles tournament, referee Carlton Vass of Charleston, S.C. made a point hinder call at match point ending the match. It was the right call, but the way it happened is the "something" that made me realize racquetball is moving onward and upward. I was the line judge standing with Carlton. He didn't hesitate, he didn't look around, he made "the call." The crowd didn't riot, the losers didn't whimper, yell or argue, but instead stepped up to the winners, shook hands, waved to the ref, to the linesmen, and to the crowd and walked off the court. I don't know if anyone else felt it, but I know refereeing changed that day for everyone in the crowd. I still can't help but smile.

Bruce C. Jarzmik, North Carolina

[Editors Note: Carlton Vass serves on the AARA national rules committee, and was recently selected to officiate the televised finals of the Men's and Women's Open divisions at the Ektelon U.S. National Doubles Championships in Salt Lake City, Utah.]

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National Minority Outreach Council
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CLUB PROFILE: GARDEN HEALTH & FITNESS INITIATES RECREATIONAL PROGRAM

The Garden Health & Fitness Club in Monterey, California became the first club to join the new AARA Recreational Club Program through the quick thinking of its racquetball director, Margo Daniels. Daniels, a member of the AARA Board of Directors, convinced club owner and manager Al Sharpe to join the program after detailing the AARA offer of companion membership benefits to the club's recreational and league players.

Garden Health & Fitness has a total membership of 1800, with racquetball players making up over 450 of that number. Racquetball programs include Tuesday night leagues for adults which run continuously throughout the year over six, eight and ten week periods. Wednesday afternoons are reserved for the two junior league programs that also run between eight and ten weeks in length year-round. Challenge ladders for men and women also generate some heated racquetball activity around the club, which holds a series of four "just for fun" one-day, playoffs and three in-house tournaments each year for bragging rights. These programs, plus an annual AARA sanctioned tournament place some high demand on the club's challenge court!

By joining the AARA Club Program with an initiation fee of \$150.00, the Garden Health & Fitness Club can now offer a reduced AARA Recreational Membership to its league players. The \$3.00 Recreational Membership is designed for the non-competitive enthusiast who wants to stay in touch with the sport, but not necessarily compete in sanctioned tournaments. The membership includes six issues of RACQUETBALL Magazine, a rulebook, information kit, plus many of the same discount benefits available to "tournament licensed" competitors.

For more information about the program, call the national office at 719/635-5398, or contact the Garden Health & Fitness Club, 2000 Garden Road, Monterey, California 93940, 408/646-0550.

[Facilities that join the AARA Club Program will be listed in Racquetball, and will be eligible for a "Club Profile" in upcoming issues. — Editor]

TRUE CONFESSIONS

by Kelly J. Kirk

I just lost my match in State Singles. Played well, but lost. The last thing I wanted to hear was somebody say, "I watched you. I can help your game." Yeah, right. I don't care if he did come from the tournament desk, I didn't need anyone's advice.

I hate to admit it. I took a racquetball lesson from that "obnoxious fellow." After sixteen years of playing the game (and I am an Open player) I actually listened and watched a certified AARA instructor... then took four more lessons. Did it help? You bet it did!

Reluctantly I retired my unorthodox splats and slicing backhands as the lessons drew me back to the basics of the game: alleys and pinches. I gave up my neon grip wraps for a more stable rubber grip and glove. I moved my hand down the handle to almost a clawlike position, and BANG! — I found power.

But, for the first two months after the lessons I lost. Miserably.

I went back to my instructor and complained. "Practice," he said. "Practice what" I whined. Drills! Backhand drills, forehand drills, slide and hit drills, 9 square drill. Sometimes my patience lasted only 15 minutes; once in a while I lasted an hour in the court by myself. Nobody plays during summer anyway.

Now I am winning, and winning in a big way. Do I really want to share this with my opponents? Naw. Let them take another sixteen years to figure it out.

[Kelly Kirk is a freelance writer based in Minnesota, whose humorous treatment of the sport also addresses several serious issues that plague all too many players. Look for more "true confessions" in upcoming issues.]

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Revis Sorey Celebrity Classic
Glass Court Fitness, Lombard-
Addison, IL 708/474-2440

January 18

Athletes Against Arthritis
Westcourts, West Des Moines, IA
515/225-2323

Cash Open at Track and Racquet
Akron, OH 216/644-0356

Chattanooga City Championships
Sports Barn
Chattanooga, TN 615/266-1125

Coors Light All Doubles Event
Mid-Town Athletic Club
Cincinnati, OH 614/548-4188

Courthouse I's Winter Classic
Courthouse I
Columbus, GA 404/324-2211

Cystic Fibrosis Tournament
Colonie Court Club
Albany, NY 518/489-4444

Northeast Snowflake Pro-Am
NE Racquetball Club, Columbia
Heights, MN 612/572-0330

Pennbriar Racquetball Open
The Pennbriar
Erie, PA 814/825-8111

Sunshine Tournament
Athletic Express
Gaithersburg, MD 301/258-0661

The Saco Open
NE Health and Fitness
Saco, ME 207/264-5953

The Sports Center Open
The Sports Center
Fayetteville, NC 919/864-3303

Youth for Christ
Casper Athletic Club
Casper, WY 307/265-6928

12th Annual Winter Warm-Up
Johnson City Racquetball
Johnson City, TN 615/282-3091

9th Summit City Open
Summit City Court Club
Ft. Wayne, IN 219/485-1671

January 23

Town & Country Open
Town & Country Health & Fitness
Woods Cross, UT 801/298-3231

January 25

All-Ohio Charity Classic
Ohio State Univ. Athletic Club
Columbus, OH 614/457-4076

Billings Pro-Am
Billings Athletic Club
Billings, MT 406/259-2626

East Coast Open
The Club at Woodbridge
Woodbridge, NJ 201/634-5000

Flyin' Hawaiian Open
21st Point Athletic Club
Youngstown, OH 614/457-4076

Indiana Women's Classic
Indiana Athletic Club
Noblesville, IN 317/255-7730

Iron Range Open
Supreme Court RB & Fitness
Virginia, MN 218/749-8318

KC Open
All American Fitness Center
Blue Springs, MO 816/228-7600

Repeat Offender
Four Seasons Health Club
S.Sioux City, NE 402/494-3500

Smash & Splash
Green River Recreation, Green
River, WY 307/875-4772

Sports Center Open
Sports Center
Concord, NC 704/782-3000

The Maine Open
Holiday Health & Fitness
Bangor, ME 207/947-0783

January 26

Parkway Invitational
Ballwin Racquetball Fitness Ctr.
Ballwin, MO 304/391-8087

January 30

7th Annual Birthday Bash
Front Range Athletic Club
Broomfield, CO 303/489-1657

January 31

Bell Socialization Services
West Manchester Athletic Club
York, PA 717/764-0497

Lake Country Championships
Southlake Racquet Club
Mundelein, IL 708/949-8180

FEBRUARY

February 1

Annual Winter Classic
Yakima Athletic Club
Yakima, WA 509/453-8621

Attitude Adjustment
Durango Sports Club
Durango, CO 303/259-2579

Blue Ball Open
Teton Athletic Club
Riverton, WY 307/856-5424

Coors Light Open
Royal Courts of Kearney
Kearney, NE 308/236-5110

Fitness Barn Open
The Fitness Barn
Valparaiso, IN 219/762-3191

Nashville City Championships
MD Farms Racquet & Country
Brentwood, TN 615/373-5120

NJ State Open Doubles
Riverview Racquetball Club
New Milford, NJ 201/612-9534

Norwich Open
Norwich Health & Racquet Club
Norwich, CT 203/563-4911

Sluh Top Seed
South Hampshire Racquet Club
St. Louis, MO 314/353-1500

Special K Racquetball Series #3
Dayton 24 Hour Racquet Club
Centerville, OH 614/457-4076

St. Paul Winter Carnival Pro-Am
Carlton Fitness Club
Maplewood, MN 612/738-3559

Village Resorts Winter Tourney
Athletic Club at Village East
Okoboji, IA 712/332-7173

West Michigan Championship
Michigan Athletic Club
Grand Rapids, MI 616/455-1997

Wintergreen
Laurel Racquet & Health Club
Laurel, MD 301/953-1414

1991 Winter Open RB Tourney
Snowcreek Ath. Club, Mammoth
Lakes, CA 619/934-8511

9th Annual Adirondack Open
Glens Falls YMCA
Glens Falls, NY 518/793-3878

February 7

City Championships
Court House
Boise, ID 208/377-0040

February 8

Coors Light RB Series #6
Findlay Health & Racquet Club
Findlay, OH 614/548-4188

Erie County Farms RB Open
Nautilus Fitness & Racquet Club
Erie, PA 814/868-0072

Iceicle Open
Allentown & Bethlehem RB Club
Allentown, PA 215/821-1300

Kachina Invitational
Gallup Fitness Center
Gallup, NM 505/722-5555

Michelob Light
Grand Forks Tennis Centre
Grand Forks, ND 701/746-2790

Missouri State Championships
Ballwin Racquet & Fitness Club
Ballwin, MO 314/391-8087

Reebok Classic at the Court Club
Indianapolis, IN 317/846-1111

Salem Athletic Club Open
Salem Racquet Club
Salem, NH 603/888-8375

Snowflake Open
Kourt House
Laramie, WY 307/742-8136

Super Seven #6
Lansing Area
Lansing, MI 313/239-4130

Circle Sportif Tournament
Circle Sportif
Tallahassee, FL 904/545-7244

The Lonely Hearts
The Olympiad Health & Fitness
Burlington, VT 802/863-4299

Valentine Classic at North Hills
Athletic Club, Menomonee Falls,
WI 414/251-1420

Valentine Tourney
Racquetball International
Windham, ME 207/892-3231

Valentines Day Massacre
Sports Courts Lincoln
Lincoln, NE 402/475-5686

Westridge Open
Westridge Branch YMCA
Rocky Mount, NC 919/443

EVENTS CALENDAR

9951 Winternationals
YMCA Family Fitness Center
Butte, MT 406/494-3605

1st National Bank Shoot Out
Country Courts
Fairmont, NM 507/235-6691

3rd Annual Raintree Open
Raintree Athletic Club
Richton Park, IL 708/748-4810

February 14
Olive Garden Pro/Am at JCCA
St. Louis, MO 314/432-6700

St. Valentine's Day Massacre
Idaho Falls Health & Racquet
Idaho Falls, ID 208/522-2712

St. Valentine's Day Massacre
Woodfield Racquet Club
Schaumburg, IL 708/884-0678

Sweetheart Special
Metro Sport & Health Club
Phoenix, AZ 602/939-2875

February 15
Alabama State Singles
Court South Fitness Center
Birmingham, AL 205/823-2120

Generic Tournament
Casper Athletic Club
Casper, WY 307/265-6928

Harbor Square Pro/Am
Harbor Square Athletic Club
Edmonds, WA 206/778-3546

JDF Tournament
Merritt Athletic Club/Security
Baltimore, MD 301/377-7390

MPRA Pro/Am
Racquet Club of Pittsburg
Monroeville, PA 412/856-3930

Racquets Four Valentine Classic
Racquets Four Sports Center
Indianapolis, IN 317/783-5411

Royal Racquetball Championship
Royal Spa and Court Club
Farmington, NM 505/326-2211

Sooner State Games at Southern
Athletic Club, Oklahoma City, OK
405/789-4034

Sweetheart Doubles
Sawmill Athletic Club
Columbus, OH 614/889-7898

Tennessee State Singles
Sports Barn
Chattanooga, TN 615/266-1125

The Warren Open
The Racquets Club of Warren
Warren, NJ 201/647-0400

Valentine Day Open
Danbury Health & Racquet
Bethel, CT 203/563-4911

Valentine's Double Trouble
Alpha RB & Fitness, Mechan-
icsburg, PA 717/763-7800

11th Ann. Track & Racquet Open
Track & Racquet Club
Fayetteville, NY 315/446-3141

4th Annual Turkey Shoot Out
Executive Health & Fitness Club
Manchester, NH 603/668-4753

7th Annual Snowflake Pro/Am
Lake Country Health & RB Club
Forest Lake, MN 612/464-1640

7th Annual 7Up RB Classic
Reno Athletic Club
Reno, NV 702/788-5588

February 16
Metrosport Open at Metrosport
Durham, NC 919/286-7529

February 20
Masters/Golden Masters
NATIONALS
Sequoia Athletic Club & RB World
Fullerton, CA 714/961-0400

Ogden Athletic Club Open
Ogden Athletic Club
Ogden, UT 801/479-6500

February 21
Florida State Singles
Racquetpower
Jacksonville, FL 904/268-8888

Midtown Open
Midtown Athletic Club
Albuquerque, NM 505/889-9433

Windy City Open
Downtown Sports Club
Chicago, IL 312/644-4884

February 22
Ektelon REGION 9 Adult/Junior
Championships
Mt. Clemens RB & Sportcenter
Mt. Clemens, MI 517/887-0459

Ellis Open
Ellis YMCA
Jefferson City, MO 314/635-4181

Knoxville Metro Tourney
Sports Farm
Knoxville, TN 615/584-6272

Montana State Doubles
Crossroads
Helena, MT 406/442-6733

Post Oak YMCA Winter Tourney
Post Oak Family YMCA
Houston, TX 713/781-1061

Silver Bullet Bash
Rawlins Recreation Center
Rawlins, WY 307/324-7955

Snowball Open
The Fitness Club
Waterville, ME 207/873-0571

Grand Island YMCA Tournament
Grand Island YMCA
Grand Island, NE 308/384-8181

Tri-State Winter Open
Tri-State Athletic Club
Evansville, IN 812/479-3111

Wilson Doubles Championships
Roseville Racquet Club
Roseville, MN 612/633-9333

YMCA Texas Open
Downtown YMCA
Houston, TX 713/524-5478

1st Ann. Western Mainline YMCA
Western Mainline YMCA
Exton, PA 215/363-8505

February 25
Women's Seniors/Masters
NATIONALS
Supreme Courts Health & Fitness
Madison, WI 608/274-5080

The Point Challenge
The Point Athletic Club
Lakewood, CO 303/988-1300

MARCH

March 01
ACRA Collegiate Regionals
Brigham Young University
Provo, UT 801/376-2679

EKTELON U.S. NATIONAL HIGH
SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIPS
South Hampshire Racquet Club
St. Louis, MO 314/353-1500

Captain Crunch/Coca Cola
Classic at Montgomery Ath. Club
Montgomery, AL 205/277-7130

Coors Light RB Series #7
Congress Park Athletic Club
Dayton, OH 614/548-4188

Cub Foods Pro/Am
River Valley Athletic Club
Stillwater, MN 612/439-7811

Diet Pepsi Grand Slam
Shawnee at Highpoint
Chalfont, PA 215/692-2958

March Mingler, The Wellness Ctr
Sharpsville, PA 412/962-2603

March of Winds Tournament
Lincoln YMCA
Lincoln, NE 402/475-9622

New Hampshire State Singles
Salem Racquetball & Health Ctr.
Salem, NH 603/688-8375

New Mexico Open
Roswell Spa & Racquet Club
Roswell, NM 505/622-0962

Olympic Open
Olympic Fitness Center
Joplin, MO 417/782-2103

South Carolina State Singles
St. Andrews Fitness Center
Columbia, SC 803/271-7020

Winter Wrap Up at MD Farms
Racquet & Country Club
Brentwood, TN 615/373-5120

Wyoming State Singles
Rock Spring Recreation
Rock Springs, WY 307/382-3255

North Carolina State Singles
Metrosport
Durham, NC 919/286-7529

6th Ann. Glens Falls Champion-
ships at Glens Falls YMCA
Glens Falls, NY 518/793-3878

6th Annual Spring Rollout
Invitational at ICH
Incline Village, NV 702/831-4212

March 02
Vermont State Singles
Racquets Edge, Essex Junction,
VT 802/878-6578

March 06
Denver Sporting Club Invitational
Denver Sporting Club
Englewood, CO 303/779-0700

Utah State Singles at Sports Mall
Murray, UT 801/261-3426

March 08
Buckeye Classic Pro Am
Westerville Athletic Club
Westerville, OH 614/882/7331

Camp Confidence Tournament
Ultimate Health & Racquet Club
Brainerd, MN 218/829-8453

Good Bye Winter Open
The Club at Greenleaf Woods
Portsmouth, NH 603/436-6664

Kallisell Pro-Am
Kallisell Athletic Club
Kallisell, MT 406/752-2880

Lancaster County Open
Lancaster County RB & Health
Lancaster, PA 717/397-8623

Lincoln City Championships
Cottonwood Club
Lincoln, NE 402/475-3386

Maine State Doubles
Racquetball International
Windham, ME 207/892-3231

Maryland State Singles
Merritt Athletic Club
Baltimore, MD 301/987-0980

New Mexico Junior Singles
Rio Grande RB & Fitness Ctr.
Albuquerque, NM 505/243-6007

New Jersey State Singles
Elmwood Park Ath. Club,
Elmwood Park, NJ 201/612-9534

Southgate Open
Southgate Racquet Club
Fargo, ND 701/237-4805

Spring Open, Casper YMCA
Casper, WY 307/234-9187

St. Pat's Tournament, Concord
St. Louis, MO 314/842-6363

Yesterdays, Sports Barn
Chattanooga, TN
615/266-1125

March 14

St. Patrick's Day Open
Sir James Athletic Club
Houston, TX 713/463-6815

St. Patrick's Open, Glass Court
Lombard, IL 708/629-3390

12th Annual Hemophilia Fdn.
Supreme Court
Memphis, TN 901/458-6727

12th Annual Lucky Leprechaun
Sundown Liverpool
Liverpool, NY 315/451-5050

March 15

Cabin Fever Open, South

Tahoe Fitness Center, South
Lake Tahoe, CA 916/544-6222

Carolina Sports Open, Carolina
Sports Plaza, Southern Pines,
NC 919/692-7946

Ektelon REGION 10
Championships, Court Club
Indianapolis, IN 317/926-2766

Ektelon REGION 1 Juniors
Auburn Health & Racquet Club
Auburn, MA 508/632-3236

Grand Rapids City
Championship, Grand Rapids,
MI 616/455-1997

Hastings Open at the YMCA
Hastings, NE 402/463-3139

Washington State Singles
Bellingham Athletic Club
Bellingham, WA 206/676-1800

New York City Open
BOE Fitness & Racquet Club
Woodside, NY 718/726-4343

Slamrock, Court South Condition-
ing Center, Murfreesboro,
TN 615/896-5123

St. Paddy's Day Open
Riverview Racquet Club
Eastlake, OH 216/942-5613

St. Pat's Festival
Eastern New Mexico Univ.
Clovis, NM 505/763-4658

St. Patrick's Day Open
NEHR at Waterbury
Waterbury, CT 203/563-4911

Bluewater Tournament
Bluewater Racquet & Fitness
Niceville, FL 904/897-4376

Tim Densmore Memorial
VIP Health Club
Sanford, ME 207/324-1154

Tournament of Champions, La
Masters Racquet & Fit., West
Chester, PA 215/436-6200

10th Ann. Endless Mtn. Open
Shadowbrook Res., Tunkhan-
nook, PA 717/836-2151

11th Annual Easter Seals Open
Butler Club
Butler, PA 412/265-5775

8th Ann. United Cerebral Palsy
Suburban RB & Swim Club
St. Cloud, MN 612/251-3965



PARI TIP: THE BACKHAND

by Fran Davis

Welcome back and I hope the PARI tip from last issue on the forehand was helpful. In this issue we'll concentrate on the backhand stroke to continue to build a strong foundation for your

game. If you recall, I described the forehand stroke mechanics in three stages:

- 1) the Ready/Preparation position, and
- 2) the Swing/Stroke, and
- 3) the Follow-Through.

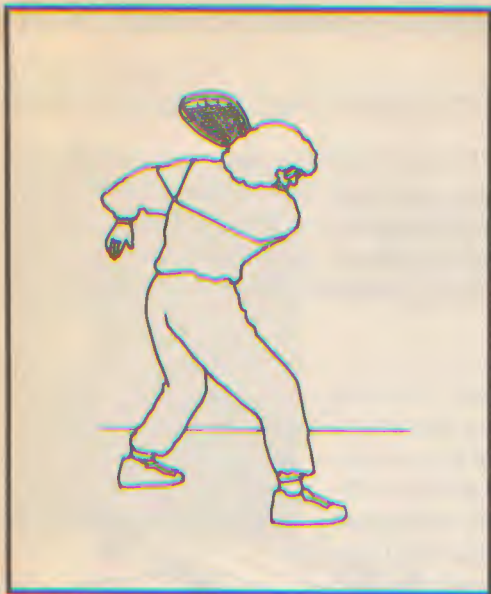
I also used pictures as visual aids to make the learning process a little simpler for you. We'll use the same step-by-step procedure for the backhand.

The most frequently asked questions and comments I hear when I am travelling are, "How do you handle a shot deep into the backhand corner? How can I establish a powerful and consistent backhand? When my opponent realizes I have a weak backhand, they have no mercy and play my backhand the whole game. What can I do?"

Just as we discussed in the last column, stroke mechanics are critical in gaining consistency, accuracy and power. Too many players are what we call a "lopsided player." They have a good, strong forehand and a very weak backhand. They actually run around their backhand to hit a forehand as often as possible. Turning around on your backhand is okay sometimes, but too often it pulls you out of center court and takes you out of position -- which can be costly. To become a good, all around player who presents a threat from both sides of the court (not just the forehand side), you'll need to adopt the same methodical steps we used in learning the forehand stroke.

Before we actually get into the specific mechanics of the backhand stroke, I would like you to close your eyes and imagine these three motions:

- 1) Throwing a frisbee,
- 2) Switch hitting in baseball/softball,
- 3) Slapping the ball with the back of your hand.



These familiar actions have the same basic techniques as the backhand stroke.

Let's focus in on the diagrams with the explanations to illustrate the proper backhand mechanics so you too can become fundamentally sound from both sides, and not be considered a "lopsided player."

FIGURE 1.

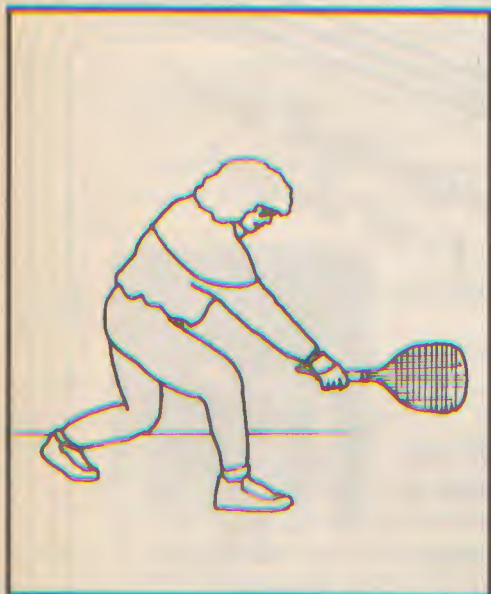
1. Grip - turn hand 1/8 toward belly button
2. Closed stance - square to side wall, knees flexed, good power base, feet wider than shoulder width apart racquet up, shoulders level, upper body rotated (back to front wall, hitting shoulder toward side wall)

FIGURE 2.

3. Step at a 45 degree angle toward the side wall
4. Front toe perpendicular to side wall
5. Hips rotate
6. Upper body moves, lats-shoulders-elbow-wrist-racquet
7. Contact point - big toe inner thigh
8. Arm at full extension
9. Racquet head parallel to floor, racquet face flat to front wall
10. Back foot pivots, weight on ball of foot
11. Back leg bends at a 90 degree angle

FIGURE 3.

12. Swing flat and level through the ball
13. 180 degrees from where contact was made
14. Non-hitting arm comes through for balance
15. Hold your pose, be balanced up
16. Weight evenly distributed on both feet



The key to having a strong solid backhand that you can count on is learning the proper mechanics through repetition of the stroke. With this solid foundation you are developing on both sides of the court. Your confidence level will rise, resulting in being able to make the shot when it counts.

Hang tough and be patient. If you run into a snag just close your eyes and see yourself on the beach throwing a frisbee, or up at the plate with the lead run on third base, or slapping someone on their arm with the back of your hand. Use whichever visual technique works best for you and before you know it, you'll be adding more power, control, and consistency to your stroke.

In the next issue, we'll work on "off the back wall" shots. Until then, remember "perfect practice makes perfect." Go for it, and you're going to love your new backhand stroke!



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

ISRAELI RACQUETBALL

The United States Committee Sports for Israel recently announced that it will select a men's racquetball team to compete in the 7th Pan American Maccabi Games in Montevideo, Uruguay in July of 1991. These Games, sponsored by the Latin American Maccabi Federation, are similar to the World Maccabiah Games, though not as extensive. Jewish athletes who would like to apply to the Committee for consideration can obtain more information by calling USCSFI Sports Coordinator Lauren Kotkin at 215/561-6900, or write the USCSFI national office at 1926 Arch Street, 3rd Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

1992 WORLDS TO CANADA

The 1992 World Racquetball Championships were awarded to Canada and the Canadian Racquetball Association. The "92" Worlds will be held at the Nautilus Plus Racquet & Fitness Club in Montreal, Quebec. The I.R.F. expects over 40 countries to participate.

1994 WORLDS TO MEXICO

The 1994 World Racquetball Championships were awarded to Mexico and the Mexican Racquetball Federation. The "94" Worlds will be held at the Lomas Racquet Club in San Luis Potosi, Mexico. The I.R.F. estimates that over 45 countries will participate. The Lomas Racquet Club boasts a Stadium glass court with seating for over 1,000 spectators. were awarded to Mexico and the Mexican Racquetball Federation. The "94" Worlds will be held at the Lomas Racquet Club in San Luis Potosi, Mexico. The I.R.F. estimates that over 45 countries will participate. The Lomas Racquet Club boasts a Stadium glass court with seating for over 1,000 spectators.



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Now you can take that fantasy vacation and
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DATE: May 2 - May 9, 1991

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Booklet - Penn Racquetball Balls - Special Giveaways by Head, Action Eyes,
Teeki-Mac and Penn Athletic Products
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- ★ Welcome Party ★ Awards Banquet ★ Sunset Cruise

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RACQUETBALL INSIDER

NEW COACHING STAFF ANNOUNCED



Jim Winterton of Syracuse, New York has been named the new U.S. National Team Coach by the AARA Board of Directors. An eighth grade English teacher at North Syracuse Central Schools and the director of racquetball instruction at the Sundown Fitness Club, Winterton has 22 years of coaching and playing experience and is excited about the opportunity to work with the U.S. Team.

"I'd like to continue the great success enjoyed by the U.S. Team under previous coach Larry Liles and his staff. I have the utmost respect for the great job they have done and hope I can add to that record." In the long-term Winterton plans to work closely with the AARA to establish continuity between the newly established Junior Team USA and the adult national team. This would include elite training camps as well as junior excellence programs designed to produce new players for the traveling team. Winterton also plans to break ground on new training methods and the latest research in establishing norms for testing elite racquetball athletes.

To aid Winterton in these tasks, Fran Davis of Middlesex, New Jersey has been selected as Assistant Coach of the U.S. Team, and brings 14 years of playing, coaching and teaching expertise to the pared-down staff. Davis is also the east coast director of the Professional Association of Racquetball Instructors [PARI] and a national champion in her own right. Formerly one of five U.S. Team coaches that led the team to its current World Champion status, Davis hopes to incorporate proven techniques with Winterton's new strategies to bring even greater success to the team in the 90s.

TEAM MANAGER AND TEAM LEADER ANNOUNCED

In conjunction with the appointment of the new coaching staff, the positions of team manager and team leader have also been filled. The U.S. Team Committee selected Mary Lyons of Jacksonville, Florida to be the Team Manager, and Mike Arnolt of Indianapolis, Indiana as the Team Leader. The two administrative positions support the U.S. Team by providing technical and travel services during special events and international competition.

USOC SUBSISTENCE GRANTS AWARDED

Five U.S. National Team members were awarded \$7,500.00 in grant monies from the U.S. Olympic Committee in the form of Athlete Subsistence Grants. The U.S. Team Committee approved the funding awards of \$1,500.00 each to Andy Roberts, Jim Floyd, Joel Bonnett, Michelle Gilman and Toni Bevelock. The awards can be used in any manner that offsets the costs of athlete training.

CORRECTION

The Ektelon U.S. National High School Championships will be held on March 1st-3rd, not the 7th-10th as previously listed. See entry on page 29.

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NWRA REORGANIZES

The National Wheelchair Racquetball Association [NWRA] has reorganized under the auspices of the AARA Disabled Council, with the goal of offering greater exposure and opportunity to wheelchair racquetball athletes in 1991. John Foust, AARA Commissioner for the Disabled, initiated a preliminary conference call to interested individuals who then agreed to form the new NWRA Board of Directors.

As their first order of business, the group selected officers to administer the many tasks planned for



Center left and right: Gary Baker and John Foust at National Singles.

1991. Joe Hager of Lancaster, Pa. will serve as President; Gary Baker of Indianapolis, Ind. as V.P.; Mark Jenkinson of Martinsburg, Va. as Secretary and Mike Roberts of Baltimore, Md. as Treasurer. Upon accepting appointment to the board, at-large members will be Sam DeCrispino (Towson, Md.), Chip Parmelly (Diamond Bar, Calif.), Geno Bonetti (Monroeville, Pa.), Mike King (Atglen,

Pa.) and John Foust (Denver, Colo.).

As a group, the board members will meet in Pittsburgh on February 15 during a benefit pro stop to solidify plans for the coming year. Already on the agenda: generating a mission statement which focuses on the goals and purposes of the group; establishing by-laws; identifying committees; discussing grant opportunities; setting the tournament schedule; confirming a National Championship event; designing a logo; and improving communications by building an accurate mailing list of wheelchair athletes.

All state and regional directors can assist in these efforts by identifying facilities that have wheelchair access, by including wheelchair divisions in state and regional championships, and by noting any wheelchair racquetball opportunities in your areas. Please share this information with Joe Hager by writing him at 535 Kensington Road, Apt.4, Lancaster, Pa 17603, or phoning 717/394-2111.

DAVIS RACQUETBALL-A-THON RAISES \$21,000

Is it possible? Did they really do it? The answer is YES, and the American Diabetes Association is \$21,000 better off this holiday season thanks to racquetball. Following the 3rd Annual Fran Davis Racquetball-A-Thon, held at the Racquets Club of Warren, New Jersey on November 24, the ADA received the record-breaking, one-day proceeds from a proud Fran Davis --

"The racquetball community, my students, friends, family and sponsors all banded together for a day filled with lots of racquetball, good food, raffles, incentive prizes and plenty of fun. When all was said and done,

14 KT PENDANTS

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w/Gold Ball	\$55	Heavyweight Chains
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F. Kill It T-Shirt (White)	\$12.95
Canton Fleece (Neon Pink, Lime or Yellow)	\$28.95
G. Hogan Video	\$19.95
H. Bracelet	\$299.00
w/Diamonds	\$600.00
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Fall in your area!

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than most players learn in a lifetime!*

Coaches' Tour for the Summer and Fall of '90

★ January 4, 5, & 6

CARBONDALE, ILL.

(Southern Ill. area)
Southern Illinois University
Recreation Center

★ January 11, 12, & 13

COLUMBUS, OHIO

Sawmill Athletic Club

★ January 18, 19 & 20

**SOUTH PLAINFIELD,
N.J.**

Ricochet Health and
Racquet Club

★ February 1, 2 & 3

**SALEM,
NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Salem Racquetball Club

★ February 15, 16, & 17

LILBURN, GEORGIA

(Atlanta Area)
Southern Athletic Club

★ March 1, 2 & 3

SARASOTA, FLORIDA

Sarasota Family YMCA

★ April 19, 20, & 21

LAUREL, MARYLAND

(Baltimore Area)
Laurel Athletic Club

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FRIDAY 7-10 PM
SATURDAY 9-6 PM
SUNDAY 9-2 PM

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Ruben Gonzales had finished his last challenge match and the team competition was over, we had a grand total of \$21,000."

Two years ago this event kicked off by raising \$7,000 with 30 players and in 1989 it more than doubled its take to \$16,00 with 60 players. This year the goal was \$20,000 and the event was clearly a big success. For details on the 4th Annual Fran Davis Racquetball-A-Thon, scheduled for Saturday, November 30, 1991, call 908/560-0647.

APPROVED BALLS FOR 1991

The AARA has released its official list of approved balls for 1991. They are: Penn, Ektelon, Pro Kennex, Spaulding and Wilson.

AARA APPOINTS STATE TASK FORCE

In an effort to help further develop its affiliated state organizations, the AARA appointed a State Task Force which met in early December at the United States Olympic Committee. The full report of the Task Force will be presented at the State Leadership Conference in January and final action will be taken by the AARA Board

of Directors at its meeting in May.

Subject areas covered were: creating a state organization model; identifying three levels of state development; creating job descriptions and responsibilities for state board members and officers; and the establishment of a centralized funding concept for additional financial support for state organizations. Led by consultant John Buck, the task force was made up of Mike Arnolt, (Ind.), Yvonne Calavan, (Wash.), Van Dubolsky, (Fla.), Mike Meline, (Ill.), and JoAnn Slater, (Colo.) in addition to national staff members.

HALL OF FAME NOMINEES ANNOUNCED

Ballots went out this month to the selection committee for the AARA Hall of Fame, listing seven racquetball personalities being considered for the honor of induction in May of 1991. Nominated in the player category are Jim Austin (Texas), Cindy Baxter (Penn.), Mike Luciw (Mass.) and Ed Remen (Va.). In the contributor category are Mike Arnolt (Ind.), Ivan Bruner (Wisc.) and Van Dubolsky (Fla.).

To receive nomination as a player, the athlete must be at least 35 years of age, have an established amateur playing record extending over either five or ten years (five if retired from play, ten if still an active competitor). Contributor nominees must have made an outstanding contribution to racquetball in any area other than playing, and have been involved at the national level for at least eight years (or a combined state/national involvement for 15 years). Other areas considered are administration, promotion, officiating, international/U.S.O.C. relations, program/sponsor/tournament and overall development of the sport.

STATE & REGIONAL NEWS

MINNESOTA: NEW CLUBS OPEN

by Marta Groess

Editor "Minnesota Racquetball"

At a time when the fitness boom of the 80's has leveled off, it's amazing that the Twin Cities is still experiencing growth in its racquetball industry. This summer the Northwest Racquet, Swim & Health Club, Inc. opened its Moore Lake Club in Fridley, and announced plans to open the Arena Club this fall.

The Moore Lake Club boasts 200,000 square feet that house 15 racquetball courts, 2 squash courts, 6 indoor and 5 outdoor tennis courts, an indoor and outdoor

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****ENTRY FEE:** \$25 First Event, per person, \$15 Second Event, per person. Make check payable to A.A.R.A. High School Championship.

****DEADLINE:** Entry must be postmarked by Saturday, February 16th and entry fees **MUST** accompany completed form. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

****TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR:** Jim Hiser, 719-635-5396

****HOUSING:** Holiday Inn S.W. 10709 Watson Rd. St. Louis, MO 63127 314/821-6600, 800/882-6338, 1-4 persons for \$55/night. Must mention National High School Championships to get special rate.

****TRANSPORTATION:** Transportation from airport to the Holiday Inn, Call 314-821-6600. There is a fee for this service. Approximately 20 minutes to club.

****PLAY BEGINS:** If the draw is very large some local players may have to compete Thursday evening. All others begin 8:00 AM Friday.

****OFFICIAL BALL:** Penn Ultra-Blue Tournament

Tournament sweatshirt for all players. Hospitality begins with lunch Friday. Lensed eyewear manufactured for racquet sports is mandatory.

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2. Immediately reference the special A.A.R.A. account number 450RN.

Your support of this program further helps racquetball become an Olympic sport.

HIGH SCHOOL RULES FOR TEAMS AND INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPATION

RULE ONE: STUDENT PARTICIPATION. No one shall participate in any High School racquetball contest unless he or she is a bona fide matriculated student at an accredited High School and is regularly enrolled and doing full work as defined by the regulations of the High School at which he or she is enrolled.

RULE TWO: AMATEUR PARTICIPATION. Only amateurs may participate. A professional is defined as any player (male/female/junior) who has accepted prize money regardless of the amount in any PRO SANCIONED tournament (WPRA, MPRA) or any other association so deemed by the AARA Board of Directors.

RULE THREE: REGISTRATION VERIFICATION. Eligibility of participants shall be verified by attaching a letter to the entry blank from the Office of Admissions or Registrar. Names and full course work verification shall be noted.

RULE FOUR: INDIVIDUAL PLAYERS. If a school only has one player, that player may represent his/her school as an individual.

RULE FIVE: TEAMS AND FORMAT. All men and women players will be entered into their respective gold division. Winners continue to participate in gold division while losers go either to red, blue or white division depending on what round they lose in. Team points will be the total points accumulated from the top four singles participants from the same school, and the top doubles team from the same school. **DOUBLES** team members must be from the same school. A school may enter as many players as they wish, but only the top four will count in team standings. Awards will be presented to the top male team, the top female team and also to the winning combined mens and womens team.

RULE SIX: SCORING. Points will be earned according to the round of your final loss (or victory if you win the division). Points are not cumulative. (If you win the blue division you earn 12 points for your team.) Forfeits or byes are considered matches won.

RULE SEVEN: AARA MEMBERSHIP. All players must be members of the AARA - non members must submit \$15.00 yearly dues as part of the registration form.

ENTRY FORM

Name _____

High School _____

Address _____

City _____ Phone _____

State/Zip _____

Entry Total \$ _____ AARA Dues _____

ALL NEW MEMBERS must include full mailing address.

WAIVER: I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the AARA and all participating parties and their respective agents for any and all injuries. Date _____

Signature _____

NOTE: All players must have a chaperone responsible for them during the entire national event.

CHAPERONE: _____

Application will not be accepted without chaperone's name. A chaperone must be at least 21 years old and may not be a player in the High School Nationals. Chaperone must be present during registration.

pool, plus a separate aqua aerobic pool. Add to that an indoor track, spacious fitness area with the latest equipment, free weights area, aerobic studios and two full gyms. The club, which has the same locker room amenities as the other Northwest clubs, along with a snack bar and nursery, is one of the largest facilities in the state.

The Arena Club will be part of the "Target Center," the new home arena for the Minnesota Timberwolves. This facility will have 10 glass backwall courts, a 5.5 mile indoor track, 3 fitness studios, generous exercise and fitness areas, an indoor pool and the same type of luxury amenities that characterize the entire Northwest club system.

These additions to the Northwest family of clubs reflect the owner's commitment to providing first rate facilities to its membership. Although firm advocates of tennis, Marvin Wolfenson and Harvey Ratner are to be commended for their foresight in meeting the needs of all types of sport and fitness enthusiasts.

Minnesota racquetball has gained the most from the expansion, which brings the total number of Northwest courts to 133.

MONTANA: HOW FAST?

*by Rita Balock-Hamilton
Editor "MRA Center Court"*

Montana Racquetball Association president Dan West found himself eating a little crow during the opening ceremonies of the fifth annual Big Sky State Games in Billings. As racquetball commissioner for the Games, West had written a summary for the souvenir program. At the gate entering Daylis Stadium, West was stopped and quizzed on his racquetball expertise.

It soon became obvious that West had not seen the printed program. "Racquetball players are superbly conditioned athletes," he had written, "who can hit the ball at speeds in excess of 400 mph." Another racquetball player was bursting with laughter, while West's face turned red.

Bigger racquets and faster balls have indeed increased the speed of the game, West acknowledged, but 100 mph is what he really meant and there's probably not many of those power players in the state of Montana. But it did make us feel a bit superior marching into the stadium behind a large group of martial artists and ahead of a crowd of road racers.

NEW JERSEY: RACQUETBALL CAMP FOR THE DEAF

by Fran Davis & Stu Hastings

You just had to be there to feel the energy, enthusiasm, and excitement that radiated from the 18 players who attended the Dynamic Duo racquetball camp on October 5-7 at the Ricochet Health and Racquet Club in South Plainfield, New Jersey. This extra-special event was held exclusively for the deaf racquetball community and players came from as far away as Boston and Washington, D.C. to participate.

The group was grateful that we were able to tailor our program to fit their special needs, and we loved doing it! Everyone pulled together to help out: the club donated the courts, we donated money to hire interpreters and the National Racquetball Association of the Deaf [NRAD] did all the advertising and publicity. The players themselves were wonderful to work with, and each was gifted with such a keen sense of sight and touch that they were able to execute the different techniques quickly and efficiently.



One of the main reasons for the success of this event was Mike Russo, Vice-President of NRAD, who was instrumental in organizing the event as well as in forming the association itself. NRAD began on dreams and hopes in February of 1983 and just one year later the first Annual National Racquetball Tournament for the Deaf became a reality in Chicago. In 1985, the organization adopted its official name and established by-laws. It's goal was to become a central clearinghouse for information relating to racquetball activities for deaf people in the United States; to establish a ranking of deaf players in all classifications from local deaf tournaments; and to



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establish an affiliation with the American Athletic Association for the Deaf [AAAD]. By 1988, all of these goals had been met, including the valuable affiliation with the AAAD and the U.S. Olympic Committee.

NORTH CAROLINA: RACQUETTES GAIN FOLLOWING

by Janet Myers

In April of 1990 a handful of women met and decided to form a women's racquetball group. We named ourselves the Carolina Racquettes and decided on four main goals. The first was to establish a support group and comraderte between women racquetball players. The second was to give those women more opportunities to play by setting up round robins for tournament competitors as well as for recreational players. Third, we wanted to offer instruction to raise the level of knowledge about the game and improve the skills of women racquetball players in our area. Lastly, we wanted to give incentives to women by offering equal prize money in tournaments and awarding the cash to the top five finishers.

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Already this year there are five tournaments across the state, called the "Fantastic Five" in which prize money is equal and given to the four Open semi-finalists and the winner of the Open consolation. The winner gets \$150.00, runner-up \$100.00, the remaining semi-finalists get \$50.00 each and the consolation winner gets \$25.00. It's quite an incentive to move up into the Open division from the As when even a first-round loser can still bring home a modest cash prize.

We also hope to get a big-name player to give a clinic to help us improve our games, and we plan to conduct a fund-raiser so the group can continue working toward improving women's racquetball. So far, we have had a special t-shirt printed that we sell, and a number of other money-making projects are in the works. Our group meets once a month to organize and plan for the four round-robins we'll hold each season -- fall, winter, spring and summer.

Our first round robin drew 32 women of all skill levels, who played eleven point games against a series of opponents over a three hour period. We followed that with an hour workshop on racquetball, then gave grab bag prizes to the top two finishers in each division and headed out to lunch!

OREGON: PAL . . . AND RACQUETBALL

by Connie Martin

The Police Activities League was founded in 1944 to take "kids at risk" off the streets, away from gangs and give them something constructive to do. Today over three million kids are members of the organization that puts cops and kids together in activities -- primarily sports -- where mutual trust and respect can be built.

It's been proven that sports can bring out the best in kids. They learn how to fit in, develop specific skills and compete with a team goal in mind. They also get to blow off steam that might otherwise be released on the streets with drugs, sex and crime. It's also been proven that cities that have PAL programs have a consistently lower juvenile crime rate than cities of comparable size without PAL.

Portland, Oregon began a PAL program this summer with a big kick-off event, the "Sports Quickness Camp." Over 500 kids from 9-16 participated in racquetball, football, basketball, volleyball, martial arts, wrestling, soccer, track & field and football during the 5 day, 40

hour camp. The kids also listened to legendary greats Muhammad Ali, Michael Spinks and Archie Moore and rubbed elbows with many of the Trail Blazers.

Under the direction of avid racquetball player and Portland police officer Frank Baca, fifteen kids used the afternoon sessions to learn the game (only three had ever played or even seen racquetball before). Two more Portland police officers, Neil Sleeman and T.J. Santoyo, also volunteered their off duty hours to work with the kids. Certified instructors Connie Martin and Lynn Skadeland gave exhibitions and clinics throughout the week, and the Oregon and Cascade Athletic Clubs provided each child with a free racquet and ball to take home and call their own.

[Connie Martin is the Program Director at the Cascade Athletic Club in Gresham, Oregon and Commissioner for the Professional Association of Racquetball Instructors (PARI). She serves on the PAL Board of Directors and will be Chairperson for the PAL Sports Quickness Camp next summer.]

BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER MIXED DOUBLES



Thomas A. Gibson and Jackie Paraiso

All manner of family-oriented racquetball news rang out 1990, with the engagement announcement of U.S. National Team member Jackie Paraiso to the proverbial "boy next door" Thomas A. Gibson of El Cajon, Calif. Gibson truly is a neighbor (well, two houses down) and plans to take Jackie to the alter right after National Singles on June 8.

By press time, Lynn Adams and Rich Clay had already tied the knot on December 8. Adams, who will relocate from San Diego to Chicago following the wedding, is the #1 women's professional racquetball player in the U.S. Clay, a design engineer, is also a long time competitor, instructor, official, and administrator of racquetball programs in Illinois.



Lynn Adams and Rich Clay at National Doubles.

Susan and Randy Pfahler of Jacksonville, Florida announced the birth of their firstborn son, Cameron Joseph on December 5. After being the most-watched-over player in the U.S. Olympic Festival this past summer, Susan and her well-wishers were relieved and pleased with the news of "C.J." who weighed in at 7.2 lbs. and 21 1/2 inches. Coincidentally, Cameron will share his birthday with Curtis Winter, who introduced the couple and was the best man at their wedding.

*Susan, Cameron and a proud Randy Pfahler.
Photo: Mary Lyons*



THE TREND IN WHITE FLOORING

by Don Jellison

Visual communication promotes a sport better than any other method, and racquetball is no exception. To enhance the ability of the camera to capture the speed, complexity and essence of the game -- as well as the ball -- white floors can be a very valuable tool.

Since most racquetball court floors are maple, tongue and groove flooring, the nature of the wood is light colored in itself. However, you can add to the light color dramatically by whitening the wood even more. This can be done in several different ways.

The first and most practical to lighten the wood is to stain the floor white. This method, or any other of the suggested methods, will require sanding down to the bare wood first. Once the floor is completely sanded and smooth, use a high quality wood floor stain such as Dura Seal and allow it to dry thoroughly for at least 24 hours.

Once dry, burnish the stain, then begin applying the water based urethane seal coats. Stripe with red latex paint, and finish with two more coats of water based urethane finish. This method allows the grain of the wood to remain visible and makes the court floor moderately white.

A second method follows the same preliminary steps as the first, except before applying the white stain, bleach the floor with oxalic acid. Allow it to dry overnight, lightly sand the raised grain that has occurred, then proceed with the white stain and finish the process as described. This process is sometimes referred to as "pickling" and is used frequently on residential wood flooring. It produces a whiter floor than a white stain, but is less durable.

The third method is one that has been done to some squash court floors, and is simply painting the floor with a white enamel paint. In some cases, the squash court experts mix some fine silica sand into the paint to give it some texture (I guess they don't go diving on the floor like racquetballers do). This method produces a very white floor with no grain visible.

By lightening a racquetball court floor in any of these ways, reflected light is greatly increased and the blue ball is easily picked up by the cameras as well as the players. A lighter floor will also show dirt, shoe marks, and scuffing more so be prepared for a little more maintenance than usual.

Regardless of the method used, be sure and use a high quality water based urethane seal over the floor. An oil based urethane is amber colored in the can and will yellow the floor immediately on application, then gradually become more golden with age due to its photochemically reactive properties. A waterbased urethane is clear in the can and dries clear. It will still yellow somewhat with age, but much slower than the oil based counterpart. Water based finishes also dry more quickly than oil based, but still need 48-72 hours to cure properly. Scuffing will occur if the court is played on prematurely.

White floors definitely help pick up the ball visually, and anything short of slowing down the ball or installing a telltale plate promises to be good for the game in the long run. A brighter, cleaner, high-tech image for televised racquetball is also a side benefit, and recreational players who take to the courts on a day to day basis will enjoy the new wrinkle.

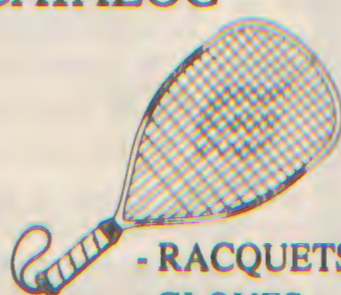
(Continued on page 38)

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1. Doug Ganim, OH
2. Tim Hansen, FL
3. Tim Doyle, CA
4. Mike Looker, MN
5. Davey Bledsoe, GA
6. Louis Vogel, NM
7. Chris Cole, MI
8. Brian Simpson, IN
9. Charlie Nichols, FL
10. Tony Jelso, NM

MEN'S A

1. Derek Dunn, WA
2. James Lindsey, TX
3. Roger Lone, SD
4. Barbee Banks, TX
5. Pat Bernardo, NY
6. Caleb Berd, PA
7. Chris Hardwick, CA
8. Gerry Wolf, OH
9. Jim Allen, TX
10. Bruce Crane, MS

MEN'S B

1. Mat Kelly, CO
2. Dwayne Cushing, CT
3. Rhett Rainey, CO
4. Joe Reno, TN
5. John McKinley, WA
6. Kim Niederman, IL
7. Matt Butler, NC
8. Tony Devico, NJ
9. Ricky Gentry, TN
10. Craig Brunner, IL

MEN'S C

1. Ed Callejo, CO
2. Gareth Miller, CT
3. Alan Jorgensen, AZ
4. Earl Kathan, OR
5. Matt Thompson, MT
6. Clayton Shaffer, SC
7. Ray Schieber, AR
8. Todd Criger, NE
9. Allen Cowan, NC
10. Richard Farrington, MS

MEN'S D

1. Charles Dinwiddle, IN
2. Rod Sachs, IL
3. Scott Ingram, IN
4. Chris Ryan, WA
5. Mark Ellis, MI
6. James Evans, GA
7. Jeff Bloom, LA
8. Ron Calloway, DE
9. Scott Grunin, MA
10. Ashby Herman, VA

MEN'S NOVICE

1. Wayne Yeager, FL
2. Michael Lombardi, GA

3. Alfredo Arce, TX
4. Mike Carigan, NH
5. Alan Goodman, NY
6. Larry Noesen, IL
7. Mark Griffin, AR
8. Dan Ford, GA
9. Kevin Goolsby, AL
10. Mike Liebel, NH

MEN'S 19+

1. Derek Robinson, WA
2. Rob Lamontagne, CA
3. Rick Bezousek, TN
4. Charlie Nichols, FL
5. Jamie Sumner, UT
6. John Leonard, NJ
7. Chris Eagle, NC
8. Tony Jelso, NM
9. Rob McKinney, PA
10. John Negrete, IL

MEN'S 25+

1. Ron DiGiacomo, NY
2. Jim Casolo, PA
3. Jim Jeffers, IL
4. Dave Negrete, IL
5. John Stoker, KY
6. Bill Kelley, CT
7. Steve Lerner, OH
8. Tim Hansen, FL
9. Andy Pitook, GA
10. Armando Alonso, FL

MEN'S 30+

1. Bobby Corcoran, AZ
2. Bill Lyman, IN
3. Jeff Kristjansen, CA
4. Mark Malowitz, TX
5. John Peterson, PA
6. Scott Worthy, MI
7. Jim Deritis, NY
8. Randy Pfahler, FL
9. Scott Ellason, CT
10. Andy Pitook, FL

MEN'S 35+

1. Davey Bledsoe, GA
2. Gary Mazaroff, NM
3. Dave Kovanda, OH
4. Craig Kunkel, CA
5. Herb Grigg, IL
6. Jim Young, NY
7. Dennis Aceto, MA
8. Ed Garabedian, PA
9. Tom Travers, OH
10. Mitt Layton, FL

MEN'S 40+

1. Herb Grigg, IL
2. Dave Kovanda, OH
3. Mitt Layton, FL
4. Andy Butterbaugh, IN
5. Steve Chapman, FL
6. Jim Bailey, VA
7. Rick Rounds, OH
8. Jim Winterton, NY
9. Ron Mirek, CT

10. Tim Laval, MN

MEN'S 45+

1. Ed Remen, VA
2. Fred Letter, NJ
3. Ray Huss, OH
4. Roger Wehrle, GA
5. Jerry Davis, OH
6. Pete Petty, TN
7. Brad Parra, CA
8. Ron Johnson, CA
9. Jeff Leon, FL
10. Gary Myers, CA

MEN'S 50+

1. Dario Mas, DE
2. Charlie Garinkel, NY
3. Jerry Davis, OH
4. Bobby Sanders, OH
5. Len Corte, AZ
6. Rex Lawler, IN
7. Ron Hutcherson, IN
8. Jim McPherson, OK
9. Charlie Hamon, WA
10. Ron Johnson, IL

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1. Art Johnson, CO
2. Don Alt, FL
3. Paul Banales, AZ
4. Harvey Clar, CA
5. Otis Chapman, OH
6. Nick Farkough, NY
7. Dan Liacara Sr., NY
8. Rex Benham, AR
9. Jim Flynn, DE
10. Obed Oas, NE

MEN'S 60+

1. Pierre Miller, IN
2. Joe Lambert, TX
3. Malcolm Roberts, FL
4. Dick Kincade, CO
5. John Bogasky, VA
6. Max Fallek, MN
7. Hugh Groover, AR
8. Victor Sacco, NY
9. Ed Witham, OH
10. Robert Harper, FL

MEN'S 65+

1. Glenn Melvey, ND
2. Art Goss, CO
3. Victor Sacco, NY
4. Don Goddard, MT
5. Bill Stoebe, DE
6. Luzell Wilde, UT
7. Jack Gushus, NY
8. Nick Sans, CA
9. Tony Duarte, CA
10. Art Shay, IL

MEN'S 70+

1. Earl Aouff, NC
2. Luzell Wilde, UT
3. Allen Shepherd, MD
4. Cam Snowberger, PA
5. Jack Murphy, FL
6. Harmon Minor, CO

7. Charles Russell, CA
8. Ralph Greco, CA
9. Ray Crowley, OK
10. Charles Estram, MA

MEN'S 75+

1. Harmon Minor, CO
2. John Pearce, TX
3. Allen Shepherd, MD
4. Joe Sawbridge, AZ
5. Jack Daly, VA
6. Bill Duckworth, FL
7. Howard Hesse, AZ
8. Howard Cole, NM

MEN'S 80+

1. Howard Cole, NM

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2. Dana Sibell, MI
3. Janey Myers, GA
4. Susan Pfahler, FL
5. Kim Russell, CA
6. Chris Evon, CA
7. Toni Bevelook, CA
8. Michelle Gilman, OR
9. Mary Dee Jolly, NJ
10. Dot Fischl, PA

WOMEN'S A

1. Jean Halahan, NY
2. Darlene Schafer, CO
3. Christine Allison, DE
4. Amber Friesch, TX
5. Cindy Teistad, MN
6. Jane Greene, KS
7. Lauren Kline, OH
8. Mary Keenan, CO
9. Kim Perry, CA
10. Bev Supaniok, CA

WOMEN'S B

1. Terri Bohlman, WI
2. Kathleen Makinen, NY
3. Jane Riffel, AR
4. Carolyn Long, CA
5. Diane McCauley, MI
6. Amy Tyler, IL
7. Colleen Field, IN
8. Cynthia Ford, WA
9. Paula Jones, GA
10. Louise Winter, CA

WOMEN'S C

1. Christine Tucker, NY
2. Kathy Kryger, NJ
3. Millie Guzman, CA
4. Mary Ellis, IL
5. Michelle McCoy, MN
6. Gayla Epp, OH
7. Barbara Benley, OK

8. Cathy Clevenger, IN
9. Sherry Crass, TX
10. Debra Derr, FL

WOMEN'S D

1. Dory Darnell, IN
2. Debi Baker, CA
3. Greta Slaton, MO
4. Jackie Hardaway, CO
5. Kathi Carnes, IL
6. Ginger Frost, GA
7. Jean Ross, MO
8. Cara Balak, SC
9. Kathy Kebe, OH
10. Karen Marino, CT

WOMEN'S NOVICE

1. Barbara Friel, NY
2. Sherri Rogers, CT
3. Jeannie Valadez, TX
4. Allison Thomas, OH
5. Catherine Abueg, TX
6. Gina Leone, NH
7. Kristin Levins, MA
8. Lori Schreck, NY
9. Elizabeth Gilham, PA
10. Lisa Maxwell, AR

WOMEN'S 19+

1. Dana Sibell, MN
2. Cheryl Gudinas, IL
3. Renee Lockey, CA
4. Randy Friedman, NY
5. Karen Glazer, OH
6. Leah Redwine, NC
7. Kim Russell, KY
8. Robin Conover, TN
9. Ilene Sofferan, NY
10. Sarah Blair, TN

WOMEN'S 25+

1. Kersten Hallander, FL
2. Pam Goddard, GA
3. Paula Vallie, MN
4. Dee Ferreira-Worth, CA
5. Laura Fenton, NE
6. Tina Churchwell, TN
7. Lydia Hammock, CA
8. Martha Keller, AL
9. Pat Musselman, PA
10. Lori Walsh, AZ

WOMEN'S 30+

1. Linda Porter, IL
2. Mary Bickley, PA
3. Mary Dee Jolly, NH
4. Linda Soreston, IN
5. Linda Moore, NE
6. Bonnie Kowalski, OH
7. Colleen Shields, IL
8. Pam Goddard, GA
9. Mary Lyons, FL
10. Pat Musselman, PA

WOMEN'S 35+

1. Cindy Baxter, PA
2. Terry Latham, NM



NATIONAL RANKINGS



3. Eileen Tuokman, FL
4. Janet Myers, NC
5. Susan Pfahler, FL
6. Joanne Pomodoro, MA
7. Deb Gridley, CO
8. Mary Jane Weldin, DE
9. Gloria Lang, IL
10. Julie Jacobson, WI

WOMEN'S 40+

1. Agatha Falso, FL
2. Linda Miller, IN
3. Jan Smith, FL
4. Terry Hokanson, CA
5. Pat Tarzon, IL
6. Donna Christian, OH
7. Merjean Kelley, CA
8. Mary Jane Weldin, DE
9. Mildred Gwinn, GA
10. Mary Jo Murray, FL

WOMEN'S 45+

1. Sharon Hastings-Welty, OR
2. Agatha Falso, FL
3. Marcel Marcus, OH
4. Brigitte Hartz, MI
5. Pat Tarzon, IL
6. Pat Alt, FL
7. Carol Remen, VA
8. Sylvia Sawyer, UT
9. Marta Gross, MN
10. Carol Edgar, IL

WOMEN'S 50+

1. Kathy Mueller, MN
2. Jo Kenyon, FL
3. Joanne Ralda, VA
4. Sandy McPherson, OK
5. Marion Johnson, TX
6. Maria Hagain, FL
7. Sylvia Sawyer, UT
8. Ann Godianne, CA
9. Cleata Ching, PA
10. Hilda Torres, MA

WOMEN'S 55+

1. Jo Kenyon, FL
2. Mary Walker, CA
3. Cleata Ching, PA
4. Joan Beck, AZ
5. Phyllis Melvey, ND
6. Doris Binger, WI
7. Rose Mooney, CO
8. Sue Graham, CA
9. Betty Mowery, NM
10. B.G. Ralley, CA

WOMEN'S 60+

1. Mary Low Acuff, NC
2. Claire Gautreau, TX
3. Phyllis Melvey, ND
4. Bridin Mhaolagáin, IR
5. Eleanor Quackenbush, OR
6. Betty Mowery, NM
7. Zaida Friedland, NM

WOMEN'S 65+

1. Betty Mowery, NM
2. Mary Low Acuff, NC
3. Eleanor Quackenbush, OR

WOMEN'S 70+

1. Mary Low Acuff, NC
2. Eleanor Quackenbush, OR

WOMEN'S 75+

1. Zaida Friedland, NM

WOMEN'S 80+

1. Zaida Friedland, NM

Junior Divisions

BOYS 8 AND UNDER

1. Lane Mershon, GA
2. Shane Vanderson, OH
3. Dan Thompson, WI
4. Jack Huozek, MI
5. Jimmy Lyons, FL
6. Dan Olson, ME
7. James Gould, NE
8. Jason Jansen, MN
9. Marshall Meldi, NE
10. Matt McElhiney, FL

BOYS 8- MULTI-BOUNCE

1. Shane Vanderson, OH
2. Jimmy Lyons, FL
3. Robert Gates, IL
4. Lane Mershon, GA
5. Jason Jansen, MN
6. Jack Huozek, MI
7. Dan Olson, ME
8. Matt McElhiney, FL
9. Nathaniel Dehmer, MN
10. Michael Valinets, IN

BOYS 10-

1. Rocky Carson, CA
2. Andy Tuokman, NE
3. Lane Mershon, AL
4. Brit Berkey, IN
5. David Liakos, NE
6. Ryan Ott, IA
7. Brent McDade, TN
8. Ryan Staten, KS
9. Daniel Wubneh, FL
10. Jason Bronson, IA

BOYS 12-

1. Mark Hurst, FL
2. Blake Hansen, IA
3. Eric Storey, UT
4. Brent Zimmerman, MI
5. Blair Hansen, IA
6. Tony Puggioni, NY
7. Hal Spangenberg, CA

8. Jed Shuta, AL
9. John Stanford, FL
10. Ken Gordon, IL

BOYS 14-

1. Andy Thompson, WI
2. Brad Hansen, IA
3. Jason Armbricht, NC
4. Jason Mannino, NY
5. Shane Wood, MA
6. Scott Zimmerman, MI
7. Tony Puggioni, NY
8. David Hamilton, OH
9. Toby Lepera, IN
10. Miguel Hernandez, CA

BOYS 16-

1. Sudsy Monchik, NY
2. Jim Ellenberger, WI
3. Matt Meeker, IA
4. Brett Beugen, MN
5. Chad Gibson, KS
6. Adrian Engel, FL
7. Chris Pfaff, OH
8. Joel Marsh, NE
9. Javad Aghaloo, TX
10. Derick Herrold, IN

BOYS 18-

1. Joel Bonnett, MI
2. John Ellis, CA
3. Doug Eagle, NC
4. Brian Simpson, IN
5. Josh Messina, MA
6. Eric Muller, KS
7. Scott Reiff, FL
8. Buz Sawyer, NC
9. Chad Lewis, IA
10. Sameer Hadid, CA

GIRLS 8 AND UNDER

1. Alexys Feaster, DC
2. Meital Manzuri, CA
3. Sandra Plaza, OH
4. Suzette Solomon, IN
5. Lynn Hansen, IA
6. Lauren Roberts, IL
7. Elizabeth Smith, OH
8. Haley Axtmann, IL
9. Sara Borland, IA
10. Nichole Grace, IL

GIRLS 8- MULTI-BOUNCE

1. Alexys Feaster, DC
2. Sarah Miranda, OK
3. Lynn Hansen, IA
4. Meital Manzuri, CA
5. Lindsey Hudson, IN
6. Sandra Plaza, OH
7. Leslie Wooten, FL
8. Shante Florence, GA
9. Molly Law, CO
10. Monique Rutherford, IL

GIRLS 10-

1. Lynn Hansen, IA
2. Jamie Trachsel, MN
3. Kelly Ruhl, CO
4. Stephanie Defalco, NY
5. Jennifer Hardeman, TN
6. Dawn Gates, IL
7. Ryan Hibler, TN
8. Alison Redelheim, TN
9. Meghan Guardini, MA
10. Lauren Rothman, NY

GIRLS 12-

1. Debra Derr, FL
2. Dawn Gates, IL
3. Vanessa Tulao, TN
4. Jennifer Liakos, NE
5. Jill Trachsel, MN
6. Ashley Crouse, OH
7. Lynn Hansen, IA
8. Kim O'Connor, FL
9. Leslie Buschbom, GA
10. Lyndsi Patton, FL

GIRLS 14-

1. Amy Jerdee, IA
2. Debra Derr, FL
3. Jenny Meyer, CO
4. Tammy Rae Brookbank, ID
5. Julie Peterson, KY
6. Andrea Luque, GA
7. Stephanie Torrey, MA
8. Andrea Beugen, MN
9. Dawn Gates, IL
10. Aimee Roehler, PA

GIRLS 16-

1. Jenny Spangenberg, CA
2. Amber Frisoh, TX
3. Rachel Gellman, NM
4. Jenny Skeen, NE
5. Amy Jerdee, IA
6. Dania Medina, FL
7. Dawn Peterson, WI
8. Hayden May, CA
9. Elkova Icenogle, CA
10. Julie Peterson, TN

GIRLS 18-

1. Elkova Icenogle, CA
2. Renee Lockey, CA
3. Heather Flory, IA
4. Heather Dunn, MA
5. Amy Kilbane, OH
6. Michelle Gilman, OR
7. Jenny Spangenberg, CA
8. Aimee Melville, MN
9. Noel Debarruel, CA
10. Rusti Icenogle, CA

NWRA RANKINGS

WHEELCHAIR OPEN

1. Gary Baker, PA
2. John Foust, CO
3. Chip Parmelly, CA
4. Doug Steniszewski, CN
5. Brian Foran, CN
6. Mark Jenkinson, PA
7. Les Gorsline, PA

WHEELCHAIR NOVICE

1. Mike Bohinski, PA
2. Joe Parison, PA
3. Sam Barnard, PA
4. Joann Shoup, PA

STATE MEMBERSHIP RANKINGS

1. California
2. Florida
3. Illinois
4. Texas
5. New York
6. Ohio
7. Pennsylvania
8. Colorado
9. Minnesota
10. Massachusetts

11. Michigan
12. Missouri
13. North Carolina
14. Indiana
15. Georgia
16. Washington
17. Arizona
18. New Mexico
19. Nebraska
20. Wisconsin

21. Connecticut, 22. Tennessee, 23. New Jersey, 24. Utah, 25. New Hampshire, 26. Virginia, 27. Maryland, 28. Iowa, 29. Idaho, 30. Maine, 31. Alabama, 32. Louisiana, 33. South Carolina, 34. Oklahoma, 35. Wyoming, 36. Kentucky, 37. Kansas, 38. Montana, 39. Arkansas, 40. Delaware, 41. Nevada, 42. Rhode Island, 43. Vermont, 44. Hawaii, 45. Mississippi, 46. North Dakota, 47. Alaska, 48. Oregon, 49. West Virginia, 50. South Dakota, 51. District of Columbia, 52. Puerto Rico

**RANKINGS DATED:
DECEMBER 14, 1990.**

(... Floors, continued)

Court Clubs with White Flooring:

Indianapolis Racquet Club, Indianapolis, Ind.
Merritt Athletic Club/Security, Baltimore, Md.
Lynmar Racquet & Health Club, Colorado Springs, Colo.
Downtown YMCA, Houston, Texas
Downtown YMCA, Dallas, Texas
Sports Mall, Salt Lake City, Utah
Burnsville Racquet & Swim Club, Minneapolis, Minn.

Clubs Installing this Year:

South Hampshire Racquet Club, St. Louis, Mo.
La Mancha Racquet Club, Phoenix, Ariz.
Arizona Athletic Club, Phoenix, Ariz.

[Don Jellison is the owner of Jellison Courts & Floors, and is an expert in all types of hardwood flooring for courts and gymnasiums. He can be contacted directly at Jellison Courts & Floors, P.O. Box 147, Manchaca, Texas 78652, TEL: 512/282-5256, FAX: 512/282-4070]

INDUSTRY UPDATE

EKTELON announced that its new 1990-1991 line of performance footwear, engineered for racquetball, squash and a variety of other court sports, has been endorsed by the AARA. Lightweight and comfortable, the new shoes offer superior traction and stability and are designed in contemporary styles and colors. Available in leather and leather/mesh construction with low, three-quarter cut, and high top styles, suggested retail prices range from \$44.95 to \$89.95.

PROTONAUT

introduces GlovBonz, a unique neon accessory to reduce drying time and preserve the original shape of racquetball gloves. In the closed position, GlovBonz can be inserted into gloves of all sizes, then opened to allow maximum air circulation. Constructed of high-impact plas-



tic, the frame comes in neon pink, yellow and green as well as a conservative dove grey.

EKTELON introduces a new line of specialty sport bags, constructed of lightweight 210 denier crinkle nylon fabric, and laminated with polyurethane for added durability. Both sides feature specially woven logos, along with contrasting piping, zipper, webbing and reinforcement wraps. The line includes the X-Trainer, which has a full length zippered side pocket, a detachable shoulder strap and removable fanny pack. The Sport Locker is designed to fit in a standard locker, and comes with a u-shaped zipper for easy access to the main compartment. Suggested retail prices for the entire bag line range from \$9.99 to \$49.99.



PRO KENNEX announces the availability of the Tacki-Mac grip system in its accessory line. Tacki-Mac is totally moisture resistant, never chips or cracks, has added durability, and offers a soft, consistent "tacki" feel for a comfortable and secure grip. The grip comes in a dozen colors, with a suggested retail price of \$8.95.

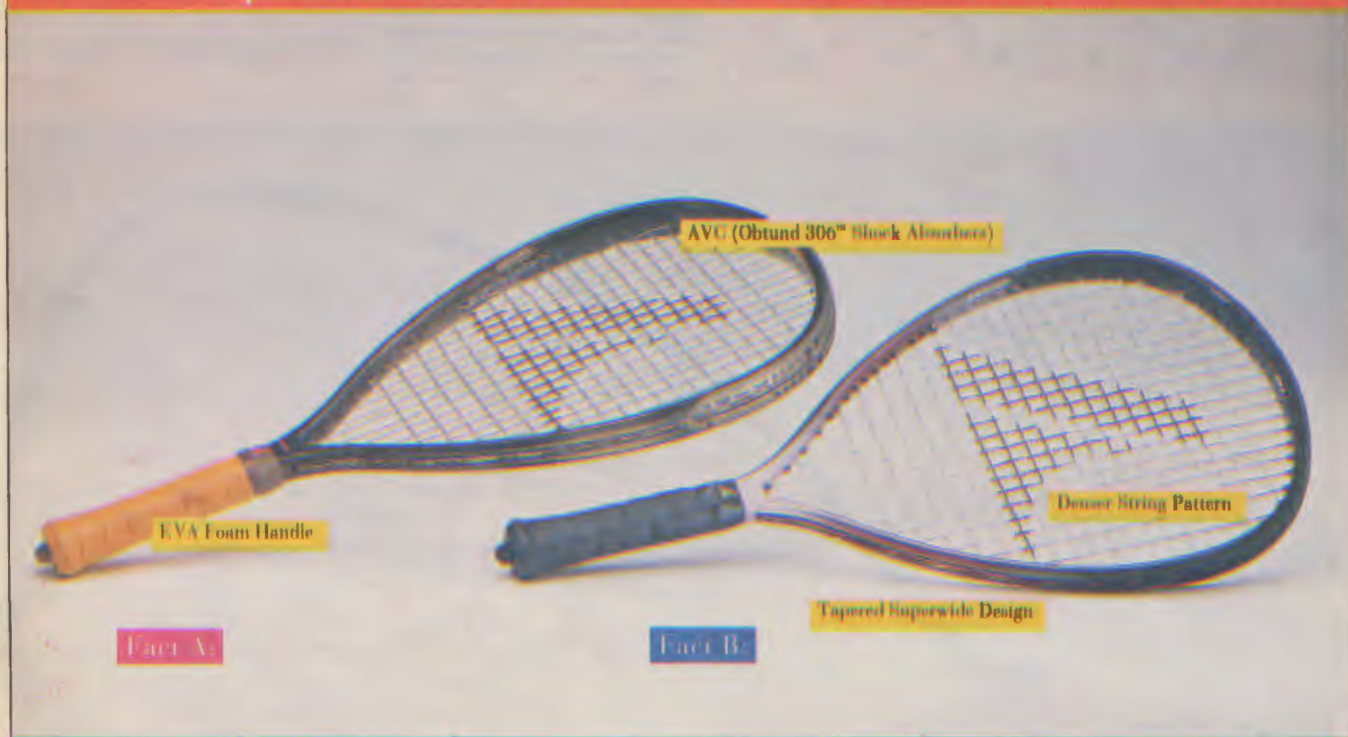
EKTELON Interceptor frames can be returned to the manufacturer for replacement if defective. Red, white and blue models of the Interceptor eyeguard should be tested in the following manner: Twist the frame so lenses are at a right angle to each other. If either lens pops out of the frame, return the glasses to Ektelon, Customer Service, 8929 Aero Drive, San Diego, Calif. 92123 for replacement.

RPM DISTRIBUTORS is the sole distributor of the "Racquetteer" practice machine. The unit is produced by Crown Manufacturing, which also makes Prince and Match Mate tennis ball machines, as well as high-speed testing models for eyeguard manufacturers. For more information on the "Racquetteer," contact RPM at 1107 Rivara Road, Stockton, Calif. 95207, 209/957-3542.

PRO KENNEX offers protection against fogging and scratching in five new models of performance eyewear. Lenses are constructed of shatter- and impact-resistant polycarbonate, and headstraps are adjustable, detachable and washable. Five frames, the Shadow, the Dominator, the Competitor, the Saber and the Challenger range in price from \$11.99 to \$37.99.

PRESENCE.

What a polite name for such a brutal instrument.



Warning: There is not so much as a trace of compassion in either of our Presence Series racquets from the Marty Hogan Racquetball Division of Pro-Kennex. If your style of play is to show no mercy, these are your tools of total humiliation.

Fact A: The Graphite Presence 31 is the most powerful oversize racquet in the sport; its cold-hearted aggressiveness fathered by an ultra stiff composition of 90% SpiralTech™ (a compression-molded sleeve of tightly woven, high modulus graphite over a graphite and fiberglass core) and 10% fiberglass.

Fact B: Our Composite Presence 31 bristles with the same ruthless character, but offers more flex — with a relatively forgiving soul of 70% high modulus graphite and 30% fiberglass.

All of this might lead you to believe that a Presence 31 racquet might turn on its own master.

Not so. You're in complete control.

With a head light, superwide teardrop taper, and 94 square inches of densely strung surface, each Presence racquet weighs in at just 225 grams. Our AVC (Anti-Vibration Component) System, with Obtund™ 306 Shock Absorbers at all four

points of the central string grid, devours vibration and trampolining.

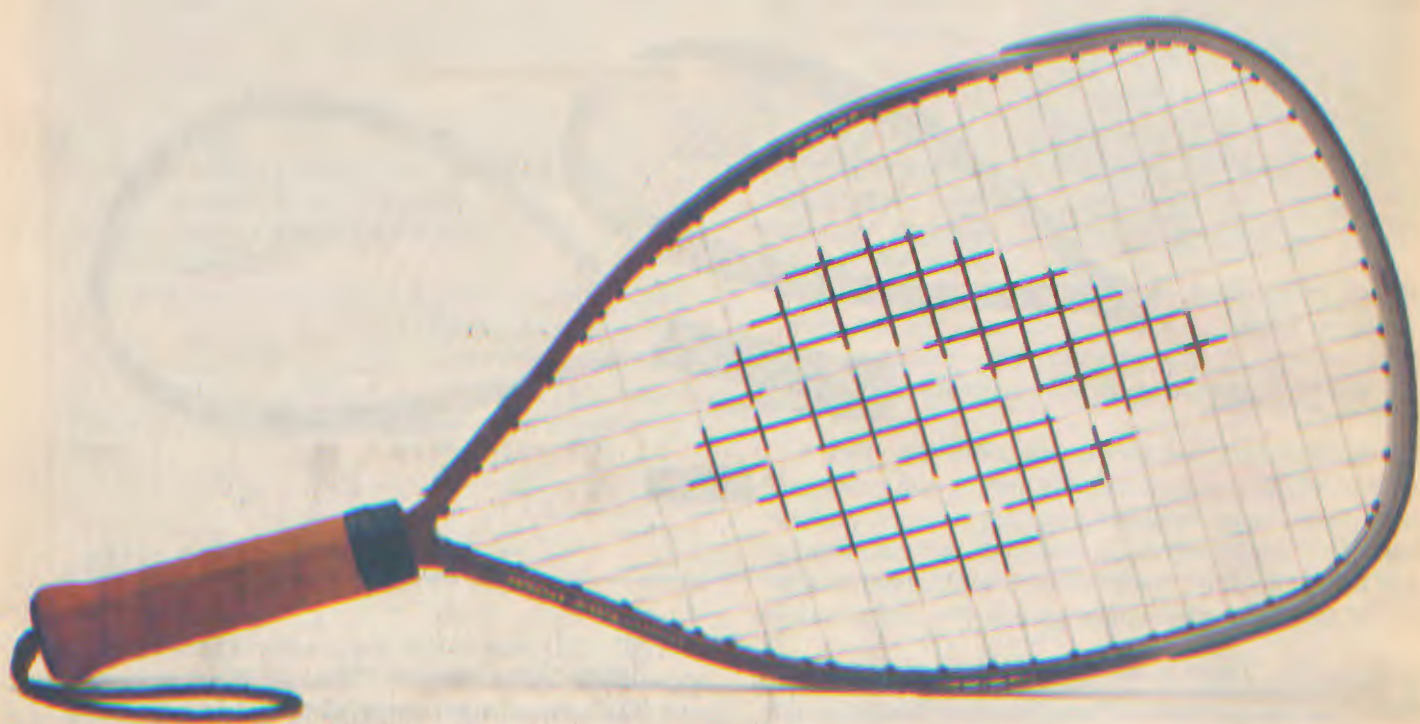
And the EVA foam handle guarantees a comfortable grip that minimizes arm fatigue.

The Graphite Presence 31 and Composite Presence 31 from Pro-Kennex. Each comes complete with a full-length cover. After all, you wouldn't want to leave something so lethal just lying around in the open.



**MARTY
HOGAN**
RACQUETBALL
A Division of Pro-Kennex

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1-800-854-1908 in CA 1-800-662-8663
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0 TO 15 IN 10 MINUTES.

Wind it up. Drive it through. Roll it out. The Mirada RTS™ delivers unprecedented power, without yielding a pinpoint of accuracy. The sooner you play with one, the sooner it's all over for your opponent.

EKTELON 
The Most Revolutionary Tennis Racket in History
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