

February \$100  
1969

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# 1969 YEARBOOK



*HANDBALL'S GREATEST WEEK!*

**MARCH 16-22**

## **NINETEENTH NATIONAL FOUR-WALL HANDBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

and

National Intercollegiates  
March 21-22

● National  
Clinics — Seminars

**AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS • AUSTIN, TEXAS**





## SPECIAL BONUS! WORTH \$2.00

Every Saranac ACE glove box will contain our new booklet—"Championship Handball"—the best of instructional material from the game's best players, plus the USHA official rules. This booklet will sell for \$2 but will be included FREE to everyone who purchases a pair of official Saranac ACE gloves.

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SARANAC



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### VELCRO® CLOSING!

The new ACE glove features a smooth-fitting deerskin wrist strap with the space-age Velcro closing. Just press down and thousands of tiny, almost invisible "fingers" hold the glove tight—just the way you want it! No fumbling to open or close, no metal to rust!

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**S-82 Super**—A new concept in handball gloves. Made on a fine dress glove pattern from Saranac's own specially processed deerskin—fine deerskin fourchettes inserted between each finger for a custom fit. Saranac's unique seamless palm construction gives added ball control and greater confidence. The Super Model has a super-tite elastic back and a Velcro sure-lock snap back.

Colors: Bone or Gold, Deerskin • Sizes: S-M-L, unpadded only.

Also available in lightweight for tournament play. The first and only handball glove of its kind.

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Also available in similar design as S-90 are:

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**S-87**—Tuffy—Goatskin

**S-93**—Novice—Steerhide

**S-84—DELUXE**—Saranac combines their own hand selected deerskin into the best fitting glove of its kind on the market, featuring a seamless forefinger and thumb. The Deluxe model also has a snug fitting elastic back and a Velcro lock back to insure a snug wrist.

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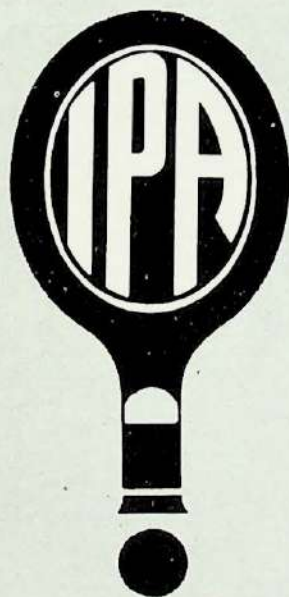
"The gloves the champions use"





# **19<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL USHA CHAMPIONSHIPS**

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS  
AUSTIN, TEXAS—MARCH 16-22



# **1<sup>ST</sup> NATIONAL PADDLEBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

JCCA  
ST. LOUIS, MO.—APRIL 24-27



INTERNATIONAL  
PADDLEBALL  
ASSOCIATION

UNITED STATES  
HANDBALL  
ASSOCIATION

4101 DEMPSTER STREET • SKOKIE, ILLINOIS 60076



# 19th ANNUAL NATIONAL FOUR-WALL HANDBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS—AUSTIN

Sanctioned By

The United States Handball Association

MARCH 16—22, 1969

**IMPORTANT:** All entrants for these events must present current USHA (1969) membership card. Renewals and new memberships may be obtained at the time of registration at the tournament site, or by mailing \$2 for one year; \$5 for three years to: USHA, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, Ill. 60076.

**EVENTS:** Singles . . . Doubles . . . Masters Doubles . . . Masters Singles . . . Consolation Singles. Competition in Singles will start Sunday, March 16. Competition in Doubles, Masters Singles and Doubles and Consolation Singles will start Monday, March 17. If preliminary round play is necessary in any of these tournaments it will precede first round scheduling.

HOSPITALITY — ENTERTAINMENT — BANQUET FEE: \$8.00.  
ENTRY FEE: \$5.00 per man for each event. Must accompany all entries. Make checks or money orders payable to: NATIONAL HANDBALL FUND.

\* NOTE: Player can enter only ONE Masters event.

Consolation Singles is for those eliminated in preliminary and first round of Singles.

**DEADLINE FOR SINGLES ENTRIES:** 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 12, 1969. Deadline for Doubles, Masters Singles and Masters Doubles, Sunday, March 16.

**OFFICIAL BALL:** SPALDING ACE.

**TROPHIES:** One set of trophies, designating champions, 2nd, 3rd, 4th places.

Please enter me in the events checked. Enclosed is the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for entrance fee. Payment of fee must accompany entry forms. Mail to:

Nat'l Tournament Committee — c/o Pete Tyson, Chairman, #36 Gregory Gymnasium, University of Texas, Austin, Texas.

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City and State \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

## USHA NATIONAL TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

In consideration of the acceptance of this entry, I, for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns do hereby release and discharge the United States Handball Association, the University of Texas, and its officers, directors, employees, agents or representatives of any, from any and all claims or demands for damages, losses or injuries incurred by me at said 19th Annual USHA National Four-Wall Handball Championships including preliminary rounds, held March 16-22 at Austin, Texas.

**RELEASE AND WAIVER** — I understand that the handball games will be televised or filmed and that my picture may thus be broadcast. I consent to any and all television and broadcast in which I may appear and waive any and all claims of any nature which I may have by reason thereof.

Signature (in ink) \_\_\_\_\_

**SEND IN YOUR ENTRY NOW!**

**HOUSING:** Give us information ( )

Please enter me in the

( ) SINGLES

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Fee \$5

( ) and/or DOUBLES with (partners need not represent the same affiliation).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

or a player to be named prior to entry deadline.  
Entry Fee \$5 per man.

( ) MASTERS SINGLES

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Fee \$5

( ) MASTERS DOUBLES with (partners need not represent the same affiliation).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

or a player to be named prior to entry deadline.  
Entry Fee \$5 per man.

ACE — U.S.H.A.



# USHA NATIONAL INTERCOLLEGIATES

## March 21-22, 1969

**SITE:** University of Texas, Austin.

**ENTRY FEES:** None.

**OFFICIAL BALL:** Spalding ACE.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Full-time undergraduate college students. Teams consist of A singles, B singles, and doubles . . . four-player team. Players cannot participate in more than one event. Players can participate as individuals representing their colleges and vie for trophies. Fred Miller Memorial Bowl team award

**AWARDS:** based on points gained by four-man team. 2 points for each A singles win, 3 points for final round win; 1 point for each B singles win, 2 points for final round win; 2 points for each doubles win. Entrants must be current (1969) USHA members. Can join upon arrival.

**DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES:** March 19, 1969.

**SEND ENTRIES TO:** Pete Tyson, Room 36, Gregory Gymnasium, University of Texas, Austin, Texas.

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Please enter ..... in 1969 National Intercollegiates.  
college

Team members

(please print)

.....  
A singles

.....  
B singles

.....  
doubles

.....  
doubles

Please enter ..... as individual in 1969 National Intercollegiates.  
(please print name) Doubles ( )

A singles ( ) B singles ( )

With .....





EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

PRESTON SMITH  
GOVERNOR

January 23, 1969

TO THE PARTICIPANTS AT THE "WORLD SERIES OF HANDBALL":

We are proud to have the National Handball Championship return to The University of Texas. It is indeed an honor to be host to you handball enthusiasts from other states.

We trust that you will enjoy the facilities in our Gregory Gym as they were placed in excellent playing condition in preparation for your tournament.

You are players and fans of a great and growing sport which is one of the best for developing coordination, physical and mental agility, endurance and over-all fitness.

Have an enjoyable and hard-fought championship.



Sincerely,

*Preston Smith*  
Preston Smith





THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78712

*President*

January 16, 1969

To members and visitors at the National Handball Championships:

It is a great pleasure for The University of Texas to welcome once again the members and fans of the United States Handball Association.

We hope your visit here in Austin will be pleasant and the 1969 Championship Tournament an unforgettable one.

Best wishes to each of you for a winning performance.



Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Norm Hackerman", written over the typed name.

Norman Hackerman

FEBRUARY, 1969





# THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78712

DEPARTMENT OF  
INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
AND  
HEAD FOOTBALL COACH

January 20, 1969

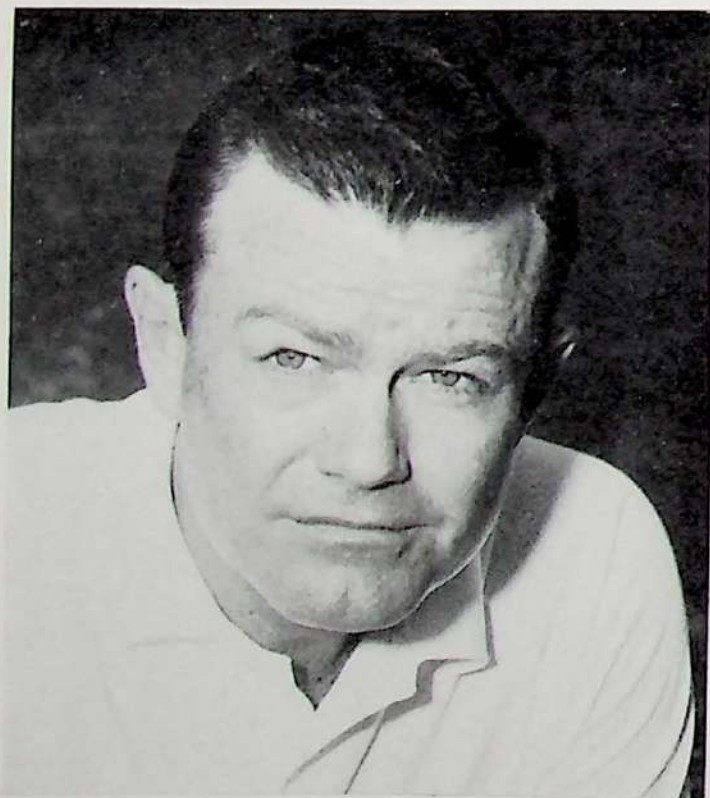
To Participants and Visitors, NATIONAL HANDBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS:

Welcome to The University of Texas at Austin!

Handball is a great sport. It has always been enjoyable for me to play whenever possible, and I consider it particularly good as a conditioner for football players.

You will find the facilities here to be of the finest, providing excellent opportunity for young men to enjoy the physical benefits of regular handball competition not only while they are in school but also in future years.

Best wishes for a very successful tournament.



Sincerely yours,

*Darrell Royal*

Darrell Royal



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS  
REQUIRED PHYSICAL EDUCATION FOR MEN  
AUSTIN 12

To participants and visitors, National Handball Championships:

On behalf of all the Departments involved in physical education at The University of Texas at Austin I am proud to welcome you again to the Campus.

We remember the first National Competition held when our facilities were new. Our facilities are still in fine shape and our welcome is only more mellow with age.

Sincerely,

*Ed. Barlow*  
Ed. Barlow,  
Director





## USHA OFFICERS

### *President*

ROBERT W. KENDLER  
4101 Dempster St., Skokie, Ill. 60076

### *National Commissioner*

JOSEPH SHANE  
629 S. Hill St., Los Angeles, Calif. 90014

### *Executive Secretary*

MORT LEVE  
4101 Dempster St., Skokie, Ill. 60076

### *Past National Commissioners*

\*ALBERT SCHAUFELBERGER  
Detroit, Mich.

### *Hymen Goldstein*

7808 Stanford, University City, Mo. 63130

### *East Area Commissioner*

IRVING EHRLICH  
494 E. 91st St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11236

### *Midwest Area Commissioner*

DR. JOHN SCOPIS  
22177 Michigan Ave., Dearborn, Mich. 48124

### *South Area Commissioner*

PETE TYSON  
University of Texas, Austin, Texas 78712

### *Southeast Area Commissioner*

SID SEMEL  
P.O. Box 9514, Norfolk, Va. 23505

### *Rocky Mt. Area Commissioner*

LES SHUMATE  
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### *West Area Commissioner*

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5318 Mezzanine Way, Long Beach, Calif. 90808

### *Pacific NW Commissioner*

M. K. ANDERSON  
1608 Dexter Ave., N., Seattle, Wash. 98109

### *National Tournaments Coordinator*

JOE ARDITO  
3005 N. Kenneth, Chicago, Ill. 60641

### *National Rules Chairman*

JIM JACOBS  
9 E. 40th St., New York, N.Y. 10016

### *Treasurer*

GEORGE BROTEMARKLE  
417 S. Hill St., Los Angeles, Calif. 90013

### *National Junior Chairman*

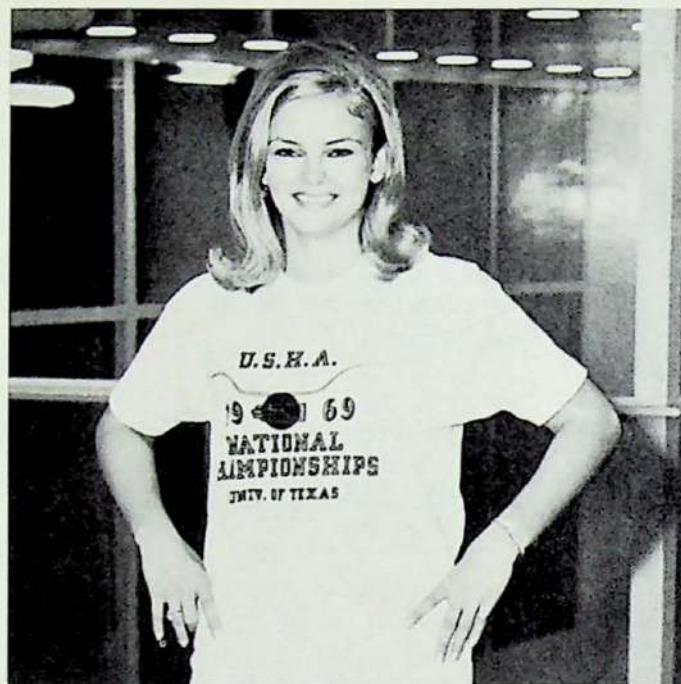
ROBERT DAVIDSON  
1519 Metropolitan Ave., Bronx, N.Y. 10462

### *National Director of Court Construction and Specification*

DUANE DICKEY  
4101 Dempster St., Skokie, Ill. 60076

\* Deceased

## ON OUR COVER



MICHELLE VILCOQ will be official "Miss National Championships" and hostess "with the mostest" at the 19th Annual four-wall classic, March 16-22 at Austin, Texas. On the cover with the co-chairmen of the event, Pete Tyson and Dick Roberson, Michelle personifies the friendly Texas hospitality.

This is our second time around at the splendid University of Texas facilities and we're delighted that the fine people in Austin asked us to come back. This is without a doubt, the No. 1 handball facility in the world — 13 courts, 12 of them bordering on the centralized amphitheater court that can seat up to 1500.

In addition to the championship events we will have the national intercollegiate the final two days of the Big Week — March 21-22. This is an increasingly strong tournament and is expected to draw a new record entry.

Masters singles returns to the scene for the second time. It was voted back into the schedule last year and gives us five events during the week — singles, doubles, Masters singles, Masters doubles, and Consolation singles.

The theme in reality is — "Handball for everyone!" In addition to the full schedule of competition there will be the annual convention meeting banquet, nightly hospitality room activities, and the grand finale awards banquet.

All handball roads lead to Austin, Texas. This is one you don't want to miss!

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ACE — U.S.H.A.



# Players' Fraternity Official Family

ROBERT W. KENDLER, President. "Mr. Handball, U.S.A." is probably the most suitable title for the man who was instrumental in founding the Players' Fraternity and giving it his active and financial backing as we wind up two decades of organization.

Bob can look back in satisfaction at the steady progress of USHA since its inception in December, 1950. But, he is not content to rest easily on an established entity. "There is still much to do," Bob insists. "We're over the 'hump,' so to speak but I am still determined to make everyone aware that ours is an outstanding spectator sport and as such no facility should be built without at least one court with glass to accommodate an adequate number of spectators."

The idea of the "Classroom Court" is what Bob points out to the many colleges blueprinting courts. The University of Texas central amphitheater court is the shining example of what such a glass court means — in terms of showcasing the game and enabling hundreds of undergraduates an ideal opportunity to learn the game.

Enthusiasm is the by-word Bob Kendler lives by. His fervor for the pastime has diminished not one iota through the years. He regrets only that some 40 years of active participation are behind him and not in the future. When he spoke to the National Junior gathering in Lake Forest last December he told them how fortunate they were to have years and years of enjoyable court competition ahead of them, and how the game can act as a counterbalance in their way of life.

Handball is no longer hidden in those "dark, dank recesses of the locker rooms — in throw-way space — odd sizes" The present generation is being afforded standard courts, standard rules, standard equipment and the opportunity to play in democratically-run, true State, regional and national tournaments.

All this has been accomplished under the guiding hand of your president.

JUDGE JOSEPH SHANE, National Commissioner. We have often mentioned that the 2,000-odd miles that separate Bob and Joe does not deter the smooth leadership of the Association. Joe is never content at a status quo condition. He is not reluctant to get on the phone and ask for action needed on products promotion, tournament planning. We are in constant mail communication and it is only apropos that the most saturated four-wall area of Southern California have a man of his experience right in its midst.

Joe has grown with USHA since taking over the commissionership in 1961. He has the flexibility to coordinate and supervise at the annual Big Week and those attending the nationals in Austin will see his talented hand in all facets of tournament operation.

MORT LEVE, Executive Secretary and Editor of ACE Magazine. Despite the constant stream of correspondence that comes through national headquarters in Skokie, Ill., Mort still is able to travel afield and keep a personal touch with the many faithful, hard-working volunteers — the men who run our tournaments, send in memberships and news. Mort has found dedicated handballers wherever he has gone and treasures their friendships. It's been a steady uphill climb since he joined the Association in late 1953. At that time there were 345 members . . . today, we rapidly approach the 10,000 mark and the surface is still only scratched.

JOE ARDITO, National Tournaments Coordinator. This new title was created last year at the Nationals in St. Louis to fill a need. Joe can now go into a USHA nationals with the needed know-how to plug any gaps in the planning and assure a liaison between

the host and the national office. Joe's background as National Junior chairman, president of the affiliate Illinois Handball Association and member of the USHA board of directors fits him well for the task. Genial Joe knows all the players and as top grade Masters' player himself can appreciate their problems and also those of the host.

BOB DAVIDSON, National Juniors Chairman. Bob has practically dedicated his life to teaching youngsters the game. He is proud of his "boys" and just this last year had the supreme gratification watching four of them playing in the national 3-wall doubles finals — the Straus twins against Decatur and Russo, and then in the National Juniors with the under-19 winner in Steve Lott, the under-17 winner in Gary Straus, and missing the under-16 grand slam when 15-year-old Ken Ginty lost in the third game of the finals, 21-20. Bob loves to sit down with any player, discuss his game and put forth his theories of play. He is a plus factor in the USHA official family.

JIM JACOBS, Rules & Referees Chairman. Last year it was felt that the thorough knowledge of the game that is Jim's could be of benefit to the official listings. The USHA record champion has given much back to the game, putting on exhibitions, conducting clinics, working with instructional and tournament films. Jim has never been reluctant to help the youngsters and since being in New York City has indoctrinated many of the teenagers that are now making handball headlines. His name is best known amongst this generation's players and he has a wholehearted respect of all those who have come in contact with him. In spite of injuries Jacobs has been on a plateau of performance level above anyone else around.

GEORGE BROTEMARKLE, Treasurer. Again we emphasize the fact that the USHA officials combine the advantages of tournament playing excellence with a willingness to devote their efforts for the betterment of both the Association and the game. George is such a man. All through the USHA history he has been a bulwark in the Masters doubles and before that in the open Southern California ranks. His abilities as a CPA and business advisor have ideally suited him for this administrative post and he has given unselfishly of his time and efforts.

AREA COMMISSIONERS — East — Irving Ehrlich, "Mr. One Wall," who annually puts on a record-entry national one-wall at the Brownsville Boys Club, second to none. MIDWEST — Dr. John Scapis, who does so much for the success of the national three-wall, an institution that has prospered and expanded with the Association. SOUTH — Pete Tyson, now host man for the second USHA four-wall nationals at the University of Texas, and the man who has shown what can be accomplished at the college level with the game. SOUTHEAST — Sid Semel, working out of Norfolk, Va., reliable and always able to get an A-1 job done, whether it be an invitational Virginia Open or Southeast USHA Regional. ROCKY MOUNTAIN — Helms Hall of Famer Les Shumate. We have been to Denver for the national in 1961, the contenders nationals in 1967 and now the Rocky Mountain regional — and Les has been the man-in-motion who gets things done. WEST — Ed Kelly, who finds players in abundance in that fast-growing Southern California area. Ed is commissioner at the Pacific Coast Club in Long Beach and has coordinated on some 250-plus entry tournaments covering open and regional play. PACIFIC NORTHWEST — Andy Anderson, another gem, the inventor of the Eye Guard so needed in the game, and the man who guided the very successful 1963 nationals and 1968 contenders nationals at his Washington, A.C. in Seattle.



## Strong Entry Will Challenge Stuffy's Title

By MORT LEVE

Stuffy Singer will have a horde of hungry "wolves" howling for his crown at the 19th USHA championships in Austin, Texas. Heading the pack will be the 1966-67 winner, Paul Haber of Milwaukee, determined to rebound with top physical condition.

From year to year it has been a case of who is ready, physically and mentally, for the game's biggest test. It is becoming more and more apparent that durability through the week-long grind is as much an asset as court finesse. Ray Neveau, the Oshkosh bulldozer, demonstrated that in St. Louis last year, coming right down to the wire.

Johnny Sloan, a "Grand Slam" singles and doubles winner in 1958, 1959 and 1961, used to thrive on the heavy schedule — pacing himself just as those six-day bicycle racers used to, coming in with some extra poundage and paring it down to championship form.

Today, with the increasing number of championship plateau performers, it is foolhardy for any player to seriously contemplate taking the singles if he takes on the added burden of doubles. We understand New York's Marty Decatur will forego a defense of the doubles crown with Jim Jacobs and go for the one prize that has eluded him in an outstanding career.

### 'Player of Year'

Marty could well qualify as handball's 1968 "Player of the Year." He and Jim won a fifth doubles, then he took a "Slam" in the three-wall, and place positions in the one-wall. If he does concentrate on singles we would place him and Haber as Singer's most serious contenders.

Canada's "import", Pat Kirby, also figures in definite contention. The 32-year-old Irishman is probably playing as well or better now than he ever did before and has been able to prepare himself with a full season of tournament and exhibition activity. Pat's left shoulder has responded well after a bad break suffered almost two years ago, and as is often the case when playing one handed his right is much deadlier.

It is assumed that two fine players will be back in singles action at Austin after missing the 1968 classic. One, Bob Lindsay, has the advantage of knowing the U. of Texas glass court like the palm of his hand. In the 1965 nationals held at his alma mater, Bob was in the Top Eight along with two other hosts, Pete Tyson and Dick Roberson. The other expected returnee is Phoenix' Dave Graybill, who created quite a stir when he wound up third in his first national try in 1964 and then was runnerup to Jacobs at Austin in 1965.

Lindsay nosed out Graybill recently in the El Paso Sun Bowl invitational, 21-19, 21-20. In the semis Graybill had practically decapitated Chicago's Jack McDonald.

### Shumate 'Killer'

Considered Texas' No. 1 performer, Buzz Shumate of Dallas, is also

capable of raising havoc with any player in the tournament with his two-hand kill game, and he, too, gets a favorable form chart rank. Buzz wound up third last year in his best USHA national showing, beating Steve August of Detroit for the honor. It was August who eliminated a physically-below-par Haber in the quarter-finals at St. Louis. His arduous internship duties probably keep him from attaining the needed razor edge for such a tournament but he is a Top Eight and must be respected.

With this rundown we do not want to overlook or minimize the potential of two-time runnerup to Haber, St. Paul's very able and experienced Bill Yambrick. Bill has dominated the national Y scene the past several years and if he comes

into this one without arm or back miseries he could well be a 'spoiler.' He lost to a charged up Shumate last year, 7-21, 21-11, 21-13. And, while he didn't openly offer excuses, it was apparent that his back was bothering him.

Rounding out the Top Eight finishers of 1968; Reno's Bob Bourbeau could do better than he did last time. He just couldn't untrack himself against Singer, losing 21-10, 21-5, and had a real difficult time eliminating Andy Upatnieks of Chicago in the previous round.

### Later Developments?

We realize that many fresh developments can take place from the time this Feb. ACE Yearbook goes to press and national tournament time more than a month later. The regionals and national contenders are held and that can give a clearer picture of 1969 tournament play along with the increasing number of independent open and invitational competitions.

We would consider Yambrick's St. Paul sidekick, Terry Muck, now ready for the Top Eight, but he is scheduled to report for his Spring Training in the Atlanta Braves' system in early March and will not participate.

So, in singles, it's going to be California's Stuffy Singer against



THE MAN TO BEAT . . . Stuffy Singer boosts self to 'Wilt the Stilt' height as ranking No. 1 singles performer. Ray Neveau, runnerup last year, will be one of select group seeking to tumble the Californian off the lofty perch in the big show of "Handball Under Glass" at the University of Texas.



the field — and our "Winter Book" is as follows:

- 1—Stuffy Singer, Los Angeles
- 2—Paul Haber, Milwaukee; or  
—Marty Decatur, New York City
- 4—Bill Yambrick, St. Paul
- 5—Ray Neveau, Oshkosh; Dave Graybill, Phoenix; Bob Lindsay, Wichita Falls; Buzz Shumate, Dallas; Pat Kirby, Toronto.
- 10—Steve August, Detroit; Bob Bourbeau, Reno; Andy Upatnieks, Chicago; Gordie Pfeifer, Tacoma; Paul Schulz, St. Paul; Steve Lott, New York.

In discussing national tournament doubles we must keep in mind our "Pick-A-Partner" basic concept of the Players' Fraternity. Right now we don't know who some of the better teams might be. The doubles throne is being vacated with Jim Jacobs not participating and Marty Decatur going into singles only. We expect the runnerup team of Oscar and Ruby Obert then to be established as the No. 1 seed.

The USHA national doubles has been a frustrating experience for the New Yorkers. The Oberts have come away with the "Avis" tag too often to suit their battling instincts and this might just be the year when they will finally annex this elusive prize.

On their own home glass grounds the team of Pete Tyson and Dick Roberson must be given every consideration. In 1965 three "home" products — Bob Lindsay, Tyson and Roberson finished in the Top Eight of singles, indicating that "high around the glass" on the U. of Texas championship court is a definite-plus factor to the Longhorn natives.

The West Coast strength will be with Long Beach's Mel Sandland and Matt Kelly, who have showed to advantage in regional and the 1968 Contenders at Seattle. Paul Haber was "on the fence" on his intentions of going both ways, and if he should take a strong doubles partner it would put the title up for grabs.

Denny Hofflander, back from Viet Nam, poses a question mark for physical readiness. He lost 20 lbs. and finishes up with six months Stateside duty before getting his discharge. How much handball he can play in the two months back before Austin is the big question in both singles and doubles consideration.

Don Ardito and Andy Upatnieks figure as the best of the Midwest tandems with Ray Neveau (if he plays doubles) with Simie Fein of Milwaukee right up there close in the rankings.

Even at the tender age of 16 the Straus twins can do well, although hardly expected to get past the quarter-finals.



**TOUGH CHALLENGERS . . .** Paul Haber (shown shooting) and Bill Yambrick were 1-2 in both 1966 and 1967. Now, both in top physical condition, they figure as serious threats to the reign of Stuffy Singer. Haber went into the 1968 tournament with torn stomach muscles and obviously not capable of defending his title. Yambrick was also handicapped with back troubles but has since displayed a complete return to his best play. Always a Spartan conditioner, Yambrick has won every other major singles honor and only the big prize has eluded him. One thing for certain—both these most talented players are "hungry" for the title. Note in this picture how Yambrick maintains a front court, left position, forcing Haber to shoot to the right from behind him. As Paul starts righthand stroke Bill starts move toward right corner and unless ball is bottom board he has offensive advantage.

In conjecture this figures to be a "Pick-A-Partner" year against the Oberts in the wake of the Jacobs-Decatur abdication.

Masters singles comes back for a second whirl and this is dependent on who goes for singles and who goes for doubles. It was Vic Hershkowitz, Bob Brady, Alvis Grant and Vito Maggipinto as the fearsome foursome in 1966 . . . We figure Brady to defend in Masters doubles with Bob McGuire, and Ken Schneider and Gus Lewis making a determined try to regain the championship. Alex Boisseree and Dick Weisman were the runnerups at St. Louis last April and have gained further stature on the West Coast

tourney swing.

There are no doubts that the addition of Masters singles dilutes the doubles so we'll just wait and see what develops.

Predictions in national tournament handball are foolhardy . . . so much depends on physical condition, draw, and late hour entries. Suffice to say Stuffy Singer will have the herculean task of proving his singles championship mettle; a new doubles champion will be proclaimed; Brady-McGuire will have no easy time repeating in Masters doubles; whoever takes the Masters singles will, of necessity, be a real good conditioned plus-40 year old.



# Steve Lott 'Arrives' As Under-19 Junior Champion

Steve Lott, the new "Bronx Bomber," bouncing back after a disappointing showing at Tulsa in 1967, proved to be the standout performer in the 13th Annual USHA National Juniors held at Lake Forest College, Dec. 28-30. Steve, 18, polished off four opponents en route to the under-19 championship. He never allowed more than 10 points in any game and completely dominated the play.

Steve, using a new format of "a fast tempo, hard-hitting kill game and in and out of the court with 21 as soon as possible," avenged two losses of the previous tournament as he trounced Wes Yee and now a Lake Forest College team member, and then upseated the defending champ, Tom Kopaytic, Milwaukee, in the finals. Last time Lott had lost to Kopaytic in the semis, 21-13, 21-20, and then to Wes for third place, 15-21, 21-17, 21-17.

It was the lefthander Gary Straus taking the under-17 crown away from his twin brother Mitchell, in a repeat final round pairing. At Tulsa Mitchell won in three games, Gary did it in two.

An under-16 division was initiated for the first time and it proved to be a successful addition. Rick Christian, 15, Van Nuys, Calif., had a squeaker in beating Ken Ginty, 15, New York, for the title, 21-6, 20-21, 21-20.

Third place finishers were: Wes Yee over Dan Krueger, St. Louis, in the under-19; Steve Smith, St. Louis, over Mario Shembari, Chicago, in the under-17; Leon Abel, New York, over Barry Goldstein, St. Louis, in the under-16.

Consolation winners were: Marty Cohen, Miami Beach, who followed the suit of his teammate, Roy Gelber, in taking the under-19; and scrappy little Ted Yevelson, St. Louis, who won the combined under-16 and 17.

There was an original field of 43 entered, bettering the former mark of 37 set at Salt Lake City in 1966. Bad weather forced four players out still setting a record at 39. Some of the entrants had a harrowing time getting to the suburban Chicago site. Bob Brady Jr. and Peter Colichidas, the San Francisco Olympic Club representatives, had to go a round about by way of New York and arrived in the middle of the night. Doug Bowley and Gordon Focht of San Antonio were sidetracked to Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and finally arrived the afternoon of the first day's action.

USHA provided transportation assistance, arranged for meals at Jim Mitchell's restaurant in Lake Forest, and housing at the Pagoda Motor Inn located in nearby North



ALL-NEW YORK BATTLE . . . Wes Yee, of New York and now student at Lake Forest College, won over Steve Lott last time out at Tulsa but this was Steve's year. Here, Wes shoots from deep court with Steve anticipating, ready to dig it up for return. Glass side walled court at Lake Forest College posed no problem for the tremendous showing made by Lott.

Chicago. Mike Dau, Lake Forest College handball coach, also provided some housing and to and from transportation facilities.

If "comeback" is the suitable word then that is the tab given Steve Lott at the ripe old age of 18. At 16 big things were predicted for Steve but he was a complete disappointment in the 1967-68 season. He has now untracked himself, realizing he must keep an aggressive, sharp shooting game to spell victory. As early as the second round when he bombed St. Louis' Dave Smith, also a Lake Forest College team member, 21-3, 21-6, it was evident that this was the one that Lott was going to win.

As expected the colorful Straus twins of Flushing, N.Y., overshadowed the under-17 field. Gary predicted a turn in events early in the tournament when he opined, "This is my year. Mitchell hasn't got a chance." And, it appeared the right-hander Mitchell, defending champ, wasn't too optimistic when he said, "Gary is playing real strong lately and it's going to be tough to beat him."

Phil Smith, men's club director at the St. Louis JCCA, chaperoned the eight-player contingent along with Al Goldstein, and had requested that the under-16 division be added to accommodate the less-experienced trio he had in tow — Al's two

sons, Barry and Billy, and Ted Yevelson. Then, we got a 15-year-old entry, Frank Foster, from Halifax, Nova Scotia; Leon Abel, New York, Ken Mazon of Kansas City, and the finalists — Ken Ginty, New York, and Rick Christian, Stuffy Singer's protege.

When Ginty, son of the late and former New York A. C. standout, Ken Sr., paired off against Christian it was a surprisingly polished match with the youngsters using both hands well and demonstrating all-round court savvy. Young Ginty was a crestfallen competitor after losing the third game, 21-20, but there will be many moments of handball glory in store for the rangy New Yorker.

## FULL RESULTS — Under 16:

*Preliminary:* Ted Yevelson, St. Louis, def. Bill Baraban, Kansas City, 19-21, 21-8, 21-6.

*First Round:* Ken Ginty, N. Y., def. Billy Goldstein, St. Louis, 21-2, 21-15; Leon Abel, N. Y., def. Yevelson, 21-20, 21-15; Barry Goldstein, St. Louis, def. Frank Foster, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, 21-5, 21-15; Rick Christian, Van Nuys, Calif., def. Ken Mazon, Kansas City, 21-3, 21-12.

*Semi-finals:* Ginty def. Abel, 16-21, 21-8, 21-16; Christian def. Barry Goldstein, 21-5, 21-2.

*Finals:* Christian def. Ginty, 21-6, 20-21, 21-20.



**Third Place:** Abel def. Billy Goldstein, 21-7, 21-11.

#### UNDER 17:

**First Round:** Ture Peterson, Kansas City, def. Chuck Dohman, Chicago, 21-10, 21-5; Mario Shembari, Chicago, def. Bob Brady Jr., San Francisco, 21-13, 6-21, 21-14.

**Quarter-finals:** Mitchell Straus, New York, def. Peterson, 21-9, 21-7; Shembari won by default over Scott Spann, Corpus Christi; Steve Smith, St. Louis, def. Tom Peterson, 21-0, 21-2; Gary Straus, New York, def. Peter Colichidas, San Francisco, 21-3, 21-13.

**Semi-finals:** M. Straus def. Shembari, 21-6, 21-8; G. Straus, def. Smith, 21-2, 21-18.

**Finals:** G. Straus def. M. Straus, 21-11, 21-16.

**Third Place:** Smith def. Shembari, 21-8, 21-8.

#### UNDER 19:

**First Round:** Steve Jamron, Miami Beach, def. Gordon Focht, San Antonio, 21-8, 21-11; Andy Messenger, Lansing, Mich., def. Stu Rothstein, Denver, 21-9, 21-10; Dan Krueger, St. Louis, def. Leo Kilcoyne, Chicago, 21-6, 21-5; Bob Ginsburg, St. Louis, def. Marty Cohen, Miami Beach, 21-12, 16-21, 21-10; Bob Kopaytic, Milwaukee, def. Mike Ramm, Kansas City, 21-10, 21-4; Roy Gelber, Miami Beach, def. Gary Loiben, Skokie, Ill., 21-6, 21-16.

**Second Round:** Tom Kopaytic, Milwaukee, won by default over George McMurray, Chicago; Messenger def. Jamron, 21-5, 21-15; Krueger def. Randy Stealich, Salt Lake City, 21-7, 21-1; William Yee, New York, def. Bob Ginsburg, 21-11, 21-9; Steve Lott, New York, def. B. Kopaytic, 21-1, 21-1; Dave Smith, St. Louis, def. Doug Bowley, San Antonio, 21-18, 19-21, 21-11; Mark Levine, Brooklyn, def. Gelber, default; Wes Yee, def. Don Ginsburg, St. Louis, 21-19, 21-13.

**Quarter-finals:** T. Kopaytic, def. Messenger, 12-21, 21-9, 21-10; Krueger def. William Yee, 9-21, 21-7, 21-13; Lott def. Smith, 21-3, 21-6; Wes Yee def. Levine, 21-1, 21-7.

**Semi-finals:** T. Kopaytic def. Krueger, 21-18, 21-10; Lott def. Wes Yee, 21-7, 21-9.

**Finals:** Lott def. T. Kopaytic, 21-6, 21-10.

**Third Place:** Wes Yee def. Krueger, 21-14, 21-12.

**JUNIOR NOTES:** — Bob Davidson "Coach of the Year" (ask him if you don't believe it) flew up from Miami, wrapped himself up good during the cold, snowy weather. He was very proud of Steve Lott's reversal in form. Tabbed as a comer in St. Louis—real competitor and court savvy, Ted Yevelson . . . the big job was to get the players to and from their living quarters to the restaurant to the sports complex and back. Roy Gelber, used to the warm Flamingo Park of Miami



PRESIDENT BOB ADDRESSES JUNIORS . . . USHA head keynotes talk with advantages handball can afford youngsters throughout their lives, giving an ideal outlet . . . but warns that game should not take away from their educational and followup business pursuits.

Beach climes, came down with the flu after his first match and was found asleep in the locker room when the building was being closed up. Besides winning all the marbles Lott was a hard-working chauffeur shuttling to and from the airport to pick up incoming players . . . Sartorial splendor — Leon Abel in his purple ensemble and Mitchell Straus in his Edwardian special. Your reporter picked up Frank Foster of Halifax nite before expected arrival . . . he had stops in Montreal and Toronto before coming into Chicago's O'Hare and was one tired boy.

Annual banquet with USHA President Bob Kendler addressing the boys and regretting he doesn't have 40 years of court play ahead of him

instead of behind him . . . telling the boys they have a lifetime ideal outlet that will help them in their business endeavors. Mike Dau spoke of the college handball picture, lamenting the fact that lack of handball teachers is keeping intercollegiate play from becoming a recognized NCAA sport . . . Joe Ardito, long-time youth handball promoter and now our national tournaments coordinator, praised the boys for their sportsmanship and abilities. Bob Davidson talked about his favorite "point of contact" success secret and wasn't hesitant in telling the boys that when it comes to handball he's the last word — and, he probably is!

And, next year we plan to add doubles!



GARY 'MOD' . . . Under-17 winner Gary Straus poses in his Edwardian suit . . . creating quite a stir at the National Juniors.

Best Wishes

From

92nd St. "Y"

4-WALL CLUB

BEN HORWITZ

President

AL STEIN

Physical Director



# OBSERVATION TOWER

By BOB DAVIDSON  
National Juniors Chairman

This has been my year. All my efforts of past years helping the boys has borne a bumper crop. Let me crow a little, fellows. This is my only payoff. Our way of playing is coming to the forefront in the world of handball.

Here's the honor roll:

Marty Decatur . . . a champ in four-wall, three-wall and one-wall . . . pulling the hat trick in 1968.

Lou Russo Jr. . . after a two year layoff from tournament play . . . Twice former Junior champ in one-wall and four-wall, and doubles three-wall champ with Decatur this year. Russo is in the best shape since he was 16 years old and I think he will do extremely well at Austin.

Wes Yee . . . National Junior under 17 winner two years ago . . . is at Lake Forest College and has not reached his potential as yet.

William Yee, also at Lake Forest College and improving all the time.

Mitchell Straus, 1967 under 17 champ.

Gary Straus, who beat his twin brother Mitchell for the under 17 title in December.

## Doubles Potential

Gary and Mitchell are going into the National Contenders as a doubles team at the age of 16 and should do well. They can thank the USHA for sending them. As you all know these boys were great at the Detroit three-wall, coming in second to Russo-Decatur. That was quite a thrill seeing four of my boys in the finals.

In the consolation of the under-19 Juniors last month, Marty Cohen of Miami Beach, another of my "boys", came through with the win. He has given the game a lot of attention and has the staying power. Roy Gelber, also of my Flamingo Park stable, won his first under-19 match, then got the flu bug and was sidelined. Steve Jamron, another Beach boy, now at Lake Forest College, won a couple of matches but his strong suit is doubles with William Yee as his partner.

The big surprise of the Juniors was 15-year-old Ken Ginty, son of the late New York A. C. standout, Ken Sr. Ken is coming along strong and playing well after getting rid of his sloppy playing habits. He came in second to Rick Christian, a California lad with fine potential.

Ken lost a heartbreaker 3-game final match to Rick and didn't heed my advice. I told him not to shoot in the latter part of the final game but he ignored the suggestion and missed five attempts for a kill. When I queried him, he said, one of the top players of the country had told him that he should always shoot on game point to show guts.

How do you like that? A win by him would have given our group a clean sweep.

Steve Lott, in winning the under-19 title from defending champ, Tom Kopaytic, did a fantastic job. Up to a month before this tourney Steve still hadn't gotten his game together. We were having problems solving why Lott's game had disintegrated in the past couple of years, but since last summer Steve straightened out his thinking and is now on his way to unlimited possibilities. In his play throughout the tournament his choice of shots was practically faultless.

## Lott Determination

I can't tell you how proud I am of his determination and strength of mind to come so far after being "lost" for two years. Honestly, I had just about given up on him. This proves we must never give up on a youngster as long as he gives it the try. Steve turned 19 in January and if he can concentrate on retaining his type of game he will go far.

I saw some good young talent in all three age brackets. In the under 16 little Ted Yevelson of St. Louis impressed me most. As he gains physically he will add power and should move upwards. He has a good game now, moves his opponents around but uses his offhand a bit too much. He shoots right wall, front wall too much and should vary it with front wall, right wall occasionally. This pays off for any player.

Baraban from Kansas City has potential. Barry and Billy Goldstein, sons of Al Goldstein, are coming along. Leon Abel from the Bronx is definitely going to be a good one. He has an exceptional off hand, and has been a fine one-waller for Clinton high school. Abel has only played four-wall a year. His problem right now is slow tempo; if he develops a driving game he will win

some laurels.

In the under-17 age class, Ture Peterson of Kansas City showed well. He plays too much defensively, however, and should shoot more . . . and he must get down low to shoot rather than become a stand up shooter. We discussed this with him.

## Must Adjust Game

Bob Brady Jr., another of the famed handball playing father group, is a tall rangy boy with his father's fighting, competitive spirit. He did well in a losing effort against Chicago's Mario Shembari in three game. Bob Jr. shoots too much with either hand and must learn defensive shots.

Steve Smith of St. Louis is certainly on his way to becoming a top player nationally. He has the physical equipment but still uses too many changeups. He should keep the fast tempo power game going and forget soft shooting at this time.

In the under-17 finals no one wanted to referee because they couldn't tell the Straus twins apart so I was the one elected. It was a great game. At the age of 16 these boys have "arrived." They did everything well . . . good volleying, shooting percentage, fine opposite hands, strong tempo and both in good shape. The difference this year was Gary's serves and shooting. Mitchell played it too safe at times. I expect big things from them as a doubles team with Gary the lefthander and Mitchell a righthander and guiding the duo. Mitchell is the type who thinks he can't be beat until 21 points are posted against him. Gary is the dedicated one. For three months he got up early in the morning — 7 a.m.! — to play Jack Weintraub singles at the West Side Y. I could certainly see by his moves and choice of shots that he's picked up a lot of good habits.

Tom Kopaytic, the Milwaukee strong boy, made it look easy in his march to the finals . . . he's got a good opposite left but finds his opponent too often around the short line. He was unfortunate in getting in against a red hot Steve Lott.

## San Antonio Lads

There were a couple of good boys from San Antonio in Gordon Focht and Doug Bowley. These boys were stranded for 36 hours by the weather before getting to the tourney. Bowley was very impressive but uses his off hand left too much. He has a lot going for him and should develop into a strong tournament player in the Southwest.

Andy Messinger of Lansing, Mich., a greatly improved player over 1967,



lost in three games to Kopaytic . . . he told me that our clinic helped him after the last one. He's a smart player who needs a faster tempo and needs to make his shots flatter.

Dan Kreuger of St. Louis has real potential . . . rangy, good stamina, hits the ball well . . . but he was shooting rather poor and his serve should be changed. He, too, is inclined to shoot from a stand up position and gives too many back wall setups. He's a good listener and I'm sure that once he gets into a good pattern of play he'll move quickly in the Mound City upper circles.

Randy Stealich of Salt Lake City has possibilities . . . moves well, right handed with good opposite hand but real slow tempo. I talked with his Dad at length and I'm sure Randy will improve. Mike Ramm of Kansas City looks much improved over the last one. His Dad helped out in the refereeing department.

Gary Loiben of Chicago has the same love for the game that his father, Ben has, and is coming along well.

The Ginsburg brothers from St. Louis did well. Don took Marty Cohen to three games with the finale, 21-20.

### Junior Progress

Every year the Juniors is getting better . . . more boys, better playing . . . they have been brought along by fellows like Phil Smith and Al Goldstein of St. Louis . . . Gus Kopaytic of Milwaukee.

Point of contact . . . this is what I emphasize. Until they realize there is a definite point of contact their game will not improve rapidly. All of our boys hit the ball hard because of the point of contact ability. The idea is to meet the ball as low as possible to the floor, as far from you as is comfortable, and stepping into the ball as contact is made. This position should be around the center of the body. This appears to be a problem with most of the boys. They are letting the ball play them. Instead of leaving enough swinging room by keeping the ball away from the body, they seem to handcuff themselves.

And, the majority of the boys don't take advantage of the ceiling shot. If used correctly this can actually be an offensive shot at times. Most of the boys use their off hands too much. It is a matter of percentages. At the young age they should develop a strictly defensive off hand so that their opponents are not set up. Then later on off hand shots can be developed that can give a percentage of kills.

Our theory is hitting the ball instead of "carrying it." By meeting the ball away from and at the center of the body and always step-



NATIONAL JUNIORS BANQUET . . . Traditional chicken dinner highlights three-day Junior classic held Dec. 28-30 at Lake Forest College. Record turnout of 39 boys (four couldn't make it because of weather) competed in three brackets. Seen in upper part of photo at head table—(l to r)—Bob Davidson, Bob Kendler, Joe Ardito, Ben Costello and Mike Dau.

ing into the ball more power is generated along with more accuracy.

### Youthful Zip

My opinion is that a young player should use power, learn to kill well, play at a fast tempo . . . not be cute or what they call smart at this stage of his development. Youngsters will make a tremendous effort to retrieve a ball but will slow up on a try for a kill. This is what I hate to see in a young player. It takes years of experience to use a change up without getting the ball crammed down your throat. Even fellows like Decatur and Russo seldom use a change up unless they are positive they will get away with it.

I suggest you read my article in the USHA rule booklet on basics and if you have any questions write me and I will try to explain a bit more.

Good to see Bob Kendler at the final round matches. He had a very tough time getting back from Minneapolis. Joe Ardito, our coordinator and his second in command, Ben Costello, helped with the refereeing.

We had been disappointed in not getting Flamingo Park for the Juniors but Mike Dau, handball coach at Lake Forest College, took the tourney and worked hard to make everyone happy. We had the honor of being the house guest of Mike and his lovely wife, Judy. My better half, Pauline, stayed in Miami,

and missed her first Juniors. Judy also kept house for three or four youngsters, took care of Roy Gelber when he got sick, and had a hot snack waiting for Mike and myself, no matter what time we got back from the day's play.

Mort the Sport did a fine job in setting up the tourney on short notice, with housing and food . . . making up the draw, and having his son, Chuck, as official photographer.

### Florida Next?

Next December we hope to stage the Juniors in Miami Beach with proper housing and food. The reorganization of the Miami Beach Handball Association will help . . . Joe Brotman, president; myself first vice president; Bob Lewis, second vice president; Jackie Lewis, secretary; Lou Soodak, treasurer; Harry Rice, membership chairman. We are putting on the pressure for more courts, and are getting a fund together to send our top young players to tournaments such as the USHA Southeast regional, the National Contenders in Birmingham, and the grand finale Nationals in Austin, Texas.

We just completed an A and B doubles tourney. Fred Lewis and Brotman won with Al Levine and 17-year-old Jackie Lewis, second.

(to page 31)



## National Commissioner Seeks Further Stimulus of Handball In All Facilities Possible

**"TO STIMULATE INTEREST IN HANDBALL IN SCHOOLS, COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES, GROUNDS, PARKS, Y.M.C.A.s, PRIVATE CLUBS AND ALL OTHER PLACES HAVING APPROPRIATE FACILITIES."**

" . . . so reads paragraph 7, Sub. 8 of the Articles of Incorporation of the United States Handball Association.

These objectives, among others, have never escaped our attention, energies and efforts. Many of our plans and activities have had these areas principally in mind. So it is fitting that the 1969 National Four-wall tournament of the USHA be held at the University of Texas. This great institution of learning has also recognized the importance of Physical Fitness. Their handball facilities are second to none. The 13 courts with the center amphitheatre glass court is the dream of every handball enthusiast — where waiting for a court to play in is reduced to the minimum. Here the young novice receives expert instruction in the fundamentals of the game from capable instructors like Pete Tyson and Dick Roberson. The products of their instruction have been and are making their marks in tournaments in which they participated. Many of these former students are well known today in USHA circles.

Other centers of handball, in recent years, have also gone forward in the promotion and development of handball interest and participation. When one considers the work of our East Area Commissioner, Irving Ehrlich and the Brownsville Boys Club of Brooklyn, it speaks well for the success of our objectives in the New York area. Considering that their big handball event takes 4 to 6 weeks to complete and involving over 600 players, one can appreciate the dedication and effort of these titans in our Fraternity. These people make a great contribution to our purposes and objectives.

Also, consider the work of Mike de la Pena of the Olympic Club in San Francisco. As their handball coach he has an active program of handball instruction for large classes of young men who meet with him every Saturday morning. He adds spice to this program which continues for 12 months every year, by arranging and supervising tournaments among these neophytes. The San Francisco Bay Area has been the scene of the activities of another handball teacher whose work among the Catholic Youth Organizations and public playgrounds has received our special notice in the past. Those who know Marty Judnich know of his dedication to our sport. One need only talk with Marty a few minutes about handball to recognize his enthusiasm. He becomes animated, his face lights up and you become a confidant of his plans for his "handball kids." With him this has been going on for 30 years.

Another of our handball centers, coming into prominence is the University of California at Irvine, California. Here, Dr. Henry Burke spearheads the handball program. This growing University, with 6 courts, is beginning to feel the need for more courts because of the gaining popularity of our sport. They hosted the Christmas Invitational week-end tourna-



JUDGE JOSEPH SHANE

ment for the second successive year with more than 260 entries in all divisions. It is refreshing to see the large entry of college students from this University participating in daily play as well as in the Southern California tournaments. This University is making a substantial contribution to the aims and objectives of the USHA.

The Southern California Handball Association, through its dynamic leadership of President Marty Singer (father of national champ, Stuffie Singer) and immediate past president, Alex Boisseree, were instrumental in initiating the Christmas week-end invitational at the University of California at Irvine. Present plans are to continue this event for some time to come. Recently Gary Lovell, Secretary of the SCHA, wrote to the director of sports and athletic programs of the Los Angeles County, Board of Education, suggesting a meeting to set up an organized program in the high school system in this area to teach handball. They made it known that they would provide capable instructors and provide all necessary personnel to get this program underway. These plans are now being formulated. It is your Commissioner's hope that this same idea can and will be carried forward in other areas of the country so as to interest more young people in our sport at the High School level.

There are many other persons who have and are doing their part to stimulate interest in our sport. Bob Davidson, recently of New York and now of Miami, Florida, who is the National Juniors chairman, has, over the years, spent as much time as any other single individual in seeking out, teaching and encouraging young handball talent. His proteges from the New York area are today wearing the mantles of our Junior Champions. Knowing Bob, we can look for him to come up with championship talent out of Miami. He has the eye for it.

In citing these few examples of people and organizations who carry out our "purposes and objectives," we realize there are many others who should justly come in for mention. The object of this article is not primarily to single out people and organizations. Its prime purpose is to point out that we of the USHA do more than give lip service to our objectives. Our work is continuous. To those of you not mentioned, take comfort in the knowledge that you are contributing to our over-all work.

It would not be normal for me to end any conversation or write the final paragraph in any article about handball without again asking that you continue your support of the USHA by buying the products from which we receive our royalties used entirely for the support of your handball fraternity. Buy and use The Spalding "Handball and the Saranac ACE" gloves. See you at the Nationals in Austin, Texas.

JOSEPH SHANE  
NATIONAL COMMISSIONER

ACE — U.S.H.A.



# Schneider-Lewis Repeat Central Masters Win

Ken Schneider and Gus Lewis are "bent" on regaining the USHA National Masters doubles championship. Their first step forward was made in the December Central USHA Masters when they retained possession of the title, again defeating Duncan YMCA's Red Mugavero and Tony Tenerelli in the finals.

It was a repeat three-gamer with a different format than that in 1967 when the Evanston Y reps lost the first game and were behind 14-16 in the second before moving out for the match win in three games. This time at Northwest Suburban Y, Ken and Gus took charge in the first game, then were nosed out in the second, and then assumed command in the third — 21-10, 17-21, 21-12.

Joe Ardito, Evanston Y, and Ben Costello, Oak Park Y, took third place over Pete Albarello and Tony Klimek of the 111th St. Y, 21-9, 21-15.

There were 22 teams entered in the annual competition. The tourney went pretty much by the seed charts with the exception of newcomer No. 4 seed, Frank Bianca and Lee Hoeft, Oak Park Y. They went down in the quarters to Albarello and Klimek, 21-11, 21-18.

Jim Brosnan, former big league pitcher, with his partner, Northwest Suburban Y General Secretary Chuck McClellan, lost in their first test to the Horwich Center team of Ben Loiben and Dave Weinberg, 21-6, 6-21, 21-12.

It is interesting to note that the eight quarter-finalists represented eight different organizations. Don Kienlen, veteran campaigner from the Joliet Y, teamed with Chuck



FOUR BEST TEAMS . . . Standing (l to r)—Pete Albarello and Tony Klimek of the 111th St. YMCA, fourth place finishers; Champs Ken Schneider and Gus Lewis, Evanston YMCA. Front (l to r)—Ben Costello, Oak Park YMCA, and Joe Ardito, Evanston YMCA, third placers; Red Mugavero and Tony Tenerelli, Duncan YMCA, runners-up.

Emmert of the Union League Club, losing to Lewis-Schneider, 21-9, 21-8; Roy DeMeyer and Dick Cashmore, Northwest Suburban Y team, lost to Tenerelli and Mugavero, 21-6, 21-17. Costello and Ardito eliminated Loiben and Weinberg,

21-11, 21-17.

The semi-final matches were two gamers — Schneider and Lewis stopping Albarello and Klimek, 21-8, 21-12, and Tenerelli and Mugavero beating Costello and Ardito, 21-18, 21-9.

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JACK GORDON





By MORT LEVE

## From the . . . KILLSHOT ROOM

Your humble scribe missed the first three — this will be my 16th national championships and rambling back over the years there are many spotlighted memories.

Those of us who remember the "Handball Mecca of the Midwest," Bob Kendler's Town Club — 505 N. Michigan avenue, Chicago . . . 1954 ushered in as firm arrivals three new faces — Phil Collins, Johnny Sloan and Jim Jacobs. Jim who flashed the brilliance that was to lead to six USHA four-wall singles and as many doubles titles . . . Collins and Sloan, who became one of the all-time great doubles teams, and Johnny adding a record breaking three "Slams." That's handball's iron man feat of taking both singles and doubles.

Al Schaufelberger was our national commissioner and he was a 100 per cent USHA man. We lost a real stalwart when he met with an untimely death the next year.

1954 was a return to the throne for Vic Hershkowitz, besting Bob Brady of San Francisco, who had won the big one in 1953 in Houston. This was to be Vic's last national singles win as he donned the bridesmaid role to Jacobs the next three years and then stepped in as an exhibition foe for Sloan in the 1958 "World Series" finale in the Aurora, Ill. YMCA glass court when Jim had to default because of a back injury the day before in the doubles finals.

A dozen years later in Salt Lake City Hershkowitz met Brady again in the finals, but this was our first Masters singles, and again it was Vic over Bob. Just last Fall Vic racked up his 40th national title, the one-wall Masters doubles.

We will always remember the Angelo Trulio prediction about the Jacobs' potential — "Barring sickness or injury, Jacobs will go on to better the late Joe Platak's mark of seven straight national wins, eight overall." But, the Jacobs career in handball is akin that of Mickey Mantle in baseball. A listing of the injuries would be very lengthy. They include badly sprained ankles, leg injuries, continuing back woes after the '58 injury, a rare oxygen control problem that was first diagnosed as heart trouble in 1959. What it turned out to be was remedied medically in six months and Jim was back in fine fettle. But, when he was forced out of the 1959 nationals at his home Los Angeles A.C. court a lot of us were writing an eulogy to a short but outstanding career.

So, Jacobs never equalled the Platak mark, but he is the current all-time USHA singles and doubles winner . . . singles — 1955, 1956, 1957, 1960, 1964, 1965; doubles — 1960, 1962, 1963, 1965, 1967, 1968.

Jacobs won't be in competition

at Austin this year because his back is giving him increasing trouble. He has gone into traction treatment twice, and upon resuming play has found it continues to act up. His five-time winning partner (the other one in 1960 was with Dick Weisman) Marty Decatur will go for singles only, a prize that has eluded him.

Back troubles are not the sole Jacobs' property. Oscar Obert, who has enjoyed a tremendous career in all phases of handball — one-wall, three-wall and four-wall — has been forced to become a "stand up" shooter for the past few years. And, those of us who saw handball's "Big O" slam in kills with both hands from all parts of the court in the late 50's and early 60's know the handicap he now has as he gamely carries on. Oscar won out over Sloan at Houston in 1962 and repeated at Seattle in 1963. Johnny had scored a come-from-behind semi final victory over Decatur at Seattle but couldn't maintain the pace in the finals. After being literally blasted off the court in the first game against Decatur, Sloan pulled together all his court savvy, slowed up the tempo and proceeded to control the play. But, in both his losses to Obert it was the "go for broke" Oscar shooting that spelled the difference.

Gus Lewis was stymied by the back problem after winning it all in 1946 and 1947, then bounced back as the winningest Masters

doubles performer of them all, two with Lefty Coyle and then for a straight mark with Ken Schneider.

When we talk about scintillating marks in USHA tournaments the name George Brotemarkle comes forth. George has enjoyed a 17-year Masters career that is unparalleled in "money finishes," including four winners, one with Bart Hackney, three with "Boston Bill" Feivou.

Now we look forward to a bumper crop of Juniors coming to the center stage in the near future. It will be interesting to see what the Straus twins, Gary and Mitchell, can do in the National Contenders doubles at Birmingham this month, along with Steve Lott in the singles. They infuse a needed stimulus.

If there is to be a "sleeper" in the nationals at Austin it would have to be Lou Russo Jr., in shape. Lou has come back to the tournament trails after a couple of years hiatus and he has the game to raise havoc with any of 'em who will be gunning for Singer's scalp.

The tough job is going to be in the seeding department. For, it appears we will have fellows like Decatur, Russo, Dave Graybill, Bob Lindsay, and Pat Kirby coming in to be placed in spots where they could knock out the established seed: 1-Singer . . . 2-Ray Neveau . . . 3-Buzz Shumate . . . 4-Steve August . . .

In our last visit to Austin, the 1965 Nationals, the National Tournament outlook was "Singles Crown up for grabs — Jacobs teams with Decatur again . . . Who can beat the Masters Schneider-Lewis? What happened? Jimmy Jacobs decided to go into singles at the 24th hour and it ended up in a Jacobs — Dave Graybill finale, with Jacobs and Decatur playing Rudy and Oscar Obert in the doubles finals. So Jim Jacobs pulled the "Slam," winning both singles and doubles. There was some thought that Marty Decatur would be in a showdown with Dave Graybill for the so-called vacated throne. Jim had won the singles a year before in the All-American tournament, combining the USHA, AAU & YMCA, at St. Louis when we had network television of the finals.

We did indicate at the time — "In basketball the home court is usually worth about 10 points and it might be somewhat of an advantage to a trio of Austin entrants on the now famed University of Texas Amphitheatre Court in handball." This would include Dick Roberson, Pete Tyson, and Bob Lindsay. What happened bore this out because all three of these men finished in the top eight. The three sided glass of the University of Texas central court makes for a variety of shots that are not con-

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ACE — U.S.H.A.



## Sixth National Contenders Boasts Strongest Lineup Yet

The United States Handball Association National Contenders was originated in 1964 to provide a "testing competition" for those top drawer players who have not as yet won an open USHA championship in the particular event they enter in.

In the short five-year history of the tournament the results have exceeded the Association's fondest expectations. The Contenders has rapidly climbed into the No. 2 national tournament niche and have truly provided a splendid preview of the "world series of handball" that follows shortly thereafter.

This year the Sixth Annual National Contenders goes to the Birmingham, Alabama, YMCA, and is the most ambitious undertaking to date. A full contingent of the very best singles and doubles players will be brought in for the four-day play. There is a mixture of upcoming brilliant youth, perhaps a year or two away from serious open national contention, and some prime year veterans who have been knocking on the coveted throne door these past several years.

Fresh from impressive victories in the USHA National Juniors held last Dec. 28-30 at Lake Forest College will come: Steve Lott, 18, now a freshman at Bronx Community College in New York City; and the colorful 16-year-old New York City Straus twins, Gary and Mitchell.

### Lott Now Ready

Lott has definitely "arrived" as a tournament performer. The handsome young collegian roared thru a 27-player, under-19 age National Junior field without losing a game, climaxed by a 21-6, 21-10 victory over defending titlist, Tom Kopaytic, Milwaukee. Steve has enjoyed the advantages of almost five years of intensive court schooling by Bob Davidson, national junior chairman, and Jim Jacobs, considered the premier four-wall performer of this generation.

Although only 16, the Straus twins have demonstrated exceptional poise and experience and have played in many big name tournaments in the past two years. Last year (1967) Mitchell, the right-hander, beat Gary in the under-17 juniors at Tulsa; this year (1968) it was the southpaw Gary coming back to turn the tables and claim the under-17 prize. The Straus' hit the handball headlines last Labor Day weekend with heroics in the USHA National Three-Wall in De-

troit. First, Gary upset National Four-Wall Champion Stuffy Singer in the singles. Then the brothers proceeded to eliminate the legendary Obert brothers of New York, Oscar and Ruby, and wind up runnersup in the doubles. Gary and Mitchell, too, have been well schooled by Davidson and Jacobs and are definitely given the "future book" championship potential.

Pat Kirby, 32, recently moved from New York City to Toronto, and is the *only* player in the history of the game to claim national championships in Ireland, United States and Canada. Pat came from Ireland about a decade ago after reigning supreme there and has been a leading campaigner in our tournaments since that time. He suffered a broken left shoulder playing the Irish hurling game (akin that of field hockey) two years ago and is now back in full tournament swing. He won two exhibition matches against 1966-67 national titlist, Paul Haber, in Toronto in November, and followed with another exhibition win in Paul's home baliwick in Milwaukee in December. He has a patented "Irish whip" swing and is a tremendous "killer" from deep court.

Gordon Pfeifer, Tacoma, Wash., 28, a former professional baseball player, has risen fast in tournament handball, is now considered the No. 1 Pacific Northwest player. He impresses with his cannonball two-handed drives and has improved steadily over the past several years.

### Hard-hitting Lindsay

Bob Lindsay, 25, Wichita Falls, Texas. Bob was a good Texas-area player before going to the University of Texas. But it was at the Longhorn school that his talents were really developed. He soon outdistanced his teachers, Pete Tyson and Dick Roberson. He and Tyson won the national USHA doubles at Salt Lake City in 1966. Bob is an intense competitor and has some most impressive credits as a Top Eight finisher in the open nationals and in many invitational-type tournaments. Just recently he won a thriller over 1964 national contender winner, Dave Graybill, Phoenix, in the El Paso Sun Bowl tournament.

Andy Upatnieks, 27, Chicago. Andy has come on fast to reign as the best Chicagoland player. He has been a runnerup in the national YMCA tourney to Bill Yambrick; the Central USHA singles and dou-



ST. PAUL'S ENTRY . . . Bill Yambrick (l) and Paul Schulz provide a most imposing doubles combine for the contenders. Bill is a past Contenders' singles winner, beating Paul in the finals at Denver in 1967.

bles winner. Andy has a fast, hard-hitting momentum bolstered by a 200-pound football frame, and can cause woes to any performer when he is "on".

Steve August, 25, Detroit. It should be Dr. Steve, for the rangy Detrait-er is now in internship in the Detroit area. Steve has been both a USHA Junior and Intercollegiate winner, and a Top Eight USHA national finisher. He has been thru the better tournament mills and knows the ropes.

Terry Muck, St. Paul. Compact, speedy Terry is most reminiscent of the famed Chicagoan, Johnny Sloan, overcoming power with real court coverage and know-how. Just 20, Terry signed a professional baseball contract last Summer and hit .295 as a lefthand hitting second baseman in the Atlanta Braves' system at West Palm Beach of the Florida State League. Terry has won the USHA Midwest regional (1968) at Milwaukee, and has gone the three-game finale route with Bill Yambrick, current AAU and YMCA national singles champion, on several occasions, and beat Dave Graybill last season in the Denver invitational. This will be Terry's last appearance of the handball season as he will report for Spring training down in Florida the first part of March.

(to next page)



### Runnerup Neveau

Ray Neveau, 27, Oshkosh, Wisc. Ray, the burly 220-pounder, was the sensation of the 1968 USHA open nationals at St. Louis. He powered his way through a real tough field and then lost a heart-breaking three game final match with Stuffy Singer. Ray had an exhibition "rematch" with Stuffy late last year at Lake Forest (Ill.) College and split in the two-day appearance. Ray has been the Wisconsin singles and doubles champ and has appeared in two other national contenders with little luck. He is determined this year to prove his mettle.

Steve Lott rounds out the eight "invites" and may prove a spoiler.

**DOUBLES** — Lou Kramberg and Stuffy Singer. Lou, 34, is assistant physical director at the famed New York City YMHA. He has an athletic background, playing professional basketball and baseball, and has been competing with the Gotham best these past dozen years. He is a confirmed disciple of Jim Jacobs and his play follows the success all-around volleying and sure kill pattern that has made Jacobs the outstanding performer of the past 15 years. Stuffy, 27, and at the peak of his career, is tuning up for a defense of his open national singles

crown, gained last year in St. Louis. His fine use of both hands and court knowledge makes him a very fine doubles performer also.

Dr. Claude Benham, 33, and Bill Morecock, 23, Norfolk, Va. Benham has won all the South area honors — Southeast regional USHA the past two years; Virginia Open and the Hickory Invitational in Nashville. Last year Benham, a former Little All-American quarterback at Columbia University in New York, won the National Contenders in Seattle in a comeback three-gamer over Los Angeles' Harold Price. Bill Morecock has improved fast, climaxed by the Southeast regional doubles victory last year, and will make an ideal counterpart for the more experienced Benham.

Bill Yambrick, 29 and Paul Schulz, 28, St. Paul. Bill played with Terry Muck last year in the national contenders and wound up losing to California's Matt Kelly and Mel Sandland in three games. He was handicapped by an ailing back but now reports himself ready and willing. Paul Schulz has been a runnerup to Yambrick in the 1967 national contenders in Denver and has come along the tournament trails with a fine background of successes.

The Straus twins round out the quartet of doubles invites.

### Also Invited . . .

At press time we're awaiting the OK from the three Obert brothers of New York — Carl to play in singles, Ruby and Oscar in the doubles. The National USHA doubles title has eluded Oscar and Ruby thus far and this could very well be a tune-up for the open nationals in Austin the following month. The colorful New York A.C. representatives have more runner-up trophies than they care to talk about and with Jim Jacobs and Marty Decatur vacating the crown this year the field is wide open. Carl, the southpaw, has been an able singles and doubles performer and always gives an excellent account of himself.

Dick Roberson will team up with Dan Galvin of Dallas to "beef up" an already strong doubles field. Dick boasts, "We've never been beaten as a team and will give it the all-out effort."

Terry Muck is awaiting word from the Atlanta Braves organization as to the date he must report for spring training but is sure it won't be until early March.

So, boys, this is the one you don't want to miss!

## 43rd NATIONAL YMCA SENIOR FOUR WALL HANDBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS SINGLES & DOUBLES

16th MASTERS DOUBLES  
April 14-19, 1969

Downtown Branch of the YMCA of Metropolitan  
Minneapolis is hosting these tournaments  
To obtain official entry blanks write to

LARRY LIEN  
c/o Physical Department  
30 South 9th Street  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402  
Phone: 612-332-2421

Entry Deadline March 29, 1969

Welcome  
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GOLF'S FAMED JACK NICKLAUS . . . Supporting the Mideast USHA Regional championships and a handball enthusiast — the Babe Ruth of golfdom, Jack Nicklaus with his son, Jackie (at right). With Nicklaus promoting the successful tournament, Jack Seeger and Tom Bogen, tournament chairmen. For some years Nicklaus used handball as a physical conditioning vehicle for his professional tours but now a bad back stymies further play.

FEBRUARY, 1969

### *First Texas Hall of Famers*

Announced as we go to press are the first selections of the Texas Handball Hall of Fame. All but two of the 16 centers polled came in with votes. The Dallas Athletic Club handball committee met and officially counted the votes.

FIRST CHOICES: Alvis Grant and Raleigh Blakely, Dallas, as players. As contributors — George "General" Lee, Dallas, and tie between Jake Looney and Al Sheppard, both of Houston. All were honored at the Invitational party, Feb. 8.

### **PLAN NOW!**

Mark on your 1969 calendars—  
March 16-22 . . . USHA's 20th  
Anniversary National four-wall  
championships . . . Austin, Texas.



# USHA SOUTH DIVISION INTERCOLLEGIATES

Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, Kentucky, Arkansas.

**DATES:** February 28-March 2, 1969 **DEADLINE:** February 26.

**SITE:** Knoxville, Tennessee YMCA, 605 Clinch Ave.

**ENTRY FEES:** None

**ELIGIBILITY:** Open to all full-time undergraduate college students. Team event — four players — A singles, B singles, and doubles. Team trophy on point basis — 2 points for each A singles win, 3 points for final round win; 1 point for each B singles win; 2 points for final round win; 2 points for each doubles win. Individual trophies in A singles, B singles and doubles team. Player can enter as individual, competing for A or B singles, or with partner in doubles.

**SPECIAL AWARD:** To winners of A singles, B singles and doubles. Transportation allowance of \$50 each to National Intercollegiates, March 21-22, University of Texas, Austin, Texas. Given by USHA.

**SEND ENTRIES TO:** Rev. Robert Phillips, c/o YMCA, 605 Clinch Ave., Knoxville, Tenn.

Housing information will be sent upon request.

Please enter ..... in 1969 South Division Intercollegiates.

(Please Print) Team members:

Please enter .....  
as individual in South Division Intercollegiates.

.....  
A singles

.....  
B singles

A singles ( ) B singles ( ) Doubles ( )

.....  
doubles

with .....

.....  
doubles

# USHA NORTH DIVISION INTERCOLLEGIATES

Manitoba and Ontario provinces of Canada; North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio.

**DATES:** Feb. 21-23, 1969 **DEADLINE:** February 19.

**SITE:** Lake Forest College, Laket Forest, Ill. 60045.

(Located 28 miles north of Chicago's Loop.)

**ENTRY FEES:** None.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Open to all full-time undergraduate college students. Team event — four players — A singles, B singles and doubles. Team trophy on point basis — 2 points for each A singles win, 3 points for final round win; 1 point for each B singles win; 2 points for final round win; 2 points for each doubles win. Individual trophies in A singles, B singles and doubles team. Player can enter as individual, competing for A B singles, or with partner in doubles.

**SPECIAL AWARD:** To winners of A singles, B singles and doubles. Transportation allowance of \$50 each to National Intercollegiates, March 21-22, University of Texas, Austin, Texas. Given by USHA.

Send entries to: Mike Dau, Athletic Dept., Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, Ill. 60645.

Please enter ..... in 1969 North Division Intercollegiates.

..... college  
(please print) Team members:

.....  
A singles

Please enter ..... as individual  
in North Division Intercollegiates.

.....  
B singles

A singles ( ) B singles ( ) Doubles ( )

.....  
doubles

with .....

.....  
doubles



# Handball For Cold Suppers

By JOHN HAHN

Some guys get nagged by coming home late and sitting down to a cold supper, but this is not the case with Bob Schoning.

The tall, slender gentleman of 45 will start his 21st year of active handball play. On this note, Schoning received the first annual John C. Cebula Memorial Award as the outstanding handball player of the year at a Multnomah Athletic Club luncheon.

## Wife Praised

The award will be presented each year by the MAC in honor of the late John Cebula, who passed away last year. Cebula was an outstanding handballer in the 1930s and 40s and played some 50 years.

Bob's ventures on the handball court have been rewarding. In fact, so rewarding that he has won nearly every tournament that the Northwest has had to offer in the last 20 years.

And those cold suppers got colder, but Schoning's wife put up with them. "She's been tremendous," he noted, "The great encouragement and the friendly atmosphere at home has added to the enjoyment of playing."

In singles tournaments since 1947, he collected the Northwest Championship 12 times, the Oregon singles 10 and the Oregon AAU singles three times.

Doubles play has been just as rewarding. Bob has garnered the Oregon championships 15 times and the AAU doubles three times. Both the doubles and singles tourney of the AAU have been held since 1964.

According to Schoning, he won't enter the Northwest singles again. "It was my wife's choice," he laughed, "But I'm satisfied and will quit while I'm ahead."

## Challenged By Registrar

Schoning started playing the game in 1941 when he enrolled at the University of Washington.

"The registrar was the handball instructor and challenged me to take up the game and promised me an A if I could get five points in a match. I got neither the A or the five points, but learned the game."

He did, however, graduate in '44 from UW with a Bachelor of Science degree in Fisheries and has been with the Fish Commission of Oregon since 1947. He has been State Fisheries director since 1960.

The third place finish in national doubles stands out as one of the highlights of his handball career.

"I wasn't going to go at first, but my wife said this was my last chance," Schoning chuckled, "So I got together with Gordon Pfeiffer of Tacoma."

"We never had played together before, but we got a break on the draw. After getting beat in our first game by two fellows from Texas on the glass court . . . they told us to move to another one where we won the next two games. Guess we weren't much of a draw on the glass court, like a couple of hamburgers."

The other biggest accomplishment he noted was last year's Northwest singles championship.

Over the years, through numerous matches, Bob credits the MAC with a great part of his success.

"The club has been most grateful for sending me to all those tourneys and I learned by being beaten. Going back East and playing against real good players helped."

## Plays Into Shape

In all, the club has sent Schoning to the nationals 10 times and 1960 was the only other year he placed, finishing fifth in the singles.

Each year the going gets a little tougher. "No question about it, it's hard to get in shape come each October, but all I do is play the game to get back in shape."

"I quit when the tournaments are over and gain five pounds in the off season. When tourney time rolls around I just play four or five times a week."

When those tournaments do roll around you can bet that Bob Schoning will be back in the thick of things, while at home life goes on the same for his wife and four sons.

"Coming home between 7-7:30 p.m., well the family eating habits get a bit odd between October and April."

NOTE: Bob tells the info. about 'cold suppers' is WRONG! His good wife ALWAYS had a hot meal ready for him.

# Good Evening

From: Memphis Commercial-Appeal

## He'd Like to Put Handball In Every Boy's Stocking

By ROBERT JOHNSON

If every able-bodied boy got a handball in his stocking for Christmas, and if the powers would just give them some good walls to bang the balls against, the world would be a better place, believes Jack Gillespie.

Jack is a man of driving energy, on the handball court and off, and right now part of his drive is directed toward getting Memphis State embarked on a good handball program. He acted as consultant with the architects in the new Memphis State Physical Education Building, which will be ready in 1970 and will have nine courts.

In Detroit at the national three-wall handball tourney, Jack showed plans for the MSU courts to Robert W. Kendler of Skokie, Ill., national president of U. S. Handball Association. Kendler took one look, said, "Let me fly down and talk to your people and

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## What's In A Name???

There seems to be so much intermingling of nomenclatures in the paddleball game that it appears our initial naming of "The International Paddle Rackets Association" may be . . . (a) unwieldy. (b) not embracing enough. (c) redundant in using both "paddle" and "racket".

It is our wish to tie together the games played in the 20x40 courts. Many players, such as those in Madison, Wisc., and San Diego, play with both the wooden paddle and the so-called 'gut' racquet, and have expressed a desire to unify.

If there is such a desire to bring both the wood paddle and strung racquet players together we feel it might be better to change our name to the INTERNATIONAL PADDLEBALL ASSOCIATION. Eventually we would then have everyone under one organization, for the good and welfare of all — one-wall, three-wall and four-wall.

Certainly, this will come up on the agenda at the first IPRA championships convention meeting culminating our first season.

Meanwhile, let us hear from our membership. We'll do whatever you want us to. There is much to accomplish. We're enthusiastically going forth to make this a true international association. This is your fraternity so take a voice in its operating procedures.

ACE — U.S.H.A.



## WEST DIVISION IPRA TOURNAMENT

**SITE:** San Diego, California — KONA KAI CLUB

**DATES:** APRIL 11-13, 1969.

**Entry Deadline:** April 7, 1969.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Open to all current (1969) IPRA members. Those who are not members or current can do so when mailing in entry or at site of the tournament. (See membership subscription application).

Must be resident of the following States: Washington, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Wyoming, California, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, British Columbia and Alberta Provinces of Canada.

**ENTRY FEE:** \$5 per man per event. Player can enter one event only.

**OFFICIAL BALL:** IPRA which will be tested and provided prior to tournament.

**OFFICIAL RULES:** IPRA as carried in December 1968 issue of ACE Magazine.

**AWARDS:** For first three places in each event. **SPECIAL AWARD:** Winners of singles and doubles (not Masters) given round trip air coach to International IPRA tournament, St. Louis JCCA, April 24-27, 1969.

**SEND ENTRIES TO:** IPRA, P.O. BOX 15611, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92115

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☐ DOUBLES

☐ MASTERS DOUBLES

Chairman: Dr. Bud Muehleisen, 9333 Loren Drive, La Mesa, Calif. 92041

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(Please print)

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Partner's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print)

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ IPRA Card No. \_\_\_\_\_

## INTERNATIONAL PADDLE RACKETS ASSOCIATION CHARTER MEMBERSHIP-SUBSCRIPTION APPLICATION

**EXTRA BONUS!** Those signing up **NOW** will receive ACE magazine for all of 1969 (\$2 yearly fee), or through 1971 (\$5 for three year fee). Official IPRA membership cards will be issued.

Those desiring dual USHA and IPRA memberships pay \$3 for one year; \$7 for three years. If current USHA member, \$1 will cover 1969 IPRA additional membership.

IPRA

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Skokie, Ill. 60076

☐ \$2 for 1969; ☐ \$5 for 1969-71.

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(Please print)

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

Make checks or money orders for membership to: IPRA:



# FIRST INTERNATIONAL PADDLEBALL ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIPS

## APRIL 24-27, 1969

## ST. LOUIS JCCA

Four-wall tournament using the conventional strung racquets and official IPA ball.

**EVENTS:** Singles, doubles and Masters singles and doubles.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Must be current (1969) member of IPA. If not, \$2 will cover through 1969; includes subscriptions to ACE magazine. \$5 covers through 1971. If already current (1969) USHA member, \$1 extra will cover IPA. Fees can be sent to: IPA, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, Ill. 60076. Or, players can sign up at site of tournament.

**ENTRY FEE:** \$5 per man, per event. Players can play in both open singles and doubles. Masters players can participate in both Masters events.

**Deadline for Entries:** Tuesday, April 22, 6 p.m. Draw will be made that night.

Information on motel accommodations will be sent upon request.

IPA Tournament Committee  
JCCA, 11001 Schuetz Rd., St. Louis, Mo.

Chairman: MILTON HARRIS

Please enter me in ( ) Singles ( ) Doubles ( ) Masters Singles ( ) Masters Doubles  
(please print)

Name ..... Club/YMCA .....

Address ..... City ..... State ..... Zip .....

Make entry fee checks payable to: IPA Tournament.



# Reports Paddleball Play Building Up in Southwest

By GERARD LAPIERRE  
National Executive Coordinator

I spent two weeks traveling thru the States of Texas, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Missouri. The following is information which I have gathered by talking to various people and, I might add, playing paddleball with them.

**TEXAS:** The southern part of the state has a strong following. The Central YMCA has three courts available to paddleball players and the JCC with only two courts at present, is incorporating four courts in their new facility which will be built next year. According to local talent, the game is being played in Waco, Galveston and Victoria. It is interesting to note that the University of Texas has four active players with one court available. Incidentally, Mr. Rooker of the Physical Education Dept. escorted yours truly through the facility and that is a beautiful layout. Dallas has a

smattering of players who are active.

**OKLAHOMA:** There is a growing interest in the game throughout the State. Oklahoma City has some action but most of it is in Tulsa and in Ardmore. I played at the downtown YMCA in Tulsa, and the physical director stated that there should be an increase of interest with the four new courts at the Southeast YMCA.

**KANSAS:** The stronghold is in Wichita with other smaller cities in the state having some activity. Topeka, for example, has great interest but the three courts they have are not regulation size (squash courts) and this puts the players at a disadvantage in State tournament play.

**MISSOURI:** St. Louis JCCA, with some 300 players, most of them youngsters and included a liberal sprinkling of the female gender, is all set to host our first international championships, April 24-27. Marlowe Phillips is arousing a lot of interest and his gang promises a bang-up hospitality setup.



ERNEST LA COSTE

Barrister LaCoste will serve as our IPRA district commissioner for the Northern California area. There is a hotbed of paddleball interest in Modesto.

## EAST DIVISION IPRA TOURNAMENT

**SITE:** Paterson, N. J. YMCA

**Dates:** April 11-13 — Deadline April 9

**ELIGIBILITY:** Open to all current (1969) IPRA members. Those who are not members or current can do so when mailing in entry or at site of the tournament. (See membership-subscription application).

Must be resident of following States and Provinces: New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Quebec provinces of Canada; New England States, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Washington D.C., Maryland.

**ENTRY FEE:** \$5 per man per event. Player can enter one event only.

**OFFICIAL BALL:** IPRA which will be tested and provided prior to tournament.

**OFFICIAL RULES:** IPRA as carried in this issue.

**AWARDS:** For first three places in each event. **SPECIAL AWARDS:** Winners of singles and doubles (not Masters) given round trip air coach to International IPRA tournament, St. Louis JCCA, April 24-27, 1969.

**SEND ENTRIES TO:** IPRA, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, Ill. 60076.

( ) SINGLES

( ) DOUBLES

( ) MASTERS DOUBLES

Chairman: Fred Rizzo, c/o YMCA, 28 Ward St., Paterson, N.J.

Name ..... Address .....  
(Please print)

City ..... State ..... Zip Code ..... IPRA Card No. ....

Partner's Name ..... Address .....  
(Please print)

City ..... State ..... Zip Code ..... IPRA Card No. ....



# Paddle Racket Room

## by Mort Leve

The first batch of test balls to arrive fell short of the desired performance in the effort to produce an official IPRA ball. The sample balls were given the full treatment at the Evanston, Ill., YMCA, Milwaukee's JCC, the Madison, Wisc., YMCA, and the St. Louis JCCA. Now, after modifications another batch is in readiness and before the time the Division IPRA tournaments are held an official ball will be delivered.

This primary official ball may also meet with varied reactions but we have to start some place. The consensus is to come out with a fairly live ball that will enable the players to use the four-wall courts and ceiling to full advantage. There is no sense in having a "dead" ball that will enable a player to plant himself at the short line and flick in shots.

Once again we must work on the assumption that the success of modern-day handball is based on a lively ball and there is no reason why this cannot be the course of action in paddleball. Why have a "squishy" ball that will flatten out after hitting the front wall? Why have a ball that won't reach the back wall off the ceiling?

It appears that there are shots to be developed in paddleball that will take the game out of its infancy.

Maybe we're too handball-orient-

tated but only through trial and error can we find this out — pro or con.

We're fortunate indeed to have a man like Gerard Lapierre, who in his traveling sales vocation, visits and talks to paddleballers everywhere. He gets the reactions and has found where the game is developing and reports back to us.

Much will be accomplished at the

first International tournament in St. Louis, April 24-27. There will be a meeting of the minds and adjustments will be made, if necessary, to carry on into the 1969-70 season.

Chuck Hazama, physical director of the Rochester, Minn., YMCA, will head up the rules committee. The current rules will be gone over with a fine tooth comb and any changes that are necessary will be made.

If the official ball is not altogether satisfactory the revision will be accomplished.

Up to this time instructional material has been very scanty. We will sit down with the best players and "pick their brains," just as we have done with the Jacobs, Habers, Krambergs, Singers and Schneiders.

One thing is for sure. We're not sitting idle. Last May President Bob Kendler assured action and it is forth coming. Paddleball will develop with uniformity, organization, and promotion.

*Color the game red, white and blue!* Is there any reason why paddleball — or handball uniforms must remain white just because the rules established years ago have not been changed? Certainly pastel shades will not hinder a player in following a black ball. And, it will actually be easier for a referee to follow the play in both singles and doubles if the players have contrasting colors. In other sports this is done . . . in baseball the home team wears a basic white with bright stripes or lettering and colored caps and socks . . . in football it's usually a light color against the dark color and this is also the case in basketball. Tennis has gone color . . . golf achieves a glamour pattern with a Doug Sanders "clothes horse" splash. This should be an important part of our agenda in St. Louis.

"Why don't you play handball?" This question was put to Palmer Pyle, ex-Michigan State U. and professional football standout. The 250-pound stalwart replied, "I injured my shoulder several years ago and before that time used to play some handball. But, I just can't raise my left arm without pain now so I took up paddleball. It is a wonderful outlet and gives me just the fun workout I need."

And, this is just another story of why paddleball has a place in the 20 x 40 scheme of things.

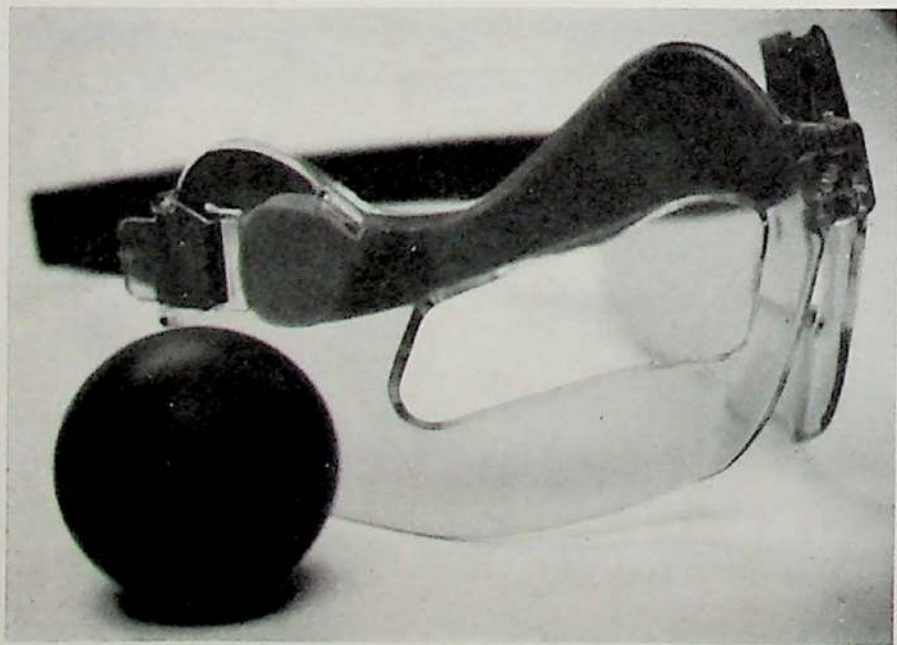
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## EAST REGIONAL IPRA TOURNAMENT

Paterson Branch YMCA, 128 Ward st., N.J. 07505. The Y has four four-wall courts, recently painted.

Tournament dates — April 11-13. Fred Rizzo is tournament chairman, Tom Eadie is physical director of the Y.

Travel Connections: LaGuardia or Kennedy Airports.

1 — Take Carey Transportation to Port Authority Building. 2 — Take Intercity Bi Bus or Manhattan Bus to Downtown Paterson. YMCA is located 1 1/2 blocks from either depot.

From Newark Airport:

1 — Take a taxi or bus to downtown Newark Public Service Bus Depot. 2 — Take Public Service Bus #126 or 128 to Downtown Paterson. Get off bus at City Hall. YMCA is 2 1/2 blocks from bus stop.

Accommodations:

1 — Alexander Hamilton Hotel is 1 1/2 blocks from YMCA. 2 — Several other motels and hotels within five minutes of YMCA.

## Information West Division IPRA Tournament

HOUSING: Kona Inn, 1901 Shelter Island Drive, San Diego, Calif. 92106.

RATES: \$11 single; \$14 doubles. (This is a break in price and it is right on the bay, next door to the Kona Kai Club. All eating facilities available. There are numerous other motels in the area at approximately the same price.

## Wisconsin Tourney March 30

By LARRY LEDERMAN

The Wisconsin State Paddle Ball tourney being held at the Jewish Community Center in Milwaukee on March 30, will read like a national with the first three players in the state ranked one, two, three . . . Bill Schultz, Bill Schmidtke, and Tom Sanicola. At a recent exhibition in paddleball, Bill Schmidtke and Tom Sanicola split in two games and then retired to the Court and Racquet club dinner meeting held at the Elks club. Both met each other in the semis last year and Schmidtke emerged the victor. No doubt they will play that third game again in the state tourney and the followers will have to wait for the outcome.

Don't be surprised if former national champion, Paul Haber, wins the national paddleball tourney. He is now playing the game as if he has held a racquet in his hand all his life, living proof that handball players will make terrific paddleball players.

Abe Luber, an "A" handball player for many years, and good enough to win two club championships while playing with his son, has found "new life" in paddleball and is whacking the ball again for pass shots and kills. It took him a while to adjust to the racquet, but the game now belongs to him.

Milwaukee JCC has only three courts but our problem has been partially solved by assigning one court to handball, one to paddleball, and the third is up for grabs, depending on the rush by which group and who comes first, proof again that rules can be made to take care of both factions without any animosity . . . and again, this arrangement has forced people to play both games. Now, a player keeps gloves and racquet in his locker.

## National 'Wood' Paddle Tourney at Iowa State U.

Beyer Hall, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, will be the site of the National Open Paddleball Tournament (wooden paddles.) Play is open to anyone interested in promotion of paddleball. Entry fee — \$7.50 per person per event. Each player limited to two events (singles, doubles and Masters doubles.)

Mail your entry to: Dan Steiber, P.O. Box 11, Waterloo, Iowa, 50704. In Masters doubles, one partner must be 40 or older, partner at least 45 or older.

Bud Muehleisen, San Diego, is defending singles titlist, and also doubles co-holder with Charles Brumfield, San Diego.

Carl Loveday and Al Chamberlain, San Diego, are defending in Masters doubles.

## Sanicola Wins Milwaukee Tourney

Tom Sanicola, third national ranked paddleball player, captured the Milwaukee city-wide singles and doubles championship thereby serving notice that he will be ready for the nationals come April.

Sanicola defeated Simie Fein, national doubles champion from the JCC, 21-16, 16-21, and 21-11. Rocky Felger, JCC, beat Mike Kinney, MAC, for third place, 21-12, 16-21, 21-7 to make it an all JCC winner for three places for the second successive year.

In doubles, Sanicola and Dick Smith, JCC, overwhelmed Dave Glinberg and Rocky Felger, JCC, 21-2, and 21-5. Larry Gardner and Mort Luck placed third.

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## Special Canadian Section

*Note: We are happy to devote two pages to Canadian handball. The game is definitely on the upswing with Bruce Collins of Edmonton now at the helm. This section will be expanded as more and more news of Canada's program is unfolded. A reciprocal agreement is in effect where The United States Handball Association sends its open singles and doubles national champions to the Canadian National Open—Feb. 27-March 1, and Canada will send its winners to our 19th Nationals at Austin, Texas, March 16-22. The future blueprint calls for even a closer alignment of the two organizations with the hope that one day we will have a new name—INTERNATIONAL HANDBALL ASSOCIATION.*

## Canadian Handball Association

PRESIDENT — Bruce W. Collins — 410 Bentall Bldg., Edmonton 15, Alberta.

PACIFIC AREA COMMISSIONER — Peter N. Thodos — 1030 W. Georgia St., Vancouver, B. C.

ROCKY MT. AREA COMMISSIONER — John Moulden — 66 Westbrook Cr., Edmonton 76, Alberta.

PRAIRIE AREA COMMISSIONER — Tobe announced.

ONTARIO COMMISSIONER — Norm Moorhouse — 401 O'Connor Drive, Toronto 6, Ontario.

QUEBEC COMMISSIONER — To be announced.

MARITIME AREA COMMISSIONER — To be announced.

NATIONAL PRESS CHAIRMAN — Dalt Elton — 1275 Burrard St., Vancouver 1, B.C.

NATIONAL RULES CHAIRMAN — Harold MacClean — R.R. No. 1, Sharon, Ontario.

NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION CHAIRMAN — Art Kruger — 14605 — 123 Ave., Edmonton 42, Alberta.

PAST NATIONAL CHAIRMEN — Ron Sibbald — 12 Agar Crescent, Islington, Ontario; Bill Surphlis — 1275 Burrard St., Vancouver 1, B.C.

## Kirby Adds 'Class' to Canada's Picture



PAT KIRBY

A short while ago Canada lost a great Irishman when Joey Maher decided to return to the Emerald Isle. During his few short years in Canada, Joey not only went a long way in the handball courts as the Canadian singles champion and an outstanding fourth place finish in the 1967 Nationals in San Francisco, but he also made hundreds of new friends across Canada and the U.S. while giving a lot of himself to handball. We were all sorry to see him leave.

However, we have received another transplant as the word is out that Pat Kirby, out of Ireland by way of New York, is taking up residence in Toronto.

Pat, like Joey, is exciting to watch in the handball courts. He has two good hands and amazing speed. He, as all Irishmen, was forced to overcome the hurdles of not being able to use his feet, learning the deft skills of the ceiling shot as well as building a strong back wall game which is not highly developed under the Irish rules.

The great strides made by Pat are now obvious to all who have watched him in action. The little guy with the twinkling eyes and Irish sense of humor is a tiger in

the court. He may not have the ceiling shot of Haber, the power of Graybill or Phil Collin's left hand but he is near the top in all of these departments. His kill shots are as good as anybody playing today. In 1965, Pat beat Stuffie Singer decisively in the Canadian Championships held in Vancouver and looked great doing it. That particular day he would have been a tough handful for anyone.

Pat spent a few years in New York and played a great many of his games against the great Jimmy Jacobs and Kirby is the first to admit that what he learned in these long hours spent with Jim are invaluable to him today. It was reported here, not too long ago, that Kirby bested Paul Haber in a match back East and there are not too many players who have pulled off that feat.

Canada welcomes Pat Kirby to his new home and we are sure that he will go far in handball both here and also internationally, and we sincerely hope he progresses even further in his personal career. He will continue to build friendships wherever he goes as a credit to handball and the community.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

CANADIAN OPEN — TORONTO  
FEBRUARY 27, 28 and  
MARCH 1st



## Toronto . . .

CITY A DOUBLES — semi finals finished according to predictions with Mickey Unroth and Harry Tepperman having too much power for H. Finklestein and Phil Gotlieb, 21-13, 21-14.

Mickey and Harry certainly play well as a team but this year have been a little longer getting back into shape, and this could be a deciding factor in the finals.

In the bottom half of the draw Pat Kirby and Stan Garden defeated Ray Reno and Harold McClean in three 21-8, 18-21, 21-19.

In the first game Kirby's serving was a little hot to handle. Stan and Pat maintained court position and completely dominated the game. In the second game Garden and Kirby missed a lot, perhaps due to overconfidence and started to coast. Anyhow Reno found the range and was killing from everywhere.

In the third game McClean and Reno, down 12-18 came from behind to take the lead 19-18 and with two serves, just couldn't maintain the rhythm and lost, 21-19.

NOTES: at the last world tournament held here in Toronto, Stan Garden teamed with the then USHA national champion, Paul Haber, to win the tournament. Pat Kirby, a recent arrival from the hotbed of handball, New York City, where he was a standout.

Coming into the semi-finals Garden and Kirby were pressed by the team of Stan Kray and Ron Sibbald. To the delight of the gallery Kray and Sibbald won the first game 21-11 and had a good lead in the second 14-7, but lost 18-21. In the third game Kirby and Garden had too much power, winning 21-4.

Fred Featherstone and Joe Sol-

walsky extended Harold McClean and Ray Reno the distance, finally losing, 21-9, 19-21, 21-4. The upset of the tournament would have to be the defeat of third ranked team of Stan Bargman and Barry Leech. The team of Finklestein and Fox playing very steady and came up with some great plays to grind out a win. They in turn were defeated by Gotlieb and Finklestein.

Highlights of the tournament was the playing of the teenagers. Everybody is remarking on the ability of the boys . . . court position, speed, power and use of their off hand. West End Y have been conducting clinics for the last two years guided by Ontario chairman, Barry Leech, and Harold McClean. Four of the outstanding players I would like to mention are: Norm Churly, George Sauve, Ed Mazur, and Chester Paszkowski. One other I feel is a tremendous player is Craig Cooper, who unfortunately was hurt playing football.

In the finals played at West End Y, Kirby and Garden won in three over a fired up team of Unroth and Tepperman. Mickey and Harry lost the first game 21-14, came on in the second to nip Pat and Stan 21-13. In the final game Kirby and Garden playing very well as a team, dominated the play to win, 21-8.

Kirby, to the delight of the crowd showed about every shot in the book . . . back wall kills, ceiling shots, change of pace, driving pass shots and good court position. Garden playing steady came through with timely kills and generally kept Harry and Mickey out of the front court.

Bus Proulx did an able job of refereeing while yours truly kept score. West End Y Handball Chairman, Stan Bargman, presented the trophies.

HAROLD McCLEAN

## Kirby Over Leech at Niagara Falls

The Holiday Handball Tournament held in Niagara Falls, N.Y., was a big success.

There were 31 single players and 11 teams entered and with only two courts in play the committee did a tremendous job keeping things running smoothly.

This is the second year in a row a highly ranked player has been in attendance. Last year Paul Haber played doubles and this year Pat Kirby played and won the singles. To mention some of the top players from the Great Lakes area: Lou Tomczak, John Filsinger, Ira Godfrey, and Vince Flowers.

There was a strong contingent from Ontario; St. Catharines, Hamilton, Toronto YMHA, West End Y, and Broadview. It was an all-Canadian finals, Pat Kirby defeating Barry Leech in three games for first

place, 21-19, 19-21, 21-8. John Cuciurean and Albert Runties of Hamilton beating Ray Reno and Harold McClean of Toronto in doubles.

Carl Manna and Ed Mazur lost to Tomczak and Ron Zaykieia for the third spot.

Highlights of the tournament was the overpowering play of Kirby. Pat's uncanny ability to anticipate his opponents' next move and quick change of pace are a pleasure to watch. His off hand return shots are not just gets, but roll out kills.

In addition to trophies, transistor radios were given to first place winners, and the hospitality room was well stocked. Once again a word of praise to the hard working committee and hope to see you again next year.

HAROLD McCLEAN

## Alberta Province On 'Handball' Go

Probably the most excitable happening in the Alberta Province since our hosting the Canadian Championships last March is the fact that Bruce Collins has been elected Canadian Chairman for the coming year. As you well know Bruce is a tireless worker in the sport and we here in Edmonton consider him to be the "Bob Kender of Alberta". Needless to say we are all confident that he will do an excellent job in his new post and certainly will give him all the support he needs to make 1969 a big year for handball in Canada.

Alberta now sports a total of nine courts, two brand new courts have just been completed in both the Lethbridge and Calgary YMCA's and Edmonton has a total of five. Future plans will have seven new courts in Edmonton and seven in Calgary by the end of 1971. Four of these courts, two in each city, will have complete glass backwalls.

For your interest the calendar for the 1968-69 handball season, was and is as follows:

Edmonton YMCA Open —  
November 18 — December 8  
Edmonton City Open —  
January 6 — 19th  
Alberta Open (Lethbridge) —  
February 14 & 15th  
Alberta Winter Games —  
March 8

Of course, following our season we will be sending players to the Canadian Nationals in Toronto.

Dinty Moor continues to dominate the singles bracket in the province, but is constantly being tested by several of the younger players who will soon be taking his place as number one. Speaking of younger players, our YMCA is now conducting classes for youngsters with boys as young as 10 years old taking part. We hope that this may be the breeding ground for future Canadian champs.

—KEN SHEARER  
Physical Director

The West End Y — C Doubles tournament finished recently. The "kid" team of Ed Mazur and Chester Paszkowski came out on top, winning in three over Cambell Mc Beth and Bill Sherwood, 20-21, 21-16, 21-6.

Ed and Chester are two of the up and coming teenagers and this is a big win for them. After a very shaky start the boys settled down and were just beaten in the first game. Chester strong on left side and Mazur equally efficient on the right, took the next two.

HAROLD McCLEAN



## Beats Haber In Milwaukee Exhibition

Pat Kirby "invaded" Milwaukee's JCC Dec. 17 and went back to his new home in Toronto with Paul Haber's scalp, showing no quarter in winning a special exhibition match, 21-6, 21-16. A fortnight earlier Pat had applied the same stranglehold on Paul in Toronto in another exhibition attraction in two successive matches.

There are many who argue that exhibitions don't sway the astute tournament odds makers to any serious extent but the 32-year-old Kirby demonstrated a strong game that should certainly peg him as one of the leading aspirants in the Sixth USHA National Contenders at Birmingham, Feb. 20-23, and the Nineteenth USHA Nationals at Austin, Texas, March 16-22.

What is it with the "new" Kirby, somewhat of a journeyman national tournament participant these past six or eight years? For one thing he is recovered from a crippling left shoulder injury he incurred playing the Irish hurling game. And, from that injury he has a new weapon — a righthand backhand flip shot that rekindles seemingly bottom board shots of the opponent. He has fine court savvy and poise, shoots brilliantly with the patented Irish whip from deep court and when he can maintain front court he'll go with anyone.

Meanwhile, Haber knows what he has to do to bounce back into the championship arena — he must get himself physically fit for the week-long grind, and at the age of 32 he should forego any thoughts of the accompanying doubles. Kirby realizes this and says, "I'll concentrate on singles for a change and try and make a serious bid for the bundle."

In the Milwaukee exhibition Haber was dilly-dallying in back court after ceiling shots that lacked the usual pin point accuracy, thus allowing Kirby to get in front of him and pound home the counters. He was also watching Kirby shoot from deep court without moving up to anticipate. There are those who say the only way to cope with Kirby is to "show yourself", stay in front of him as much as possible and this Paul wasn't doing. And, in talking to Haber after the match he readily admitted it.

A wicked three-wall serve swung the first game right into Kirby's lap and it was then a case of Haber struggling to try to move into a threatening stage. But, Kirby had the upper hand and shot with amazing accuracy. The second game went in the same pattern until Paul finally started to score. He got up to 16 but then it was a Kirby ace

## Pat Proves Self By Beating Singer, Haber In Akron Open

"Pat Kirby is the best tournament player there is today," is the opinion of Akron's YMCA Physical Director Don Nelson following Pat's brilliant successive semi and final round wins over Stuffy Singer and Paul Haber in the Fifth Akron Y Open, January 17-19.

Kirby, who had been creating quite a stir recently with exhibition wins in both Toronto and Milwaukee over Haber, didn't really open up with his full artillery until he got up against the reigning national champ Singer, in the semi-finals. He went three games with Warren, Ohio's George Fenton, and wasn't overly impressive in eliminating Simmie Fein, Milwaukee, in the quarter finals, 21-20, 21-9.

But, against Californian Singer, it was "Katy Bar the Door". Stuffy got off to a 4-0 lead but the gap was quickly closed and Kirby took control, going to 12-7, 16-12, 18-13, 20-15. Stuffy's last chance was holding Kirby for three innings while going to 18 but that was it. In the second game Singer was 4-1 and then Kirby broke loose, firing away up to 17-5 and a final game and match win, 21-8.

The final round match, Kirby vs. Haber was a lulu. After a knotted 11-11 in the first game, Kirby pulled away and won 21-13. It appeared it might be a two-game match win for Pat when he went 13-12 but it was tied at 14-14. Then Haber had a seven point inning to square the match. When Paul went ahead 10-5 in the third game there were few who thought Kirby could come back. But, it was at this phase of the match that he started scoring with kills with both hands. "It was unbelievable," Paul mused afterwards. "I thought it was my match and that he was just as tired as I was. One thing, when he started killing

to the right that closed the door and the match.

Preceding the handball show as an outstanding paddleball exhibition between Tom Sanicola, "the Angelo Trullo-Midwest" of Milwaukee, and Bill Schmidt of Madison, Wisconsin. Tom, a veteran campaigner, won the first game handily, 21-10 and had a comfortable lead in the second but the younger Schmidt came back to win, 21-19, and the pair concluded with an even steven no decision.

The JCC Court and Racquet club hosted a late evening banquet at the Elks' club, topping off a fine night of court play at its best.

*I couldn't bounce back and when I would try to set for the fly kills I could feel my legs buckling."*

In all fairness to Singer it must be reported that he had a long, stalled-out flight from the West Coast. He was grounded in Chicago for hours and didn't arrive in Akron until 1 a.m. Saturday morning, then had to play Randy Essel, the former National Junior under-19 runnerup (1967 at Tulsa). Randy won the first game 21-14 before Singer could get his "land legs". Stuffy then looked better in stopping Kent Fusselman, Warren, 21-12, 21-13.

*"I didn't have any spring in my legs against Kirby", Singer lamented. "I knew he would shoot but I just couldn't make the quick moves necessary to cover the front court."*

Ray Neveau, the Oshkosh, Wisc. 1968 national runnerup, couldn't cope with Haber. Paul has played Ray numerous times in Wisconsin exhibitions and tournaments and has the big confidence from past successes. Now, he must overcome the nemesis in the person of Pat Kirby.

There were 107 total entries in singles, open doubles and Masters doubles. Dick Zaveson did an outstanding job as tournament director.

Youngsters Steve Lott (1968 National Jr. under-19 winner) teamed with fellow New Yorker, Wes Yee, to win the doubles over Vince Flowers and Ron Zack, Erie, Pa., 13-21, 21-17, 21-19.

Paul Trujillo and John Sammon, Cleveland, took the Masters doubles, beating John Hamm and Bruno Yannie, also Cleveland, 21-13, 21-15.

In addition to Zaveson the tournament committee was composed of: Don Nelson, budget and finance; Adam Neider, facilities and equipment; Frank Martter, entries and pairings; Bert Raffath, officials; Ken Miller, banquet; Bill Owen and Dick Dente, souvenir program; Bob Wiener and Paul Hummel, publicity; Bob Samples, tickets; Al Monzo, registration; Bill Hyatt, athletic director; Mary Botzko, tournament secretary.

The tournament was resumed this year after a one-year hiatus because of the national Y being held in Akron last year.

March 16-22 . . . USHA's 20th Anniversary National four-wall championships — Austin, Texas.



# Albuquerque Handball On Rise Cordy Garcia Dominates Singles Tournaments—Open and A Action



MALOOF OPEN FINALISTS . . . Cordy Garcia (left) of the host organization tops Tucson's Tom Kay.

Albuquerque's own Cordy Garcia walked away with top honors in the interstate Joe Maloof Thanksgiving Open with victories over two Albuquerque players in the first two rounds; a 21-9, 21-16 victory over third seeded Lee Wretland, Denver; and finally a 21-15, 21-8 victory over fourth seeded Tom Kay, Tucson. The surprise of the tournament came in the other semifinal round when Tom Kay defeated Renato Almonte, Juarez, Mexico 21-6, 21-14. In previous competition Renato had dominated play and thus was awarded the top seed in this tourney. He did come back to take third with a win over Wretland.

In doubles competition the Denver team of Wretland and Walter Falk defeated the Juarez team of Prado-Veloz 21-17, 21-17 in a hard

fought struggle that saw the Juarez team fight back from a 14-5 deficit, only to fall short in the first game. Then the Denver team fought back to victory from 11 to 4. The team of Paul Lattin (Albuquerque) and Bud Codling (Portales, N. Mex.) defeated Tom Kay and Charlie Walter (Albuquerque) for third place.

The other divisions of the tournament were swept by the El Paso family named Benitez. John Benitez, Sr. took the Masters competition from Avelino Torres also from El Paso 21-3, 16-21, 21-10. Johnny Benitez Jr. defeated his cousin Rick Benitez for the B singles title 21-8, 21-17.

In all the tournament was a huge success with participants from nine cities, four states and Mexico.

Cordy Garcia repeated his dom-

inance of Albuquerque handball by taking the A singles over Al Ias, 21-1, 6-21, 21-14. "Al Ias" was the pseudonym chosen by Manny Smith after doctors told him not to play competitive handball anymore. The perennial Duke City champ could not resist the temptation and thus placed behind Cordy. Carl Brand defeated one of the brightest young Albuquerque players, Charlie Walter, for third.

The B title went to Capt. Charles Allen with a 20-21, 21-6, 21-12 win over Sgt. Dave Coulie. Both are from Kirtland AFB. Terry Eytchison, recently returned from Europe, finished third.

Don Letherer def. Porter Grace for the C singles title with Lt. Bill Radasky taking third.

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## 1968-69 HANDBALL TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

| DATES           | EVENTS & SITE                                                                  | CONTACT                                                |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Feb. 20-23      | USHA Natl. Contenders<br>Birmingham, Ala., Y                                   | Mort Leve, USHA Hqs.                                   |
| Feb. 27-Mar. 1  | Canadian Nationals<br>Toronto                                                  | Barry Leech<br>Toronto YMHA                            |
| Feb. 28-March 2 | Virginia State Open                                                            | W.F.M. Feber<br>Norfolk, Va. YMCA                      |
| March 7-8       | Florida State Open                                                             | Joe Griffin, YMCA,<br>Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.             |
| March 16-22     | USHA Natl Championships<br>U. of Texas, Austin<br>(also Natl Intercollegiates) | Mort Leve, USHA Hqs.                                   |
| April 11-13     | Annual Mem. Invitational<br>Denver YMCA                                        | Les Shumate<br>655 Monaco Pky. Denver                  |
| April 14-19     | National YMCA Four-Wall<br>Minneapolis, Minn.<br>Downtown YMCA                 | Steve Subak<br>723 S. 7th Street<br>Minneapolis, Minn. |

### 1969 USHA REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS

ROCKY MOUNTAIN — Denver YMCA, Feb. 20-23.

MIDWEST — St. Louis JCCA, Feb. 7-9.

NORTHWEST — Washington A. C., Seattle, March 6-8.

EAST — Rochester, N.Y. Feb. 28 - March 2.

## EASTERN REGIONAL INFORMATION

ACCOMMODATIONS: Sheraton Hotel and Moter Inn, or the Downtowner. Both within walking distance of YMCA and JYM & HA. Accommodations will be available if desired at the YMCA for those traveling without their wives, families, etc. Information regarding all of these will be forwarded to those concerned upon receiving the entry application.

SPONSORSHIP: Newly-formed Rochester JY Handball Club. They hope to continue to sponsor at least one major tournament each year.

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## Carom Shots . . .

We couldn't keep this out of ACE . . . Bob Kendler's handball playing sons, Jack and Robert Jr. recently "upset" Evanston Y's Jim Annoreno and Vern McKinley in the Sunday morning doubles league at Lake Forest College, 21-19, 14-13 (if time elapses team in lead gets game credit.)

Elliott Ets-Hokin in Chicago in preparation for a permanent move from Phoenix, pairing with Mort Leve (that's your humble reporter) to down Joe Ardito and Prexy Bob Kendler (that's equal time, Mr. Kendler!)

And we promised Ronnie Martin of the Chi. Horwich Center some ink for his outstanding doubles play . . . speedy recovery to Ron from nose surgery.

Vern McKinley is the new Evanston Y singles champ, beating Jim Annoreno in three . . . Jim the swimming pool builder of Northbrook, won the first and had the shot at 20-19 in the second and blew it, whereupon he prostrated himself on the deck and pounded his fists.

ORCHIDS TO: Joel Tauber — "Please consider the additional \$2.50 as a contribution to help support a very worthy organization" . . . Bill Schmeling, formerly of Milwaukee, now enjoying the balmy breezes San Diego way — sent in an extra \$10 as a contribution for the game he has spent a lifetime of fun with.

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# Navy Recreation Officer "Finds" Handball

## Handball in Spain . . .

Sirs:

The accompanying photo shows me breaking ground for construction of one additional handball and one squash court. I am the Special Services Officer at the Naval Station, Rota, Spain. This picture was taken just before I entered our existing court for my daily set.

Here at Rota we have an outside four-wall court, all concrete construction with a wire screen top. It is 23 x 46 and when I first arrived here it was in sad shape. I had it fixed so that it presently is an adequate facility. However, the concrete deck (floor) is quite slippery at times, especially after a heavy rain dries out. In fact I slipped going back to the left corner for a shot and broke my right wrist several months ago. Naturally it is unplayable when it rains, but we are very fortunate that the amount of rain that falls here is limited to just a few winter months. A nice feature of the screen top is that during our many sunny days you can get a tan while playing an indoor sport.

I was first introduced to the game when I was 40 and an athletic director and coach. This was done by Lloyd Wood, a Navy Chief who worked for me at the Norfolk Naval Air Station. "Woody" was quite a player, having been Virginia State Champ 3 years, so you can see I was properly introduced. I am deeply indebted to him because this game has tremendous appeal to me and I play every chance I get. I average at least 2 games a day Monday thru Friday. I guess my enthusiasm is rubbing off on other people because here at Rota handball interest is growing rapidly and I assist many a youngster. This explains the need for another court. However, the new court will have a roof and spectator balcony so our people can see the game played. I am also going to have these features added to the existing facility.

I am going on 58 and handball takes the place of my noon day meal time. I don't consider myself a great player, but neither am I a push-over as many youngsters find out to their amazement. I am so glad to have such an interesting and active sport to fill the void created when I had to give up team sports. Handball all year and swimming in the summer keep me alive. My secretaries and friends for years have expressed concern over my playing such a strenuous game. I don't consider it over strenuous, I find it active and the competition is enjoyable and invigorating. This is one daily activity I eagerly look forward to for I have no trouble finding competition. I usually turn off my worried secretaries and friends by telling them if I died in a handball game it would be because I was enjoying my living. This game I recommend to all because you can play it all your life.

I have been a member of the USHA for several years and think you are doing a fine job of promoting and helping the game. I'm with you. Looking back, I'm sorry I waited so long to play the game. However, in my college days at William and Mary there were no handball courts available and no one talked up the game to me as you people do today. Keep up the good work. I'll do my best wherever I am.

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*As we move into 1969 this early response augurs well for an imposing list of contributors by the end of 1969. Gold-plated lifetime membership cards will be sent each and ACE magazine will have a permanent page of recognition. As a federally-chartered non-profit association your contributions are tax deductible. This is your way of giving back something to the game that has given you so much—to perpetuate handball for our children and the generations to come.*

## OFFICIAL ENTRY

### EAST REGIONAL USHA FOUR-WALL HANDBALL TOURNAMENT

**New England States, Canadian Provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Quebec, New York, New Jersey, Delaware and Metropolitan Philadelphia.**

**SINGLES**

**DOUBLES**

**MASTERS DOUBLES**

**DATES:** Feb. 28 - March 2, 1969. **DEADLINE:** 6 P.M., Feb. 26, 1969.

**SITE:** Friday nite and Saturday morning matches at Central YMCA; balance of matches at JYM-WA — Rochester, New York.

**OFFICIAL BALL:** Spalding ACE.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Open to all current USHA members (1969). \$2 a year covers membership and subscription to ACE Magazine. Entrants can send in fee with entry or cover upon arrival.

**ENTRY FEE:** \$5 per man. Player can enter in one event only.

**TROPHIES:** To first four places in each division.

**SPECIAL AWARD:** Winners receive (not in Masters) from USHA round trip air coach transportation to USHA National Championships in Austin, Texas, March 16-22, 1969. Doubles winners must remain as team to qualify for this award.

**HOSPITALITY ROOM** — Banquet for all competitors.

East Regional Tournament Committee:

Send fees and entries to:

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## Change in Format???

# Kramberg Suggests Separate National Singles

By LOU KRAMBERG

I believe that the time has come to start thinking in terms of having two separate tournaments at our national championships.

One tournament would consist, of say, the top 16 players in the country. These players would be invited, or seeded players. The other tournament would remain under our present format, doing away with the consolation tournament.

My reasons for proposing two tournaments are:

A. National Junior tournaments promote rapid development of our youngsters. They are fine handballers but they can't win the big one now.

B. College players will be improving but they won't be ready to win the big one now either.

C. Class A "Y" and Private Club players (not to be confused with the double A players) comprise a large group of fine players but lack enough equipment to win all the marbles.

The present Nationals is getting a little unwieldy. The high "B" or "A" player is getting lost. He is being thrown haphazardly to the Singers, Habers, Neveaus, etc. For

years these "A" players were the backbone of the tournament, like the two dollar bettor in horse racing. The Messrs. Singer, Haber and Neveau could stand a harder first or second round game. The plug-gers can't.

In two or three years, or perhaps four years, under our present setup the Junior and Intercollegiate players will elevate the caliber of our tournament to such a degree that by the time the quarters or semis roll around the remaining players will need arm, and heart transplants. Can you picture second round matches of, let's say, Stuffy Singer vs. Freddie Lewis, Bill Yambrick vs. Gary Straus, Ray Neveau vs. Steve Lott . . . and then getting progressively stronger? I think it is a little too tough (not unfair). Also, what about the Kent Fusselmans and the Jack Walshs. Many fine players spend a good deal of money to come to the Nationals and then hardly get into the swing of things.

Here's how it would work: Of the 16 invited players, those failing to make the round of eight would automatically drop back to the open tournament. The players who

reach the quarters or semis in the open would then have a choice of moving into the invited tournament or staying in the open. The two finalists would automatically move up. In the event that all of the quarter or semi-finalists would desire to move up, then, we would have a couple of preliminary matches to bring it down to 16. We could also raise the invited tournament to 32 players, if necessary.

In this way the Larry Goldsteins of Kansas City and the Bill Allens of Toronto will be playing against each other in the open for the first couple of rounds and when they move up they will then meet the Fusselmans and the Walshs, instead of the Decatur and Habers. They will probably lose anyway, but they will "get to hit the ball".

In conclusion let me say that if our readers find many faults or loopholes in my proposals then I would certainly appreciate hearing about them. I like the idea, and if our readers have any suggestions let them write in to ACE.

Wouldn't it be a great "Seeded or Invited" tournament if the top players' skills weren't diminished by fatigue?

## DANIEL DI VITO

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# CAROM SHOTS

Joe Vasquez, traveling ambassador with his own portfolio court in Accra, Ghana, West Africa, is coming back to the States for a whirlwind participation in the USHA Feb. and March tournaments. Joe says, "There was a fellow by the name of Harry Vogel, originally a New Yorker and now from Easton, Pa., out here and he gave me some fine workouts." If the proposed world championships go ahead in Ireland in 1970 Joe plans to have a Ghana representation.

Frank Harlor, one of the steady regulars at USHA tournaments, and always a fine competitor, has been appointed judge of Marion County Criminal Court No. 6 of Indiana by its Governor Roger Branigan . . . so, please, it's now Judge Frank Harlor!

Handball's chaplain, Father Cardinal of St. Viator's parish in Chicago, tells us of The Most Rev. John F. Whealon, recently appointed Archbishop of Hartford, Conn. "He is the first archbishop I know of that plays handball." Bishop Whealon is described as a "vigorous handball player".

East Area Commissioner Irv Ehrlich wants it known that Oscar Relkin and William Kong were "excellent workers" during the last one-wall nationals, taking care of USHA membership and desk work respectively, and doesn't want them overlooked.

Dutch Persenaire, former U. of Texas handball team member, is now in Baytown, Texas, and promoting the game at the YMCA there — two four-wall courts. And, starting in February, Dutch will be donating his time to teach two handball classes at the Y.

Marathon running indoors has reached a peak! At the Los Angeles Athletic Club, Lu Dosti set a world's record of 792 miles in one month on an indoor track, with a high "marathon fever day" of 91 miles. The Halloween finale of the month's record setting starts at midnight, Oct. 30 and ends 24 hours

later. Bud Murphy set a world's record of 100 miles within the 24-hour period while totaling 735 miles for the month.

Pete Ward is determined to make a comeback with the Chicago White Sox this coming season. The long distance hitting third baseman has been working out every week day at the Chicago Hyde Park YMCA, playing paddleball. He trimmed his weight 15 pounds (with an accompanying diet).

On Dec. 4 President-elect Richard Nixon appointed Dr. Lee A. DuBridge, president of California Institute of Technology, as his chief science advisor. The name DuBridge is nostalgic at the Lawson YMCA in Chicago for it was here that the late Fred "Pop" DuBridge, a staff member, vigorously promoted handball for 21 years until his retirement in 1952. Pop was the proud father of the distinguished Dr. Lee DuBridge, 67, who for so many years has played a leading role in the nation's science research. Pop rejoined his son in California until taken by death in 1959.

On the occasion of Pop's retirement in 1952, a USHA Court was created at Lawson Y in his honor. Hally Gradman, the club's top player, was designated as the Court's president. At a dedication dinner Hally was quoted as saying, "The name of Fred 'Pop' DuBridge shall ever stand as a symbol of unselfish service. His devotion to duty and friends will long be remembered as a shining standard of helpfulness to all who had the good fortune to come under his influence. And we handball players here at Lawson consider it a privilege to have adopted for our court the name of this gentle and humble man who has done so much for handball in Illinois."

Hally corresponded regularly with Pop until his death and, states Hally, "This great old guy retained his interest in the Chicago handball scene until the very end. He was especially proud of the court named in his honor — The 'Pop' DuBridge Court."



PHIL ELBERT

Phil Elbert, past national and world's doubles champ with Johnny Sloan, has been elected president of the Hillside, Ill., bank. Phil had formerly held the position of vice president.

The Nov.-Dec. issue of the TWA Ambassador, distributed on all TWA flights, features a handball article, "Irish Export" — "Handball Sharpens A Man". Bill Yambrick is the subject and covers the basics of the game — rules, locale of courts, all ages.

Bill credits Al Warren of St. Paul as the man who gave him his fundamental lessons in the game. Al is a regular Wintertime "kibitzer" at the Miami Beach Flamingo Park courts.

Handball is seen as a 'three dimensional' game by Bill. "It has the technique of tennis, the angle and rebound characteristics of billiards and the strategy of chess."

The three fundamentals listed:

—Keep your eyes on the ball at all times. With experience you will achieve a seemingly instinctive reaction as to where it will rebound.

—Stroke the ball, never 'smack' it. The return is accomplished much in the manner of a baseball player throwing a ball, with snap-wrist action.

—Play the game from center court position just behind the short line in a five to six foot diameter circle. After each play return to that position as quickly as possible to play either side of the court.

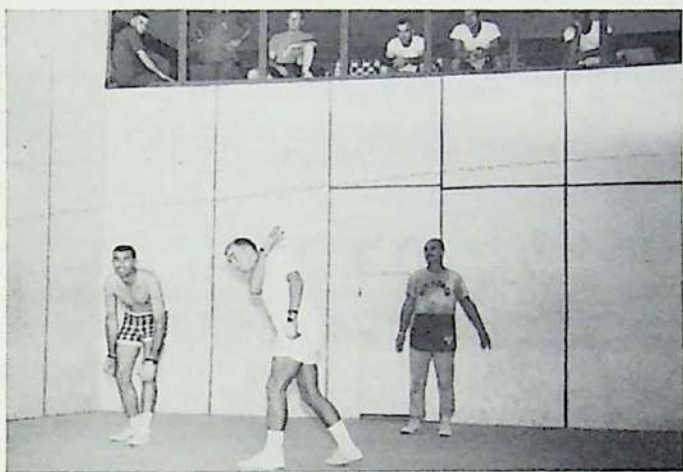
Richard Henmi, who did such a fine job as architect for the indoor and outdoor courts of the St. Louis JCCA, is now a partner — Schwarz & Henmi, Architects.

FROM

DIVISION STREET YMCA  
MEMBERS, RESIDENTS, AND STAFF



# Handball Popular Pastime Midst Viet Nam Warfare... Do-It-Yourself Construction Produces A-1 Playing Court



EXPLAINING GAME . . . Col. Carmen Arrillo, formerly of Air Force Academy, has proved himself No. 1 player in area. Here he tells how to follow through and use the ol' Wee Willie Keeler theory of "Hit 'em where they ain't".



VIEW FROM THE 'BUNKER' . . . Picture is taken from modern era 'fox hole,' situated right outside door. Court is regulation 20 x 40 with viewing balcony and lights. Court was built in five days and is a court the States would be proud to have — sturdy and ball rebounds well.

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Contenders Tournament Players

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From the San Pedro Daily Pilot, Dec. 24, 1968

## FOR UCI LOSS — Singer Had Flu But No Alibis

By EARL GUSTKEY

Stuffy Singer offered no alibis Monday, Dec. 23, when he arose from his sickbed to answer the phone.

His eyes ran, the throat felt sandpapered and the coughs came in frequent, painful bursts. The physical malady was the Hong Kong flu but the memory of events 48 hours previously pained him even more.

Billed as the world's greatest active handball player Stuffy failed to win UC Irvine's second annual Christmas tournament. Singer was at least 50-1 favorite.

But he was knocked off by Don Anderson of Long Beach, 21-13 and 21-20, an exploit which will doubtless send shock waves throughout the handball world.

The Hong Kong was obviously in the process of embracing Singer with its tentacles when he stepped on the court to play Anderson, a foe he had beaten 14 straight times. What's more, Singer had won 90 consecutive tournament matches before biting the dust Saturday.

From his North Hollywood home, Singer tried to remember the last time he'd lost a tourney game.

"I guess it was in January of 1967. I lost to Bob Bourbeau at an invitational tournament in Seattle," Stuffy said, sounding like a man with quadruple pneumonia.

Those who were there said Singer and Anderson were getting questionable officiating Saturday. But handball is an extremely difficult game to call and both had been through it before.

"There were some questionable calls but they had no bearing on the match," Singer said. "That's the way it winds up once in a while. Anderson was a little apologetic after the match."

When he separates himself from Hong Kong, Stuffy takes off for Ohio in three weeks for the Akron Invitational . . . "Providing I'm well by then," he added.

"Actually, this sounds a lot worse than it is"

## Shorts . . .

Bob Mallory is the individual who took so much interest in handball, he had to follow up on the report that a class A handball player had arrived at Fort Riley, Kansas. They have six handball courts, four of which Pvt. Falknor plays his handball on. These four courts at King Field House are nothing more than wooden squash courts.

The remaining two courts on Custer Hill are oversized courts where Col. Massey and Bob Mallory play their handball. It seems that Mr. Mallory appreciates good handball, therefore he has made it very comfortable for Pvt. Falknor while he is serving his military obligation.

From word we receive the Third National Fire Fighters tournament will be held the first week in March at the Hollywood YMCA (Calif.).

\* \* \*

Jim Jacobs has branched out in his business interests. He now has a part ownership of "Chumley's" Restaurant, located near Madison Garden in New York City, 35th St. and 8th Avenue . . . he's in with George Plimton ("Paper Lion"), Pete Hamil, Mort Sharnik, Gil Rogin, and Bob Boyle of Sports Illustrated.

## Add Letters . . .

### Portland A.C. . . .

Gentlemen:

As the new manager of the Olympian Athletic Club (soon to be called Portland Athletic Club), I was pleased to discover the fine caliber of handball talent exhibited daily in our two plaster courts. I definitely feel that our group of young players is as fine as any club can boast in the Northwest . . . and that is an open challenge to any handball teams!

One extremely interesting rivalry has been discovered between two of our finer players. John Ritchie, current Northwest USHA doubles champion (left court) and Ken McQueen, current Oregon State AAU Singles champion, have been squaring off once to twice weekly since Christmas of 1967. As of Jan. 15, 1969, the running total of games stands at 117 won by Ritchie and 117 games won by McQueen, so it is exactly even. The widest margin even held was a 3-game advantage held by Ritchie early this year. The two fellows are best of friends until match time and then it is all out for the "winner's circle."

The Club will be expanding existing facilities soon and hopefully handball courts will be included. We always welcome out-of-town guests and we will do our best to find an adequate game for anyone—we even have the finest handball-playing priest on the West Coast—Father Don Piro is 37, but what a road-runner!

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Portland, Oregon

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## FROM SPORTS PAGES . . .

(From page 25)

sell them on a real gallery court." He did, met MSU President Cecil Humphreys, had no problem making him understand, because Cecil is himself a handball enthusiast. As a result, they changed the plans to provide a glass-walled court with spectator seating for 650, which can be used for tournament play or for instruction.

Joe Clements, president of Memphis Handball Association, sent me a copy of the USHA's publication, Ace, which has an impressive drawing of the new MSU athletic complex, and also a salute from Kender to Gillespie as one of the first two lifetime members of U. S. Handball Association, and recognition for his work advancing the game.

Memphis Handball Association will provide instructors to get the program under way at MSU. Jack looks forward to the day when handball will be a recognized intercollegiate competitive sport. But his interest goes farther than that.

"College today can prepare a man to make a living, to meet society," he said. "They don't do enough to teach men how to keep their bodies active when they get out of school. The graduate can't play football or basketball, in most cases. Golf and tennis require big facilities and time. One-and-a-half hours is time enough for two games of handball and a shower; there's no weather factor, no hindrances." Except courts, he would add moodily. There aren't enough.

Most handballers take the sport up in earnest after they leave school, and as a result the better players are usually in their 30s, or later. Jack wants to push that level down. "In Detroit, I saw two 16-year old boys, the Straus Twins of New York, beat two former national doubles champions, the Obert Brothers from New York.

"And they can continue playing through the years. Walter Streuli at 65 still plays a hell of a doubles game." Jack would like to see a handball wall in every park. "All it takes then is a boy and a ball," he explains.

His Dear Enemy, Major John Cuffari, returned to Memphis this month to live permanently, after 20 years of flying all over the world in those big SAC birds. John four times has snatched the City Championship prize from Jack, who has won just about every other major title in the South. Jack honored John and wife Marlene, an executive with Kimberly-Clark, with a homecoming party the other day, and John will become a stockbroker soon after Jan. 1. He became part of the Memphis handball scene, and decided to make his home here, while he was stationed at Blytheville AFB.

"We're going to the national masters in April in Austin, at University of Texas," Jack said. That is the collegiate center of handball. "Darrell Royall makes all his players take a course in handball. That is why you get those quick Texas teams. John Vaught makes his men play handball, too. It helps give them lateral movement. Texas has a handball coach. The U. S. Handball Association soon will be awarding scholarships to potential stars, University of Tennessee is putting in 14 courts, including a glass-walled court."

Memphis Handball Association is trying to get the national championships for Memphis in 1971.

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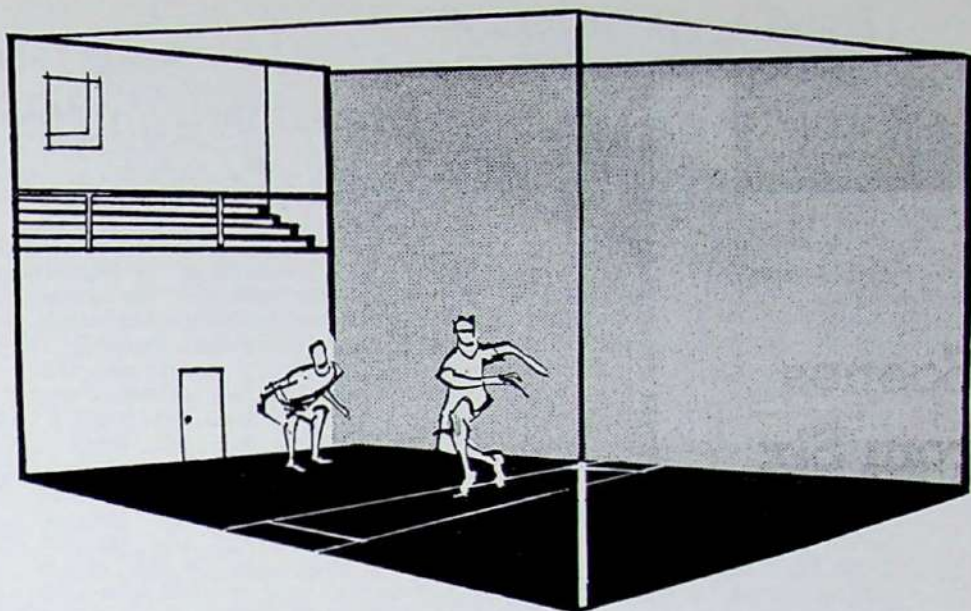
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# NATIONAL PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTS RAY NEVEAU, STUFFY SINGER MATCHES



From: The National Observer, Jan. 13, 1969  
"Red Welt Handballer Socks It To 'Em.'"

By THEODORE W LANDPHAIR

Ray Neveau, who is one of the two best handball players in the country, plopped his bruinlike body down on a bench in front of his YMCA locker, a pronounced 5 o'clock shadow heightening his ferocious appearance. He had just finished trouncing the Y's physical-education director, Dennis Somers, in a brisk round of handball that left Somers wilting, Neveau barely perspiring. Totally unimpressed, locker-room cronies guffawed, "Yup, there sits Ray Neveau, No. 2 in the country and No. 4 in Oshkosh."

The six-foot, 220-pound brunt of Red Welt Handball Club humor groaned for the thousandth time. He has never lived down the time a couple of years ago that he came off a tough regional match, played halfheartedly, and did indeed finish fourth in a local tournament. But the true Neveau (pronounced a little like "nephew") — an overpowering, intimidating handball player — emerged in last year's U.S. Handball Association (USHA) singles championships in St. Louis. In only his fifth year on a handball court, the 27-year-old plastics salesman came within three points of the national title.

Against Simon "Stuffy" Singer, a Los Angeles securities dealer, Neveau lost the first game of the finals badly, 21-9. Then he growled back to win the second, 21-13, but fell, 21-18 in the match game. Singer, a former movie and television child star (he was Baby Dumpling in the old Blondie series), is just five feet eight inches tall and 160 pounds. But Stuffy is quick as a scabbard and can command pinpoint control of his shots, whacking them precisely where he wants them in the 40-foot-by-20-foot-by-20-foot cubicle.

## They're Even Up at One Match Each

In a December exhibition at Lake Forest College in Illinois, Singer and Neveau each won one match, so each is chafing to meet again. With more than 150 handball players expected to pair off in this year's USHA singles championships in Austin, Texas, in March, both men will have to win all their matches to meet again.

But handball does not depend for its lure on national tournaments. It is a game that provides relaxation and exercise for millions. It is also a game that appears deceptively easy—like a fun-filled extension to the old child's caper of bouncing a rock off a bill-

board, with three more sides and a ceiling added for increased enjoyment. To find out differently, one need only pull on leather gloves, try slapping the ball a few times—while massaging a fast-rising bruise in each palm—and wave like a girl at a ball zinging from 100 different angles.

Stuffy Singer tells a story that illustrates the misunderstanding:

"This friend of mine was watching Haskell Shapiro, who is 55, and I play doubles. I dominated, of course, because I'm so much younger (27). My friend complimented me afterward but said how pathetic Shapiro had looked. He said he thought he could go out there and beat him, even though he had never played a minute of handball. I said okay, I'd try to arrange it.

"I timed the games. In the first, it took Shapiro three minutes to beat him, 21-0. In the second, Shapiro used only his left hand and beat him, 21-0, in seven minutes. In the third game Shapiro agreed to give him a point if he even hit the front wall twice in a row. Shapiro won, 21-0, in 10 minutes.

Singer's friend is now one of the 4,500,000 men (estimated by the University of California at Irvine) playing handball in the United States. The sport has thousands of participants in intramural competition in colleges and is growing as a conditioner for businessmen. "Here in Oshkosh," Neveau says, "to get a court you have to call just before 8 o'clock in the morning, dialing all the numbers but the last. Then when in that second hand hits 12, dial the last number. If you don't you don't get a court all day."

Laments Robert W. Kendler, president of the USHA: "If anything casts a shadow on handball, it's the lack of courts. We're 100,000 courts behind. And we need more coaches. Because handball is amateur and nonprofit, a coach, say at a Y, is often a volunteer. In college only one school (the University of Texas) has a full-time handball coach. The only solution is the buddy system, with a good player taking a youngster to a gym to teach him the game."

Another shadow: Most courts are housed in boys' clubs or YMCAs, where a person must pay membership to play. One-wall and three-wall outdoor handball courts exist in warmer climes, but the one-wall or three-wall game is only a primer to the full, four-wall game.

Ray Neveau has played graduates of one-wall handball and finds them rugged opponents. "They've mastered the hook serve and the front-wall kill," he says.

(To page 66)



## Faulk, Singles • Cady-Waghalter, Doubles Grant-Blakely, Masters Doubles at Shreveport

The USHA Championships began, in Shreveport, Louisiana, on Friday night, Jan. 24, with singles and Master's doubles matches. The defending Master's champs from Birmingham, Ala., Duncan Moon and Manuel Dorsky, drew a bye as did the Dallas team of Alvis Grant and Raleigh Blakely.

Local Master's teams were narrowed down to two as Earl Downs and Henry Carroll were defeated 20-19, 21-19 by Mike Mulligan and Earl Pickeral. The other Masters quarter finalists were M. E. Mischler and Joe Leach as they downed Jack Dykes and John Atkins 21-14, 21-19.

In the semi-final Master's go, Moon-Dorsky beat Mulligan-Pickeral 21-2, 21-14, and Grant-Blakely bested Mischler-Leach 21-3, 21-11. The final Master's match was Grant-Blakely all the way with Grant's patented hook shots and hot kill hand proving too much for the defenders, Moon-Duncan, in a 21-9,

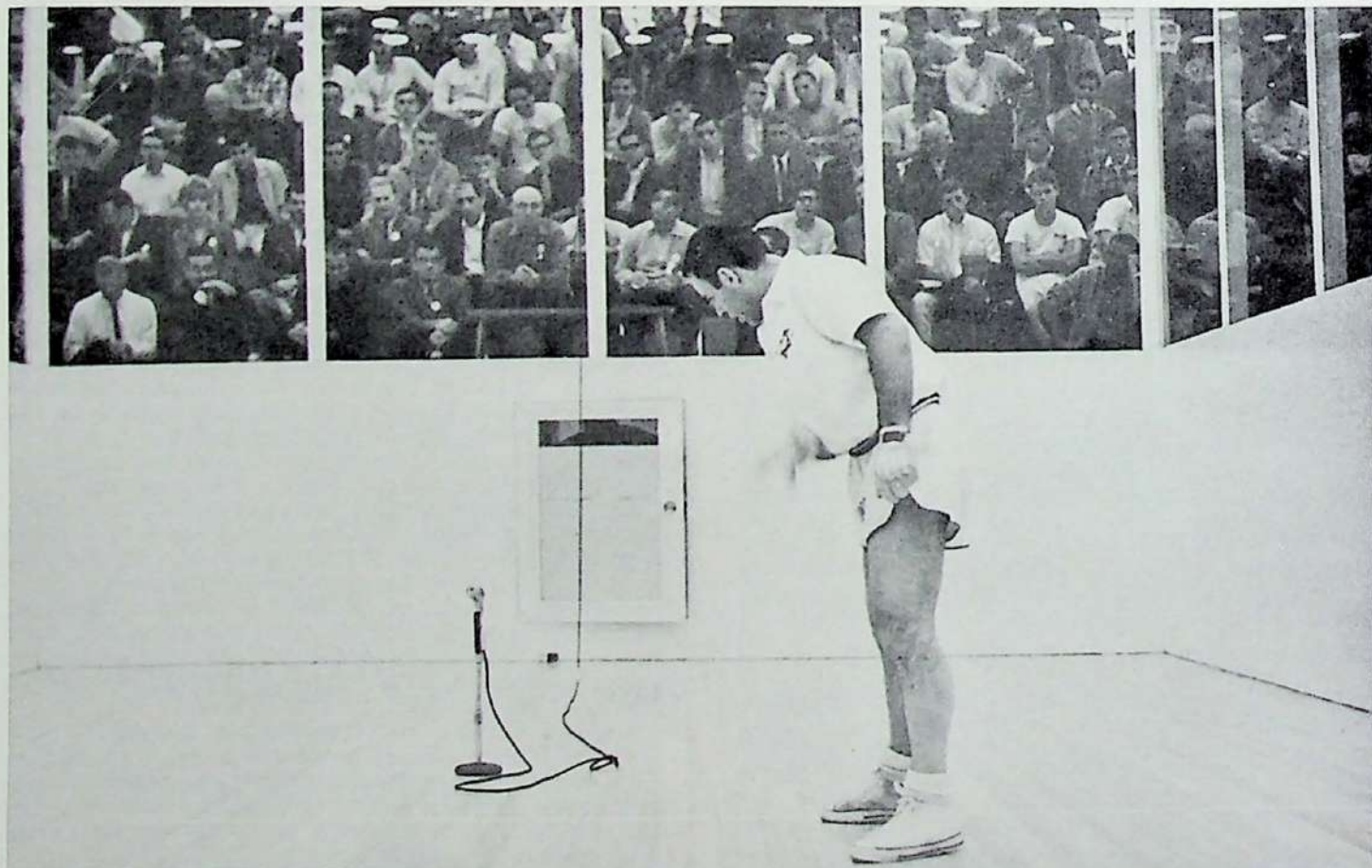
21-8 contest. Mischler-Leach took third place 21-20, 21-7 over Mulligan-Pickeral. The Grant-Blakely team should make some waves in the National Master's Doubles this year.

The doubles proved to be a mild upset with local Shreveport entries, Bill Cady and Irv Waghalter defeating the veteran New Orleans duo of Val Vogel-Manual Sala 21-15, 21-19. Playing very steady, Cady-Waghalter did not seem ruffled by the New Orleans team's long list of tournament victories. Cady-Waghalter reached the finals by defeating David Montgomery-Don Miller 21-12, 21-7 and third place finishers, Dr. Harold Brewster and Joe Wojtkiewicz of Shreveport, 21-16, 21-17. Vogel-Sala downed Sam Sanders and Jere Garland, Shreveporters, 21-7, 21-6 and Ozzie and Cyril Burke, Texas A. & M. brother team 21-16, 21-13 for their entry to the finals. Brewster-Wojtkiewicz defeated the Waco, Texas team of

Zacharias and Garcia 21-12, 21-13 in the quarter finals and the Burke boys 21-10, 15-21, 21-19 for third place. Locals Charles Peatross and C. P. Herrington were eliminated in the first round by the Burkes 21-12, 21-9.

The singles first place trophy also found a home in Dallas as Jim Faulk downed Dr. Cecil Lloyd of Shreveport, 21-16, 21-18 in the final match of the tournament. Faulk powered his way into the finals by downing Shreveporters, Jerry Leonard and Ed Jackson 21-9, 21-18 respectively. Lloyd bested Jim McPherson of New Orleans 21-3, 21-18 and Senator Joe LeSage 21-7, 21-12 before meeting Faulk. Jackson vetoed Sen. LeSage 21-18, 21-7 for third place. LeSage had previously ousted Bill Suddereth of Huntsville, Texas 21-1, 21-11.

The banquet was held Saturday night at the Elk's Club with Raleigh Blakely's antics providing the entertainment.



PLAN CLINIC AT NATIONALS . . . Jim Jacobs will again highlight the cast of performers on the very popular clinics that have become a popular part of the USHA national four-wall championships. USHA President Bob Kendler acts as narrator and lines up an imposing group of leading players, covering all

facets of the game. Sessions will be scheduled Wednesday, March 19, and Friday, March 21. The latter time will allow the entrants in the two-day national intercollegiate to attend. The centralized University of Texas amphitheater court provides an ideal "stage" for this presentation.



# Austin Provides Ideal National Setting

Everything is in readiness for the second visit to Austin, University of Texas, 19th National U.S.H.A. Four Wall Championships, March 16-22. General information-official headquarters will be at the Villa Capri Hotel. This is located on Interstate 35, the Memorial Stadium exit and U.S. 81 near the center of Austin and adjacent to the University of Texas campus. The Villa Capri is walking distance from the Gregory gymnasium where the 13 handball courts are located.

We advise everyone to get their reservations in as soon as possible at the Villa Capri. The rates — singles \$9.50, \$10.50, \$11.50; doubles (single bed) — \$4.50, \$15.50, \$16.50; twins (2 double beds) — 2 people — \$16.50; \$3.00 each additional person suites — \$25.00. Address — The Villa Capri Hotel — 2400 Interregional Highway, Austin, Texas, 78767; phone Area code 512 476-6171. As we go to press, there are about 150 sides seats left in the championship amphitheatre court. These are \$10.00 reserve for all week. No seats are left in the rear of the court. Bleachers will be erected for general admission tickets. Five dollars for an entire week — or \$1.00 a day up to the final two days — and \$2.00 for the finals. Mail checks to: U.S.H.A. Tickets — c/o Pete Tyson, Gregory Gymnasium 36, University of Texas, Austin, Texas 78712. Make checks payable to: Longhorn Association.

Please note that we once again have a Masters' Singles Tournament. This will be our 2nd one, the 1st one being at the 1966 Nationals in Salt Lake City. Competition in singles will start Sunday, March 16. Competition in doubles, Masters doubles, Masters singles, and consolation singles will start Monday, March 17. If preliminary round play is necessary in any of these tournaments, it will precede first round scheduling. Consolation singles are for those eliminated in preliminary and first rounds of singles. Deadline for singles entries — 6:00 p.m. Monday, March 10. Deadline for doubles, Masters singles, and Masters doubles, noon Saturday, March 15. Entry fee \$5.00 per man per event; hospitality — entertainment — banquet fee — \$5.00 . . . must accompany all entries. Make checks or money orders payable to Longhorn Handball Association. Mail to: Tournament Committee — c/o Pete Tyson, Gregory Gymnasium 36, Austin, Texas, 78767.

Since our last visit to Austin, the capital of Texas is still growing at a rate that is exceeding that of the entire booming Lone Star state.

The natural beauty of the Austin area has lured countless thousands to the center of the state, located on the scenic setting along the Colorado River. In recent years, as the heartbeat of fabulous Texas, Austin has drawn a variety of visitors, government officials, students at the state university which now has an enrollment of over 32,000 (the south's largest,) artists, scientists, jet pilots from nearby Bergstrom Air Force Base. The population is now up to 150,000, a jump approximately of 50% during the past 10 years.

The newest developments on campus are the new Lyndon B. Johnson Memorial Library and the many modern new dorms. Just several blocks north of the capital sprawls the 221 acre campus of the University, one of the nation's most richly endowed. The red tile roofs of the classroom buildings, lending a Spanish flavor to the campus, are scattered around the base of the 21-story Administration building tower.

Beautiful scenery and recreational spots add to the pleasant living in Austin. Edged by rolling hills and sharp cliffs, Lake Austin brings boating, fishing, and water sports within the heart of the town. The highland lakes in central Texas, of which Lake Austin is the southern most lake, are rapidly being discovered as one of the finest resort areas of Texas. Latest additions to the chain, opened in the fall of 1960 is a placid lake that mirrors the city skyline named Town Lake. Much new industry has come to Austin. One of the im-

portant factors in luring industry has been the series of lakes and dams forming the lower Colorado River authority. The chain stretches through nearly 100 miles of wooded hills and forms 700 miles of shoreline. The controlling dams now provide the area with an abundance of water and electricity. Water is precious in Texas, it is estimated that the daily flow now passing Austin is 646,000,000 gallons — an amount equal to the total average daily consumption of all the major cities in the state.

Visitors to Austin love to see the sights throughout the capital city. The Laguna Gloria, the homesite originally selected by Stephen F. Austin, lends its beautiful lakeside setting to art exhibits as headquarters of the Texas Fine Arts Association. Treaty Oak is a huge 500-year-old tree under which Indians held historic conferences and signed treaties. The French legation, which was built in 1841 to house a French minister, to the Republic of Texas, still stands in what is now called 8th street. The fascinating history of the state unfolds in the displays of the Texas memorial Museum in the old land office building.

The Austin Civic Theater is one of the best equipped amateur entertainment groups in the nation. Its facilities can be altered for either stage presentations or theater club shows complete with tables and refreshments. Their presentations range from melodrama, complete with hissable villains, to revivals of Broadway hits from a few seasons ago.

## USHA FLORIDA STATE TOURNAMENT

**DATES:** March 7-8, 1969 Entries close: Feb. 28, 1969.

**SITE:** Btoward County YMCA, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

**ENTRY FEE:** \$5 per player per event.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Must be current (1969) member of U.S.H.A.  
Entrants can participate in only one event.

**TOURNAMENT CHAIRMAN:** Joe Griffin, YMCA, 512 N. E.  
5th St., Box 1200, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 33302.

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Make checks payable to: FLORIDA STATE TOURNAMENT.



# INDER Handball CE DOUBLES OB LETTERS

## One-Wall 'Essence' . . .

Sirs:

Mr. Frank Harber's comments in the December ACE, on the One-wall Handball finals held at the Brownsville Boys Club, lead me to conclude that he doesn't understand the game. The so-called "tricky" serve in one-wall, combined with the "legal block" during play, is the essence of the game.

The "control" involved in serving one-wall calls for tremendous skill and can really be appreciated only by those who have played the game. The mental and physical pressures build up during tournament matches, and the server who loses this "control" is on a suicidal course.

Handball is as exact a science as mathematics, and the added reach and power of the paddle has necessitated the service modification which he mentions in his letter. Without it, the Paddleball server would have an almost insuperable advantage.

A game of "serves" between closely matched one-wall players is as intensely interesting as a "pitcher's match" in baseball. Only the knowledgeable spectator can truly appreciate it.

SALVADORE COPPOLA  
86 Prospect Park West  
Brooklyn, N. Y. 11215

## Ref Choice? . . .

Dear Mort:

As handball advisor and a physical director at Milwaukee Central YMCA, Mort, I run into many problems with our handball program, most of which we are able to solve.

There is one situation, however, upon which we recently encountered, and would like clarification on. The issue revolves around the question, "Does a player have the right to either refuse a referee or to name a referee he desires?" We recently had a tournament in which a player refused our selection of official for a championship match. The issue was centered not on the official we submitted, but that the player wanted a particular official for the championship match.

I feel that when a player starts dictating officials, the tournament is then run by the player, instead of the tournament committee. The morale of the tournament committee and the players subsequently goes down.

However, I would never want to deprive a player of having a top referee. I know of histories where players have refused officials.

JOHN MARQUART  
YMCA  
Milwaukee, Wisc.

Note: Under no circumstances would we allow a player in a USHA tournament to dictate as to who should referee or ask for preference. We have come to the point where we feel a so-called "Floor Manager" is needed—an experienced man who assigns referees, schedules the matches to the courts as they be-

come available, and in general operates a clearing area for the smooth conduct of the tournament.

When we allow players to "take over" either in naming referees or trying to run the game from the court then we lose control of the tournament.

We realize that there is a lack of qualified referees and whenever possible experienced men should be set up for the more important matches of a tournament. Some referees are adequate for the one-sided type early round matches but just aren't experienced enough to handle the critical ones—and it is our belief—that in any sport a referee, umpire or what have you—can have an important bearing on the outcome of a contest.

## Army Approval . . .

Dear Mr. Kendler:

As an avid handball player who had his start on the single wall courts peculiar to the playground system in New York, and who has since progressed in recent years to the more popular four wall game played around the country, it was indeed a distinct pleasure to receive recently a complimentary copy of the USHA ACE magazine from Jim Brown of the Pentagon Athletic Club in Washington, D. C. Although I have thoroughly enjoyed my associations around the country with fellow handball players, I did not realize that such an outstanding publication existed as the "Voice of the Handball World."

Yes, and it was while reading the June 1968, Volume 18, Number 3 issue of Ace that I decided that a significant number of handballers in the US Army genuinely share the camaraderie and fraternal relationship which permeates members of USHA through ACE. With this in mind I felt obligated to my fellow military handball players to apprise you and USHA of the bond that exists through our mutual interests in the truly wonderful game of handball. Accordingly, I have enclosed application for membership for five members of the US Army whom I feel can make a meaningful contribution to "propagating the faith" in the interest of USHA and the game. These individuals represent some of the finest handball talent in the military and are all daily participants in the game.

By way of information, although somewhat of a neophyte at the four-wall game, I have been very fortunate in having won the singles championship at my present duty station each of the last three years I have been stationed here. Also, I have been fortunate to finish on top in the 1968 Pacific Air Force and United States Army in Vietnam Single Matches while in Vietnam, the 1968 City of Baltimore YMCA Singles, the 1968 Military District of Washington Singles Tournament (under the able supervision of Jim Brown of the Pentagon Athletic Club), and am presently the South Atlantic Regional Singles titleholder. More importantly, however, is my strong conviction that the game has been very instrumental in fostering my mental and physical well-being while keeping me "fit" for a leadership role in the US Army.

Handball players in the U. S. Army are, in my judgment, an elite group of men. They represent virtual every segment of the Army organization and, if called upon, I believe they can make a significant contribution to promoting the game and solidifying the position of USHA.

MAJOR ART WILTSHIRE  
USACDC Intelligence Agency  
Fort Holabird, Maryland

## Stuffy the 'Actor' . . .

Dear Mort:

We have a couple of dedicated handballers here who are great guys. One is Andy Miller, the other Carl Grant. They are good handball players, but like me, have not been able to move into that championship flight. Andy usually calls every Monday for a noon doubles game. As usual, on Monday, Dec-



2 the phone was ringing early in the morning and Andy wanted a game. The only hitch was that Des Moines was having the good fortune to have Stuffie Singer stop by on his way to Los Angeles. He was due in around 10 a.m. I did not know what to tell Andy except that I was picking up a friend at the airport, that he played some handball, and maybe he might want to play. My question was "Do we have an opening, or do you have the foursome already lined up?" Andy informed me that he did not and that I should bring my friend along.

I picked up Stuffie and I asked him if he would be a party to a practical joke. I told him that I was sure he would not be recognized in Des Moines, and asked him if he would assume a fictitious name. Stuffie thought the idea great. He took the name of John Bart, and down to the Y we went. We had some time to consume before noon, so I introduced Stuffie to the staff members of the Y, and we informed them of our plan.

When Andy arrived I introduced "John Bart" to him and Andy was very gracious in welcoming him to Des Moines, asking him where he played handball, etc. We proceeded to the courts where I introduced "John" to Carl Grant and we decided to play three games and rotate partners.

Slowly but surely the word spread through the Y that Stuffie was playing in Court 1, and the gallery started to fill up.

As Andy is playing he is a great one for offering encouragement to his partner, such as "tough shot, nice serve, that was difficult — it was right in the corner, keep your eye on the ball," etc. Andy was being more than gracious with his words of encouragement to "John", and Stuffie was doing an excellent job of turning his talents on and off to meet the occasion.

Between the first and second game, Stuffie stepped out of the court to change his gloves and Andy looked up in the gallery and said to John Carr (our coach) that this "John Bart" had some smooth moves and could be a good handball player.

During the third game, Andy and I were partners and Stuffie turned it on making three or four beautiful kill shots. I walked over to Andy with a perplexed look on my face and said to Andy, "Gee, Andy, I didn't know he was this good." Stuffie about broke up but held his sides to keep the joke going.

Anyway, we played three good games and afterwards Andy was thanking "John" and Carl was thanking "John" and asking him to come back again. As they turned to walk to the locker rooms I said to them, "Fellas, I have a confession to make, you have just finished a match with the National Champion Stuffie Singer." Andy just stood there — he was speechless. Carl, after a moment of complete discern could only tap Stuffie on the forearm four or five times, and in a high pitched voice each time say, "Really?", "Really?", "Really?", "Really?".

Needless to say, we all broke up and Andy and Carl have been kidded something fierce ever since then. Everyone is accusing Andy of importing the national champ so he can instruct him in the fine points of playing handball.

Those who did not see it from the gallery were sorry to have missed it because it was so funny. Those who did watch witnessed a happy, happy day for two fine guys — Carl and Andy. Both of them have mentioned several times that they never thought they would have an opportunity to play with the national champ.

It was a great day and Stuffie did an excellent job. No one will forget it nor let Andy and Carl forget it.

KEN KONKOL  
Des Moines, Iowa

## Florida Ratings . . .

Dear Mort:

At long last I am a member of ACE — due primarily to the efforts of Ernie Ortiz — who is constantly hounding all the handball players to join. If ever we needed a shot in the arm for further growth — he has certainly done a whole lot in the Tampa Bay area — in such a short period of time.

A bunch of us old warriors, from the different "Y's" in the State met recently and agreed on a STATE OF FLORIDA singles ranking for year ending 1968.

FEBRUARY, 1969

1. Fred Lewis — Miami Beach
2. Ernie Ortiz — Tampa
3. Joel Galpern — Miami Beach
4. Paul Katz — Orlando
5. Pete Joannides — Jacksonville
6. Ben Burnette — Ft. Lauderdale
7. John Hamilton — St. Petersburg
8. Tom Kelley — Orlando
9. Raph Kaufman — Miami Beach
10. Harold Hanft — Ft. Lauderdale

We should stimulate some excitement and perhaps promote a show-down tourney soon.

SAM MESSINA  
Handball Chairman,  
Tampa YMCA

## Yuletide Poetry . . .

Dear Mort:

I received a Christmas card this year with an original greeting, and thought I would pass it along.

Miss Betty Langley works with my doubles partner, Manuel Sala, and she is very familiar with our "Trials and Tribulations" connected with our favorite pastime — handball.

The main content of the card reads:

*May Santa this Christmas bring  
A handball with lots of spring*

*A floor with a good bounce  
To help get that other guy out*

*No stone bruises on the hand  
Just two good handball legs to stand*

*No kinks or sprains  
that can't be explained*

*No Villar's, Hero's,  
Demmas's, or Sala's*

*Just a form like Jacobs, with  
beautiful aces,*

*A name like killshot  
instead of turkey*

*To win a game  
And perhaps fame!*

Best wishes to you and your family for the coming year.

VAL VOGEL  
New Orleans, La.

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# Californian Has Knee Problem Solution

By GEORGE REDPATH

Twenty years ago, out of necessity, I invented a piece of gym equipment that today is in use in most gyms, rehabilitation centers, etc. I wasn't smart enough to patent it, but am gratified to see good results from its use. It is called "the leg curl and extension device."

Since ACE magazines has had requests for information that would aid in overcoming injuries and strains it seems an opportune time to call attention to various aspects of such annoying conditions. Nutrition has much to offer also in the healing process.

The use of the leg curl and extension device is most simple. In leg curling one lies on the stomach with heels under the padded bar located at bench level. Slide body to a position which places knee action in line with hinge action of the device. Use very little weight to start, perhaps just the bare bar, and without rocking or jerking curl the heels towards the hips. Lower weight with control;

never let it drop as that could be injurious.

Repetitions can vary greatly and one may still get results. Perhaps 5 or 6 reps. to start; work up to 10 or 12 and add a small amount of weight. That would be what we call "one set." Stick with one set for several workouts, then add a second set and still later a third.

Adjust weight to increasing strength, but with caution and using good form.

Three sets of 6 to 10 reps should be enough to get the job done.

The extension is the more important of the two movements in most knee problems. In this exercise one sits with feet behind the lower padded bar and straightens the legs. Again keep the movement smooth and maintain muscle control both up and down. The muscles involved here are much stronger than in the leg curl so one may expect to use more weight. Cautious increases are the rule again and similar reps, although one may wish to work into

higher counts — perhaps 20 reps. — three sets.

If knee is painful start with partial movements and be content to add to the range of movement only as knee improves. Many knees will show dramatic improvement in a short time. Others may be more serious and result in surgery, but from years of observation I can't help but be enthusiastic. For example a former doubles partner had worn a knee brace for years and had limited movement. In a few weeks he discarded the brace and movement was more free. Full recovery may never occur, but many certainly come close.

If the equipment isn't available one can do a similar movement with weight attached to a boot or iron shoe. Same cautions apply, but more so since there is some danger of twisting, but results can be obtained.

Three days per week or every other day is enough as nature can use the rest time to advantage.

## THE NEW YEAR

(Dedicated to old handball players)

*A new year has come, a year has past  
Why is it time goes so fast?*

*As I grow older it seems to me  
Things are not like they used to be.*

*Cloth is inferior, clothes made in haste  
Last year's trunks have shrunk around my waist.*

*The teeth in combs are getting sparse  
Combing my hair is just a farce.*

*Newspaper print is blurred and smaller  
My five dollar bill is worth a dollar.*

*Handballs are smaller and move much faster  
This because I am called a Master?*

*Ceilings are higher, the court is longer  
My opponents appear so much stronger.*

*They hit the ball so crisp and low  
How they do it I sure don't know.*

*The air is heavier, or so I believe  
Makes it harder for me to breathe.*

*When the match is over I'm happy for that  
Hoping I've lost a few ounces of fat.*

*Then on to the place where I'm best by far  
Hoisting a beer at a local bar.*

*A few good belts and I relive the past  
Man, when I was young, I was FAST!*

WES HICKS





## Madison, Wisc. YMCA Hosts Strong Handball, Paddleball

By FRED ZITZER

The Madison, Wisconsin Central Branch YMCA hosted an outstanding Invitational Handball Tournament last December.

Thirty-two players from Minnesota and Wisconsin participated in the four day tournament.

Gary Rohrer and Terry Muck, both of St. Paul, provided most of the really great excitement with their excellent all around ability and deadly kill shots.

A tremendous championship match seemed to be shaping up between Rohrer and Muck as they reached the semi-finals. But, Bill Nelson, Port Edwards, played terrific in losing to Muck 16-21, 21-18, and 21-7, a match lasting about 1 1/2 hours, while Rohrer was having a relative easy time with Hank Maly, Madison, Beating him 21-7, 21-8.

Muck and Rohrer then came back about 2 hours later and it was evident Muck did not have enough stamina left to handle Rohrer. Rohrer was sensational throughout the tournament with his great speed and tremendous fly kills with both hands. He simply over-powered Muck in the finals 21-5, 21-5.

The First Capitol City Paddle Racket Tournament, held at the Madison, Wis. YMCA Jan. 25-26, proved very competitive and very successful.

Sixteen top-notch Paddle Racket players, primarily from the Mid-west, competed in the tournament.

The surprise of the tournament was Ron Rubenstein, a young Chicago player who upset the national champion, Bill Schultz, Madison, in the semi-finals in three hard-fought games.

Bill Schmidtke of Madison, the runner-up to Bill Schultz in the national tournament, held in Milwaukee last spring proved, to be the class of the tournament. On his way to the crown he defeated former national paddleball champion Paul Nelson in the semi-finals, then beat Rubenstein, losing the first game 14-21, then winning the second game 21-10, and finally clinching the championship with a 21-4 triumph in the third game of the match.

Schmidtke displayed a all around superb game, hitting great kill shots with both forehand and backhand. His mobility and defense was excellent. He should be considered a definite challenge to win the national IPRA championship in St. Louis next April.

Fred Zitzer played steady ball throughout the tournament, winning the consolation crown by defeating Ray Ohlinger, of Freeport, Ill. with a 21-9 score in the finals.

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## KILLSHOT ROOM . . .

(From page 20)

ventional for players who have not played in such a court. The Texas threesome utilized the advantage of high around the glass to its fullest extent. But when it came down the very top plateau of the singles tournament, it was Jim Jacobs and Dave Graybill who had overcome the lack of play on such a court and they ended up in the finals.

Continuing the quote of the National Tournament outlook in 1965 we stated, in four-wall handball, Jacobs should be rated at least 10 points better than Decatur, Singer, Shumate, Graybill and any of the other heir appearance. However, there is a difference between weekend tournaments and exhibitions in the week-long USHA Classic. At 33 and not playing as frequently as he once did, Jacobs is on the other side of the peak performance, if only in the stamina department. But, the question of his defense at the 1964 All-American Crown will go unanswered." As it happened, of course, Jacobs did go back in singles and again asserted his superiority.

Now four years later, we are back at the University of Texas scene with Jacobs definitely out of the picture this year. We have talked to him several times and he simply

cannot go into either singles or defense of his doubles title with Marty Decatur. Decatur will definitely go all out for the singles and there are several others that are bent on the same determination. They would include Pat Kirby, Toronto, who has boosted his stock sky high on the basis of exhibition wins over Paul Haber and the Akron Open victory in which he defeated Stuffie Singer in the semifinals and Haber in the finals.

Lou Russo, Jr. of New York will be back in National Tournament competition and he is in fine condition. Russo plans to go both ways and at the present writing is scouting around for a suitable doubles partner. Denny Hofflander, returned from a year combat service in Viet Nam and now must complete his two-year duty with six months at Camp Polk, La., as a combat instructor. It is problematical whether he will be in top physical condition for Austin. Denny came back on a 30-day leave to Chicago some 20 pounds under his normal weight and, not having played handball for a year, was of course rusty. He is young, 23, and should be able to snap back fast and might well be a factor at Austin.

This year if anything is up for grabs, it will be the doubles title.

## ONE-WALL . . .

The New York City area handball league is making fine progress going into its second season. Irv Ehrlich, our East Area Commissioner, reports:

The following teams are in: Brownsville Boys Club Jrs., Marvin Greenberg, coach; Brownsville Recreation Center, Ted Breslo and Howard King, coaches; Hartman YMHA, Fred Geller and Jerry Kohn, coaches; Brighton Beach YMHA, Gill Hendler and Irwin Fox, coaches, Flatbush Handball Club, Ken Gamble and Kenneth Kilgallen, coaches; McBurney YMCA, Morty Schreck and Arthur Muller, coaches;

Matches consist of one singles and four doubles.

Teams wishing to compete can contact: Irving Ehrlich, c/o Brownsville Handball Club, 1555 Linden Blvd., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11212.

Rules: Prohibit from competing anyone who has won a national handball tournament (this does not include Juniors or Masters.)

A squad shall consist of two singles and three doubles teams with provision up to 15 players. The winning team will receive 15 trophies.

The league will start the first week in February. Fee shall be \$20 per season.

## Kirby Player To Beat?

Early returns stamp Pat Kirby, now Canada's pride and joy, as "most ready" for the big one at Austin, March 16-22. The personable Irishman boosted his stock with a convincing championship at the Akron Invitational over the Jan. 18-20 weekend.

All Pat did was eliminate current national titlist Stuffie Singer in the semis and then come from behind in the third game against 1966-67 winner Paul Haber and win going away.

At 32 Pat wouldn't normally figure to be reaching a new peak on the performance charts but his full recovery from a bad left shoulder break finds him shooting better and displaying more poise and court coverage.

"Where to put Pat in the draw?" will be the problem confronting the national seed committee. The eight seeds, earned from the 1968 nationals at St. Louis are all expected to return. If, for some reason one or more doesn't make the classic then Kirby could be "placed" in the proper position recognizing his known skills.

What we try to avoid is a possible "showdown" of two fine Championship potential players as early as a quarterfinal round.

Right now Pat Kirby has gained increased respect and will have the No. 1 "sleeper" ranking in this 19th Nationals.

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## Price Wins UC-Irvine Holiday Singles Crown

Harold Price, perennially a runnerup in the Western tournament scene, grabbed off the singles crown in the second annual Christmas holiday tournament held at the University of California at Irvine.

Favorite Stuffie Singer, current national singles champ, was ungloriously "dumped" in the semi finals by pro baseballer, Don Anderson of the Long Beach YMCA, 21-12, 21-20. But, then Anderson's "Cinderella Story" was abruptly stopped by the tournament experienced Price 21-7, 21-11.

Mel Sandland, Pacific Coast Club, and Jim Triplett, Pomona YMCA, teamed to win the open doubles over Henry Reinhardt and Johnny Bart, Hollywood YMCA, 21-16, 21-9.

Bill Feivou, Los Angeles A.C., won the Masters singles over Joe Ramm, Los Angeles Police Department, 21-8, 21-4. Alex Boisseree and Dick Weisman, Los Angeles A.C. were the Masters doubles winners.

A total of 275 players competed in the tournament, according to tourney director, Henry Burke of the UCI physical education department. Al Gracio was his usual efficient self as floor manager.

The Irvine campus has six fine courts, including a glass back-walled championship court that was the scene of the professionally-produced instructional film involving Stuffie Singer and Jim Jacobs. This film has met with nationwide acclaim amongst handballers and is still available.

The inclusion of Masters singles proved successful and may be a forerunner for Bill Feivou in the second Masters singles nationals at Austin in March.

## Honoring Handball's Record Holder



VIC'S TESTIMONIAL DINNER . . . New York A.C. gathering locale for the many friends of all-time winner of national championships in one-wall, three-wall and four-wall, Vic Herschkowitz. Pictured above: (l to r) — Ruby Obert, Bill Yambrick, Oscar Obert, Vic, Joe Ingrassia, Carl Obert. Letters of praise poured in from all corners of the country to a man who has been truly a champion on and off the courts. For Vic personifies the spirit of handball sportsmanship.

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# TEAMWORK

Mike Dau, handball coach at Lake Forest College, Illinois, told us at the National Junior banquet that intercollegiate handball recognition by the NCAA is being held back by lack of competent instruction at the various colleges.

It is one thing to build facilities, another to promote the game properly and provide the necessary indoctrination. Too many schools are merely providing courts and then saying, in effect, "Go get 'em", and the game being played has little resemblance to four-wall as we know it. It is more like "mass murder" with the undergraduates scampering around like bulls in a china shop with little knowledge of what handball is all about.

What can we do to assist? Jack Gillespie and his gang down in Memphis have the right idea. When the new courts became a reality at Memphis State University experienced players from the Memphis Handball Association will volunteer to teach the game properly.

We've got Pete Tyson as a fully qualified teacher and coach at the University of Texas, and now Dau at Lake Forest. And, Dau wasn't hesitant in asking Ken Schneider of the nearby Bob Kendler Community Builders organization to come out at anytime and give his assistance.

But, from there there is rather a blank. We need you well-versed players to pitch in wherever you can. We're sure the colleges will welcome your offer with open arms as they, too, realize what is needed.

On the Eastern trip Dau took in early December with his four-man team he found almost a total lack of experienced play. At the University of Michigan there was only Larry August to provide top grade competition . . . at some of the other schools it was faculty members who had to meet the challenge of the court-wise Yee twins, Dave Smith and Steve Jamron.

And, added to this, was the fact that many colleges still have outdated, too small or too large courts. And, even many of the new facilities were constructed without asking advice with resultant drawbacks.

In four years as a college student a player can move from a novice class to a good Class A performer IF he is given proper initial teaching and then is afforded graded competition. And, upon his graduation we will then have a smooth flow of polished players moving into YMCA's, Community Centers and Clubs throughout the country, raising the level of play and in many instances providing national tournament championship potential.

This can all come about if we lend a hand. Make it one of your New Year's Resolutions!

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## Yambrick In Three Over Muck in Old Hickory

By JACK FARRAR

Director,

Seventh Annual Old Hickory Tournament

Nashville YMCA's Old Hickory set a blazing pace for open invitation tournaments in the Southland this December in the seventh running of the Downtown Branch classic.

A brilliant final round put a three time National YMCA champion against the current National Intercollegiate champion, but not before they each got by a National USHA contender's champion and a former National USHA Junior champion.

YMCA titlist Bill Yambrick, from St. Paul, took the trophy after going three games with Terry Muck, St. Paul's intercollegiate champ, to send the defending champion, Dr. Claude Benham back to Norfolk, Va. with a third place. Fourth place went to Ray Elliott of Indianapolis, also a former Old Hickory champion.

Doubles competition was of similar calibre. Jack Gordon and Jim Leahy, Chicago, put down Nashville's Jack Pirrie and Lloyd Wood of Chevy Chase to take the crown, after Pirrie and Wood had trimmed off the defending champions from Indianapolis, Fred Dorman and Ben Delaney.

It proved to be the largest and strongest field of players ever to gather for the Old Hickory, a fact attributed generally to the scheduling of Yambrick's USHA tour and

exhibition on the day preceding the tournament. Forty singles entries came in plus 19 doubles teams.

Pre-tournament speculation figured on a confrontation between Benham and Yambrick, but it was fellow Twin-Citizen Terry Muck who gave the winner his final workout.

The Benham-Muck third game was one of the best of the tournament. It brought long volleys with great efforts by both players to dig out kills and crisp passing shots that would die in the corners. The crowd was amazed at the pace of the volleys and the fantastic returns from difficult shots. Dr. Benham had a stronger serving and right hand game, but Terry's great two-handed game won the 21-16 victory.

The Yambrick-Muck match was played on Sunday afternoon in the glass court. Bill won the first game 21-16. Terry played a great second game and won it, 21-16. The game held many long volleys, and on most occasions they did not end in error, but in a perfect kill into the front wall or a side wall-front wall.

Muck did not hesitate to try kills with his left, even from deep in the court. Spectators again were amazed that players could recover from such long, hard rallies and end them with a kill. There was particular excitement when Muck would kill from deep in the court, or fly kill with his left hand.

Yambrick won the third game, 21-6, by playing his championship

match as he played his others — a controlled type of game. He used ceiling and wrap-around shots when he couldn't get a good chance to kill or place a crisp passing shot. Yambrick showed himself to be a fine gentleman as well as a great handball player.

Fresh from victory in Dayton, the Gordon-Leahy team bested Wood-Pirrie, 21-6, 21-14, in the championship game. Gordon controlled the game, using many passing shots and ending several volleys with kill shots to the left corner. Leahy played the right side and showed off his ability to use both hands, taking many of the center court shots with his left hand.

Late in the second game Gordon injured his shoulder and the pair switched sides, Jim taking the left side and deep court shots. His enjoyment was obvious when he had time to back up and get set for his shots. He rolled out three kills and placed two good passing shots to score the remaining points needed to end the match.

The singles consolation match was won by Frank Payne, Birmingham, Ala., Keith Garman, Nashville, took second place.

Tournament director Jack Farrar advises that inquiries about the Eighth Annual Old Hickory may be directed to the Downtown Branch YMCA Handball Committee at 226 Seventh Ave., N., Nashville, Tenn.

## Handball Hints By Lou Kramberg

NOTE: We are pleased to present another article from Lou Kramberg, aide de camp to Al Stein at the famed New York 92nd St. YMHA. We are certain you will find much "meat" in Lou's "HINTS."

1. Keep your serve from hitting the back wall when you hop the ball. Your "Landing Area" for hops should be about 6 or 7 feet over the short line at different heights, speeds, and service line positions.

2. *Don't Be Stubborn.* If you have a pet serve, but a particular opponent is not bothered by it, and is sending you to the rear of the court chasing his return, *abandon* it and try something else.

3. Learn to make the proper *choice* when you are on the move. Most good handball players know which choice to make when they're standing still. The *very* top players can make both *choices*.

4. Try to be as *objective* as possible when playing and avoid emotional pitfalls. Be repetitious in playing an opponent's weakness.

5. It is rare to see a top player punch (fisting) offensively. Confine your punching to defense.

6. The ceiling shot has revolutionized handball, especially the underhand punch to the ceiling with the opposite hand. Don't allow the oldtimers at your club to discourage you from using this shot. **EVERY** champ has this shot in his arsenal.

7. In a game you only get to hit the ball 50 per cent of the time. Learn how to play when it is your opponent's turn to hit the ball. Learn court position. Jacobs and Sloan were masters at this. The two best today are Paul Haber and Stuffy Singer.

8. There are several basic concepts in handball, that all of the top players adhere to. Handball is one sport in which it is okay to imitate. If your particular hero doesn't violate the basic concepts go ahead and copy him. Two perfect examples: Stuffy Singer from Jim Jacobs . . . Rick Christian, 1966 under-16 National Junior winner from Stuffy Singer.

9. In doubles play the failure of the right court player to get far enough away from the right side wall causes problems . . . such as getting trapped by the ball, hitting the ball too often with the left hand and not being able to see the correct choice or taking the right shot.

10. In doubles everything is part and parcel. If you are unwittingly hitting bad handball shots or making incorrect choices it probably would have an adverse effect on your partner. He may be the end result of your bad play. To an unknowledgeable audience he may appear to be the culprit. Needless to say, arguing or harassing your partner cannot be good for your game and has no place on the court.



# Schneider Expounds On Proper Stroke

Editor's Note: With Bob Davidson's theories on "Point of Contact," hard hitting for the youngsters, and fast tempo, we thought it apropos to get the opinions of Ken Schneider on the overall subject.

\* \* \*

We discussed first the fine crop of youngsters that have come along, in particular the group that played in the most recent National Juniors at Lake Forest College. We asked Ken about the youth picture and in particular pointed out the success of the hard-hitting New York City contingent.

Ken Schneider was "brought up" on the Castle Hill Beach Club courts in the Bronx.

In those days, Ken, was there anyone around who guided the youngsters?

—There were a lot of fellows around who were very instrumental in improving the play of the kids. These were men who had 15 to 20 years of handball and whenever they could they would get into the courts and play with us. Fellows like Joe Samson, Harry Handler, Jack Weitz, Herb Silver and George Davis, who was in charge of the athletic department.

You have seen some of these current New York boys such as the Yee brothers, the Straus twins and Steve Lott, and they all seem to have one thing in common. They will shoot "at the drop of a hat," from any angle on the court, and they're always playing at a fast tempo.

—When a youngster starts playing he has plenty of desire and he's strong. It's to his advantage to hit the ball as hard as he possibly can and to play as hard as he possibly can because the one thing they shouldn't have to worry about is stamina — go all out at all times.

What is your interpretation of this "Point of Contact" theory?

—What do you refer to when you say "Point of Contact, Mort?"

I understand this to be a position where you can step into the ball, get low and meet the ball away and at the center of the body. Where do you say your point of contact is . . . do you bring it to a certain point of your body where you're going to meet that ball?

—I think the point of contact depends upon the manner in which the player strokes the ball. The point of contact, as I see it, would then be to develop a stroke that will be most comfortable to the individual player. Since most of these youngsters have played baseball before starting handball the idea is to develop a stroke

in handball which is comparable to the manner in which they throw a baseball or football . . . to be behind the ball whenever you possibly can and step into it, getting everything into it — not only your hand but also your wrist, arm, shoulder and body into the stroke. This gives power, and direction. The best example I could give would be a pitcher throwing a baseball. Notice how he steps back, then moves forward, basically toward the plate . . . direction and power.

Along with the power . . . there's the difference in the game of handball of getting down low and leveling the swing so that the ball will go into the front wall, or side wall-front wall on a low trajectory. Most of the pitchers will throw overhand or three-quarter, a very rare one like Abernathy of the Cubs throws submarine. The correlation of getting down low then would appear unique only in handball.

—Well, again if you will only picture the manner in which the pitcher throws the ball. His idea is to get the ball on the outer perimeter of the strike zone — from the arm pits to the knees, inside or out. I readily admit he doesn't have to get down as low. In handball the lower the player gets for his shot the less chance there is for a mistake . . . flooring the ball, reducing the angle of play. But, in the normal volley, the walls, it isn't necessary to get the pass shot, ceiling shot, or around the walls, it isn't necessary to get low and therefore the angle isn't important, direction is most important. Power is important. Therefore, in the standup position the power and direction is more important than getting low. The only time you consider getting low for a shot . . . bending low . . . is when you are going for the kill shot, reducing the angle of error.

On the tempo of the game. Davidson contends that too many of the beginners are trying to be "cute," using changeup shots, thus setting themselves up to be "destroyed" by more knowledgeable players. He wants his "boys" to keep moving quickly at all times and to hit the ball hard at all times.

—I think this is very true for the beginner. But, once the game has been mastered to any extent in order to play good competition, unless the player can present an all-around game that includes the volley, slowing down the game, using of mental ability to a greater extent . . . I don't think it is possible to crack through any top players.

But for the beginner I agree wholeheartedly with Davidson . . . there's no doubt about it. The idea is to play as fierce and as hard as possible. We don't want the youngster to become lackadaisical in his play. But, later it is most essential to get the all-around game. I have seen this so often. A player who can really pound the ball and kill with both hands, get against an older player who will volley him to death and slow him down to a point of frustration and then the errors come. So against the top notchers it is necessary to slow down the action on occasion and play a headier game than the pounding game. The intense desire that accompanies all out effort is good for the youngster and enables him to overcome "fear" from the aspect of competitive inexperience . . . or, it might be better to use the term "tenseness." This fast tempo and hard hitting will overcome tenseness.

The youngsters should work on the off hand in everyday sessions when the tournament prize is not at stake, for then the name of the game is "victory." The player can serve with his offhand, and try various defensive and some offensive shots . . . he should go into the court by himself and practice these things often and I can't emphasize enough the importance and values of the fly shots with both hands.

There's a lot of thing you can do in a handball court by yourself. You can work on the "feather touch" ceiling shot, the offhand fist "bolo" ceiling shot, coming underhanded, and you can play your left against your right. I can also suggest when you're not playing in the payoff competition you try and use your head more . . . think, concentrate and have an idea of what you want to do — and why. Try to direct the ball rather than just hit it. Try to develop pin accuracy. Control will overcome harder hitting every day in the week.

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## Pete Tyson's Basic Handball Strategy

What are you trying to do when you hit the handball? Do you understand the reasoning behind a particular shot? Quite a number of handball players have played this game for many years and cannot tell a person what is the basic idea or strategy of good sound handball play, even though they may follow a certain amount of this proper strategy that was learned through years of experience and trial and error.

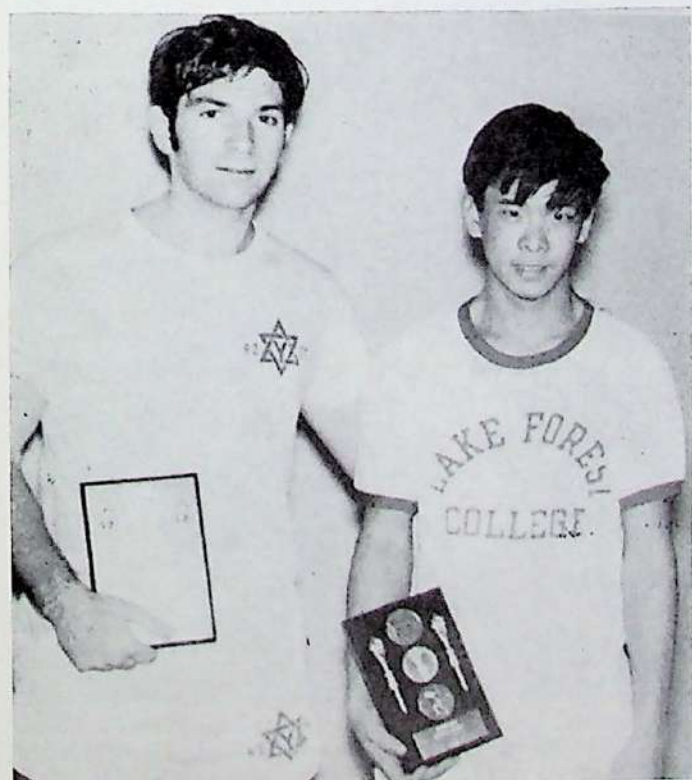
It is important to have a purpose for each shot that you attempt. Granted, there are times when you may be trying your best just to return a tough shot, but most of the time you will be in a position to choose one of several shot possibilities. Good strategy in handball requires the proper selection of one of three basic shots. Two of these shots are offensive scoring shots and one is primarily a defensive shot.

The *kill shot* is perhaps the most important of the three basic shots and the most difficult to execute. This offensive shot should be attempted when the ball is at low position, and you should choose the spot to aim your attempted kill shot so that if it is not a perfect "bottom board" shot, it will still be a well-placed shot angled away from your opponent.

The *passing shot* is the second offensive shot and it is just what the name implies. This shot is hit past your opponent and it will be effective only if your opponent is in front court (near the short line) or close to one of the side walls. The passing shot must be driven hard, angled close to a side wall, and hit low enough so that it will not rebound off the back wall. It will be most effectively hit from a low position although it is possible to execute this shot from any height.

The volley can be ended by a well executed kill or pass shot. Any other shot that you attempt, your opponent will be able to make the return. Whenever possible, let the ball drop low before contact is made and try to play offensive handball. There will, however, be many times when the ball must be hit from a shoulder-high or higher position. It is very difficult to hit a scoring shot from this height. To attempt to kill shot from this position is foolish because the percentages are against its execution. Your opponent knows this and he will probably drop back a few steps behind the short line and when he is in that position, it will be difficult to pass him. Thus, when attempting a shot from a high position, it should be realized that you are on the defense and should attempt a defensive shot. This defensive shot is the third basic shot, the *ceiling shot* and it is hit with the idea of moving your opponent to a position close to the back wall from where it is very difficult to hit a scoring shot. The shot serves a second purpose — it gives you time to move up to that all-important front court position.

Good strategy in handball revolves around the proper use of these three shots. Each time you attempt a shot, use your head as well the body — choose correctly. Attempt offensive shots when the ball is low and your opponent is not in good court position — when the percentages are on your side. When you don't have a good percentage chance of hitting a kill or passing shot, then hit the good defensive shot to move your opponent back to a position where the percentages are against his making a scoring shot.



'KIDS WIN AKRON DOUBLES' . . . Steve Lott (left) and Wes Yee won doubles title in Akron Open.

## Yambrick Named Top Twin City Athlete

Bill Yambrick was named as "Amateur Athlete of the Year" for St. Paul and Ramsey County for the 1968 season.

Bill, who has dominated the area handball scene for the past half dozen years and piled up an impressive national record, was honored at the 25th annual Downtown Lions Club at the St. Paul Hotel. Guest speaker was Ara Parseghian, Notre Dame football coach and himself an off-season handball enthusiast.

Yambrick was one of the original USHA juniors and an intercollegiate participant 1961 and 1962. A singles winner while at the University of Minnesota. He represents the St. Paul Athletic Club in tournaments and exhibitions.

Currently, Bill is defending national YMCA singles champ.

Bill's father, Frank, an avid handballer, interested Bill in the game at the age of 15 to play at the YMCA. Al Warren became the main influence in showing Yambrick the finer points of the game.

Yambrick was runnerup to Paul Haber in both the 1966 and 1967 USHA nationals, and is expected to be an important factor in the 1969 championships in Austin, Texas.



## Stuffy Singer's 3 C's of Handball

Most everybody, when teaching or being taught the game of handball, tends to emphasize the physical aspect, and rightly so, since execution of the various shots is the most important single part of the ol' ball game.

Anybody will tell you that, "He's got a great left, that's why he wins," or, "He wasn't in shape, that's why he lost," and then there's that world renowned statement, "You gotta shoot more" . . . Bob Davidson.

Well, these are all well and good, but we all have different physical abilities. Some are strong, others not so strong. Some can hit the ball well with their off hands, others cannot. Most can bend over, but some can't. The reason I bring this up is because, in my opinion, these varying physical abilities make it almost impossible to set down anything but generalities with regard to the physical portion of the game. After the generalities are learned, you must set out on your own to find out what type of game suits you best.

What I'd like to try and bring out in this article are *three* of the numerous intangible items, which when everything else is equal, will make the difference between winning and losing, and it doesn't matter whether you're a national caliber ball player, or a class double z in your own club. The intangibles make the difference.

I like to call these three intangibles THE THREE C's OF HANDBALL.

**CONCENTRATION:** You must have heard this word used at least a thousand times, every time you have walked into a court. Usually, however, it's used in the sentence, "You must concentrate on the ball." If by chance you don't realize the full importance of this statement I suggest you look at some old ACE magazines and notice how the ball players who win the tournaments seem to almost swallow the ball with their eyes. Someone once asked Paul Haber exactly when he watches the ball. The unbelieving reply was, "I even watch it during time outs." There's got to be a reason. However, I want to clue you in on something, it's just not all there is to it.

By concentration I don't just mean watch the ball. I mean concentrate on whether to play offense or defense on a particular shot. I mean concentrate on getting into position early enough so as not be forced to hit the ball while you are on the run. Concentrate on

hitting the ball, at all times, to an area which is predicated not on where the ball is, but where your opponent is. In other words, try and have some basis of thought, some reason for doing whatever it is you are doing.

**CONFIDENCE:** This one's a little tougher to master because success is what breeds confidence.

You must have confidence in your ability to make correct decisions. Confidence that you can make your particular repertoire of shots. Confidence that you can win the game. Unfortunately, it's easier said than done.

One of the ways I used to develop confidence in my shots was to go into a court by myself and practice hitting certain shots. The theory behind this was that during an hour's practice session I would probably get to hit hundreds of the same shots over and over again, until such time as I could make them consistently. This is very unlike game conditions, where if you get 10 or 20 chances to make the same shot during the course of a match, it's a lot. The concentrated practice also serves another purpose. Since, during a game, you are penalized by means of points, if you miss, the results is usually a slight loss of confidence. Con-

versely, the mind, during practice, seems to reject the errors and record only the successful attempts.

As far as confidence in your ability to win games, I think the words of Vince Lombardi pretty well sums it up; "Winning is a habit." There's only one way to acquire this habit and that's to WIN. No matter how many points you allow your opponent, and whether it's practice or a tournament, you must win every game possible. If you do this, pretty soon you start to get the feeling, even though it's never true, you think it's true, and that is what's important! So, believing this, you should go right out and pick an argument with your wife, and win it . . . by all means, win it!

**COURAGE:** This last one is the toughest because it has a lot of intangibles wrapped up in one. I think you might as well call it the courage of your convictions. The best way that I can explain it is to relate to you my feelings regarding percentages. I feel, that there is always a right, and a wrong thing to do with all shots. I do not feel that the circumstances change the percentages. It is my opinion that if a shot is the correct one to take at 0-0 in the first game, that it's the correct one to take at 20-20 in the third!



RIGHT CHOICE??? In exhibition match against Oshkosh's Ray Neveau, Stuffy Singer takes ball off back wall, gets low and shoots into left front wall. Neveau is in deep court right and if Stuffy's shot is low it should score. If Ray were in short court Stuffy would then probably go around the walls because it's dangerous to try to score from this position.

—Courtesy Chicago Tribune



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# Schneider-Lewis Top 'Youth' In Central Doubles

Ken Schneider and Gus Lewis refused to allow "youth to be served" in the 1969 running of the USHA Central doubles, eliminating two 27-year-olds, and defending titlists, Don Ardito and Andy Upatnieks of the Irving Park YMCA, in the semis and then winning over 1964 national doubles champs, Johnny Sloan, Irving Park Y, and Phil Elbert, Oak Park Y, in the finals.

When a couple of greybeards come from behind, after losing the first game in both the semi finals and finals, and win an open doubles crown, then it seems time for a "saliva test." And, those ageless wonders, Ken Schneider (47) and Gus Lewis (50,) were nothing short of sensational in winning the championship.

This was one of the strongest Chicagoland doubles fields in years — 35 teams competing in the six-day test at the Evanston YMCA. Schneider and Lewis, seeded fourth after foregoing this tournament last year, had a rough draw but seemed to thrive and grow stronger as the week progressed. Actually, they had only one "breeze," against Fred Kummer and Charley Biersborn of the Lake Shore Club, winning 21-1, 21-5, but they ran into some powerhouse duos.

Marv "Bull in a China shop" Sveinsson and Bill Norberg of the Irving Park Y, righted themselves after a "stage fright" first game (6-21) to battle Ken and Gus right down to the wire before losing the second, 21-20. Then, the eventual winners went up against Duncan Y's supposedly best in Red Muga-vero and Tom Brownfield. Muga-vero had been a thorn in their side the past two years in Masters doubles, pacing the way to three gamers in the finals before giving up, and Brownfield was a semi-finalist last year with Elbert. After a tough first game loss, 21-15, the Duncan team seemed to lose its "cool" in the second game and could muster only four points.

Ardito and Upatnieks, possessed of youth, power, and two good hands each, looked like repeat winners in the first game, setting a torrid tempo, and keeping Schneider in deep court where he couldn't do much damage. But, after that initial 21-13 win, the "kids," as Papa Joe Ardito tabs them, were outmaneuvered and forced to play the volley, position, and control game that has been the Schneider-Lewis success story. The galleyrites figured that, after the first game loss, it would be nigh on to impossible for the vets to bounce back and take two straight. But, this they did, and finished up going away, 21-8.

Meanwhile, over in the other side of the semi final bracket, Sloan and



ALL CHAMPIONS . . . Johnny Sloan and Phil Elbert former national winners (top and bottom) couldn't parlay 29 years of age advantage in finals of Central USHA doubles and finished runnerup to the "second time around" veterans, Gus Lewis and Ken Schneider. The argument for experienced teamwork in doubles received a mighty boost from the all-time national Masters doubles champions.

Elbert also had to go the three-game route before subduing Duncan Y's Tony D'Andrea and Jim DiCiccio. Tony played an exceptionally strong left side and kept the team in the battle by leading the second game victory. But, the smooth Sloan-Elbert teamwork came to the front in the decider. Sloan's soft but "stuff on 'em" serves gained weak returns, and his talented left fist volley shots were well placed and allowed Elbert to blast away from his right position. There were times when the famed Sloan right fly kill into the right corner flashed but he couldn't consistently get himself into position fast enough to use this weapon.

The "experts" had mixed feelings about the Friday night finals. A Sloan of 1958-59 would have left no doubts as to the favorites. Although only 33, Johnny is definitely not the lightning quick champion he was in those days. He just doesn't play that often although many opined he is playing better this season than he has in the past few. Elbert, a couple of years older, is still in fine physical condition, but as in the case of right court players finds himself somewhat limited in his shooting chances.

So the bell rang for the finals. Johnny and Phil both put on quite a show in the first game — physically fresh — and able to pound home points. Gus Lewis, a notorious slow starter, was having his woes,

and Kenny was being kept from getting any "fat ones." So it was a comparatively easy 21-7 win for the combined "68" age against the "97" combination. And, again, the boys upstairs were afraid this was the end of the trail for the ol' campaigners. Only the faithful fan, Anita Schneider, displayed confidence in her Ken and his cohort, Gus, and she didn't give up in her vocal support.

Then, the four-time Masters doubles champs (1964-67) arose to the occasion. Kenny looked like the apple-cheeked New Yorker of 1950 when he won the national singles. Gus, with the legs of a State cross-country champ that he was as a prep in his native Buffalo, moved like a cat. They tossed in all the court lore that is theirs plus the amazing physical ability to go with it. This was not the team that went "flat" in the failure to defend their national Masters doubles crown at St. Louis last year. This was strictly a rejuvenated pair of half century "colts" that had been led out of the pasture. No glue factory for them. They smelled the championship and roared out and won those last two games, again going away in the stretch, 21-10, 21-9.

D'Andrea and DiCiccio salvaged third place over Ardito-Upatnieks, 21-10, 21-18.

In summation, Schneider and Lewis, with two big area wins are ready and willing for Austin.



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# Don't Overlook Safety Factor In Handball

JOEL T. SANTORO

The score is 19-20 and one more point will cost you the game. The opposition hits a high lob to the corner of your weak hand, which experience suggests will slide down the wall and consequently terminate the game. Making that final effort, you race for position and CRASH, you slide into the wall unable to stop. Well, you can afford to lose the game, but consider a broken wrist, arm, or ankle. No one can afford an injury!

All players desire to improve their handball skills, but very few are concerned with fundamental safety. Yet, just as skill improvement creates a more enjoyable game, development of sound safety precautions will also make a contribution to better handball.

To begin, selecting the proper type gym shoe will make a difference in your ability to move quickly and particularly to stop short, thus avoiding a collision with the wall or other players. The shoe best suited for the task is a high quality basketball type shoe, since it is constructed for quick stopping and its design enables the players to pivot around rapidly. The high-top variety will provide more ankle support but it is not as popular as the low-cut style. Many times when chasing a hard passing shot the wall "comes up" quickly and a good set of "brakes" are essential. There are tennis shoes which are satisfactory; but be certain to check the construction of the soles. Many have very smooth bottoms designed specifically for clay court surfaces.

To help prevent blisters, some players prefer to wear two pairs of athletic socks, which by the way, is a common practice with basketball players. If double socks are your preference, be certain to wear both when purchasing new shoes. Squeezing your feet into shoes that are too tight is a detrimental to comfort as a loose fit, and both will cause blisters. Sore feet and blisters will not add to your concentration of the game, and lack of attention is dangerous.

Keep available several extra shirts outside the court and make a change before the one you are wearing becomes sopping wet. Wet shirts drip over the floor causing slippery spots, and this represents a serious hazard. Playing without a shirt at all is simply inexcusable and should not be allowed on wood floor courts.

One of the most serious injury that can be obtained by a handball player is a damaged eye. Taking that extra "peek" to see where your opponent will hit from is good strategy

## SAFETY NEGLECTED PHASE OF GAME

Joel T. Santoro, of the New Rochelle, N.Y. High School Physical Education Department, has written a very worthwhile feature. He points out the need for proper footwear, latest eye guards, mechanical protection techniques, warm-up procedures and glove selection. It is his professional opinion that many accidents on the court can be minimized or completely avoided by following simple safety precautions.

but poor policy unless you protect yourself. The simplest method of protection is the commercial eye guard. Eye guards are available in several different styles, including plastic and metal. Basically, they all are designed to prohibit the ball from coming in contact with the eye, even on a direct hit. They take very little time to adjust to and they actually allow you to check your opponents position in safety. An investment of approximately five dollars is certainly a very inexpensive price for a safety device which will insure the protection of the eyes.

There are methods of turning to watch your opponent and the ball which do not necessitate the purchase of equipment, yet, allow a reasonable amount of protection. For instance, raising the arm and shoulder in front of the face will enable the player to peek quickly at the ball in comparative safety. Another technique is to raise the hand with the fingers spread wide (palm towards rear wall) in front of your face as you turn around. Spreading the fingers will enable you to see fairly well and still prevent the ball from penetrating through to the eyes. If either of these methods are used, they should be practiced with both hands. Failure to cultivate this habit may result in a turn without protection. These methods are used by experienced handball players but they are no substitute for eye guards.

If you must wear regular eye glasses, the previously mentioned eye guards cannot be used. However, by spending a few extra dollars a pair of prescription eye glasses can be purchased with unbreakable safety lenses. Better yet, serious players can invest in a type of athletic safety eye glass which has a cushioned bridge and deep groove frame to prevent the lenses from popping out. In addition, these glasses have unbreakable lenses and a light frame making them more desirable for continued play. Any athlete with corrected vision who wishes to pursue handball on a regular basis should put on safety lenses of some variety before he ventures on to the handball court.

Before you actually begin to play, take the time to warm up, particularly if you are playing in chilly

weather on a poorly-heated court. At least break into a "good sweat" before beginning to play. A thorough warmup is standard operating procedure in practically every sport in existence. Coaches feel that a warm-up cuts down on muscle injuries and all seasoned players follow this policy. A few light calisthenics and several minutes of throwing and striking the ball will generally suffice. When four men are on the court, use only two balls for the warmup. Three or four balls bouncing around from every direction is a definite hazard and will certainly lead to someone being hit unexpectedly.

When beginning to play in very cold courts, using a set of padded gloves with which to warm up will reduce the chances of painful bone bruises. In crowded facilities where playing time is short and the warm-up is abbreviated as a matter of necessity, begin the first game with the padded gloves and change later. Some players soak their hands in hot water before playing. However, if you must wait to play, this technique is not recommended since your hand will cool quickly.

Knowing when to stop playing is equally as important as warming up. When fatigue sets in your coordination and timing may be effected, thus making you a danger to other players and yourself. Stop playing when you become weary and avoid the risk of being injured.

Last, but by no means to be neglected, is a thorough working knowledge of all the rules. Instead of charging around the court blindly attempting all types of shots, know when to call a hinder ball without knocking your opponent down, pushing him, or jostling each other unnecessarily. Knowing the "legal" time not to take a shot is as important as knowing when to kill the ball. Rule books are available from the United States Handball Association at a small charge and free with the purchase of Saranac ACE gloves.

Keeping yourself free from bodily harm is as important as any ace or kill shot and a little attention to fundamental safety will help you play a more effective game.



# Lake Forest College Trip Boosts Game

"It was a real rewarding trip," is the way Mike Dau described his recent travel session with his Lake Forest College team.

"It was an honest attempt to encourage intercollegiate handball at the varsity level," Dau continued. "We had the help of the United States Handball Association. The object of all this is to gain NCAA recognition of handball as a varsity sport."

"We (the USHA) hope to participate in and sponsor regional, national tournaments and clinics to reach our goal, which I feel is about five or ten years away." ....

Dau says there are two reasons handball isn't a recognized sport. "No. 1, there is a lack of qualified instructors; and No. 2, there is a lack of standard-sized courts. We played on as many different courts as colleges we went to — anywhere from 36 to 46 feet long — like playing in a telephone booth or the Colosseum."

Dau and his four-man team traveled throughout the eastern United States playing at the University of Michigan, Ohio University, University of Pittsburgh, United States Naval Academy, United States Military Academy, and Kent State (O.) University.

The members of the team, in addition to Dau, were Wesley Yee and his brother William Yee, Steve Jamron, and Dave Smith.

A highlight of the trip for all of the Lake Forest players was an opportunity to play in a doubles match with Jimmy Jacobs.

"Jacobs is the greatest handball player of all time," Dau explained. "Playing with him was a culmination of our trip. He's the complete master of the game. The opportunity to play an immortal doesn't come around very often."

"There are some things we can improve on," he said. "We want to help these other colleges get their programs going. Next year we might offer a clinic at each one of the stops. With films and demonstrations we can help them help themselves. We found people hungry to learn at each place we stopped — particularly at the military academies."

"The value of handball (or any court sport) is long-lasting. You can play the game until they pack you away. As a coach I'm excited about the effect. It's rewarding not only at the varsity level but also intramural and after graduation."



LAKE FOREST COLLEGE HANDBALL TEAM . . . Coach Mike Dau (standing) with the first handball team at the college—(l to r)—William Yee, Steve Jamron, Dave Smith, Wes Yee. Team will vie for national honors at University of Texas, March 21-22.

## LFC 4, UNIV. OF MICHIGAN 2

### Singles

August (M) def. Wes Yee 21-17, 21-11. Wm. Yee (LF) def. McCulloch 21-17, 21-20. Budzik (M) def. Smith 21-6, 21-8. Jamron (LF) def. Poole 21-6, 21-9.

### Doubles

Smith-Wes Yee (LF) def. August-McCulloch 21-20, 18-21, 21-17. Jamron-Wm. Yee def. Budzik-Ware 21-9, 21-12.

## LFC 2, KENT STATE 0

### Doubles

Wes Yee-Smith (LFC) def. Weiskopf-Bixenstine 9-21, 21-10, 21-6. Wm. Yee-Jamron (LFC) def. Welch-Krusoe 21-6, 21-20.

## LFC 3, OHIO UNIVERSITY 1

### Singles

Wes Yee (LF) def. Symson 21-14, 13-21, 21-15. DiLiberle (OU) def. Smith 19-21, 21-5, 21-5. Dau (LFC) def. Chonko (OU) 21-15, 14-21, 21-7.

### Doubles

Jamron - Wm. Yee def. Pfeiffer - Klein 21-5, 21-18.

## LFC 5, UNIV. OF PITTSBURGH 0

### Singles

Wes Yee (LFC) def. Tartaglia 21-12, 21-5. Wm. Yee (LFC) def. Adams 21-8, 11-21, 21-6. Jamron (LFC) def. Civiak 21-9, 21-18.

### Doubles

Wes Yee-Jamron def. Civiak-Goldberg 21-16, 21-10. Smith - Dau (LFC) def. Adams - DeLorn 21-10, 21-5.

## LFC 4, USNA 1

### Singles

Wes Yee (LFC) def. Cocoeza 21-15, 21-12. Massa (N) def. Wm. Yee 21-17, 21-18. Jamron (LFC) def. Creighton 9-21, 21-18, 21-7. Smith (LFC) def. Spratt 21-4, 21-17. Dau (LFC) def. Elliot 21-8, 21-12.

## LFC 4, USMA 1

### Singles

Wes Yee (LFC) def. Male 21-15, 21-19. Wm. Yee (LFC) def. Waloski 21-6, 21-2. Jamron (LFC) def. Taylor 21-5, 21-14. Harms (A) def. Smith 21-19, 10-21, 21-15.

### Doubles

Wes Yee-Jamron def. Male-Taylor 21-18, 21-15.

## OBSERVATION TOWER

(From page 17)

Third place went to Stu Rubin of the Forte Tower restaurant and Sonny Sperling. The A singles is on now with Fred Lewis, 21, another of my boys, defending Florida State singles and doubles champ; Joel Galpern, former Junior winner, and Ralph Kaufman as the top seeded players.

Many visitors popping in . . . Jack Goldstein, my second in command in New York with the youngsters when I'm not around . . . Lou Russo Sr., and his wife, Ruth, of Castle Hill Pool . . . Al and Florence Farkas . . . Ken Smolack, Arne Sahler, Jerry Uritsky, now of Atlanta, Archie Smolack, Nat Miller and Mike Lachman of Detroit, Bob Dillon of Montreal, Don Warnholt, Toronto, Hugh Campbell and his wife, Mary, who live 800 miles north of Toronto in the Summer, where they have a camp . . . Sam Bernstein and Harry Chitsie of Atlantic City . . . Bob Levinsohn and Jesse Turk of Brooklyn, Clinton Schwartz of Philadelphia, and Reuben Rosenberg of Allentown.

In closing — thanks Bob Kendler and his gracious wife, Evie, for a nice evening at their spacious Lake Forest home.



## NEVEAU SOCKS IT

(from page 45)

"But you can wear them down by rolling the ball around the walls and making them chase it."

### He Relies on Strength

Neveau has mastered the nuances of the game in a relatively short span, but he remains a highly unconventional player who relies more than most on strength and mobility. For example, since points in handball may be scored only by the server, strategy calls for forcing one's opponent to the backcourt and playing close to the front. There one can slam ("kill") a ball fast and low before the opponent can rush to reach it. Neveau, however, delights in utilizing his brute strength to kill from the backcourt. Unorthodox, almost unheard of, but successful.

Champions also must be nearly ambidextrous, able to thump the ball as effectively with their off-hand (usually the left) as with their strong hand. Neveau's left is the weakest part of his game. It is strictly defensive, and because it's his weakness, other players force him to use it constantly.

Logically Neveau would do the same to them: Blast or float the ball into the back-left corner time and again so that they, too, must use their weak hands. Instead Neveau frequently bucks tradition and aims drives straight at his foes' strength. "They're always covering the left, you know," he says. "By giving them the shot they never dreamed of getting you can often cross them up." If an adversary tries a straight power game, strength against strength, Neveau will win every time.

"Two things amaze me about Ray," an admirer reflects from the gallery. "He can tell without even watching you — and before you even take a shot — where you're going to play the ball. So he's always there, waiting, when the shot gets there. It's maddening. And he has that animal energy that enables him to simply wear down an opponent."

Neveau lost 15 pounds in last year's national finals, yet finished stronger than he started. "Guys keep asking me, 'Are you sore? Are you tired?'" Ray recalls. "They'd ask Chickie (his wife), 'Whattaya feed that guy?' I can't really explain it; I get just so tired and no tireded."

### The Lombardi Method

Raves Stuffy Singer: "Ray has great stamina, great determination, which are vital when you play tough game after tough game in national tournaments." So determined is Neveau when he plays that he can hardly keep score. "I sometimes even lose track of who's serving," he laughs. His concentration can unnerve opponents, most of whom weigh 40 pounds less and don't relish the thought of running into him or fielding a mighty Neveau blast in the back. Ray says he gets his inspiration from a man north of here, Green Bay's Vince Lombardi, and the snarling countenance he effects on the court reflects the Lombardi demeanor.

But Ray purrs off the court. "The thing that's great about handball is the friends you can make, all across the country. If I'm at a sales meeting in Minneapolis or Milwaukee, or on the road anywhere, I just take along my gym bag, make a phone call, and pretty soon I'm playing handball at the Y with a guy. Lots of people say they don't have the time for handball, even when they're home all week. Funny, the same guys find the time to sit in a bar and have a couple Martinis every night."

## Marv Hansher Defies Medics, Finds Handball Best Tonic 'Money Can Buy'



MARVIN HANSHER

Marvin Hansher was told by doctors several years ago to avoid strenuous exercise, sidestep any handball play and in essence, live a sedentary existence. For awhile, the plus-50 year old Milwaukee native abided by the decision but when he found himself fat and feeling sluggish out the window went the advice.

Now, Marv, despite a supposed heart condition, hernia and advancing years, is cavorting on the Milwaukee Jewish Community Center every day. He takes on all comers and isn't reluctant to wager "a few bobs" to make things a bit more interesting.

Win or lose, Marv obviously enjoys the action. At a stage of life where the pursuit of the almighty dollar is no longer necessary, he can devote all the time he wants to his "hustling pursuits."

He'll take 99 points and the serve in a 100-point game with Paul Haber or give points to some eager youngster who can't fathom how this physical wreck can move around the court. But, Marv fools 'em. He scorns the doubles routine, likes to be on his own — digging up returns and then flicking in some nifty corner kills from all angles of the court.

As it is to so many of us, handball has become a way of life with Marv Hansher. "I feel like a million, so why should I stop?" he reasons. "Now, my doctor tells me I might as well keep it up . . . actually my physical condition has improved 100 per cent in the last two years."

In the men's club of the Center, Marv kibitzes with the best of 'em and when it comes time to handicap important tournament or exhibition matches he's Nick The Greek of Milwaukee. And, he's usually right on the button with his pickings on the big boys. When it comes to his own personal handicapping he may stretch things — "Anything to get the action." If Marv has to donate to get the match that's OK. He knows it's going for a good cause — Perpetuation Of The Handball Hustlers!



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# PFEIFER WINS WASHINGTON STATE SINGLES

Gordon Pfeifer, Tacoma, added a new trophy to his fast-growing collection when he captured the singles crown in the First Washington State Tourney held in Yakima Jan. 10-12. Pfeifer, who now represents the Washington Athletic Club, is definitely the dominate singles player in the Northwest having won two straight at the Seattle Seafair.

Last year he made a strong bid for the National Condender's crown before bowing to Dr. Claude Benham in the semi-finals. He followed that up with a runnerup for the consolation title in the nationals and also a third place finish in the doubles. He won this title with comparative ease, being pressed in only one game of the championship match with Bud Simpson, Seattle. One of the interesting sidelights of the tourney was the fact that not only did Bud Simpson reach the finals, but his son Larry also played some fine handball, and convinced everyone that he will be heard from in the future.

Jim Douglas and John Beahm, representing the Seattle YMCA, have the honor of having their names engraved on the huge traveling trophy as the first Open Doubles champions. They did it the hard way by defeating the top-seeded team of Lea McMillan

and Bill Reel, of Tacoma, in three hard-fought and well played games, 21-18, 10-21, 21-16.

The Master's Doubles division attracted 11 entries and eight of the eleven teams had a good chance of going all the way. Five of the ten matches were extended to three games and the one semi-final match between Keith Carden and Howard Whitney, Bremerton, and Elliot Moore and Ollie Nelson, Yakima, lasted 2 1/2 hours and ended with both teams scoring 58 points out of a possible total of 63. Whitney and Carden won the all important third game but then lost in another three-game match to Bob Bunch and Al Bostrom, Seattle. Bunch and Bostrom have also been making a habit of winning trophies and were the slight favorites this time too.

The First State tournament was a success in every way. Fifty players representing eleven different clubs participated. The matches were played on one of the worst weather weekends of the Winter but every entry showed up and there was not one forfeit in the entire tournament including consolation rounds in all three divisions. Preliminary plans were made to hold the 1970 tournament in Bremerton next February.

## Under the Wire News...

Once again we regret that full stories were not forthcoming from Dayton or El Paso on their respective open tournaments. Jack Gordon, our traveling troubador from Chicago, filled us in as well as he could, after returning from these tournaments.

At Dayton, Al Drews, Cleveland, winner of the 1968 Mideast regionals, posted a big win over Jack McDonald, Chicago, in three games — 13-21, 21-14, 21-12, to take top honors. Veteran Jack Gordon teamed with 21-year-old Jim Leahy of Chicago's Irving Park YMCA, to take the doubles.

In El Paso the big headline came out of the singles. Dave Graybill, Phoenix, had won impressively over Jack McDonald in the semis while Bob Lindsay, Wichita Falls, was eliminating Carl Porter, Tucson. In the finals it was a slam-bang match with Lindsay coming out the winner, 21-19, 21-20. "It was Lindsay's talented kills with his left that spelled the margin," Jack reported. Gordon was the referee and also added that Graybill, with a 20-19 lead in the second game, DOUBLE SHORTED, and then Lindsay went in and added the two big points to win the game and match. "I think if Dave had won that second game he would have gone on for the match win," Gordon asserted, "because Lindsay seemed to be a mighty tired youngster."

Tom Kay and Rene Zamerano, Tucson, won the doubles over Jack Gordon and Oscar Villareal, 21-16, 21-18.

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# NATIONAL CHAMPION RECORDS

## FOUR-WALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS — 1919-1950

| Year | Held In       | Singles Winners | City          | Doubles Winners       | City          |
|------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| 1919 | Los Angeles   | Bill Ranft      | Los Angeles   | Ranft-Lacey           | Los Angeles   |
| 1920 | Los Angeles   | Max Gold        | Los Angeles   | Klawiter-Retzer       | Los Angeles   |
| 1921 | Detroit       | Carl Haedger    | St. Paul      | Spiegel-Asellin       | Detroit       |
| 1922 | Milwaukee     | Art Shinnars    | Milwaukee     | Laswell-Gold          | Los Angeles   |
| 1923 | St. Paul      | Joe Murray      | San Francisco | Bathey-Serrenberg     | Detroit       |
| 1924 | Los Angeles   | Maynard Laswell | Los Angeles   | McMillan-Donovan      | San Francisco |
| 1925 | Cleveland     | Maynard Laswell | Los Angeles   | Kamman-Dworman        | Detroit       |
| 1926 | St. Paul      | Maynard Laswell | Los Angeles   | McMillan-Donovan      | San Francisco |
| 1927 | Detroit       | George Nelson   | Baltimore     | Kamman-Dworman        | Detroit       |
| 1928 | Cleveland     | Joe Griffin     | Detroit       | Kamman-Schaufelberger | Detroit       |
| 1929 | New York      | Al Banuet       | San Francisco | Banuet-McMillan       | San Francisco |
| 1930 | St. Louis     | Al Banuet       | San Francisco | Banuet-Paynter        | San Francisco |
| 1931 | Minneapolis   | Al Banuet       | San Francisco | Bathey-Dworman        | Detroit       |
| 1932 | New York      | Angelo Trullo   | New York      | Trullo-Laswell        | New York      |
| 1933 | Chicago       | Sam Atcheson    | Memphis       | Goudreau-Endzwick     | Cleveland     |
| 1934 | New York      | Sam Atcheson    | Memphis       | Herz-Manka            | New York      |
| 1935 | Washington    | Joe Platak      | Chicago       | Berry-Gordon          | Los Angeles   |
| 1936 | Los Angeles   | Joe Platak      | Chicago       | Berry-Gordon          | Los Angeles   |
| 1937 | Chicago       | Joe Platak      | Chicago       | Platak-Welller        | Chicago       |
| 1938 | Memphis       | Joe Platak      | Chicago       | Coyle-Linz            | New York      |
| 1939 | San Francisco | Joe Platak      | Chicago       | Coyle-Linz            | New York      |
| 1940 | Detroit       | Joe Platak      | Chicago       | Gordon-Goldsmith      | Los Angeles   |
| 1941 | Chicago       | Joe Platak      | Chicago       | Coyle-Linz            | New York      |
| 1942 | San Francisco | Jack Clements   | San Francisco | Gordon-Goldsmith      | Los Angeles   |
| 1943 | San Francisco | Joe Platak      | Chicago       | Gordon-Smith          | Los Angeles   |
| 1944 | Chicago       | Frank Coyle     | New York      | Platak-Quinn          | Chicago       |
| 1945 | Chicago       | Joe Platak      | Chicago       | Atcheson-Detwiler     | Memphis       |
| 1946 | San Francisco | Angelo Trullo   | New York      | Coyle-Linz            | New York      |
| 1947 | St. Louis     | Gus Lewis       | Los Angeles   | Haber-Samson          | New York      |
| 1948 | Chicago       | Gus Lewis       | Los Angeles   | Gluckler-Pahl         | New York      |
| 1949 | New York      | Vic Hershkowitz | New York      | Lewis-Haber           | Chicago       |
| 1950 | Chicago       | Ken Schneider   | Chicago       | Coyle-Baler           | Chicago       |

## WINNERS OF NATIONAL SENIOR FOUR-WALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

| Year | Held In        | Singles Winners | City          | Doubles Winners   | City              |
|------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1951 | Chicago        | Walter Plekan   | Buffalo       | Coyle-Baler       | Chicago           |
| 1952 | Detroit        | Vic Hershkowitz | Brooklyn      | Coyle-Baler       | Chicago           |
| 1953 | Houston        | Bob Brady       | San Francisco | Haber-Dreyfus     | Chicago-St. Louis |
| 1954 | Chicago        | Vic Hershkowitz | Brooklyn      | Haber-Schneider   | Chicago           |
| 1955 | Los Angeles    | Jimmy Jacobs    | Los Angeles   | Haber-Schneider   | Chicago           |
| 1956 | St. Louis      | Jimmy Jacobs    | Los Angeles   | Haber-Schneider   | Chicago           |
| 1957 | Dallas         | Jimmy Jacobs    | Los Angeles   | Sloan-Collins     | Chicago           |
| 1958 | Chicago        | John Sloan      | Chicago       | Sloan-Collins     | Chicago           |
| 1959 | Los Angeles    | John Sloan      | Chicago       | Sloan-Collins     | Chicago           |
| 1960 | San Francisco  | Jimmy Jacobs    | Los Angeles   | Jacobs-Welsman    | Los Angeles       |
| 1961 | Denver         | John Sloan      | Chicago       | Sloan-Hershkowitz | Chicago-Brooklyn  |
| 1962 | Houston        | Oscar Obert     | New York      | Jacobs-Decatur    | New York          |
| 1963 | Seattle        | Oscar Obert     | New York      | Jacobs-Decatur    | New York          |
| 1964 | St. Louis      | Jimmy Jacobs    | New York      | Sloan-Elbert      | Chicago           |
| 1965 | Austin         | Jimmy Jacobs    | New York      | Jacobs-Decatur    | New York          |
| 1966 | Salt Lake City | Paul Haber      | San Jose      | Tyson-Lindsay     | Austin            |
| 1967 | San Francisco  | Paul Haber      | San Francisco | Jacobs-Decatur    | New York          |
| 1968 | St. Louis      | Stuffy Singer   | Los Angeles   | Jacobs-Decatur    | New York          |

## WINNERS OF NATIONAL FOUR-WALL MASTERS TOURNAMENTS

| Year | Held In        | Doubles Winners    | City              |
|------|----------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1952 | Detroit        | Laser-Kendler      | Chicago           |
| 1953 | Houston        | Laser-Kendler      | Chicago           |
| 1954 | Chicago        | Brotmarkle-Hackney | Los Angeles       |
| 1955 | Los Angeles    | Shane-Bolssere     | Los Angeles       |
| 1956 | St. Louis      | Shane-Bolssere     | Los Angeles       |
| 1957 | Dallas         | Brotmarkle-Felvou  | Los Angeles       |
| 1958 | Chicago        | Lubin-Haber        | Miami-San Jose    |
| 1959 | Los Angeles    | Brotmarkle-Felvou  | Los Angeles       |
| 1960 | San Francisco  | Brotmarkle-Felvou  | Los Angeles       |
| 1961 | Denver         | Coyle-Lewis        | San Diego-Chicago |
| 1962 | Houston        | Coyle-Lewis        | San Diego-Chicago |
| 1963 | Seattle        | Brady-Keays        | San Francisco     |
| 1964 | St. Louis      | Schneider-Lewis    | Chicago           |
| 1965 | Austin         | Schneider-Lewis    | Chicago           |
| 1966 | Salt Lake City | Schneider-Lewis    | Chicago           |
| 1967 | San Francisco  | Schneider-Lewis    | Chicago           |
| 1968 | St. Louis      | Brady-McGuire      | San Francisco     |

First Masters singles held in 1966 — winner — Vic Hershkowitz, New York

## WINNERS OF NATIONAL THREE-WALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

| Year | Held In | Singles Winners | City        | Doubles Winners           | City                  |
|------|---------|-----------------|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1950 | Detroit | Vic Hershkowitz | Brooklyn    | Not Held                  | New York              |
| 1951 | Detroit | Vic Hershkowitz | Brooklyn    | Glucker-Lehrer            | Chicago               |
| 1952 | Detroit | Vic Hershkowitz | Brooklyn    | Coyle-Baler               | Chicago               |
| 1953 | Detroit | Vic Hershkowitz | Brooklyn    | Dressler-Collins          | Chicago               |
| 1954 | Detroit | Vic Hershkowitz | Brooklyn    | Haber-Baler               | Chicago               |
| 1955 | Detroit | Vic Hershkowitz | Los Angeles | Lewis-Collins             | Chicago               |
| 1956 | Detroit | Vic Hershkowitz | Brooklyn    | Hershkowitz-Dreyfus       | Brooklyn-St. Louis    |
| 1957 | Detroit | Vic Hershkowitz | Brooklyn    | R. Obert-O. Obert         | New York              |
| 1958 | Detroit | Vic Hershkowitz | Brooklyn    | Sloan-Brady               | Chicago-San Francisco |
| 1959 | Detroit | Jimmy Jacobs    | Los Angeles | R. Obert-O. Obert         | New York              |
| 1960 | Detroit | Jimmy Jacobs    | Los Angeles | R. Obert-O. Obert         | New York              |
| 1961 | Detroit | Jimmy Jacobs    | Los Angeles | C. Danilezyk-J. Danilezyk | New York              |
| 1962 | Detroit | Oscar Obert     | New York    | Decatur-Sloan             | New York-Chicago      |
| 1963 | Detroit | Marty Decatur   | New York    | Decatur-Russo             | New York              |
| 1964 | Detroit | Marty Decatur   | New York    | O. Obert-R. Obert         | New York              |
| 1965 | Detroit | Carl Obert      | New York    | O. Obert-R. Obert         | New York              |
| 1966 | Detroit | Marlin Decatur  | New York    | Decatur-Russo             | New York              |
| 1967 | Detroit | Carl Obert      | New York    | O. Obert-R. Obert         | New York              |
| 1968 | Detroit | Marty Decatur   | New York    | Decatur-Russo             | New York              |



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This message is for the young in Handball. It is for the Juniors, the Contenders and the Collegiates . . . especially the sons of our oldtimes. You are wonderful youngsters and we are lucky to have you.

I could think of nothing else, — watching the recent National Junior Championships at Lake Forest College. You have so much moral fiber that in time you will greatly strengthen the fabric of handball. Your skill, your sportsmanship and your overall attitude is a great tribute to your handball teachers.

During my talk at the banquet, the dozen sons, following in their fathers' footsteps, gave me some happy memories of great matches. Names that will ever be remembered in Handball made this the finest Junior event we ever held. Who will ever forget Bob Brady, Al Goldstein, Ken Ginty . . . from far and wide their sons came and if I hadn't seen their faces I would have recognized the style. Like Father, like Son, — every Dad had a right to be proud.

Because God gave each of you a lot, we want you to build something on it. You are so fortunate to have parents that lead you in the paths of righteousness. To help the young soul, to add energy, inspire hope, and blow the coals into a useful flame; to redeem defeat by new thought and firm action, this, though not easy, is the work of your Father. I am sure, in one way or another, he has sometimes said, "Let him who would build the world, first build himself."

There are many good ways to build yourself. Handball is one of them. We teach principle and fraternity as a necessary ingredient of our sport. Not as a substitute for Church but as another step in the building of Mind, Soul and Body.

Always remember that Handball is not a business, it is a recreation. And recreation is intended to the mind as whetting is to the scythe, to sharpen the edge of it, which otherwise would grow dull and blunt. He, therefore, that spends his whole time in recreation is ever whetting, never mowing; his grass may grow and his steed starve. As contrarily, he that always toils and never recreates, is ever mowing, never whetting; laboring much to little purpose; for what good is a scythe without an edge.

Nevertheless, through handball, you can build a good life and a good business. Many before you have done it. Let the tenets of our Fraternity serve as your guide. Keep handball in its proper proportion. Make recreation a servant to your business, lest you become a slave to your recreation.

I came to the conclusion, watching you Juniors, that you have a lot more than we had. You can go a lot farther than we have. You have a better Association, better equipment and better competition. You are much younger than we were, you come into the strongest competition when you have the strongest body. We learned the game by doing what came naturally. You have an experienced coach, — many of you a father with a room full of trophies. It was all there, — right before my eyes, — the Juniors in Lake Forest.

As I sign off, let me say to every man and boy of you, — Bless you for making me the proudest member of our Fraternity. Bless you for making my town and my neighbors look up to me. Bless you for following in your fathers' footsteps. You've started that building on the lot God gave you.

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