

RACQUETBALL MAGAZINE

Volume 3, Number 4
JULY - AUGUST 1992
\$3.00

NATIONAL SINGLES WINNERS CIRCLE

Michelle Gilman
takes a 4th title,
Chris Cole his 1st!

National Team
selected from
Quarterfinals
in the Open

PLUS:
Pro Season Wrap-Up
World Senior Entry
National Doubles Entry
16-Page Instructional Section
Rule Changes & Board Report
National Rankings & Calendar

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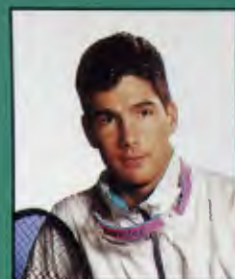
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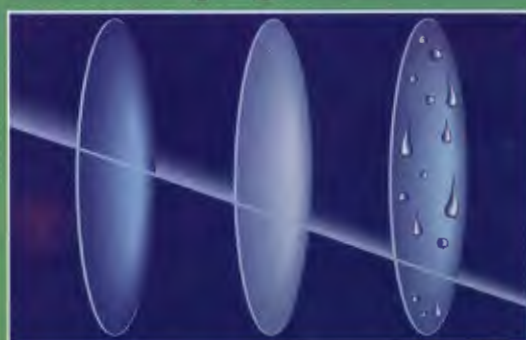
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FROM THE EDITOR

By Linda Mojer

NATIONAL RANKINGS: HOW DO YOU RATE?

It's an age old argument -- ranking vs. ability. How can someone hold a top-ten national ranking and be knocked out of a tournament in the first round? How can someone who doesn't even appear in the national rankings be seeded highly in a major tournament? One player competes in as many sanctioned events as possible throughout the year and earns points at each of them. Another player competes only occasionally, at regional and national events for example, and earns far fewer points. But when it comes to actual skill, how are these variables used to determine which player is stronger and deserving of a better seeding position?

Currently a blue ribbon committee is charged with researching the issue as a whole, making recommendations and developing an alternative method of seeding national events. Starting on the smaller scale of evaluating several hundred entrants, compared to the entire roster of over 35,000 competitive licensees, might reveal a set of standards that could apply across the board.

But for argument's sake, the ranking service is member-based and member-driven. Why shouldn't those grassroots players who support the AARA by competing regularly in sanctioned events be entitled to recognition for that simple, yet vital, activity?

As the stakes get bigger for the sport and its athletes, more and more emphasis will be placed on developing a sophisticated national ranking system that truly reflects the comparative abilities of players. Could it be time for two separate systems -- national rankings for elite players and national ratings for the up and coming?

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RACQUETBALL MAGAZINE

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1992 EKTELON AARA U.S. NATIONAL SINGLES

Chris Cole and Michelle Gilman take this year's national open titles, a first for Cole and a fourth for Gilman. Hundreds of players celebrated the tournament's 25th anniversary and a 10th year in Houston.

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FIRST IMPRESSIONS

Delois Leapheart shares her thoughts about her first national event, along with some "person in the street" observations.

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PRO SEASON ENDS... WHO'S ON TOP?

Mike Tipton and Marcy Lynch report on the men's and women's pro nationals, along with updated rankings.

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METRO SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

Late results are in for the remaining 1992 Metro Regional Singles Championships. We've got the rest of the winners.

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ON THE COVER

Michelle Gilman and Chris Cole share the spotlight at national singles, and the cover of Racquetball Magazine!



READER FORUM

CORRECTION

In Bob Book's last instructional we accidentally omitted the last two paragraphs of "Power, Power, Power!". Please use the following text to complete the story on page 48 in the May, June, 1992 issue:

Contacting the ball too high (for an offensive shot) occurs most often from drifting too far forwards as the rally progresses ...

As you can see, the underlying principle that has a great impact on proper mechanics is actually court positioning. (Who'd a thunk it!) Playing any closer than two to three feet behind the safety line generally **FORCES A PLAYER TO CONTACT THE BALL HIGHER THAN IDEAL**

In summary, turning one's body sideways and getting the racquet up above one's head before hitting are essential for generating power. And body rotation and increasing the length/speed of a swing are contingent upon proper court positioning. It all sounds so simple, but in the heat of battle, we all revert back to our bad habits unless they are broken and corrected in practice with GAME-LIKE drills. Good luck and hope it helps!

THE LAST WORDS ON RACQUET LENGTH

Having played racquetball in local, state and national tournaments for longer than I care to remember, I have pretty much seen our game change and progress to where it is now. I played with the old Voit rollouts and small metal racquets. I played with the fiberglass Little Bandito.

Now I have a huge oversize (which is a misnomer today, as it is actually now standard equipment) racquet that lets me hit the ball harder than when I was 15 years younger. Wow, what a great

feeling, but I can't say I enjoy racquetball more now than then.

It can be argued that the extra power has actually hurt our game. Rallies shorten with photon serves and kills. Witness some of the recent national finals. Ace serve after ace. What TV network would want to televise such a boring event, even if they could pick up the 150+ mph ball?

Do we need a longer racquet? The basic criteria for any rule change should be, "Is there a compelling reason we need a rule change?" I can't think of one reason, much less one compelling reason, we need a racquet that is a half inch longer.

Will it give more power? If so, do we need more power? If not, what's the point? So we can reach and return more balls? If reach is the compelling reason then 1/2 inch is a token...let's go for 2 inches! Is this so racquet manufacturers can find a new reason to sell the players a new round of racquets? If so, you should be ashamed.

The bottom line is, "No compelling reason, no rule change." Or we could also say, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

*Robert Hvistendahl
San Jose, Calif.*

It would seem counterproductive to increase racquet length with the resultant increase in leverage and ball speed. At a time when Olympic hopes seem tenuous at best, resting, to some degree on the ability of our sport to be produced satisfactorily for television, further increasing ball speed would only aggravate the inability of current technology to follow balls nearing 200 mph. Why faster? It is no secret that the knowledgeable as well as the uninformed viewer has little "appreciation" of what is happening during a televised racquetball match. I use the word "appreciation" because all sports have their

"moments of truth." The graceful wide receiver extended to full horizontal to grab the catch, slam dunks or the fast ball ripped for a game winning hit are all visual events "appreciated" because they are literally seen by the spectator whether in person or on television.

Unfortunately, the "moments of truth" in our sport are visual events, which do not extend to television, primarily because of ball speed. Because the ball is moving so fast, the action, for the most part is not seen on television. Instead we are told what happened and then review the event. No amount of color commentary or slo-mo instant replay can correct this deficiency.

Another part of the equation that needs to be mentioned is the current awareness of the American public regarding sensible exercise programs. As a health club consultant for many years, I can tell you that the consumer wants programming that provides the opportunity to obtain good health. Recreational activities which do not provide aerobic benefits are being abandoned for those activities that provide a satisfactory aerobic workout in a reasonable time. Increasing ball speed will only further shorten the aerobic intervals in a racquetball match. Rallies have become shorter and shorter from the days of the plum ball, endless rallies and 21 point games. Advocating a return to the good old days is not the intent of these comments, yet one of the advantages we have over tennis is the perception that racquetball is more of an aerobic activity. I don't think that surrendering that perception by increasing ball speed and again shortening rallies is in our best interests on the long term, particularly in respect to our ability to appeal to beginning recreational players.

Introducing new players, both men and women, to our sport may or may

not be possible through television, yet increased ball speed and the inherent intimidation of faster balls flying freely around the court walls in a laser blue blur can only detract from our ability to attract the beginning recreational player upon whose shoulders rests the future potential of our sport.

Rex Benham
President, Arkansas Racquetball Assn.

I believe we need to prevent the game from becoming any faster. As racquet size increases, the added power makes viewing of matches (especially TV) more difficult and appears to be limiting new player entry because of their frustration with the "all power" game.

B. Jordan
Illinois

[NOTE: Please see Page 55 for all the new rule changes.]

SAFETY IN NUMBERS

I recommend wearing eye guards/wrist thongs in warmup when more than one player is on the court. Warmup before the opponent is on the court is hardly risky, and may be an extended period as often there is a half an hour between matches.

Gary Watson
Barre, Vermont

PASSED OR NOT?

As cited in the May-June '92 issue, I disagree with Robert Kaempfen's suggested rule proposal about the "passed shot" going by the passed player. It may be an obvious pass, but who knows what bounce it may take and whether the player may be able to retrieve it. I say, leave the rule stand - two bounces.

Kevin Landers
Sioux City, Iowa

We have a group of men and women who play a lot of doubles. We have a

situation occur every so often and can't seem to agree on the outcome. Could you please let us know?

Players X are playing against the O's - they are in the middle of a rally. The ball hits the front wall (by player X). Player O on the left side wall either misses the ball or lets say it's low on his right side and he can't reach it. So it happens to hit (AFTER IT PASSES) him - the X player in back court.

You can see the other partner of O isn't going to get it. Since it has hit the other X player - is it a point or replay?

Sounds simple, but I play with other "A" men who think they know it all. They say it's a side out (or whatever) for the O's since it hit X's. I say since the O's had a swing and missed it and neither was behind or had a chance to return it, it should be for the X's?

Janae White
E. Wenatchee, WA

WHY THANK YOU...

Just finished reading the May-June 92 RACQUETBALL Magazine -- well done -- I'm really impressed with the strides you've made with this periodical. I know Linda has had a lot to do with the success -- please pass my congratulations ... I believe this is one of the best NGB publications.

Stephen D. Ducoff
U.S. Olympic Committee

OUTREACH AND DEVELOPMENT

Thank you and the American Amateur Racquetball Association for the start up equipment for the Eastside YMCA youth racquetball program.

I am delighted and grateful to know that you found my request to be legitimate and important. I am sure that this will be a mutually beneficial relationship.

Currently, we have eight students in our program. Their target goal for competition will be fall 1992. I am confident that you will be hearing from these racquetball players in the future!

Once again, thanks for your support and by all means, enjoy yourself at the Houston Downtown YMCA during the National Singles Championships!

Rick Crawford
Urban Services Director
YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit
Detroit, Michigan

UNICEF AND RACQUETBALL

My hope is that through the AARA and all racquetball players a massive campaign can be organized in the form of tournaments and sponsorships. All ages of racquetball players can participate, including Chip Parmelly, Joseph Hager and the National Wheelchair Association together with the United Nations Children's Fund. What better way to promote the sport than through sportsmanlike conduct and racquetball worldwide?

To have all racquetball players, young and old, and even all the wheelchair players carry the sign of UNICEF on shirts and jackets would be a great honor. I would buy shirts just for that purpose.

UNICEF and the NWRA logo on the sleeve or back, even front pocket would be the greatest, next to knowing what we would be able to do for both causes. I would be sure all pro's would jump in to support. Thanks in support to racquetball and all worthy causes.

Rudolf Van Hulten
Pittsburgh, PA

P.S. My hair is now grey, but I am still willing to killshoot for this great cause.

Continued...

READER FORUM

HOW NOT TO RUN A TOURNAMENT

At the Desk

No need to have the tournament sanctioned by the AARA (Plan on the sport growing without nourishment and support like fungi in a dark cellar).

Do not adhere to the prescribed cut-off date (No reason why you should follow published directives; anyway, maturity may result and players will begin signing up on schedule).

Pay no heed to requests by players from the same club not to play each other in the first round (They won't get lonely while out of town and, of course the loser can hang around for the consolation round at some future time and place).

Don't have start-times available at the prescribed time (long distance phone calls are irrelevant).

Don't provide sufficient court time for each match (So what if the matches are three hours behind - the players don't have anyplace to go anyway).

Disregard the number of collared-shirts required by size (You can depend on the extra large shirt to shrink to desired size if you buy properly).

Always blame the "computer" for poor seedings (Eliminates management responsibility).

Give a wide range of preferential treatment to Open and A players (These are the minority groups in the total enrollment whose matches are more important than any of the others).

Have Master/Golden Master matches played in the catacombs of the club (Out of sight out of mind).

Courtside:

Have losers referee (Doesn't work).

Have winners referee (Humbug; pay \$5 per match to volunteer refs; some players need and want the money to meet tournament expenses).

Encourage referees to dominate the match even if they interfere with play (They often cause more excitement and interest than the players; further, it's important that the players learn who's "BOSS").

Require spectators to participate in the match (Have them vociferously and repeatedly question the referee's calls and overall competency at every opportunity - to ensure ref involvement).

Allow servers to bounce the ball 11/2 times before each serve (Guaranteed to ensure loss of cool).

*Joe Lambert
Dallas, Texas*

JUNIOR REGIONAL FORMAT A SUCCESS

It's the Monday after our tournament and I wanted to sit down and drop you a note to say the Northwest Junior Regional in Salem was a huge success and that the Olympic Format worked great! We had happy parents, but most of all very happy intermediate to beginner level junior medalists who had never ever had the opportunity to win anything before.

Junior Team USA members Elkova Icenogle and Andrea Beugen showed up Friday night, and they quickly made new friends while getting reacquainted with the old. The next day, dressed in their team uniforms, the girls gave a presentation about what it is like to be selected to the Junior Team U.S.A. and the selection process at the Elite camp. They shared the hard work, mental and physical challenges and the

relationships and friendships that already started to form. They gave a slide show of their trip to the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs last year that focused on the different juniors there, having fun together, working hard, and supporting one another. Elkova and Andrea then played three exhibition games and we had our juniors challenge them in games to five. The girls stayed around all weekend sharing, answering questions, and being supportive of the juniors playing.

We also took time to announce Team Oregon and the National Team Oregon. Each one of the 14 juniors on the National Team Oregon will receive \$175 towards their trip to the Nationals in Salt Lake City.

Another highlight of the weekend was Egan Inoue who stopped by Friday night to watch some matches, support the juniors, and sign some autographs. Egan returned on Saturday to watch and then later on Saturday night was given a court so the juniors could challenge the pro. He stayed way past 10 p.m. On Sunday, Jeff Evans, another top pro player came by to give support to the juniors and stayed to watch several matches. The juniors enjoyed the attention from the players they look up to!

*Sandy Brittain
Co-Regional Tournament Director
OJRA Director*

UNMARKED MAIL

On Wednesday, June 10th, the office received a faxed letter directed to Reader's Forum (with the operative topic cited as being "sandbagging weenies"). While its contents were complete, the signature portion of the letter was missing, so we were unable to reprint it. As a matter of policy, we will withhold the name of anyone who requests that privilege, but will not publish anonymous correspondence.

Racquetball

V I D E O
Magazine

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INDUSTRY NEWS

LYNN ADAMS SIGNS ON FULL TIME WITH EKTELON

Ektelon recently announced the addition of racquetball legend Lynn Adams to its sales staff, in the newly created position of Sales Promotion Manager. Adams, who retired from professional play this year after being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, will be responsible for the coordination and execution of all V.I.P. Club Clinics, Team Ektelon player development, player meetings with the sales force, event appearances and broadcast color commentary. "We are so pleased to have Lynn at Ektelon in this capacity," commented vice president of sales Leo Riley. "She has so many talents that will greatly benefit both Ektelon and the sport of racquetball."

WILSON NAMED OFFICIAL BALL OF VI WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Wilson Sporting Goods Company will be the exclusive ball sponsor for the Sixth World Championships of Racquetball to be held in Montreal, Canada in August. "It makes perfect sense for Wilson to be the official ball of this prestigious tournament," said Ernie Watts, Wilson's general manager for Latin America. "The best players in the world demand the best ball -- and we make it." The World Championships will be televised on Prime Network and RTS, Canada's French cable network.



TRANSITION RACQUET SPORTS SIGNS CLIFF SWAIN

Transition Racquetball Sports announced the signing of Cliff Swain to its professional advisory staff. Swain finished #1 on the International Racquetball MPRA Pro Tour in the 1990-91 season, and is on the comeback trail after a one year layoff. Well known as one of the world's hardest servers and one of the most exciting players to watch, Swain will be endorsing Transitions' newest Hi Tech, all-black racquet, "Bad Influence" to be released in the Fall.

Bad Influence will be racquetball's first high end racquet to come unstrung, but will include strings, stencil, ink and warranty card with a \$10.00 rebate to cover stringing costs. This will help advanced racquetball players get to know what tension is best for their game. The frame will employ Transitions' advance tech graphite process. Swain's

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level of comfort, fit and stability. The kind of stability you demand from the extreme lateral movement of indoor court sports. To try on the Anatom Graphite Sonic, call for the HEAD dealer nearest you at 1-800-874-HEAD, ext. 228.



INDUSTRY NEWS

professional input has helped master this racquet. For information on Bad Influence contact Transition Racquet Sports; 800/473-4425, 1255 Castleton Rd., North, Columbus, Ohio, 43220.

NETWORK MARKETING INTRODUCES THE STROKEMAXXER

The racquetball StrokeMaxxer is designed to measure racquet speeds from 40 to 100 MPH. Peak racquet speed in miles per hour (MPH) is viewed at the top of the red indicator and then reset after each stroke simply by tapping on the racquet handle.

The unit attaches to the throat and lower string area of the racquet, allowing use while hitting balls, which provides very accurate results, since the racquet speed readings are obtained under actual playing conditions.

"The racquetball StrokeMaxxer® is the perfect instrument to assist in electing a new racquet, determining optimum string tension for your stroke, and for developing a more consistent racquet stroke as you practice."

The performance of the racquetball StrokeMaxxer is based on a simple principle: the measurement of centrifugal force. Of course, the amount of centrifugal force generated during a racquetball stroke depends upon the speed of the stroke. The StrokeMaxxer measures and indicates the peak speed attained at the sweet spot of the racquet during stroke.

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polycarbonate (Lexan) and sealed airtight, it is unaffected by heat or moisture. Each unit is individually tested to guarantee accuracy of ± 2 MPH, even after 10,000 strokes.

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MARTY HOGAN INTRODUCES NEW SUPER OVERSIZE RACQUETS

Having solved the problem of how to increase the hitting area of a racquetball racquet without increasing its weight or length, the Marty Hogan Racquetball division of Pro Kennex,

will introduce the first-ever "Super Oversize" racquets to the sport this fall with three models that feature 110-square-inch hitting surfaces, yet are ultra-light in weight.

The all-new "SO" additions to the 1992-93 Marty Hogan Racquetball line are the *ASYMMETRIC SO*, *OVATION SO* and *EXTREME SO*. The average weight of each racquet is less than eight ounces (approximately 215 grams), though the 110-square-inch hitting surface is one of the largest offered in racquetball.

The *ASYMMETRIC SO* blends the benefits of ultra-light weight and a generous hitting area with the revolutionary asymmetrical frame design pioneered by Pro Kennex. Introduced last year by Marty Hogan Racquetball in the revolutionary Graphite ASM 31 and Composite ASM 31 models, the physical characteristics of the maneuverability and stability, while dampening vibration without supplemental shock absorbers.

Designed specifically for highly skilled, explosive players, the *ASYMMETRIC SO* has cosmetics that are equal to its performance. The racquet features a gold-to-charcoal fade, accented in silver and purple. The manufacturer's suggested retail price is \$239.99.

Both the *OVATION SO* (80 percent high-modulus graphite and 20 percent fiberglass) and the *EXTREME SO* (70/30)

feature Marty Hogan Racquetball's superwide taper system. The cross-section of the racquet is an efficient 28 millimeters at the top, the frame provides perfect weight and balance, as well as responsive flex at critical points on the frame for maximum power and unprecedented maneuverability.

The *OVATION SO* (manufact. suggested retail price: \$139.99) combines a black-magenta-silver-black-blue fade with a spider web graphic pattern, accented in silver and orange. The *EXTREME SO* (ms/retail price: \$109.99) comes with the same spider web graphics, but with a face of blue-orange-green-gold and silver and purple accents.

BEVELOCK SIGNS WITH BLACK KNIGHT USA

Toni Bevelock, number three on the Women's Professional Racquetball Tour, has signed an agreement with Black Knight USA to again use their eye protection, ACTION EYES, for the 1992-93 season.

MHR PERFORMANCE EYEWEAR LINE

Providing a comfortable way to help provide eye protection and safety are the objectives of the new, four-model line of Performance Eyewear being introduced for 1992-93 by Pro Kennex:

THE DOMINATOR - built of lightweight nylon, this frame has adjustable temple arms to assure proper fit, with two

styles of earloops to secure the eyeguard. Anti-fog and anti-scratch treatments have been designed into the popout, polycarbonate lenses and a neoprene pad provides protection against impact. All hinges are nylon-encased; no metal is exposed. Available in blue, and dark green, the Dominator includes a protective pouch, with a suggested retail price of \$33.95.

THE COMPETITOR - features a contemporary, one-piece bubble lens design in a lightweight, wraparound style to provide 180-degree, distortion-free vision. The Competitor, in blue with brightly colored headband, includes scratch-resistant features at a suggested retail price of \$25.95.

THE SABER - a one-piece wraparound model, with pre-molded vents to reduce fogging, also includes a rubberized brow and nose pad for increased protection. Shatter- and impact-resistant polycarbonate lenses are treated to reduce scratching and provide excellent peripheral vision. In red with brightly colored headband, suggested retail price is \$19.95.

THE CHALLENGER - especially designed for the entry-level player, is a one-piece, full wraparound model. Its pre-molded lens and venting eliminate fogging, while full, clear temple supports add strength and visibility. The manufacturer's suggested retail price is \$9.95.

NATIONALS

GILMAN AND COLE WIN NATIONAL SINGLES

*A Fourth for
Gilman ...
A First for Cole*

Forget the picnics, the barbeques, the lake and horseshoes. If you're a diehard racquetball player, Memorial Day weekend "happens" in Houston, at the Downtown YMCA, among 700 of your closest friends. This year was no exception, with added celebrations to commemorate a full decade of Texas hospitality, and the silver 25th anniversary of the AARA national singles championship.

This year's Ektelon AARA U.S. National Singles Championship,

sponsored by Penn Racquet Sports, marked a series of firsts for its winners. Women's Open champion Michelle Gilman became the first woman to win four consecutive national titles, bettering the record of veteran Cindy Baxter whose own four titles were earned over a six year period. Men's Open champion Chris Cole lost his "dark horse" status by winning his first national title, after several years of serving notice of his potential to the top players on the circuit.

COLE GOES FOR BROKE

Michigan has long been considered a breeding ground for national calibre racquetball athletes, and Chris Cole of Flint takes his place among them this year. In a preview of his Houston final, Cole faced John Ellis in April, at the Tournament of the Americas in Honduras, and clinched his first international title. Prior to that win, Cole's career best performance had been in the finals of the 1990 U.S. Olympic Festival in Minneapolis, where he lost an 11-9 tiebreaker to Egan Inoue.

This year, Cole put all his effort into facing each match with the same intensity and determination. From the #4 seed position, Chris began his winning streak with straight game wins over Ryan Homa (Green Bay, Wisc.) 15-6, 15-2 and Rob McKinney (Lansdale, Pa.) 15-3, 15-7 before heading into a string of tiebreakers. In the next two rounds, he would lose the first game by a slim margin, but recover. Against Dan Fowler (Silver Spring, Md.) it was 14-15, 15-4, 11-7, followed by an even closer win over Mike Bronfeld (Sacramento, Calif.) 13-15, 15-11, 11-10 to put him into the semi-final against defending champion Tim Sweeney of Chicago.



Photo: Steve Lerner

TOP SEED UPSET

Going against the grain with the top seed, Cole decided to reduce the pressure by winning the first game 15-14. As it turned out he would need that edge when Sweeney kicked into gear late in the second game and ran off a series of well placed shots and a single ace serve to pull ahead to a 15-12 win.

"It's always tough to defend your title because there's so much pressure on you..."

In the tiebreaker, Cole skipped three forehand service returns before getting into the box to earn his first point with a backhand pinch. He evened the score with two more pinches, then aced a drive to the forehand and looked on in relief as Sweeney skipped two more returns of serve to put the score at 6-3. Tim finally got a bead on the z-serve to the forehand glass and regained serve, but could not get anything going while Chris worked his forehand with finesse.

At match point serving three, Cole was clearly relaxed but still intent, until a backhand reverse pinch for the win fell a hair short of the front wall. Sweeney jumped at the second chance and looked on gratefully as Cole made two errors. With the tide turning in his favor, Sweeney then received the grace of the line judges with an

appeal in his favor to put the score at six serving ten. Tim then took both his timeouts to abuse the ball for a full sixty seconds. He shot it against the sidewall over and over, then succeeded in breaking it on his next serve. With the new ball, Sweeney was able to ace one drive to the backhand, but the strategy came too late. He skipped a forehand down the line to relinquish the serve to Chris, then skipped a forehand pinch for the match.

Always gracious and philosophical, Sweeney conceded "It's always tough to defend your title because there's so much pressure on you. I think I came in a little overconfident, although I knew better against Chris, he's got such a well-rounded game. He knows I'm a power player, he neutralized it and I never got anything going. I think he has a good shot at doing the same to John Ellis. That slow control game will do it."

ELLIS MAKES HIS BREAK

John Ellis has had one of the best years any racquetball athlete could hope for, and he's only just made the transition from junior to adult singles competition at the ripe old age of nineteen. In April he impressed his

coaches with a semifinal win over Canada's top player, Sherman Greenfeld, at the Tournament of the Americas. Although he lost the final to Cole, word on the street compared Ellis' serve with Inoue's, Doyle's and Sweeney's -- only flatter and harder to return. Compact and low to the ground, Ellis compensates with exaggerated racquet prep and an all-out swing at each and every shot. For that his shoulder occasionally suffers, but he wasn't worried going into the final since "it's been sore before my matches, but it loosens up pretty good so it'll be alright."

From the #14 seed position, John served up that power to each of his opponents and never saw a tiebreaker. He



U.S. Team Physician Rhett Rainey looks on as Ellis checks his ankle. Photo: Steve Lerner.

NATIONALS



Photo: Steve Lerner

If I get into a power game I'm sure to lose ... I'll try to establish my crack serve early...
Chris Cole

passed up Florida's Rob Kulp (Orlando) 15-2, 15-4, Scott Reiff (Coral Springs) 15-12, 15-5, and Tim Hansen (West Palm Beach) 15-4, 15-9, before switching to the other coast and defeating California opponent Joey Paraiso (San Diego) 15-4, 15-5. In his semi-final, he kept with the straight game strategy, even after sustaining a twisted ankle in the second game, to take a win over perennial U.S. Team Member Doug Ganim (Columbus, Ohio) 15-8, 15-13.

In what has to be one of the most exciting men's open final matches in years, Chris Cole and John Ellis gave their viewing audience the first tiebreaker since the AARA began televising the event in 1988. Back to the slow start, Cole gave up the first game after trailing Ellis from a huge 9-1 lead in the first. With only one ace serve apiece to their credits, Ellis and Cole worked their way around the court with authority and plenty of sideouts before Ellis took the first game 15-8.

In the second, Ellis again jumped to an early 4-0 lead before Cole regained his composure, and control of the game plan. Better planning and less side out action lead to a slow accumulation of points by Cole until the score was tied at 10. Holding serve, Cole employed his own ace

variation, hitting the crack to the right wall just over the short line. He never looked back after Ellis skipped one backhand serve return, and rolled into the tiebreaker with three solid shots and a crack ace serve to the left for good measure, and a win at 15-10. Ace count = four each.

In the tiebreaker, Ellis' only early lead was at 1-0 after a backhand kill down the line. From there Cole took the initiative and lead the scoring drive with Ellis in hot pursuit until it evened out mid-game at 6-6. Going back to the crack ace serve, Cole gained two more points, added his own backhand rollout to the mix, watched Ellis skip one, and moved to match point serving six. A deja vu skipped backhand put him back on the receiving end of Ellis' serve, which ached once more to the left and, combined with two good shots, pulled John within striking distance at point nine. Going for his biggest serve ever, Ellis miscalculated and skipped the serve in and it was all over. Cole regained serve, rallied a bit and buried a forehand down the line for this year's title. Ace count = Cole 3, Ellis 2.

Before the match, both Cole and Ellis knew there would be no surprises. Chris cited "If I get into a power game I'm sure to lose, so I'll try to get him moving forward and back, make him waste a lot of energy in a long match and come out on top in the end. I'll try to establish my crack serve early and go from there." From John, "I plan to stick with what got me here...use the power game. He'll try to slow me down, so I just have to be patient and focused to stay in it. It's going to be a long match."

Continued ...

This years men's open final was the first to go to a tiebreaker since the AARA began televising the event in 1988.

1992 EKTELON AARA U.S.

NATIONAL DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone (Day) _____ (Evening) _____
 Birthdate _____ Age _____
 Regional Competed In _____
 Division in Regional _____ Finish _____
 Partner _____ Division _____
 Partner _____ Division _____

WAIVER -- I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims that I may have against the AARA, Ektelon, City Square Sports Club, the Lexington Hotel and Penn Racquet Sports, or their respective agents for any and all injuries. By registering to compete in this event, I consent to drug testing as administered according to AARA/USOC guidelines.

Participant Signature & Date

MEN'S DIVISIONS:	WOMEN'S DIVISIONS:	MIXED :
___ Open	___ Open	___ Open
___ Jr. Vet - 19+	___ Jr. Vet - 19+	___ Mixed 25+
___ Jr. Vet - 25+	___ Jr. Vet - 25+	___ Mixed 30+
___ Seniors 30+	___ Seniors 30+	___ Mixed 35+
___ Seniors 35+	___ Seniors 35+	___ Mixed 40+
___ Seniors 40+	___ Seniors 40+	___ Mixed 45+
___ Masters 45+	___ Masters 45+	___ Mixed 50+
___ Masters 50+	___ Masters 50+	___ Mixed 55+
___ Golden Masters 55+	___ Golden Masters 55+	___ Mixed 60+
___ Golden Masters 60+	___ Golden Masters 60+	___ Mixed 65+
___ Golden Masters 65+	___ Golden Masters 65+	___ Mixed 70+
___ Golden Masters 70+	___ Golden Masters 70+	___ Mixed 75+
___ Golden Masters 75+	___ Golden Masters 75+	___ Mixed 80+
___ Golden Masters 80+	___ Golden Masters 80+	
___ A (non-championship)	___ A (non-championship)	

ENTRY FEES AND PAYMENT :

First event (per player) (\$60.00) _____
 Second event (per player) (\$30.00) _____
 AARA Membership fee (\$15.00) _____
 Tax deductible donation to U.S. Team \$ _____
 TOTAL DUE: \$ _____

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ENTRIES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1992

October 21-25 City Square Sports Club Phoenix, Arizona

U.S. TEAM AND U.S. OLYMPIC FESTIVAL QUALIFIER: Winning teams in men's and women's open will be appointed to the U.S. National Racquetball Team for one year. Semi-final finishers in men's and women's open will qualify for the 1993 U.S. Olympic Festival in San Antonio, Texas.

ENTRY FEE: \$60.00 first event per player (includes referee fee), \$30.00 second event per player. Two division limit.

ENTRY DEADLINE: Postmarked no later than October 9, 1992. IF any entries are accepted after the deadline an additional \$15.00 late fee will be assessed. All entries are FINAL, with absolutely no refunds after the deadline date.

AARA MEMBERSHIP: Non AARA members should add \$15.00 for a one-year competitive license membership. (Note: If you have recently joined the AARA and have not received your membership card, you must present your receipt copy of the membership application or a cancelled check upon registration.)

STARTING TIMES: Will be available after 5:00 pm on Monday, October 19. Call 602/279-9633.

PLAY BEGINS:

Men's Open, A, 19, 25, 30, 35, 40+	Wed. 10/21
Men's 45, 50, 55, 60, 65+	Thu. 10/22
Women's Open, A, 19, 25, 30, 35, 40+	Thu. 10/22
All Mixed Divisions	Thu. 10/22
Men's 70, 75, 80+	Fri. 10/23
Women's 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80+	Fri. 10/23

OFFICIATING: \$5.00 will be paid for every match you referee. Director of Referees: Otto Dietrich, AARA National Rules Commissioner.

OFFICIAL BALL: Penn Tournament

DRUG TESTING: Random testing will be performed. For more information about specific medications call the Drug Hotline at 1-800-233-0393.

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR: Margo Daniels, AARA National Tournament Commissioner, 815 North Weber, Colorado Springs, CO 80903-2947. PH: 719/635-5396.

LODGING: The Lexington Hotel (formerly City Square Hotel and Athletic Club) offers a room rate of \$68.00 per night for up to four persons per room. To receive the special rate, mention the National Doubles when you make your reservations by calling 1-602-279-9811. TRANSPORTATION: Super Shuttle service, \$7.00 per person.

UNITED AIRFARE DISCOUNT: United offers you 5% off any published United fare regardless of cost. Phone United's toll-free number at 800/521-4041, daily between 8:30 am and 8:00 pm EST and use AARA account number 521GO.

NATIONALS



QUICK AND PAINLESS

Michelle Gilman had no such plans for a lengthy title defense and, for an unprecedented fourth year in a row, proved that her level of play is unmatched in women's open. Since going to a tiebreaker against then doubles partner Cindy Doyle in 1989, Gilman has successfully kept each of her subsequent finals at two games apiece. Toni Bevelock was the challenger in 1990 and 1991, followed by long-time hopeful Jackie Paraiso Gibson in her first appearance in a national singles final this year.



Photos: John Foust

"We probably know each other better than most players, since we play doubles together..."

"First I'm going to need to get my confidence up," said Jackie, "As long as I play my game, I'll do fine. I'll try to make sure my passes are good and don't come up off the back wall, and get in some good serves, especially to her forehand."

In the first game, all of Jackie's points were scored by working the forehand side, but Michelle was simply more successful at it. Without a single ace serve to her credit, Gilman did the next best thing...concluded nearly every rally with a re-kill of the return of serve. Always the scrapper, Gibson forced a series of sideouts early in the first game before Michelle missed a backhand to give up her first point at 6-1. Even with renewed enthusiasm, Jackie trailed by 2-3 points throughout the first game, until Michelle closed it out at 15-6.

Gilman continued her single-minded effort with even more concentration in the second game, moving into a 5-1 lead before Jackie was able to kick in two ace serves for her only two remaining points in the match. Again without the benefit of ace serves, Gilman dominated the three-shot rally with a series of cross court passes to both sides and the straight-up forehand pinch to end the second game 15-3.

"We probably know each other better than most players, since we play doubles together. I'll need to get my own first serves in, then get myself in a position where my shots are really going to count. Jackie's really quick on the court and has a good drive to the forehand. I'll have to be on it fast."

Coming off an injury that forced her to miss two pro stops this season, Michelle showed no signs of compromised ability. After pulling her "gluteus maximus" muscle early in the tour, Gilman underwent eight weeks of rehab, then returned to the court only to be plagued by recurring sharp back pain and numbing in both legs. Further diagnostics uncovered a separated vertebra, which may still require surgical fusion, and a pinched sciatic nerve to be dealt with.

In Houston after a four month layoff from play, Gilman's strength training made all the difference, up to a point. "There are some shots I can't take and my rotation isn't as good but I feel pretty strong and in control. This tournament is one that I always get sick in, so I'm battling a sore throat..."

Continued ...



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NATIONALS

1992-93 U.S. TEAM

Mike Bronfeld (Calif.)
Chris Cole (Mich.)
John Ellis (Calif.)
Doug Ganim (Ohio)
Vince Kelley (Ore.)
Eric Muller (Kan.)
Joey Paraiso (Calif.)
Bill Sell (Calif.)
Tim Sweeney (Ill.)

Malia Bailey (Va.)
Lynne Coburn (Md.)
Cindy Doyle (Neb.)
Michelle Gilman (Idaho)
Jackie Paraiso-Gibson (Calif.)
Kaye Kuhfeld (Ind.)
Dot Fischl Kelly (Pa.)
Robin Levine (Calif.)
Kim Russell (Ky.)

U.S. TEAM EXPANDS

Under normal circumstances, only the top four finishers at National Singles would qualify for the U.S. National Racquetball Team. This year, without an Olympic Festival roster to fill and the World Championships scheduled for the summer, the AARA and the U.S. Team coaching staff elected to expand the qualifier to include all eight quarterfinalists in the open divisions. This made for an exciting round of sixteen, and lead to several upsets.

Vince Kelley was the only newcomer on the men's side to make the team for the first time, with his tiebreaker win over former team member Lance Gilliam. Surprise losses by Jim Floyd, Tim Hansen and Joel Bonnett in the round allowed Bill Sell, John Ellis and Joey Paraiso to move into the extra slots.

For the women, Kim Russell took an upset tiebreaker win over Toni Bevelock in the 16s, eliminating the long-time team member from the roster for the first time since her 18-title win in 1984. Dot Fischl Kelly also regained a spot on the team for the first time since 1987 with a straight game win over Cindy Doyle. Lefthander Robin Levine advanced past Marci Lynch to remain on the team, as did Lynne Coburn with her win over Chris Evon.

In addition to those listed below who qualified in Houston, current na-

tional doubles champion Eric Muller (Kansas) and intercollegiate champion Cindy Doyle round out the 1992-93 roster of U.S. Team members. Winning open division teams at the U.S. National Doubles in October will also make the cut.

SILVER ANNIVERSARY

The first U.S. National Singles Championships was held in 1968 at the Milwaukee Jewish Community Center, and was titled the "First National Gut Paddleball Association Paddleball Championships." Although the official name has changed twice -- from the Gut Paddleball Association to the International Racquetball Association [IRA], to the current "American Amateur Racquetball Association" [AARA] title -- the tournament's rich history has remained constant.

Celebrating its 25th year of competition, and 10th consecutive year at the Downtown YMCA, the Ektelon AARA National Singles Racquetball Championships welcomed some 700 players to the five day event. Competition in all 28 divisions was packed, and included 138 Texas hopefuls, 62 players from California, 40 from Illinois, 25 from Florida, 22 from Colorado and 20 from Ohio. Total numbers from state teams was not necessarily a factor in the team title this year, with Florida once again sneaking away with first place, followed by California, Ohio, North Carolina and Texas.

ONE MORE TIME ...

An even dozen title defenders were successful in regaining their crowns, including Grant Giles in Men's A, along with repeaters Ron Galbreath in the Men's 50+, Fintan Kilbride in 60+, Allan Shepherd in 75+ and John

Pearce in 80+. In the Men's Wheelchair Open final, Chip Parmelly followed up his 1990 win with a fifth title win.

Among the women, Cheryl Guidinas took her second straight win in Women's 19+, Kersten Hallander regained her 1990 title in 25+, along with repeat winners Gerri Stoffregen in 45+, Sharon Hastings-Welty in 50+ and Kathy Mueller in 55+.

After last year's return to amateur competition, former pro tour great Dave Peck focused his attention on age division wins and came away with the only "double-gold"

award of the tournament. Peck won both the Men's 30+ and 35+ divisions with straight game defeats over top seeded Bill Sell in the 30+ and Dave Kovanda in the 35+. A promising rematch in the 35s between Peck and longtime pro rival, Jerry Hilecher, was sidetracked in the semifinal when Hilecher sustained a knee injury in his match with Kovanda. In the 1985 Ektelon Pro Nationals, Hilecher pulled out an 11-8 tiebreaker win against Peck and had looked forward to another close win. "We've never played without a fight -- exchanging words that is" said Hilecher "our matches were always exciting."

In the Women's 30+ division, a similar rematch between returning competitors was coincidentally cut short in the same way. In her first appearance in many years, former intercollegiate and 25+ champion Kathy (Gluvna) Treadway also sustained a disabling injury in her match against Brenda (Poe Barrett) Kyzer, forcing her to default.

U.S. TEAM ALUMNI REUNION

In remembrance of previous World Championships, and in support of the upcoming VI World Championship in Montreal, former and current U.S. Team members met in

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NATIONALS



U.S. TEAM ALUMNI. Top row: Cindy Doyle, Robin Levine, Keith Calkins, Jack Newman, Doug Ganlm, Kathy Treadway. Middle row: Eric Muller, Michelle Gilman Gould, Bill Sell, Jeff Kwartler, Mark Malowitz, Stu Hastings, Gary Mazaroff, Lance Gilliam. Kneeling: Jackie Paralso Gibson, Cindy Baxter, Barbara Faulkenberry, Lynne Coburn, Kaye Kuhfeld, Fran Davis, Michael Bronfeld. Photo: John Foust.

Houston to form an alumni networking group. Organized by Barbara Faulkenberry, former intercollegiate champion and member of the first World Championship team, the group hopes to bring greater levels of recognition to international events, past and present.

If you are a former member of the U.S. National Team and have not been contacted about the Alumni group, please write Barbara in care of the national office for more information. "Lost" members of the group that need to be tracked down are: Andrea Katz, Betsy Massie, Karen Borga, Kelvin Van Trease, Mark Martino, Trina Rasmussen, Tammy Hajjar and Tim Anthony. If you know the whereabouts of these

athletes, please contact the national office with addresses and phone numbers.

ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

On Saturday evening, athletes took the night off to recognize the achievements of their peers at the annual awards banquet and dance held at the Hyatt Regency. On hand were Tim Sweeney and Michelle Gilman, to receive their "Athlete of the Year" awards, Paul Banales and Kathy Mueller, to receive the "Age Group Athlete of the Year" award and the Peggy Steding award. Jim Austin also graciously accepted induction

into the AARA Hall of Fame before the assembled group.

The surprise awards, determined by the AARA Board of Directors on site, consisted of Joe Sobek award for the greatest contribution to racquetball in the past year, the John Halvorsen Fair Play Award and the Presidential award. The Joe Sobek award went to Alfredo Lamont of the U.S. Olympic Committee for his untiring work on behalf of racquetball at the international level. Mr. Lamont's award was accepted by Brad Moss, also of the U.S.O.C., who was on hand demonstrating his own support of racquetball by providing video and broadcast services for the event.

Continued ...

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Lyme Coburn
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Tournament of the Americas



Tim Sweeney
Two-Time
Intercollegiate Champion

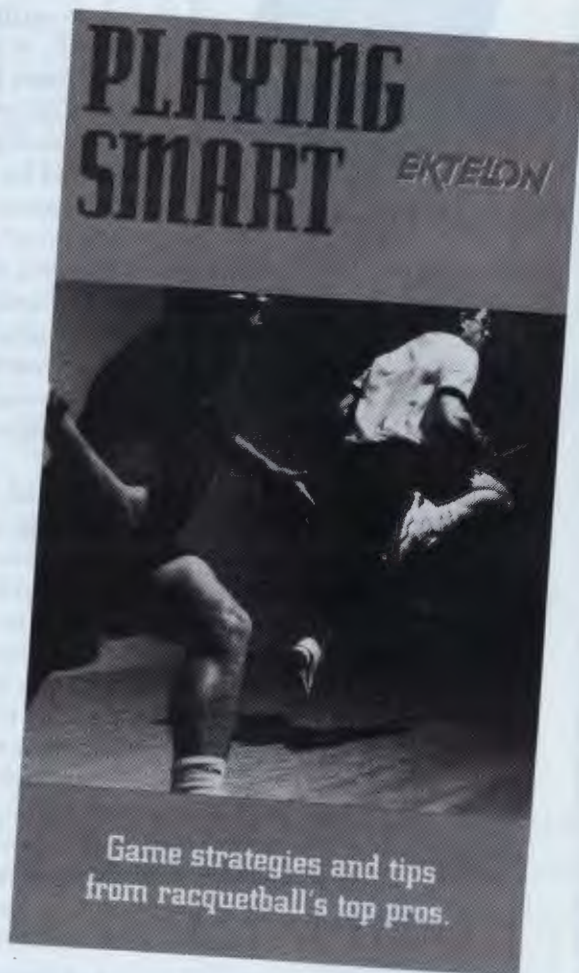
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NATIONALS

Photo: Steve Lerner



Annie Muniz, TARA President.

The John Halverson Fair Play award was presented to David Hunter of Tennessee whose unselfish replay of a forfeited match gave Joey Paraiso a second chance to qualify for the U.S. Team. A mix up in starting times had Joey leaving California well after his 3:00 pm Wednesday match, and David Hunter had been given the forfeit and advanced into the

second round of men's open by the time Joey arrived. David refused to take the forfeit after hearing about the mix up, and played the match the following day, fully aware of Joey's abilities and his chances of winning.

The AARA Presidential Award went to Annie Muniz of Texas for her motivation and hard work on behalf of her state and the AARA. For one brief shining moment in the last quarter of 1991, the Texas membership roster grew larger than Florida's and the lone-star state took over the number two spot in the nation. Texas programs, its high level of activity, excellent sanctioned tournament record, and responsiveness to members earned Annie the designation of the finest state president in the organization for 1991-92.

FINAL RESULTS

MEN'S OPEN: #4 Chris Cole (Flint, Mich.) def. John Ellis (Stockton, Calif.) 8-15, 15-10, 11-9. **A:** #1 Grant Giles (Duluth, Ga.) def. James Demass (Mt. Pleasant, S.C.) 15-5, 15-8. **19+:** Dan Fowler (Silver Spring, Md.) def. Derek Robinson (Kennewick, Wash.) 14-15, 15-3, 11-3. **25+:** Jim Lowe (Ft. Richardson, Alaska) def. #4 Bruce Erickson (Springfield, Mo.) 10-15, 15-12, 11-5. **30+:** #2 Dave Peck (Denver, Colo.) def. #1 Bill Sell (Santa Ana, Calif.) 14-15, 15-12, 11-8.

35+: Dave Peck (Denver, Colo.) def. Dave Kovanda (Worthington, Ohio) 15-9, 15-4. **40+:** #4 Fielding Snow (Seattle, Wash.) def. #3 Dave Kovanda (Worthington, Ohio) 15-8, 15-6. **45+:** Johnny Hennen (Chattanooga, Tenn.) def. Jay Schwartz (Pensacola, Fla.) 15-3, 15-13. **50+:** #1 Ron Galbreath (New Wilmington, Pa.) def. #3 Fred Letter (Scotch Plains, N.J.) 15-4, 15-6. **55+:** Arthur Johnson (Denver, Colo.) def. Ray Kasl (Parma, Ohio) 15-3, 15-1. **60+:** #1 Fintan Kilbride (Toronto, Ontario) def. #3 Don Alt (Dublin, Ohio) 10-15, 15-13, 11-10. **65+:** #4 Fintan Kilbride (Toronto, Ontario) def. Earl Acuff (Asheville, N.C.) 15-1, 15-4. **70+:** Earl Acuff (Asheville, N.C.) def. #1 Luzell Wilde (Centerville, Utah) 15-3, 15-5. **75+:** #1 Allen Shepherd (Rockville, Md.) def. #2 John Pearce (Waco, Texas) 15-3, 15-5. **80+:** #1 John Pearce (Waco, Texas) def. #2 Jack Daly (Williamsburg, Va.) 15-2, 15-4. **Wheelchair:** Chip Parmelly (Diamond Bar, Calif.) def. Gary Baker (Indianapolis, Ind.) 15-8, 15-6. **Deaf:** Ron Tkachuk, unchallenged.

WOMEN'S OPEN: #1 Michelle Gilman (Boise, Idaho) def. #3 Jackie Paraiso Gibson (San Diego, Calif.) 15-6, 15-3. **A:** Andrea Beugen (Golden Valley, Minn.) def. #3 Naomi Morgan (Georgetown, Texas) 15-2, 10-15, 11-10. **19+:** #1 Cheryl Gudinas (Lisle, Ill.) def. Kim Russell (Marietta, Ga.) 15-10, default. **25+:** #1 Kersten Hallander (Jacksonville, Fla.) def. Joann Slater (Pearland, Texas) 15-12, 15-5. **30+:** Brenda Kyzer (Irmo, S.C.) def. Kathy Treadway (Gatlinburg, Tenn.) injury default. **35+:** #2 Cindy Baxter (Reedsville, Pa.) def. #1 Janell Marriott (West Warwick, R.I.) 15-9, 15-7. **40+:** Janet Myers (Charlotte, N.C.) def. #4 Gerri Stoffregen (Cincinnati, Ohio) 15-11, 15-12. **45+:** #1 Gerri Stoffregen (Cincinnati, Ohio) def. #2 Agatha Falso (Boca Raton, Fla.) 15-4, 15-1. **50+:** #1 Sharon Hastings-Welty (Corvallis, Ore.) def. Marion Johnson (San Marcos, Texas) 15-6, 15-2. **55+:** #1 Kathy Mueller (St. Cloud, Minn.) def. #2 Jo Kenyon (Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.) 15-14, 15-13. **60+/65+:** Mary Low Acuff (Asheville, N.C.) unchallenged.

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NATIONALS

A FIRST-TIMER'S DIARY OF NATIONALS

By DeLois T. Leapheart



WEDNESDAY ARRIVAL

On Wednesday the 20th, I arrived in Houston for my first national singles championship. After I checked in at registration and spoke to a few vendors, I made my way to the YMCA and watched some first round matches. At first, other than the unique location, number of players and wealth of racquetball paraphernalia, it seemed like many other tournaments I have attended.

I kept glimpsing familiar faces of people I thought I knew from local tournaments, but when I checked the draw sheets their names weren't followed by "(Mich)." After the third time, I realized that these were people I had met at the Elite Training Camp last summer -- the first event that prompted me to write an article for *RACQUETBALL Magazine*. My first trip to Nationals was equally exciting and inspired me to write another article from a player's perspective.

THURSDAY: AN INSPIRATION

I did not come to Houston with any intention of writing an article. Like everyone else, I merely wanted to play and watch some outstanding racquetball matches. But as the hours passed, I began to feel that "something special" which distinguishes this tournament from others I have attended.

Perhaps this feeling was stimulated by the elbow to elbow crowds of zealots that gathered on the second floor of the YMCA. Perhaps, it was the quantity and quality of the products being sold by the vendors, such as Ruben Gonzalez's "Integrity" cologne (a portion of the proceeds benefit disadvantaged youth). Perhaps it was the interesting collection of racquetball apparel such as T-shirts with messages like: *"Steroids" (ster-o-ids) a hormonal substance used by lazy pinheads who do not wish to put forth the effort necessary to achieve their greatest potential in their chosen arena.*

Or perhaps the inspiration came from being able to test a racquet with a device that estimates the speed of your swing and approximates the speed of a ball being hit. Perhaps it was the memorable hospitality, or casually conversing with all those commissioners, board members, officers and other people I had been reading about in the magazine.

Although I couldn't quite decide which combination of factors were responsible for the feeling, I was dizzied by participating in an elite event at the height of racquetball competition. So by Friday, I could no longer resist the temptation to "Penn" a few notes on this incredible experience.

FRIDAY: INCREASED INTENSITY ON COMMAND

On Friday, I watched a player ratchet up his intensity an entire level in response to a simple verbal command. To the untrained observer, Johnny Northern appeared to be playing with a reasonable level of intensity. However, his buddy, Luke

Gunn, knew Johnny could do much better. Luke yelled in a commanding husky voice, "Come on Johnny, this is Houston." Almost as if an alarm clock had gone off, Johnny responded by turning up the burners. Before his opponent could get to double figures, Johnny had moved on to the quarterfinals.

CLASSIC BATTLES

There was a seemingly endless number of classic battles such as the one that occurred in the second round of the Women's Open match between Michelle Gilman, Idaho and Dora Tamez, Texas. Ms. Tamez made a valiant effort to dethrone a methodical Michelle Gilman. But she, like all the others to follow could not stop Michelle on her mission to obtain an unprecedented fourth consecutive National Singles championship.

CLASSIC COMMENTARY?

I understand another classic figure at the Nationals is a character by the name of Joe "The Man" Lee of Hawaii. After watching his third round match in Men's 40+ I began to understand his reputation. After making an impressive shot in the tiebreaker, I witnessed him turn around for a brief moment and give the viewing audience that "o-o-o-o-h--I-am--so-good" look. He won that round and advanced.

Joe's national reputation is based not only on his racquetball prowess, but also on his gift for zealous, enthusiastic, emphatic, boisterous, flamboyant and sometimes agitating gift for

extemporaneous commentary. (In other words, he likes to talk.) He did a significant amount of talking during the match between Chris Cole and Dan Fowler. Chris got caught up in the commentary and lost the first game 15-14. But even Joe Lee's inimitable

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NATIONALS

style could not derail Chris from his mission to become the men's open champion.

CAPTIVATING CONFLICTS

Regardless of the division, each match battle was captivating. For example, in the Men's 45+ division, I watched Dennis McKee play Mickey Bellah. Both gentlemen repeatedly and aptly demonstrated the awesome power that can be generated by proper racquet prep followed by rapid torso rotation. Their match consisted of a relatively friendly game of "slam-it/pinch-it/roll-it" racquetball. I was delighted to discover that the only differences between the men's 19+ and 45+ is that the 45 year-olds do not dive as often (but they do dive). They also tend to take more high percentage shots. However, the intensity, fervor, emotion and adrenalin level is the same in both age divisions.

FUTURE PHENOMS

The AARA Media Guide reveals that often the 19+ to 25+ age division winners have gone on to become professionals or Open champions. So in an effort to get a glimpse of future phenomenal racquetball players, I "scoped out" the 19+ and 25+ and saw lots of potential. I decided to concentrate my research on future champions to the 25+ age division matches involving seeded players.

NO "SACRED COWS"

I soon found out there are no "sacred cows" at Nationals. Earning a national ranking or a seeded position in the draw

does not entitle a player to a modicum of respect from those hungry, unrelenting and talented potential national champions.

One such exciting early round match was the one between Jim Jeffers, Illinois (ranked 5th in 25+) and Jimmy Lowe. Jimmy appeared unfazed by his opponent's ranking as he came to personify speed and quickness to take the win and advance. Thinking that this player appeared to have all the preparation and talent needed to win the division, I decided to follow his progress to see if my instincts were correct.

SATURDAY: GEORGIA JRS.

Saturday provided plenty more to do. I met lots of really nice people like Willie Grover who is working with a dynamic group of juniors and Kenneth Green, a Men's Open player who has agreed to come and give a clinic to her juniors. It's people like Willie and Kenneth working with our juniors that will produce tomorrow's champions.

MEMORIES

In addition to match play, there were a variety of other types of entertainment. Gales of laughter vibrated through the lunchroom as players renewed old acquaintances and shared memories of past nationals. And there were plenty of memories to be revived, such as the Michigan coalition's recollection of a delightful evening spent exploring Houston's night life the evening before one

of its members' finals match. Normally, an evening on the town hampers performance, but not that day. Instead, a very relaxed Lisa Ecker executed a variety of flawless shots and was crowned the 1988 Women's 25+ champion.

MORE RESEARCH

Continuing my research on future champions I picked up the action between Jimmy Lowe and Ross Smith in the quarterfinal of Men's 25+. This match included plenty of fancy shots like Jimmy's 39.5' backhand reverse pinch rollout, taken out of the air from shoulder height. Both players were extremely talented, but Jimmy's lightning fast reflexes earned him another win.

In Women's 25+, the match between Lorraine Galloway of New York and Reilly Kirksh of Minnesota was just as exciting as the Lowe/Smith match. The primary difference between the matches was that Lorraine executed her backhand reverse pinch rollout from 30 feet back.

WHEELCHAIR RACQUETBALL

Nationals also gave me my first opportunity to observe wheelchair racquetball. Like their able-bodied counterparts, in order to execute a shot they must anticipate the direction, speed, spin, and distance the ball will travel prior to the first bounce of the ball. To offset the added challenge of moving the chair into position to execute a shot, wheelchair rules allow a second bounce before the ball is

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NATIONALS

Photos: Steve Lerner



PATTY NISHIMURA
Spokane, Washington

This is my fifth year. I just won the 40+ consolation. Friendship is what this is about, and it's what brings me back each year...



LOTHAR WEIBE Atlanta, Georgia
This is my first year here. I played A's and 30s and got through three rounds of A's and lost in a tiebreaker where I was up 7-2. I played alright and was happy.



ELAINE DEXTER
Castro Valley, California

This is my first year. I enjoyed it very much and I'll come back. It was nice to see so many women in age divisions playing because you just don't get that chance locally.

dead. The players ability to suddenly move in any direction that the ball travels, without hindering the opponent was very impressive and exciting to watch.

CLASSIC RACQUETBALL WARS

In another classic match, the Women's A battle between Michigan's Diane McCauley and Team New York's Beth Katz held on a chilly back court. Court 21 is one with limited viewing and excess air-conditioning. Had it not been for all of the hot air generated by the New York and Michigan fans cheering for their respective representatives, the poor referee would have frozen to death during this lengthy battle. Momentum swung back and forth until Beth finally prevailed in the tiebreaker.

CRANK-N-SHOOT QUARTERS

Chris Cole and Mike Bronfeld put on a traditional crank-n-shoot exhibition in their Open quarterfinal match. Their explosive lateral movements indicate they have been practicing their pyrotechnics. Chris won this

match and advanced to the next stage of his mission.

The Women's Open quarterfinal between Kaye Kuhfeld and Kim Russell included plenty of "great gets" and shooting rallies. Both players showed great tenacity, but experience triumphed over youth and Kaye advanced to the semifinals.

SUNDAY: THE CONSOLATION

Sunday was the "day of consolation" and it was as though a whole new tournament had begun. The day started at 7:45 a.m. for some of the players and ended after 11 p.m. for others. The first place prize for consolation winners was a gold medal, making the draw for consolation in many divisions so large that a win required one to advance in five to six back to back matches.

SENSATIONAL SEMIFINALS

At the same time on Sunday there were plenty of great semi-finals to watch, such as the match between Chris Cole and Tim Sweeney. After a variety of fabulous shots resulting



JESUS MONTEZUMA
Ft. Hood, Texas

I played in 35+ and lost in the second round. This is my third year in the nationals. I always have a good time. I meet a lot of people and learn about the game.



SUZANNE TOLAN
Springfield, New Jersey

I was seeded first in the A's and lasted one round! I've only played racquetball for two years, but I'll be back. I like everything about it, especially the people.



BRUCE ERICKSON
Springfield, Missouri

I've played in the Open and the 25's. This is my fifth year down here... I come to see all the people in the tough competition and how I compare.

in a game for each player, the two went into the tiebreaker. The Michigan Coalition received quite a scare when Tim Sweeney scored three quick points at the outset of the tiebreaker. However, Chris came back and slew that mental dragon one point at a time. When Chris had earned a score of 10-3, the Michigan Coalition thought Chris had "closed the door" (as Joe Lee would have said) but, he forgot to lock it! So Tim scored six more points. Chris got the serve back and managed to close the door again, and lock it once and for all.

The semifinal match between Jimmy Lowe and Curtis Winter of Florida opened with a hard fought battle in the first game. In the second, Jimmy rolled three consecutive shots, his confidence exploded and he "danced" to the finals. I use the term "dance" because some of

his post rally renditions resembled a brief (but carefully choreographed) dance. Throughout the match, Jimmy displayed his talent for spine-tingling-in-your-face spectacular shots. And while the audience was still gasping its surprise at a shot, Jimmy would either entertain them with a short "dance" or freeze for the crowd to enjoy his post-rally pose. I look forward to viewing this player in the Open finals some day because such a match will surely be entertaining to watch on television.

MONDAY: ALL THAT AND I MISSED THE FINALS

I left early Monday so I missed most of the finals matches. I understand Jimmy Lowe won as I predicted. I would have really liked to watch that match as well as seen pseudo "elder statesman" Chris Cole earn the gold medal he spent the last year training for. I would have liked to have been present to

watch racquetball history in the making when Michelle Gilman became the first person to win four consecutive U.S. National AARA Singles championships. Oh well, maybe next year.

NEXT YEAR

Speaking of next year, I feel a moral obligation to warn the unsuspecting player about a couple of tough but probably unseeded players in next year's draw. Both the Michigan Coalition and Team New Jersey claim very strong open players who did not participate and chose instead to observe the week's events. So if you are placed against Valeria Springer, Michigan or Mike Hurling, New Jersey in next year's draw, you will have your work cut out for you. These two players have done their research and will be ready to "go for the gold" in 1993, even if it means sending an experienced player like yourself to the consolation bracket.

THE FIFTH TRANSCOASTAL GRAND NATIONALS

By Mike Tipton

It was a bright and sunny week in Edmonds, Washington, for the fifth annual TransCoastal Grand National tournament at the Harbor Square Athletic Club. I know that "bright and sunny," and "the Great Northwest," are normally a contradiction in terms, but it's beautiful when it happens. And Seattle is truly one of the most beautiful places on earth (weather permitting), with snow-capped mountains to the West and East against a very bright blue sky. However, the excellent weather did not distract any of the pros who came to prove that they are the best. All the big hitters were in attendance, including past tourney winners and the legendary Marty Hogan, who now plays a limited schedule.

For one of the few times this season, all of the top 16 ranked players appeared at the same tournament. And Marty Hogan came to see if he could add yet another major title to his credit. In the round of 16, #1 Drew Kachtik struggled with #17 Jeff Evans, but won 11-6 in the tiebreaker. Marty Hogan had a very close match with #9 Dave Johnson, winning the first two games 12-10, 13-11, losing 7-11, and winning the final game and match 12-10. Number five seed Dan Obremski traded easy wins with #21 Cliff Swain and then took the tiebreaker 11-1. Number four Mike Yellen came back after

losing the second and third games against #13 Woody Clouse to post 11-6, 11-3 wins in the final two games. Number three Tim Doyle dropped his first game to #14 Mike Ceresia, but then put things together to win the next three 12-10, 11-1, 11-3. Number six Mike Ray rolled to an easy 11-2, 8-11, 11-6, 11-5 victory over #11 Brian Hawkes, while #2 Andy Roberts carded a surprising 11-7, 11-4, 11-8 win over #15 Egan Inoue, and a very inspired #10 Jack Newman defeated #7 Ruben Gonzalez 14-16, 11-1, 11-4, 12-10.

In the quarterfinals the play was intense and emotional. After dropping his first game 8-11, Jack Newman made short work of Andy Roberts 11-5, 11-6, 11-0. In a similar fashion Mike Ray lost his first game to Tim Doyle 5-11, then took control to win the next three games 11-9, 11-7, 11-0. Mike Yellen dropped his first two games 8-11, 6-11 to Dan Obremski, but then staged a masterful comeback to win 11-6, 11-8, 12-10. However, the best was saved for the last match of the night. Drew Kachtik defeated Marty Hogan 11-8 in the first game, but Hogan rallied to win the next two games 11-7, 11-9. With his back to the wall, Kachtik evened the match by winning the fourth game 11-6. The tiebreaker, however, was beyond Drew's reach as Hogan posted an 11-6 victory.

In the semifinals Marty Hogan was paired against Mike Yellen, and Yellen demonstrated that he is still a master of control by dominating the very explosive Marty Hogan 11-7, 11-5, 10-12, 11-4. The second match-up had an inspired Jack Newman playing Mike Ray. After a very flat first game loss 11-1, Ray took control to win 11-1, 11-5, 11-3.

CURRENT MPRA RANKINGS

1. Drew Kachtik, TX
2. Andy Roberts, TN
3. Tim Doyle, CA
4. Mike Yellen, MI
5. Mike Ray, SC
6. Dan Obremski, PA
7. Jack Newman, IL
8. Ruben Gonzalez, NY
9. Dave Johnson, CA
10. Brian Hawkes, CA
11. Woody Clouse, FL
12. Mike Guidry, TX
13. Mike Ceresia, Canada
14. Aaron Katz, TX
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RULES

AARA unless otherwise specified. Round-robin format for qualifying rounds Wednesday thru Friday. Matches consist of 3 games to 11 points. Matches are self-officiated. One tourney point earned per game point scored, 3 points earned per game won and 7 points earned per match won. Top 8 qualifiers within each age group earn berths in the Saturday Championship Medal Round (flight winners guaranteed a berth). Saturday playoff matches consist of 2 out of 3 games to 11 points with finals 2 out of 3 games to 15, (single elimination). No consolation matches will be scheduled. For more information, call: Gary Mazaroff, (505) 266-8960

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MISCELLANEOUS

First match time information will be available September 7th. Some matches may be played on Tuesday, September 8th - beginning at Noon. Call Tom Young's Athletic Club (505) 298-7661. If you will be able to play on Tuesday, please check the box on the entry form.

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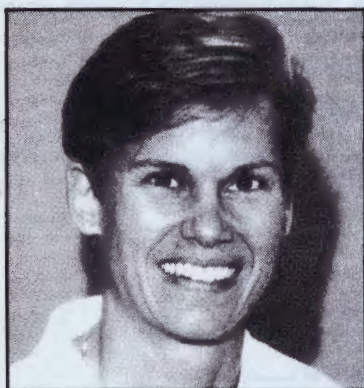
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PRO UPDATE

The finals were a classic match-up, with the size and power of Mike Ray against the experience and control of Mike Yellen. The first two games were hotly contested, but Ray won both 13-11, 12-10. Then Yellen took control in masterful fashion to win the next two games 11-3, 11-2. The tiebreaker saw-sawed back and forth for the first few points, but the stamina, strength and desire of Ray proved to be the dominant factors in an 11-5 win. Mike Ray is now a three-time winner of this event and intends to be back next year to add a fourth.

THE LAST "HURRAH"

By Marcy Lynch



The Merritt Athletic Club in Baltimore, Maryland has been the host site for the Women's Pro Nationals for three years. Merritt boasts one of the finest facilities in the country and is favored by both players and spectators for its viewing capacity and wide open spaces. The WPRA Nationals, sponsored by Diet Pepsi, attracts the best players from around the country. Surprise entrants included Caryn McKinney, who has been out all season with a pulled achilles tendon, and retired champion Lynn Adams who teamed up with Malia Bailey to try to capture the doubles titles. Other familiar former tour players included Cindy Baxter, Kathy Treadway, Susan Morgan, Mary Lyons, Roz Olson and Melanie Britton.

Two qualifying matches filled out the main draw of 32, giving Cindy Baxter and Roz Olson a shot at the 16's. The toughest match in the first round was Malia Bailey, ranked #1 for a portion of this season, playing Caryn McKinney, ranked #1 three years ago. Since McKinney has not played all season, she was without a

ranking and therefore without a seed. The match-up proved to be a battle, with two games apiece setting up a ferociously fought tiebreaker. Bailey had momentum, having come from behind to win the fourth. But McKinney did not fold, and was there to counter every point of Bailey's and take the match 11-7. Other first round losses included tour veteran Sandy Robson to Cindy Baxter and Ellen Crawford to Canadian Julie Dechene.

The round of 16 saw two upsets by #9 Marci Drexler over #8 Kaye Kuhfeld in four games and Robin Levine, playing in only her second pro tournament this season, over Lynne Coburn in three. In their match, Coburn was unfortunately hit in the jaw by Levine's backswing at 10-10 in the second game. After Coburn took an injury time-out, Levine took the second and third games while it seemed Coburn struggled to regain her concentration. Jackie Paraiso-Gibson, Dottie Kelly, Toni Bevelock, Marcy Lynch, Michelle Gilman and Caryn McKinney all advanced to the quarters in straight games.

The most exciting match of the quarterfinals was between Marci Drexler and Jackie Paraiso-Gibson. Drexler has been playing better each tournament this seasons and seems to have a more relaxed attitude on the court. Paraiso-Gibson held on for

four games but succumbed to Drexler 11-8 in the fifth.

In other quarterfinals, Robin Levine downed Dottie Kelly in three straight, while Michelle Gilman narrowly defeated Caryn McKinney in the third game 11-10. Marcy Lynch's match with Toni Bevelock looked like an upset in the first game and a half. Lynch won the first game 11-3 and was up 6-2 in the second when Bevelock drove her way back to win the second and third games. The fourth game was played point for point up until 7-7 when Bevelock in spite of a tenacious attempt by Lynch to force a fifth game, scored the final points to win 11-7.

The first semifinal match was between Michelle Gilman and

Toni Bevelock. Gilman dominated the match from the very beginning and was able to keep Bevelock off balance with jam serves. Bevelock also forfeited several points on unforced forehand errors. Gilman won in three games 11-0, 11-6, 11-6.

Marci Drexler and Robin Levine, both lefties, faced each other in the second semifinal. Drexler is known for her quickness and athleticism and Levine for her diving retrievals and tenacious spirit. Drexler took game one by forcing weak service returns from Levine with hard Z's to Levine's backhand. In game two, both players were making great gets in the front court. The player to win the rally was the first one to send the ball to the back court with a V-pass. Although

Drexler took the second game 11-8, Levine was not to be denied game three. She was up 7-0 before Drexler got the serve and won 11-3. At 2-0 in game four, Drexler hit an overhead mid-court that hit Levine squarely behind the ear. Levine took an extended time-out but seemed to lose her momentum, giving Drexler an 11-7 win.

In game one of the final on Sunday, Gilman came out strong with an early lead 4-0 over Drexler, with hard Z's right to the lefty's backhand corner. Drexler tried to pinch kill the return, left the ball up, and Gilman rekill the third shot down the line. Drexler couldn't seem to establish a service rhythm and dropped the first game 11-3.

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Since the finals were a televised event, much of the timing of the play was punctuated by pauses for instant replays and commercial spots. Not until game two did the pauses start to affect the players. Drexler's style feeds on momentum and the long breaks between points began to frustrate her. Gilman maintained her concentration and took a 10-0 lead before Drexler could create a couple of points. Gilman won 11-2.

By the third game, Drexler was totally out of synch and frustrated. At one particular TV time-out that seemed to last several minutes, Drexler laid down on the floor in resignation. Gilman again dominated the third game and took the match 11-4.

Some of the most exciting play of the tournament took place among the twelve doubles teams entered, including defending champs Gilman/Gibson and last year's runners-up Lyons/Morgan-Pfahler. The team of Olson and Britton almost upset Gilman/Gibson in the in a five game match which the champions won 11-2 in the fifth. Adams/Bailey defeated O'Brien/McKinney in three straight to play Gilman/Gibson in the semis. Down 9-2 in the fifth, Adams/Bailey staged a come-back to tie the score at 10-10, but Gilman/Gibson persevered and won the match 12-10. Robson/Drexler defeated the teams of Marriott/Risch, Kuhfeld/Bevelock, and Lyons/Morgan-Pfahler to reach the finals against Gilman/Gibson. In another five game match. The duo of Gilman/Gibson retained their Pro National Doubles title.

Saturday night the WPRA held a banquet to honor Lynn Adams and

to announce the winners of the yearly awards. Chris Weller, the head coach of the University of Maryland's women's basketball team was the guest speaker. The winner of the Steding Cup was J. J. Risch. The Sportsmanship award went to Lynne Coburn. Dottie Kelly took home the Most Improved Player Award and Jackie Paraiso-Gibson was awarded the Player of the Year Award. Lynn Adams was the first to receive a new award entitled the Lynn Adams Spirit Award, which was named in her honor.

RACQUETBALL NORTH OF THE BORDER

The Seventh Annual Women's Pro-Am racquetball championships, sponsored by Spalding, was held in Toronto at the Airport Fitness and Racquet Club. This was the first year that the event included and featured the Women's Pro Tour. Fans were treated to the sight of the best women racquetball players in the country competing for \$10,000 in prize money. Toni Bevelock captured her first win of the year, placing her among four women who have won stops this season.

The draw included the usual top 20 tour players, including Michelle Gilman who missed the last three tournaments due to injury. Intercollegiate champion Cindy Doyle and runner-up Holly Gray helped spice up the draw as well as Canadian national team members

CURRENT WPRA RANKINGS

1. Jacqueline Paraiso-Gibson, CA
2. Malia Bailey, VA
3. Toni Bevelock, CA
4. Michelle Gilman, ID
5. Dottie Kelly, PA
6. Marci Drexler, CA
7. Marcy Lynch, PA
8. Lynne Coburn, MD
9. Kaye Kuhfeld, IN
10. Robin Levine, CA

... Continued on Page 69



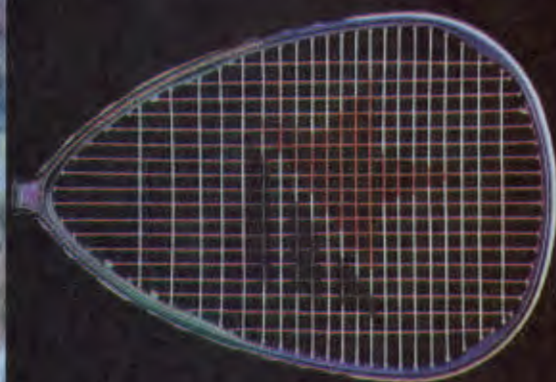
DAN OBREMSKI

Mens two-time professional singles and World Doubles
Racquetball Champion. His racquet: ESTCA

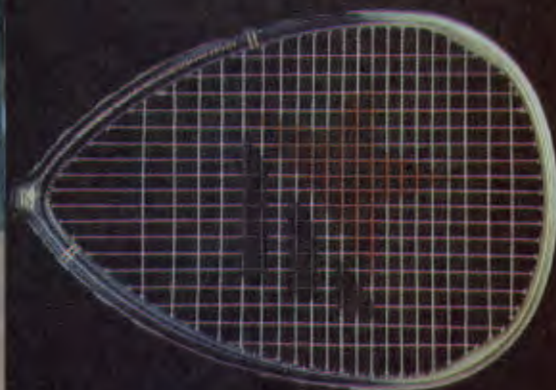
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MEN**MEN'S OPEN**

1. Chris Cole, MI
2. Doug Ganim, OH
3. Michael Bronfeld, CA
4. Dan Fowler, MD
5. Mike Guidry, TX
6. Tim Hansen, FL
7. John Ellis, CA
8. Tony Jelso, NM
9. Chris Marshall, NC
10. Lance Gilliam, TX

MEN'S A

1. Kip Atwell, TX
2. Grant Giles, GA
3. Bill McCormick, TN
4. Kevin O'Callahan, NJ
5. Brian Berlin, NY
6. Joe Durle, PA
7. Forrest Simmons, CO
8. James Demass, SC
9. Grant Morain, GA
10. Steve Kalal, IL

MEN'S B

1. Andrew Haywood, GA
2. Bob Paradiso, NJ
3. Mark Green, TN
4. Carlos Cespedes, TX
5. Paul Paterniti, NY
6. Steve Stocker, WA
7. Brian Sisneros, CA
8. Charlie Church, VA
9. Glenn Garrison, NJ
10. Todd Jarvis, AK

MEN'S C

1. Rocco Mazzo, NJ
2. Robin Davis, CA
3. Wilbert Smith, MS
4. Rick Beck, MI
5. John Hunter, MI
6. Rezell Linen, AK
7. Stanley McGinnis, CA
8. Gabe Gose, NM
9. Ron Fox, GA
10. Eric New, NC

MEN'S D

1. Keith Vansickle, WA
2. Scott Boyd, UT
3. Herminio Alicea, Jr., NJ
4. Brad Shapiro, GA
5. Anthony Williams, CA
6. Andy Schoenfeld, CA
7. Dan Carver, NJ
8. Jason Jansen, ND

9. Jeff Bayham, LA
10. Kyle Bordelon, TX

MEN'S NOVICE

1. John Hogan, NJ
2. Armando Cabrera, NJ
3. Martin Sewell, GA
4. Allan Smith, FL
5. John Lasher, NY
6. Elan Levy, TX
7. James Conlon, NY
8. Dan McGaha, CA
9. Royce Reece, TX
10. Larry Rinehard, OH

MEN'S 19+

1. Dan Fowler, MD
2. Sameer Hadid, CA
3. David Hunter, TN
4. Eric Muller, KS
5. Scott Lipareli, NY
6. Derek Robinson, WA
7. David Aldridge, TN
8. Grant Giles, GA
9. Adam Karp, CA
10. Nicholas Strike, OH

MEN'S 25+

1. Jimmy Lowe, AK
2. Bruce Erickson, MO
3. Curtis Winter, FL
4. Clay Griffin, SC
5. John Winnings, CA
6. Ron Hendren, MD
7. Wayne Sweatt, NC
8. Jim Bolger, OH
9. Bill Serafin, NJ
10. Trevor Sudweeks, UT

MEN'S 30+

1. Dave Peck, CO
2. Steve Cutler, UT
3. Bill Lyman, IL
4. Dave Negrete, IL
5. Vinnie Ganley, FL
6. Johnny Northern, MI
7. John Yorkey, UT
8. Jim Daly, VA
9. Mike Hollenbeck, CA
10. Ray Martinez, NJ

MEN'S 35+

1. Dave Kovanda, OH
2. Mitt Layton, FL
3. Rick Strout, UT
4. Dave Peck, CO
5. Walter McDade, TN
6. Jim Young, PA
7. Denny Southwick, CO
8. Jerry Wickliffe, GA
9. Jerry Hilecher, CA
10. Fielding Snow, WA

MEN'S 40+

1. Marty Mangino, MI
2. Fielding Snow, WA
3. Dave Kovanda, OH
4. Gary Mazaroff, NM
5. Jim Bailey, VA
6. Russ Montague, PA
7. Dan Davis, TX
8. Tim Storey, UT
9. Mitt Layton, FL
10. Bruce Shafer, NY

MEN'S 45+

1. Bill Wolfe, NY
2. Frank Ciociola, NY
3. Dick Melhart, WA
4. Ray Huss, OH
5. Herb Grigg, IL
6. Ken Bonnett, MI
7. Jay Schwartz, FL
8. Johnny Hennon, TN
9. Mike Winslow, FL
10. Tom Perna, OH

MEN'S 50+

1. Ron Johnson, IL
2. Les Barbanell, NJ
3. Fred Letter, NJ
4. Dario Mas, DE
5. Ron Galbreath, PA
6. Jerry Davis, OH
7. Charlie Garfinkel, NY
8. Luis Guerrero, CA
9. Len Corte, AZ
10. Glenn Allen, VA

MEN'S 55+

1. Art Johnson, CO
2. Paul Banales, AZ
3. Ray Kasl, OH
4. Charlie Hamon, WA
5. Dan Llacera, Sr., NY
6. Don Alt, OH
7. Ken Moore, CA
8. Harry Keast, CA
9. Hal Lackey, NC
10. Nick Farkouh, NY

MEN'S 60+

1. Don Alt, OH
2. Dan Llacera, Sr., NY
3. Fintan Kilbride, CN
4. Clement McIntosh, GA
5. Harvey Clar, CA
6. Red Horton, CO
7. Vance Lerner, CA
8. Ken Karmel, AR
9. Pierre Miller, IN
10. J.D. Driver, MI

MEN'S 65+

1. Mal Roberts, FL
2. Earl Acuff, NC
3. Victor Sacco, NY
4. Fintan Kilbride, CN
5. John Bareilles, VA
6. Tony Duarte, CA
7. Jimmy Miller, NC
8. Bill Beesley, UT
9. Richard Davis, TX
10. Tex Hoesch, IL

MEN'S 70+

1. Earl Acuff, NC
2. Nick Sans, CA
3. Luzell Wilde, UT
4. Don Goddard, MT
5. Carlos Sena, FL
6. Allen Shepherd, MD
7. Cam Snowberger, PA
8. Irv Zeitman, KY
9. Charles Russell, CA
10. Joe Sawbridge, AZ

MEN'S 75+

1. Allen Shepherd, MD
2. John Pearce, TX
3. Andrew Trozzi, MA
4. Jack Daly, VA
5. Fred Felton, TX
6. Joe Sawbridge, AZ
7. Jimmy White, TX
8. George Drake, MN

MEN'S 80+

1. John Pearce, TX
2. Jack Daly, VA
3. Tony Zengaly, NJ

WOMEN**WOMEN'S OPEN**

1. Malia Bailey, VA
2. Corinna Banks, WA
3. Michelle Gilman, ID
4. Kim Russell, GA
5. Kersten Hallander, FL
6. Diane Adams, CO
7. Marianne Walsh, UT
8. Cheryl Gudinas, IL
9. Terry Latham, NM
10. Val Springer, MI

WOMEN'S A

1. Beth Katz, NY
2. Dee Jenkins, CO
3. Andrea Beugen, MN
4. Karen Locke, GA
5. Naomi Morgan, TX
6. Cari Kresa, FL

7. Beverly Hale, TX
8. Cindy Tipton, WA
9. Kristi Hale, NC
10. Ellen Whitehurst, TN

WOMEN'S B

1. Hilda Reedom, NJ
2. Diane Pearson, MI
3. Helen Thomas, NJ
4. Lynne Beresford, VA
5. Jessica Rogers, TX
6. Susie Beris, CT
7. Liz Hietala, CO
8. Jan Stelma, NC
9. Mickey Girup, IL
10. Rae Carlers, MD

WOMEN'S C

1. Ann Mocchi, CO
2. Nancy Rocha, IL
3. Roxanne Asay, WA
4. Tina Steele, CA
5. Dawn Evans, WA
6. Katherine Mendez, CO
7. Natalie Russell, NJ
8. Janet Salter, GA
9. Betsy Lorenz, MO
10. Sharon Spring, VA

WOMEN'S D

1. Kim Grasso, NJ
2. Rochelle McHugh, WA
3. Kathy Collins, NC
4. Candi Kirchhoff, OH
5. Karen Lewis, NC
6. Anna Ross, GA
7. Stephanie Strong, TX
8. Rosario Delangel, IL
9. Tracy Parfenchuck, MA
10. Wendy Chesters, NE

WOMEN'S NOVICE

1. Donna Everett, CA
2. Trenea Muller, NY
3. Kelly Deeb, NY
4. Lisa Ferguson, SC
5. Karla McVey, NJ
6. Sue Rinehart, OH
7. Victoria Romero, AZ
8. Aimee Perry, VA
9. Peggy Roberts, CT
10. Loma Deily, NY

WOMEN'S 19+

1. Cheryl Gudinas, IL
2. Amy Kilbane, OH
3. Stacy Sour, CO
4. Kim Russell, GA
5. Ellen Crawford, NY
6. Karen Forbes, OH
7. Diane Gronkiewicz, IN

RANKINGS

Penn

Penn

Penn

8. Michelle Wiragh, MD
9. Debra Bryant, NC
10. Sue Cox, FL

WOMEN'S 25+

1. Lorraine Galloway, NY
2. Megan O'Malley, IL
3. Kersten Hallander, FL
4. Amy Anair, AZ
5. B.J. Ehrigott, CT
6. Debra Bryant, NC
7. Holly Desportes, VA
8. Teri Gatarz, NJ
9. Joann Slater, TX
10. Ilene Sofferman, NY

WOMEN'S 30+

1. Brenda Kyzer, SC
2. Kathy Treadway, TN
3. Marianne Walsh, UT
4. Mary Bickley, PA
5. Carol Bastien, IL
6. Dee Ferreira-Worth, CA
7. Janet Tyler, FL
8. Martha Lenoir, GA
9. Susan Morgan-Pfahler, FL
10. Marcia Richards, LA

WOMEN'S 35+

1. Cindy Baxter, PA
2. Val Shewfelt, UT
3. Vicki Luque, GA
4. Laurel Davis, IL
5. Gloria Eggers, ID
6. Janelle Marriott, RI
7. Susan Morgan-Pfahler, FL
8. Terry Latham, NM
9. Madelon Eichhorn, CO
10. Vicki Fisher, CA

WOMEN'S 40+

1. Janet Myers, NC
2. Agatha Falso, FL
3. Willie Grover, GA
4. Shelley Ogden, OH
5. Dorothee Buchanan, UT
6. Madelon Eichhorn, CO
7. Gerri Stoffregen, OH
8. Elaine Dexter, CA
9. Linda Miller, IN
10. Bev Powell, IL

WOMEN'S 45+

1. Agatha Falso, FL
2. Gerri Stoffregen, OH
3. Nidia Funes, CA
4. Jan Howard, VA
5. Merjean Kelley, CA
6. Sylvia Sawyer, UT
7. Pat Tarzon, IL
8. Sharon Hastings-Welty, OR
9. Jean Heckman, NY

10. Grace Touhy, IL

WOMEN'S 50+

1. Sharon Hastings-Welty, OR
2. Sylvia Sawyer, UT
3. Marion Johnson, TX
4. Jo Kenyon, FL
5. Mildred Gwinn, NC
6. Pauline Kelly, IL
7. Nancy Kay Butts, WI
8. Kathy Mueller, MN
9. Jean Tull, VA
10. Marion Crawford, NY

WOMEN'S 55+

1. Jo Kenyon, FL
2. Kathy Mueller, MN
3. Norma Carlisle, UT
4. Joanna Raida, PA
5. Mary Walker, CA
6. Mary Low Acuff, NC
7. Cleata Ching, PA
8. Susan Embry, CA
9. Helen Dunsmoor, ID
10. Sue Graham, CO

WOMEN'S 60+

1. Mary Low Acuff, NC
2. Lola Markus, IL
3. Betty Railey, CA
4. Jane Peterson, FL
5. Rita Turner, FL

WOMEN'S 65+

1. Mary Low Acuff, NC
2. Joann Jones, CT
3. Dorothy Vezetinski, WA

WOMEN'S 70+

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

WOMEN'S 75+

1. Eleanor Quackenbush, OR
2. Zelda Friedland, NM

WOMEN'S 80+

1. Zelda Friedland, NM

JUNIORS

BOYS 8 & UNDER

1. Jon Hellner, OR
2. Matt Trujillo, OR
3. Josh Epstein, NY
4. Bo Galbreth, NM

5. Johnny Miller, FL
6. Ricky Doukakakis, CO
7. Jim Gooden, TX
8. Ryan Leath, TN
9. James Boykin, DE
10. Roylee Luna, NM

MULTIBOUNCE

1. Chris Meyer, OR
2. Tyler Hollingsworth, OR
3. James Boykin, DE
4. Evan Hoginsfeld, TX
5. Alexis Martinez, IL
6. Steven Claiman, TX
7. Ricky Doukakakis, CO
8. Troy Krouse, IA
9. Andy Vaughn, TN
10. Erik Quandt, OR

BOYS 10-

1. Jason Kerwood, OR
2. Lane Mershon, GA
3. Jordan Fought, NM
4. Jason Jansen, ND
5. Jim Gooden, TX
6. Phillip Hammond, OH
7. Juan Martinez, IL
8. Matthew McElhiney, FL
9. Grant Barker, MO
10. Blake Bower, OR

BOYS 12-

1. Brent McDade, TN
2. Willie Tilton, CO
3. Jeffrey Gamer, AL
4. Gabe Gose, NM
5. Corey Limehouse, SC
6. Brandon Friend, NY
7. Steve Mignanelli, RI
8. Matt Hellner, OR
9. Elan Levy, TX
10. Sam Bottomley, OR

BOYS 14-

1. Eric Storey, UT
2. Mark Hurst, FL
3. Tony Puggioni, Jr., NY
4. Abe Valdez, OR
5. Brandon Terry, OR
6. Jed Bhuta, AL
7. Chris Gose, NM
8. Willie Tilton, CO
9. Ben Williams, NY
10. Jeremy Bernerth, GA

BOYS 16-

1. Geoff Heskett, PA
2. Jack Long, NM
3. Brian Berlin, NY
4. Shane Dodge, ID
5. Michael Zaytoun, NC

6. Brian Siegel, NJ
7. Ryan Tobias, OR
8. Arvind Bhuta, AL
9. Chris Choukalas, AZ
10. Mat Kelly, CO

BOYS 18-

1. James Mulcock, NM
2. Craig Rappaport, PA
3. Jason Thoerner, GA
4. Morgan Silver, FL
5. Chris Thomas, NC
6. Geoff Heskett, PA
7. Adam Anderson, UT
8. Shawn Luque, GA
9. Chance Mims, NM
10. Shane Wood, MA

GIRLS 8 & UNDER

1. Sarah Breneman, FL
2. Molly Law, CO
3. Jeni Fuller, NM
4. Megan Hollowell, NM
5. Jessica Fuller, NM
6. Ashley Markus, OR
7. Amy Jo Hollingsworth, OR
8. Melissa Jones, FL
9. Nicole Steketee, MI
10. Jodi Trombley, MI

MULTIBOUNCE

1. Amy Jo Hollingsworth, OR
2. Molly Law, CO
3. Laura Roth, IL

GIRLS 10-

1. Lindsay Ringle, MD
2. Kristen Walsh, UT
3. Kristen Darr, OH
4. Starr Beardsley, NM
5. Ljsa Brookens, CO
6. Molly Law, CO
7. Lindsey Crouse, OH
8. Jenny Nielson, UT
9. Nichole Grace, IL
10. Kimberly Irons, OH

GIRLS 12-

1. Booie Markus, OR
2. Rhessa Grady, FL
3. Jennifer Hardeman, TN
4. Erin Rogers, OR
5. Stephanie Defalco, NY
6. Katie Gould, MO
7. Heidi Hallaran, GA
8. Victoria Romero, AZ
9. Sara Borland, IA
10. Mandy Breneman, FL

GIRLS 14-

1. Erin Frost, OR
2. Debra Derr, FL
3. Adrienne Bennett, DE
4. Leslie Buschbom, GA
5. Mandi McClure, GA
6. Sadie Gross, MN
7. Booie Markus, OR
8. Treena Muller, NY
9. Lyndsi Patton, FL
10. Rhonda Rajsich, AZ

GIRLS 16-

1. Kristi Hale, NC
2. Mandi Hubble, OR
3. Amy Gurley, GA
4. Tammy Brockbank, ID
5. Erin Frost, OR
6. Leslie Buschbom, GA
7. Shannon Feaster, DC
8. Kayla Harvey, WY
9. Amy Jerdee, IA
10. Andre Luque, GA

GIRLS 18-

1. Britt Engel, FL
2. Elkova Icenogle, CA
3. Amber Frisch, TX
4. Kristi Hale, NC
5. Leslie Reeder, AL
6. Dawn Peterson, WI
7. Tammy Brockbank, ID
8. Letisha Bussell, ID
9. Shannon Feaster, DC
10. Alicia Kinney, MO

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5. Joe Hager, PA
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8. Mike Bond, FL
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RANKINGS DATED JUNE 5, 1992

INSTRUCTIONAL



PARITIP #11: THE SERVES

*By Fran Davis
Assistant U.S. Team
Coach*

Welcome to our 11th PARI Tip. Last issue we covered the *cross-over step* in detail, during a rally as well as on the return of serve. We learned that the crossover step, coming from the ready position, is a critical part of footwork that assures a more consistent, accurate and powerful shot. By crossing over, rather than side stepping and hitting in an open stance, you can obtain maximum leverage and power. See photos 1, 2 and 3.

Now that we have reviewed the footwork from the ready position we are ready to introduce the #1 weapon

in the game of racquetball...*the serve*. The *serve* in racquetball presents you with the only opportunity to be in total control...you are in the driver's seat. You are beginning the rally from a controlled stationary position, not hitting off of a previous shot hit by your opponent. You have plenty of time to think, prepare and react...so take it.

My favorite analogy in this situation is a pitcher in baseball. Take a moment and visualize a pitcher in baseball and a server in racquetball and you will see the similarities.

As you can see from the chart there is plenty of thought that goes into serving. You shouldn't just stand in the service box and throw the ball up just to start the play. The serve is so much more important than that. The serve sets the tone of each rally, each game, and each match. It is not to be taken lightly if you want to be a consistent winner.

Let's do a quick overview of the serve so we are prepared for future articles:

1. Purpose - force a weak return or ace your opponent.

2. Accomplish the above by variety - change the -
a. height
b. speed
c. angle - change your position in the box to create different angles. [See court diagram.]
d. type - drive, Z, lob

	PITCHER IN BASEBALL	SERVER IN RACQUETBALL
Purpose	Keeps the batter off balance and guessing, forcing a strike out or weak hit.	Keeps the receiver off balance, earning an ace or forcing a weak return.
Accomplishes this by	Throwing a variety of pitches (fast ball, knuckle ball, sliders, change up, etc.).	Serving a variety of serves (drive, lob, half lob, soft Z's, off speed, etc.).
Depends on	Type of hitter, righty or lefty, what the hitter likes or dislikes, what he feels comfortable with or uncomfortable with, previous records, as well as strengths and weaknesses.	Same as baseball

	1	2	3	

By changing the height, speed, angle and type of serve, you can generate over 40 serves, that's right, 40 serves in your game. Most club players have five or less. What happens if your opponent can handle all five of your serves? What do you do? What happens if your best serve is a drive serve and it sets up your opponent's best return?

By developing a wide variety of serves and having a larger arsenal to chose from you will be able to handle any situation that may arise and any opponent you may play. Don't limit yourself. Too many players take their serve for granted or don't put enough emphasis on it. Players have a tendency to practice kill shots or ceiling balls before the serve. Players who take lessons from me prefer to work on anything but their serve. *The serve is crucial.* When you are serving that is the *only time* you can score a point. Make your serve count.

The most important thing to remember about your serve is to make it deceptive (by variety), consistent (by practice) and accurate (by practice). Notice I didn't even mention power throughout this article. Power is not an imperative ingredient, but will enhance your serve. Chris Cole, the new Men's Open National Champion, is living proof of that. He is not a powerful server, but worked on the consistency and accuracy of his crack ace serve to assist him in earning the national title.

Next issue we will begin to dissect each serve one by one, so you too can have a variety of serves that work.



Photo 1.



Photo 2.



Photo 3.



PARI NEWS

By Connie Martin

FALL 1992 CLINIC EXAM SITES

We are in the process of confirming Clinic/Exam sites for the Fall and by the time you receive this issue, all the dates will have been set. For more complete

information and a registration form, please contact Jim Hiser at 719/635-5396. If you are not on the current PARI mailing list, please let him know so we can add you to the list.

At present the only confirmed dates are September 4 & 5 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Other cities planning clinics include Hershey, Pennsylvania; Sarasota, Florida; Durham, North Carolina; Boston, Massachusetts; and South Plainsfield, New Jersey. Look for dates in the next issue or call the National Office for further information.

LEVEL III CLINIC/EXAM

Our first Level III Clinic/Exam will be held at the Olympic Training Center and the Lynmar Racquet Club in Colorado Springs on Thursday, October 1st through Saturday the 3rd. We can take the first 25 people who register for the Clinic. Instructors who may attend are those who are current PARI Members of a Level II Instructor, Advanced Instructor or Professional ranking. Applications were included in the June PARI packet.

The Clinic will include 2½ days of instruction, followed by a five-part exam for Level II Professionals or the upgrade exam for those not yet at Level II. The Clinic features personal video analysis, challenging teaching theories, goal setting techniques, new drills, speed-quickness-agility drills, round table discussions, games night, the making of an athlete, lodging and food at the Olympic Training Center. For more information, please contact Jim Hiser at the national office.

NEW PARI MEMBERS

Congratulations to the following people who completed the Clinic I & II/Exam at the Houston YMCA during the Nationals: Rhonda Grisham, TX; David Wong, TX; Ken Green, GA; Carol Clements, MD; Tom Neill, NM; Jerry Dimitratos, OK; Robert Chapman, OK; Earl Vassar, LA; Ron Strong, TX; Boyd Peters, AL; Jim Winterton-Professional, NY. The June Clinic participants will be listed in the September/October issue.

PARI TEACHING PROFESSIONALS

John Abbott	Novato, CA
Warren Arnett	Baton Rouge, LA
Ricardo Balderas	Salinas, CA
Curt Ballantyne	Medford, OR
Cheryl Baughn	Girardeau, MO
Bob Berryman	Amarillo, TX
Bob Book	Durham, NC
Richard Bruns	Napa, CA
Fred Brussels	Bedford, MA
Steve Carlson	Fargo, ND
Don Clemons	New Berlin, WI
Gerald Cleveland	Galveston, TX

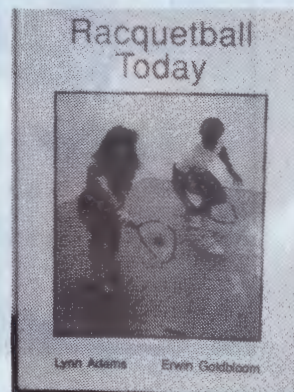
NEW RACQUETBALL INSTRUCTIONAL BOOK

Wanda Collins	Bellingham, WA
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Gail DeVall	Sebastopol, CA
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James Doyle	Monterey, CA
Jim Earley	Livonia, MI
Dot Fischl Kelly	Allentown, PA
Fred Fox	Huron, OH
Ruben Fuentes	Galveston, TX
Dave George	Colma, CA
Johnnie Gray	Mobile, AL
Stu Hastings	Clarkston, MI
Charles John	Muskogee, OK
Ron Johnson	Lake Wyley, SC
Dennis Kaufman	Lodi, CA
Kevin Kennedy	New York, NY
Kathy Langlotz	Bryan, TX
Dee Lichty	Rochester, MN
David Lockridge	Buford, GA
Kip Luna	Chandler, AZ
Mary Lyons	Jacksonville, FL
Connie Martin	Gresham, OR
John Martin	Gresham, OR
Rob McKinney	Lansdale, PA
Linda Moore	Lincoln, NE
Debbie Nemitz	Shreveport, LA
Brad Nicholson	Green Bay, WI
Mike Nugent	Houston, TX
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Gaye Rosenfield	Hollis, NH
Mike Sabo	Mundelien, IL
Ross Shoemaker	Hayward, CA
Barb Simmons	Sarasota, FL
Dave Sledge	Dallas, TX
Feilding Snow	Seattle, WA
Karin Sobotta	Erie, PA
Bill Taliaferro	Dallas, TX
Suzanne Tolan	Maplewood, NJ
Jim Winterton	Syracuse, NY
Joe Wirkus	Madison, WI
Ken Woodfin	Houston, TX

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Name _____

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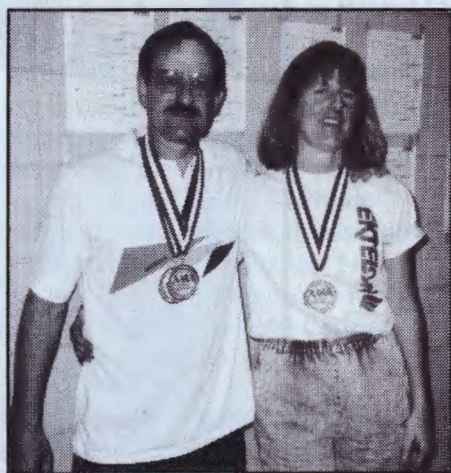
INSTRUCTIONAL

PARI PROFESSIONAL FOCUS:

LINDA MOORE

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

Linda Moore has been a PARI Teaching Professional since July of 1987 (almost since the onset of PARI). Linda started playing racquetball in 1976 when a friend took her down to the University courts at Central Michigan. She liked the sport from the beginning and now, twelve years later, is involved not



Linda Moore with Mixed 30+ doubles partner Craig Olsen.

only on the competitive level but as a profession.

For the past six years, Linda has been teaching and administering racquetball programs for the Lincoln Racquet Club in Lincoln, Nebraska. Although of late, her career there has become most challenging. Last August her husband Harry became the Madison County Public Defender, a position which required them to reside in the town of Madi-

son, about two hours from Lincoln. Since Linda did not want to give up her job, she adapted her schedule and now sets out early Monday morning for a three day work week at the club. She stays with a friend in Lincoln, then returns to Madison for the rest of the week.

One Sunday of each month Linda runs a mixed doubles event at the club — one of their most popular racquetball events. The idea for the "international" mixed doubles events (Mexi-mixed, Itali-mixed, etc.) came from her PARI Manual inserts. In fact, she uses many of the programming and teaching ideas provided through her PARI membership.

Linda is a graduate of Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, with a degree in Parks and Recreation Management. Immediately following college she became a VISTA volunteer and spent a year at the Indian Commission in Scotts Bluff, Nebraska. She liked Nebraska so well that she stayed in the area working at the YMCA and as a Recreational Therapist in Lincoln. Not only does she find time to work, travel to and from her job each week, play volleyball and softball, but she plays a great game of competitive racquetball. Linda is a two-time AARA National Doubles Champion in the Mixed 25+ Doubles and has been a semi-finalist in her age division in each of the past three AARA National Championships.

If you are in the Lincoln, Nebraska area and would like a quality lesson, you can contact Linda at the Lincoln Racquet Club, Monday-Wednesday at 402/423-2511.



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DATE	PLACE	CLUB	DATE	PLACE	CLUB
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June 12-14	Cincinnati, OH	Midtown Athletic Club	Aug. 28-30	Wilmington, DE	Pike Creek Court Club
June 19-21	Salt Lake City, UT	Sportsmall	Oct. 2-4	Sarasota, FL	Sarasota Family YMCA
June 21-23*	Salt Lake City, UT	Sportsmall	Oct. 30-31, Nov. 1	Grand Rapids, MI	Michigan Athletic Club
July 10-12	Edmonds, WA	Harbor Sq. Athletic Club	Nov. 6-8	Columbus, OH	Sawmill Athletic Club
July 17-19	Colma, CA (San Fran area)	What A Racquet	Nov. 13-15	Natick, MA (Boston area)	Natick Sports Club
			Nov. 20-22	Durham, NC	Metro Sport Athletic Club

*Special Juniors

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PSYCHOLOGY AND RACQUETBALL

By Dr. Les Barbanell

BEFORE: SKIP THE FUTURE THING

Picture a worker on the job thinking that he will be fired. He becomes so anxious about this future possibility that he can't function on a day-to-day basis. This increases the likelihood that he will get fired. Anxiety does this to us, it mentally propels us into the future and disrupts concentration in the present. Result: negative.

I refer to undue concern about outcomes, results and consequences as "the future thing." Here are some examples of how this mind-set interferes with your racquetball game:

Thinking about the next round before your first round match ... "after I beat Jan, I play Lynn ..."

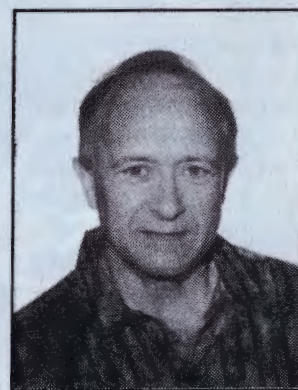
Anxiety about your opponent ... "he's a legend, he never loses: or "he's a friend, we're at the same club"

Obsessing about the state ranking ... "If I stay on top..." "What if I lose my top spot?"

Getting caught up in off-court gossip ... "I lost last time, but the ref messed up. I know I'm better and I'll prove it."

Thinking too much about the score ... "It's early, I'll pace myself" or "It's getting too close to 15."

Concern in advance about a tiebreaker ... "I don't want one" or "I'm afraid there will be one."



Even an advanced player can be victimized by these types of "future things." As a result, a less skilled player can win because of superior concentration made easier by living in the moment. Not everyone has the mental discipline to orient themselves this way, but here is an approach to think about.

Before a match, isolate yourself, perhaps in the locker room. Create an image or scene in your mind that you really like. Dwell on the details in this scene for at least ten minutes. The more details you picture, the deeper the concentration, the less you are distracted by external events and inner thoughts. You are now ready! Once you are on the court, remember to shift your mind-set to the here and now. Beware of the Future Thing! Force yourself to view the game as a relationship between you, the ball, and nothing else. Forget the reputation of your opponent, your next match, and where you will finish in the rankings.

But, before I serve the next subject at you, I want to tell you about a reaction to this concept. Tournament player Chris Miller (U.S.A. Health and Fitness, Closter) said he tried the suggested exercise before a match and it worked for the first game, and then he "lost it." I told Chris that the

process a player goes through in learning the mental aspects of racquetball is similar to learning the physical aspects. For example, when learning the proper backhand stroke, first you must grasp the concept, then practice it until it becomes automatic. The same applies to mental exercises.

AFTER: REAPING THE BENEFITS OF DEFEAT

Up to this point, our focus has been on mental preparation before a match and maintaining concentration during a match. This section concerns your state of mind after a match, particularly after a loss.

In an obscure play called "The Great God Brown," Shakespeare wrote, "In the aftermath of a tumultuous storm, thou can find a rainbow, if it is a rainbow one seeks." How can we use this philosophy to improve our game? If defeat is a "storm," then the "rainbow" we might seek is the knowledge we can gain in its wake.

It is my position that the best time to learn about your game is immediately after you have made the most mistakes. Presumably, this would be after a defeat (however, learning



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from victory should not be ignored). At this time, mistakes are fresh in your mind and are less likely to be forgotten. Mental mistakes in particular are easily forgotten with the passage of time, even when a match is videotaped. Reviewing mistakes can replace self doubt with constructive thought. This builds motivation for your next tournament ("next time I'll try this...avoid that"). Having this positive direction can repair ego damage and begin to restore confidence. You are "going somewhere," "working toward," rather than dwelling in failure.

Here are some specific ways to activate the process of improving your game after a loss.

- * Establish the mind-set that you want to learn from your performance (win or lose) before you begin play.
- * Plan time to scrutinize your game immediately after your match.
- * Ask trusted observers what they saw and add their observations to your own.
- * Keep a notebook in your bag listing mistakes from an accumulation of all your matches, and review this list periodically.
- * Consult someone about the weaknesses you tend to repeat. For example, ask your club pro about "court coverage" if you feel that is one of your failings.

You now have a choice. You can block out the painful experience of defeat, or, reap the benefits. But remember, a setback, a failure, or a loss, is a prime time for learning about yourself as a racquetball player and as a person. Humility is a great teacher.

If you get involved in this process, PLEASE send me a copy of your notes. I would be interested in seeing which aspects of the game concern the most players, or identifying the most common mistakes for a future article. Write to me at the Garden State Racquetball Association [GSRA] offices at 121 Franklin Turnpike, Waldwick, New Jersey 07463.

[Articles reprinted from GSRA State Newsletter "Off the Court"]

AMERICA'S MOST WANTED INSTRUCTION

By Jack Newman

In the last issue we gave you some practice drills you could use to work on your game. We want you to continue to do these drills because they can be done alone. In this issue we will give you some practice drills that can help supplement the drills from the last issue, and keep you interested in practicing. The main point of both these articles is that you must drill to improve your game. The pros at "America's Most Wanted" practice with drills 80% of the time, and play matches only 20%. Enough said about practicing. Time to show you the drills.



THREE-SHOT-DRILL

PURPOSE - To practice your serves and return of serves.

GOALS - The server needs to force a defensive return. The receiver needs to move the server out of center court.

TECHNIQUE - The rallies shall only allow three shots. Each player should serve ten serves at a time. You should choose one area to hit all ten serves, allowing you to work on deception, or disguising your serves from different areas. Each time you hit ten serves, move to a different area in the service box.

The receiver needs to work on footwork and not giving away easy points or set-ups. Do not

skip in the return of serve! Use passing shots and ceiling balls to move the server from the front court.

The third shot will either be killed or another defensive shot will be hit. If the server is doing well, they will have an offensive third shot. If the receiver is doing well, the third shot will be defensive. After three shots pick up the ball and start again.

This drill will improve the critical first three shots of your rallies. These are the most important shots that separate better players.

CEILING SHOT DRILL

PURPOSE - To improve your defensive game.

GOAL - To hit good ceiling shots so your partner cannot hit offensive shots.

TECHNIQUE - Start with hitting all ceiling shots on one side of the court. The player not hitting the ball needs to move into center court. Continue hitting ceiling shots until somebody misses one. When a bad ceiling ball is hit, your partner should go for a killshot. Remember the goal is to hit good ceiling shots, not watch your practice partner hit

killshots. After hitting ceiling shots on one side of the court, move over to the other side to work on ceiling shots. This will help improve your defensive game.

In future issues we will continue to give you practice drills to improve your games. The reason our staff at "America's Most Wanted" has accumulated over 25 national and professional titles is that we use these same drills. Keep practicing and we will see you in the next issue.

To keep up with our upcoming camps, refer to our ad below and sign up soon!

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Jack Newman

Ruben Gonzalez

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City	Date	Instructors	City
Schaumburg, IL	August 1 - 2	Newman/Negrete	Schaumburg, IL
Columbus, OH	August 8 - 9	Newman/Ganim	Minneapolis, MN
Houston, TX	August 15 - 16	Newman/Gonzalez	Denver, CO
Toledo, OH	August 29 - 30	Newman/Ganim	Riverside, CA
Birmingham, AL	Sept. 26 - 27	Newman/Roberts	Erie, PA
Baltimore, MD	Oct. 3 - 4	Newman/Gonzalez	Des Moines, IA

Date	Instructors
Oct. 10 - 11	Negrete/Sweeney
Oct. 10 - 11	Newman/Roberts
Oct. 17 - 18	Newman/Roberts
Nov. 7 - 8	Newman/Gonzalez
Dec. 5 - 6	Ganim/Gonzalez
Dec. 5 - 6	Newman/Roberts

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DEAR RACQUETBALL DOCTOR

*By Fran Davis and
Stu Hastings*

DEAR DOCTOR: My husband and I play tournaments on a regular basis. It's difficult for us, especially while I'm playing, if he coaches me during a match. When he tries to tell me things, we seem to get into fights during and after competition. What coaching suggestions do you have for husband and wife teams during competition? Signed *Frustrated*.

DEAR FRUSTRATED: This is a common problem for many couples, as well as brothers/sisters and doubles teams. You are not alone. We recommend you take a look at the following suggestions to help you with what could become a major problem if not handled properly:

Does this person (your husband) coach you on a regular basis? Is he just your "coach" at some tournaments or does he coach you throughout the week/month/year prior to tournaments? It's important that a coach know your physical, mental, and psychological capabilities. You will be more receptive if the coach works with you regularly on strokes and strategies and knows how you respond under pressure. Arguments begin when coaching isn't done on a regular basis. Coaching should really be left to a "professional."

What does "amateur" coach mean? Many husbands, fathers and friends

try to be weekend coaches. There is nothing wrong with an amateur coach when professional help isn't available, but amateur coaches should remember these critical areas:

- * Suggest, do not demand.
- * Give one or two simple suggestions at a time for the player to focus on. Too many suggestions can be confusing and counterproductive.
- * Stay focused on the basics. Don't get too technical.
- * Be aware of opponents' weaknesses and how they can be exploited.
- * Use constructive criticism and don't be negative. People do not respond well to criticism under tournament pressure.
- * Use timeouts and use them effectively.

If the coach doesn't work with you on a regular basis, prepare a list of the things you would like them to look for during play.

These points should help you tackle your problem. Hopefully your husband is open-minded enough to read through these suggestions. Then the two of you can develop a game plan for coaching.

Keep in mind that your husband wants you to win as much as you do. You have a common goal. Sometimes we lose sight of this in the heat of the battle. Agree to coaching plans before the match when you are both relaxed and stick to them!

We believe coaching is essential and can really make a difference. Whether you coach yourself, or work with pros or amateurs, always be positive. In the final analysis it's your match to win or lose.

COACHES CORNER: PRE-MATCH COACHING

By Jim Winterton
U.S. Team Head Coach

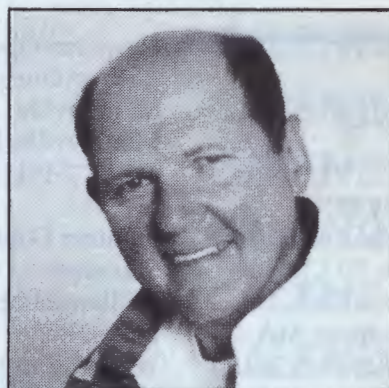
Has this ever happened to you? The match begins. The nerves set in. The first eight or nine points it's like you are on another planet. You may not have warmed up correctly. A good coach could help prevent this.

In the heat of battle many situations will occur that the athlete maybe has not prepared for. The coach can prepare his athlete for those situations. The following is a seven step approach called the "P.R.E.P.A.R.E" method.

PSYCHO- LOGICALLY PREPARE.

The athlete must use techniques to prepare themselves psychologically. The type A "hyper-player" may have to listen

to classical music to relax, while the mellow, laid back player may want to plug into the "headbanger ball" to gear up. Our U.S. Team sports psychologist, Diana McNab, has given each player specific personality related pre-match mental drills to prepare for competition.



Continued on Page 52

This Year **DEVELOP** more than just pictures
on your next vacation!

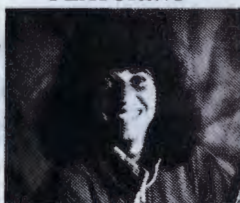
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JULY

July 17

Cape Cod Series #2
The Fit Club of
Cape Cod
Hyannis, MA
508/771-7734

Georgia State
Games
Atlanta Sporting
Club
Atlanta, GA
404/636-7575

GSRA Summer
Games
Classic Athletic
Club
Lyndhurst, NJ
914/425-0261

Hawaiian Open
Racquettime of
Monroeville
Monroeville, PA
412/373-1911

Summer Doubles
Shootout
Williamsburg
Hilton RC
Williamsburg, VA
804/220-2500

Interbay YMCA
Open Tampa
Tampa, FL
813/839-0301

Washington State
Games
Pro Club
Bellevue, WA
206/367-4400

July 24

Marty Hogan
Summer Blowout
Vacaville Sports
Club
Vacaville, CA
707/446-2350

12th Annual
Cystic Fibrosis
Courts Plus
New Bern, NC
919/633-2221

9th Annual Rockin
Rollout
Maryland Farms
Club
Brentwood, TN
615/373-5120

July 30
U.S. National
Golden Masters
Boston Athletic
Club
Boston, MA

July 31

Alabama State
Doubles
Sportslife
Birmingham, AL
205/870-0144

Open Tournament
American Family
Health & Fitness
Richmond, VA
804/330-3400

Pacific Northwest
Open
McVeigh Gym
Fort Lewis, WA
206/473-2266

Ft. Myers Athletic
Club Open
Fort Myers, FL
813/275-1990

AUGUST

August 6

Doubles Warm-Up
Lakeland YMCA
Lakeland, FL
813/644-3528

August 7

Paul Bunyan
Markets Open
Nautilus Fit & RC
Erie, PA
814/868-0072

Summer Sizzler
Northeast Racquet
Club
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MN
612/572-0330

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August 11
Utah Jr. State
Championships
Redwood Multi
Purpose Center
West Valley, UT
801/974-6923

August 13
*Sixth IRF
World
Championships
Montreal,
Canada*

August 14
GSRA Tournament
of Champions
USA Fitness &
Racquetball Center
Closter, NJ
201/444-0859

1992 Manatee
Doubles Open
Westbay
Athletic Club
W. Bradenton, FL
813/794-6800

August 21
Cape Cod Series #3
Fitness Club of
Cape Cod
Hyannis, MA
508/771-7734

Georgia State
Doubles
Southern Athletic
Club
Lilburn, GA
404/923-5400

Summer Blowout
Tracy
Racquetball Club
Tracy, CA
209/836-2504

Texas Open
Warm-up
Parke Way Family
Fitness Center
Longview, TX
903/297-0090

August 28
Apple Open
Spa Fitness Center
Watsonville, CA

SEPTEMBER

September 4
Killshot Classic
Williamsburg Hilton
Racquet Club
Williamsburg, VA
804/220-2500

Stockton Pro Am
West Lane
Racquet Club
Stockton, CA
209/473-7171

September 5
7th Annual
Warren Finn
JCC of Houston
Houston, TX
713/729-3200

September 8
IRF World Senior
Championships
Tom Young's Athletic
Club
Albuquerque, New
Mexico

September 11
Pennbriar State Doubles
The Pennbriar
Erie, PA
814/825-8111

Summer Sizzler
Alamance Racquet & Fitness
Burlington, NC
919/227-6565

7th Annual
Solano Open
Solano Athletic Club
Fairfield, CA
707/429-4363

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**JULY 15
THROUGH
SEPTEMBER 15**



NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR

JULY 30-AUG. 1	National Golden Masters Doubles Championships -- Boston, MA
AUGUST 14-22	VI World Championships Montreal, Canada
SEPTEMBER 8-12	World Senior Championships Albuquerque, NM
OCTOBER 21-25	EKTELON AARA National Doubles Championships Phoenix, AZ
DECEMBER TBA	IRF World Junior Championships Jacksonville, FL

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FREELANCERS WANTED

Freelance writers and photographers should send letter of inquiry and samples to Linda Mojer, Editor, RACQUETBALL Magazine, 815 North Weber, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903-2947.

COACHING STAFF

U.S. Team Coaching Positions Announced...Qualified individuals interested in the volunteer positions of Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Team Manager and Team Leader for the U.S. National Racquetball Team should call the national office at 719/635-5396 for complete job descriptions and application materials. Final interviews will be conducted during the U.S. National Doubles Championships in Phoenix, Arizona from October 21-25.

BOARD NOMINEES SOUGHT

Four positions on the AARA Board of Directors will become vacant in May of 1993. Board terms are for three years and require that the individual hold a competitive license, serve responsibly and take a leadership role on committees, plus be able to commit to attending two meetings annually (Thursday through Saturday in late September or early October, and Monday through Wednesday the week prior to Memorial Day in May). The 12 person board is comprised of 10 members elected by the AARA membership, an athlete representative and a representative from the armed forces. Interested candidates are urged to submit personal and professional resumes (including any involvement in racquetball on a local or national level) to the AARA Election Committee, 815 North Weber, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903-2947 by SEPTEMBER 1.

HALL OF FAME

Nominees to be considered for induction to the AARA Hall of Fame need to be identified by SEPTEMBER 1 to be brought before the nominating committee and placed on the ballot. For a copy of nomination procedures, please contact Al Seitelman at 516/360-0979 (evenings), or call the national office at 719/635-5396.

Continued from Page 49...

REHEARSE MENTALLY. The player must rehearse types of shots they are going to see and what is going to happen. A good coach can help his athletes do this as we will see later.

ERASE ALL NEGATIVITY FROM THE MIND. When preparing for competition mentally positive self truth should be employed. "I will not lose to this bozo" is definitely negative! "I will maintain my composure" is an example of a positive affirmation.

PUT A GAME PLAN IN THE MIND. The athlete and coach should have a game plan in mind that will work. This should include a back-up game plan as well. The second game plan should be used if the first one fails. This plan should be rehearsed mentally (see rehearse).

ANTICIPATE THE UNEXPECTED. The athlete should try to think of things that can go wrong and how to deal with them. The U.S. Team coaching staff tries to prepare athletes months in advance for such things as poor refereeing, people smoking in the gallery, and other odd international surprises!

REALLY WARM UP WELL. A warmup routine of light weight lifting, stretching, dressing in the sauna and a light jog, bike or stairmaster workout should get the athlete in a "full sweat" and ready to play.

EXECUTE. After the complete warmup given above the athlete should be ready to go both physically and mentally. As a coach, all you do now is sit back and watch!

JUNK FOOD, JUNK BONDS, AND JUNK SERVES!

By Bob Book

"Cut it out! You're really starting to make me mad!"

"What do you mean? I'm not doing anything! I can't help it if you can't return my serves any better! You should lay off the junk food and start eating your Wheaties!"

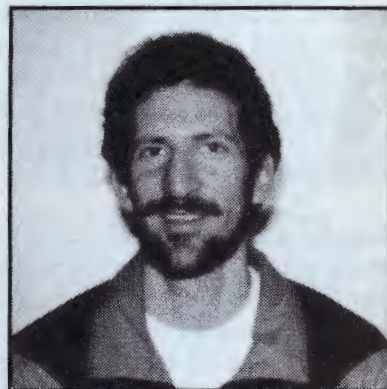
"That stupid serve works too well - it should be illegal or something! I just returned three in a row into the ground, hit two returns 10 feet high on the front wall, and hit one poor excuse for a ceiling shot. You just won the last six points in about 38 seconds!"

"That's because I'm Racquetball Bob, Sheriff of the racquetball court! And I just started using my 'secret weapon junk serve,' guaranteed to produce lousy returns by my opponent!"

"Man, if you could bottle that serve you would get rich! Nobody has ever used a serve on me like that before!"

So, what serve could I possibly have used that worked so well? Here's a hint: it's probably one of the least known serves in the game, yet one of the most effective. In fact, you might say it even looks a bit wimpy! It's rarely used in tournaments and leagues, and is almost never taught in lessons (except by me!). Is it a "lob," "z," or "low drive" serve? Answer: none of the above! It's what I like to call a "junk" serve, a first cousin to the "half lob" or "garbage" serve!

"Junk" serve? That's right. Something that's hit a little harder and lower than a "half lob," angled directly into either back corner, and hit so as not to rebound off the backwall. Perhaps best described as a lazy "low drive" serve, it looks so "juicy" that your opponent will make an incredibly sloppy return or pound the ball into the floor (a "skip") about 75% of the time!



There are several reasons why this serve works so well. First, we are tempting our opponent to make an offensive return of serve when contacting the ball between waist and chest-high. Any offensive shot attempted from this hitting zone is likely to 1) be hit into the

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ground, 2) hit high on the front wall, or 3) hit low on the front wall, but then rebound upwards as it travels away from the front wall. My over anxious opponent should have played it safe with a ceiling shot, but instead, tried to take an offensive shot when the ball was really too high.

Second, a player is likely to score three to five more points a game just by making sure their "junk" serves end up deep in the back corners every time, rather than our more typical serves that often end up ricocheting into the middle of the court. Only serves that force a return from a back corner give us the time needed to relocate properly into center court. Proper positioning behind the safety line after serving is essential to capitalizing on our opponent's poor returns or retrieve a great return of serve. (Failure to relocate properly after serving is one of the most common errors made by players of all levels!)

Third, a serve angled properly deep into a back corner is almost always more difficult to return (less room to swing) than a serve that ricochets into the middle of the court, and will create many more scoring opportunities for the server.

Fourth, a "junk" serve (or any serve) that forces a service return from the farthest point from the front wall results in a greater percentage of poor

returns than serves returned from closer to the front wall. This means we want our opponents making their service return as far away from the front wall as possible.

Finally, you can score some easy points simply because you are using a serve that your opponent hasn't seen before. And the serve can even vary slightly (in speed, height, angle, etc.) every time you hit it to keep your opponent off balance.

So, if your game needs a new secret weapon, try perfecting Racquetball Bob's (not to be confused with Hurricane Bob's!) "junk" serve. It should tempt your opponent to try an offensive return from chest high, causing unforced errors that you can easily capitalize on. Basically you are baiting your opponent and waiting in center court to see if they "bite." If nothing else, simply focusing on getting your serve to angle directly into a back corner will result in more scoring opportunities than hitting a variety of serves that end up in center court for easy returns. You'll also discover that there aren't many more things more satisfying than watching your opponent "pound" your serve into the floor or set you up for a "kill" shot! (It's also fun watching your opponent get upset!)

P.S. For those of you already using this serve, sorry to let the cat (or junk food) out of the bag.

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WHAT'S THE CALL ?

By Otto Dietrich
AARA National Rules
Commissioner

LONGER RACQUETS VOTED DOWN

Question: What new rules did the AARA Board of Directors approve at the May meeting? Alan Golembeck, Baltimore, Maryland.

Answer: Of the three proposed ruled changes considered, only one did not pass. The two that did pass go into effect on September 1. Here are the details:

1. The Board disapproved a proposal to increase the 21-inch limitation on racquet length to 21.5 inches. The waiver permitting the use of longer racquets in certain tournaments expires on August 31st and will *not* be extended. On September 1 the maximum racquet length returns to 21 inches.

2. The Board agreed to permanently change Rule 5.13(a)2 on regional tournaments. Players will be allowed to enter more than one regional tournament provided they do not enter a "championship event" (no skill designation) that same year. Note: this rule was specifically waived for all 1992 AARA regional tournaments, but now the change will become a formal rule.

3. Also approved was a new rule requiring players to wear eyeguards and use wrist thongs during practice prior to the match or between games. The new Rule 2.5(c), will state that "Approved eyeguards must be worn and wrist thongs must be used during any on-court warm-up period. The referee should give a technical warning to any person who fails to comply and assess a technical foul if that player continues to not comply after receiving such a warning."



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The principal reason the preceding rule change passed was the AARA's continuing concern for improving player safety. It was generally agreed that the likelihood of being hit during warm-up is greater than being hit during play due to the usual presence of more than one ball and decreased attention being paid to what the opponent is doing. I was surprised to learn that since the AARA's eyeguard rule was established several years ago, there has not been one claim against the AARA for any eye injury.

The Final Shot... Every so often someone asks me whether a certain brand of racquet is legal. My answer is always the same - measure it! The only way to know for sure is to put a tape measure on it and if the frame measures more than 21 inches from the butt end of the handle to the top of the head, then it's *not legal*. The point is that actual length, not the brand name, determines whether a racquet is legal or not.



RACQUETBALL ACHES & PAINS: ANKLE INJURIES

By Dr. Rhett K. Rainey

Orthopaedic Surgeon, U.S. National Racquetball Team

The foot and ankle are especially vulnerable to injury in our activity-conscious society, due mainly to the amount of demands imposed on them during sporting activity. The ankle joint is the key focal point in the transmission of body weight during participation in sports. Tremendous stresses are placed on the foot and ankle during weight-bearing activities.

Injury to the ankle joint is the most common condition encountered in the treatment of athletic injuries. Most injuries are to the soft tissues or ligaments surrounding the joint. Sprains are defined as ligamentous injuries when the joint is carried through a range of motion greater than normal, but without fracture or dislocation.

A sprain can run the gamut from mild stretching of the ligamentous fibers to complete rupture of the supporting structures about the ankle. Classification of sprains are as follows: Grade I. Mild microscopic stretching of ligamentous fibers; Grade II. Moderate or incomplete tearing of ligamentous fibers; Grade III. Severe or complete rupture of ligamentous fibers.

At the mild end of the spectrum, the joint remains stable and full recovery is expected, whereas at the extreme Grade III injuries there is likelihood of instability.

The lateral ligament complex is made up of the anterior talofibular ligament, calcaneofibular ligament, and posterior talofibular ligament. Most sprains (over 85%) involve the lateral ligament complex, as opposed to

injuries on the medial aspect of the ankle.

Deltoid or medial collateral ligament sprains are rare because these structures are considerably stronger compared to the lateral ligaments.

Ligament injuries can occur alone or in association with other injuries such as complex fractures, dislocations, tendon injuries and stress fractures. Thirteen tendons cross the ankle joint and transmit force from muscle to bone. Tendinitis is common around the ankle because there is constant motion during activity which can cause inflammatory

situations. Tendinitis may also occur secondary to direct trauma, overuse, or irritating shoe wear.

Achilles tendinitis is one of the most common injuries in sports and is caused by repeated micro trauma as seen in running and jumping activity. I have personally seen this in racquetball players who aren't used to the new high top or mid cut shoes which seems to strike the achilles tendon on every step. Rupture of the achilles tendon is also common in racquetball due to sudden starts and stops. Typically, rupture of the achilles tendon is commonly seen in the middle

aged athlete who is poorly conditioned but aggressively athletic and engages in intermittent fast starting activities.

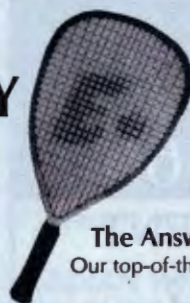
Fractures can occur with or without ligamentous injury to the ankle. Most common fractures about the ankle involve external rotation of the foot whereas ligamentous injuries occur just the opposite, with immersion stresses to the ankle. Small fragments of subchondral bone and overlying cartilage of the talar dome are referred to as osteochondral fractures. This can occur with ankle sprains and represent a more serious problem that could damage your joint



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INSIDE VIEWS

surface if not treated appropriately.

Stress fractures can occur with overuse and usually present themselves as pain that recurs after activity. Stress fractures, if left untreated, can lead to complete fracture of the bone and significant down time in training. If symptoms persist it is wise to X-ray the ankle to ensure proper early treatment.

In conclusion, ankle injuries are very common, some minor and some not. With so many structures involved with ankle injuries, it is wise to evaluate your injury early so that proper treatment and recovery is obtained.



DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

By Luke St. Onge

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

AARA Board keeps racquet length at 21"

- * Approved the 1992-93 budget.
- * Approved centralized funding concept for State Associations.
- * Approved budget for Junior Team to attend the Junior World Championships.
- * Revised the seeding procedure for Nationals using ranking points from state, regional and past nationals as a primary method in addition to regional and past performance.
- * Approved moving forward with official adoption of the Optimist High School Program on a national basis.

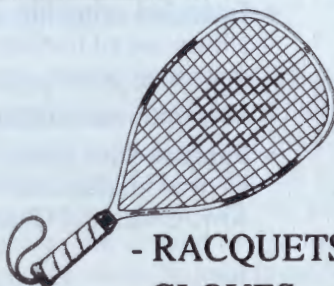
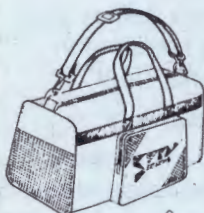
- * Moved rulebook printing to January 1, or before, based upon funding.
- * Accepted Blue Ribbon report on *RACQUETBALL Magazine* recommending that it remain member oriented, and use TENNIS as a model for future publication upgrades.
- * Established a subscription program for *RACQUETBALL Magazine* stipulating that a subscription cost at least that of a competitive license membership.
- * Adopted the pilot program for the AARA Outreach Council.
- * Reorganized the Disabled Council, with the AARA National office taking a more active part in the Council as well as stipulating AARA approval of all fund raising activities.
- * Approved the expansion of the AARA catalog merchandising items.
- * Re-appointed Keith Calkins as the AARA representative to the USOC Board of Directors for the next quadrennium.
- * Awarded the Presidential Award to Annie Muniz for 1992.
- * Awarded the Joe Sobek Award to

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Alfredo LaMont of the USOC.

- * Awarded the John Halverson Award to David Butler of Tennessee.

- * Accepted the Election Committee report, appointing new Board members Otto Dietrich, Van Dubolsky and Neil Shapiro on the basis of election returns.

- * Reviewed Personnel Manual which is to be further revised and adopted at the September Board Meeting.

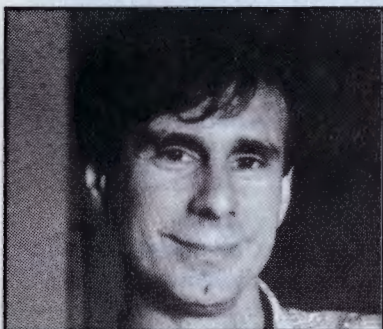
- * Reorganized the Nominated Committee to six members outside the Board with the responsibility of nominating future Board members on the Board's behalf.

- * Approved revising the AARA's long range plan including an industry summit meeting as soon as it can be arranged.

- * Did *not* approve increasing racquet length to 21½".

- * Approved regional participation and use of wrist thong and eye guards in warmups.

- * Approval of a Blue Ribbon Committee to outline the 25th Anniversary Celebration for Racquetball in 1993.



Van Dubolsky elected to AARA Board. Photo: John Foust. Otto Dietrich and Neil Shapiro are pictured elsewhere in this issue.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM ANNOUNCED

Head Coach Jim Winterton recently announced his picks to represent the U.S. at the VI World Championships in Montreal this summer. The 1992 World Championship team will be made up of Chris Cole, John Ellis and Tim Sweeney in men's singles, Doug Ganim and Eric Muller in men's doubles, Michelle Gilman, Jackie Paraiso-Gibson and Kaye Kuhfeld in women's singles, Malia Bailey and Robin Levine in women's doubles and Chip Parmelly and Gary Baker in wheelchair competition. Alternates will be Michael Bronfeld for the men and Dot Kelly for the women. The U.S. is undefeated in world competition, and will seek a sixth world title this year. Competition begins on August 13.

GEORGIA TO BID FOR '96 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

At the upcoming World Congress in Montreal, the AARA and the Georgia Racquetball Association will submit a bid for Atlanta's Club Cobb to become the site of the 1996 World Championships. With Atlanta hosting the 1996 Olympic Games, the GSRA would serve as an ideal local organizing body for the Worlds, which would be held within a few weeks of the XXVI Olympics, between July 20th and August 4th.

Sportslife's Club Cobb, located in a prestigious northwestern suburb of Atlanta, currently has eight regulation courts and might expand to as many as fourteen in the near future. All courts have white floors with glass back walls and overhead viewing. The championship court also has right wall glass with stadium seating for about 200 people, making the facility ideal for television.

NEW CANADIAN WHEELCHAIR RACQUETBALL CHAMPION ENDS SEVEN YEAR JINX!

Jake Smellie of Winnipeg, Manitoba who, not once, not twice, but *seven* times finished in second place at the Canadian National Racquetball Championships has finally ascended to the winner's spot on the podium. This 30-year-old Manitoba telephone dispatcher took the title with a convincing gold medal game victory in the Wheelchair "A" division over Stan Neufeld also of Winnipeg by scores of 11-4, 11-8 and 11-4.

Five time National Champion, Mark Cormack of New Westminster, B.C. was satisfied with his third place finish having recently returned to competitive play after an eighteen month absence from the game for medical reasons.

Continued ...

INSIDE VIEWS

"The monkey is now off my back," said Smellie, "because I've lost to Mark (Cormack) at least five or six times in the finals before this year."

"I came into these championships this year not worrying about who I might face leading up to the finals, but concentrated on winning each and every game and point as decisively as possible. The chance to play and do well against the number one player in the world, Chip Parmelly of California, earlier this year helped me keep my focus and confidence level high."

"My next goal is to take the world title away from Parmelly," said Smellie.

And he may well have his opportunity should Smellie be named to the Canadian Team that will represent his country at the World Racquetball Championships this August in Montreal, Quebec. The Canadian Team will consist of five men, five women and two wheelchair athletes. Racquetball was the first sport to fully integrate wheelchair and able bodied competition at both the national and the international level.

For more information: David Hinton, Technical Director, Racquetball Canada, Suite #303, 1600 James Naismith Drive, Gloucester, Ontario, Canada, K1B 5N4 (Telephone, 613/748-5653).



COLLEGIATE UPDATE

By Neil Shapiro

The World Intercollegiate Championships held April 2-5, in Canton, Ohio had something old, something new, something borrowed and something blue.

The "old" was the return, for the fourth consecutive time, to the finals by Jimmy Floyd and Cindy Doyle. Cindy won her championship in two well-played games and Jimmy lost to last year's champion Tim Sweeney in a thrilling tie-breaker.

The "new" was a scoring system that bothered some people, pleased others, but was generally agreed upon by everyone is in need of some revision.

The "borrowed" was the Olympic format of the Juniors and high schoolers that afforded every singles player the chance to play at least three matches. This borrowed format produced a large number of individual medals and everyone seemed pleased by it.

The "blue" was the frozen tips of our noses and fingers from the winterish weather that we encountered in Canton. Lots of participants were on their Spring break and were not pleased to see snow most mornings. But the genuine hospitality and friendliness of the Ohioans more than made up for the lack of sunshine (well, for some of us it did).

The overall team championship- and winner of the first intercollegiate trophy symbolic of being the finest intercollegiate racquetball team was won by Southwest Missouri State University. The trophy was given to acting coach of the SMSU team, Jim Trammel. The current coach, and the man responsible for recruiting most of the SMSU players, George Baker, is ill and could not be present to accept the cup.

On a personal note, I'd like to thank all those folks who voted for me to be elected to the Board of Directors of the AARA.

This summer the Intercollegiate Council (ACRA) is looking for a host site for the 1993 World Intercollegiate Championships. If you would like more information about hosting those championships and submitting a bid, please call me at 518/436-9522.

ADULT METRO REGIONAL RESULTS

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

Town & Country Racquet Club

Tournament Director: Mark Willoughby

MEN'S DIVISIONS: Open: Derek Robinson def. John Negrete; A: Alex Tinsley def. Josh Embree; B: Joe Tucker def. Mark Willoughby; C: George Wade def. Jeff Mette; D: David Clements def. Jason Hicks; 19+: Derek Robinson def. Mike Engel; 25+: Bruce Erickson def. John Negrete; 30+: David Watson def. Dave Negrete; 35+: Dave Schwent def. Herb Grigg; 40+: Herb Grigg def. Glynn Williams; 45+: Gerald Beattie def. Jim McPherson; 50+: Gerald Beattie def. Jim McPherson; 60+: Don Maxey def. Lou Cotton; 18+: Javad Aghaloo def. Brett Parker; 16+: Tom Helfrich def. Jeff Hiers; 14+: Ryan Kessler def. Richard Christ; 12+: Ryan Staten def. Andrew Tucknott.

WOMEN'S DIVISIONS: Open: Jane Greene def. Linda Moore; A: Sandy Brown def. Amy Tyler; B: Sandy Brown uncontested; C: Sharlene Knyvitt def. Betsy Lorenz; 19+: Heather Dunn uncontested; 25+: Heather Dunn def. Megan O'Malley; 30+: Jane Greene def. Linda Moore; 18+: Alicia Kinney def. Stacy Olson; 12+: Katie Gould uncontested.

STERLING, VIRGINIA

Capital Courts Racquet & Fitness

Tournament Director: Ed Remen

MEN'S DIVISIONS: Open: Dan Fowler def. Dan Uacera; A: Mike Spring def. Lars Cole; B: Scott Saunders def. Ron Cummings; C: Dan Cushing def. Richard Hahn; 19+: Dan Fowler def. Richie Benderoth; 25+: Ron Hendren def. Fred Clodfelter; 30+: Jim Daly def. Rich Gambino; 35+: Mitch Smith def. Jim Bailey; 40+: Jim Bailey def. Jerry Goodwin; 45+: Ed Remen def. Ralph Worthington; 50+: Dario Mas def. Pat Drennon; 55+: Gene Flick def. Lou Yarbrough; 60+: Joe Bogasky def. Cam Snowberger; 70+: Allen Sheppard def. Cam Snowberger; 75+: Allen Sheppard def. Jack Daly; 80+: Jack Daly uncontested.

WOMEN'S DIVISIONS: Open: Malia Bailey def. Shannon Feaster; A: Lori Thorell def. Laura Woodbury; B: Lynne Beresford def. Sharon Churchill; 19+: Michelle Wiragh def. Jennifer Hendel; 25+: Holly DesPortes def. Lori Thorell; 35+: Nancy MacFetrich def. Cindy Lundberg; 40+: Marilyn Biviano def. Linda Granbow; 45+: Jan Howard def. Jean Tull.

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

Franco's Athletic Club

Tournament Director: Brian Lowe

MEN'S DIVISIONS: Open: Mike Almerico def. David Rahn; A: Terry Jackson def. Mott Fleming; B: Mark Bloom def. Charles D. Bartolo; C: Wilbert Smith def. David Thille; D: Jeff Bayham def. Morgan Smith; 19+: David Rahn def. Jay Berger; 30+: Terry Jackson def. Larry Sharpe; 35+: Glen Juey def. Terry Wells; 45+: John Pease def. Warren Reuther; 55+: Rex Benham def. Lloyd Brandt; 65+: Simon Kleidenman uncontested; 70+: Jimmy White uncontested.

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WOMEN'S DIVISIONS: Open: Kim Allen def. Marcia Richards; A: Karen Taylor def. Sandra Maxwell; C: Jan Nick def. Ellen Cool; D: Debbi Imbicaguglio def. Daren Ladder; 30+: Marcia Richards def. Annie Muniz; 40+: Gwen Benham def. Ronnie Wetzel.

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

Metro Sport

Tournament Director: Mike Dimoff

MEN'S DIVISIONS: Open: Chris Marshall def. Clay Griffin; A: Michael Zaytoun, Jr. def. Ryan White; B: Charlie Church def. George Poriotis; C: Eric New def. John Hunter; D: Michael Hollman def. Brian Richardson; 19+: Chris Thomas def. Jim Demass; 25+: Clay Griffin def. Wayne Sweat; 30+: Pat Neel def. Bruce Bryant; 35+: Geoffrey Janovetz def. Gary Beidermann; 40+: Gary Beidermann def. Mickey Hickman; 45+: John Lacourtire def. Paul Saperstien; 50+: Glenn Allen def. Hal Lackey; 55+: Hal Lackey def. Luther Green; 65+: Jimmy Miller def. Charles Bellos; 18-: Chris Thomas def. Michael Zaytoun, Jr.; 16-: Michael Zaytoun,

Jr. def. Jason Armbrecht; 14-: Jason Payne def. Richie Smith; 12-: Corey Limehouse def. Ashley Conway; 10-: Ashley Conway def. Erick Cooper.

WOMEN'S DIVISIONS: Open: Brenda Kyzer def. Nadine Akimoto; A: Kristi Hale def. Beth Townsend; B: Jan Stelma def. Rhonda McCraw; D: Kathy Collins def. Karen Lewis; Nov: Lisa Ferguson def. Robin Conway; 19+: Debra Bryant def. Kathleen Cartland; 25+: Debra Bryant def. Nadine Akimoto; 30+: Brenda Kyzer def. Teri Horne; 40+: Stevie Armbrecht def. Dee Stribling; 18-: Kristi Hale uncontested; 16-: Kristi Hale uncontested.

BILLINGS, MONTANA

Billings Athletic Club

Tournament Dir.: Steve Pinnow

MEN'S DIVISIONS: Open: Bob Seitz def. Mike Richter; A: James Hogg def. Scott Hackley; C: Dale Butterfield def. Mike Coon; 19+: H.R. Coe def. Jeff Butterfield; 25+: James Hogg def. D. O'Malley; 30/35+: Bob Seitz def. Mike Rich-

ter; 40/45+: Bill Lawrence def. Jim Pickens; 50-70+: Joe Luckman def. Les Hudson; 16-: Ron Naramore def. Tate Elquist; 12-: Blake Silha def. Scott Johnson.

WOMEN'S DIVISIONS: Open/A: Connie Ryals def. Robin Kershner; B/C: Wendy Richards def. Sandy Silha; 25/35+: Connie Ryals def. Lori Perino; 40/45+: Charlene Luckman def. Mary Allaman; 16-: Kayla Harvey def. Marnie Shute.

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Federal Way Athletic Club

Tournament Dir.: Yvonne Calavan

MEN'S DIVISIONS: Open: Vince Kelley def. Jeff Evans; A: John Wong def. Mike Hovanec; B: Steve Stocker def. Todd Jarvis; C: David Noll def. Mark Robert; D/N: Keith VanSickle def. Timothy Wells; 19+: Bill Sutherland def. Tim Seitz; 25+: Jimmy Lowe def. Darin Randles; 30+: Dan Hardan def. Dean Sowards; 35+: Feilding Snow def. Charles Laury; 40+: Feilding Snow def. John Atwater; 45+: Dick Melhart def. Phil Mortenson; 55+: Side Williams def. Charlie Hamon; 60+: George Sherman def. George Fulgham.

WOMEN'S DIVISIONS: Open: Corinna Banks def. Gloria Eggers; A: Cindy Tipton def. Diane Covert-Troy; B: Katy (Faulhaber) Wood def. Susan Hankins; C: Roxanne Assay def. Dawn Evans; D/N: Rochelle McHugh def. Marsha Bryan; 30+: Carlahn Gayda def. Ramona Dibiasi; 35+: Gloria Eggers def. Cindy Tipton; 40+: Wanda Collins def. Melanie Pelela.

DENVER, COLORADO

Lakewood Athletic Club

Tournament Director: John Foust

MEN'S DIVISIONS: Open: Tony Jelso def. Danny Alonzi; A: Ed Callego def. Forrest Simmons; B: Craig Ericson def. Dick Beasley; C: Derrick Whittenburg def. Matthew Mares; D: Bruce Shaff def. Danny Wyrick; 19+: Danny Alonzi def. Eric Thompson; 25+: Jeff Mulligan def. Lee Beckwith; 30+: Dave Peck def. Tom Neill; 35+: Denny Southwick def. Rick Strout; 40+: Gary Mazaroff def. Jim Hiser; 45+: J.C. Strodimer def. Bruce Brookens; 50+: William Copeland def. Denton Buss; 55+: Art Johnson def. Obed Oas; 60+: Red Horton def. Paul Ryan; 65+: Halford Price def. W.B. Hildebrandt; 70+: Joe Sawbridge uncontested; 18-: James Mulcock def. Adam Anderson; 16-: Chance Mimms def. Mat Kelly; 14-: Eric Storey def. Willie Tilton; 12-: Willie Tilton def. Justin Lembright; 10-: Grant Barker def. Scott

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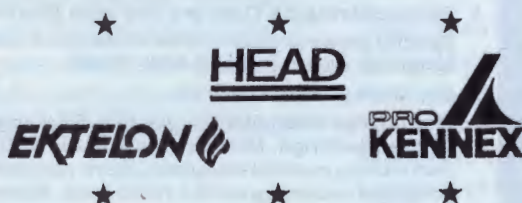
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WOMEN'S DIVISIONS: Open: Diane Adams def. Barbara Faulkenberry; A: Dee Jenkins def. Shirley Parsons; B: Liz Hietala def. Lourdes Garcia; C: Ann Mocchi def. Katherine Mendez; D: Wendy Chester def. Ariel VanPreij; 19+: Stacy Sour def. Tina Alonzi; 25+: Amy Anair def. Stacy Sour; 30+: Marianne Walsh def. Kathy Bowden; 35+: Madelon Eichhorn def. Mary Keenan; 40+: Madelon Eichhorn def. Shirley Parsons; 45+: Sue Ruhl def. Sylvia Sawyer; 50+: Sylvia Sawyer uncontested; 55+: Norma Carlisle uncontested.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

HiWay 100 Racquet & Health Club
Tournament Director: Les Dittrich

MEN'S DIVISIONS: Open: Brad McCuniff def. Rob French; A: David Haines def. Tom Mettenbrink; B: Todd Ingram def. Mike Justin; C: John Simensen def. John Countryman; 19+: Brett Beugen def. Pete McCarthy; 25+: Brad McCuniff def. Jim Frautschi; 30+: Miek Dittrich def. Greg Hayenga; 35+: Troy Stallings def. Doyle Jobe; 40+: Gary Peterson def. Tim LaVoi; 45+: Craig Olsen def. Mike Howell; 50+: Mike Howell def. Ralph Strabley; 55+: Norm Goldetsky def. Chancey Riggs; 60+: Max Fallek def. Bob Wilson; 65+: Glenn Melvey uncontested; 75+: George Drake uncontested.

WOMEN'S DIVISIONS: Open: Laura Fenton def. Linda Moore; A: Cindi Ramm def. Pam Benson-Eggerichs; B: Susan Schatz def. Michelle McCoy; C: Sue Smith def. Lynne Carey; 19+: Laura Fenton def. Tina Lamb; 30+: Ansula Liu def. Margaret Hill; 35+: Linda Moore def. Peggy Clark; 40+: Darcy Chastain def. Linda Cunningham; 45+: Marta Groess def. Nancy Butts; 50+: Nancy Butts uncontested; 55+: Kathleen Mueller uncontested; 65+: Phyllis Melvey uncontested.

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Racquetball World

Tournament Director: Jim Carson

MEN'S DIVISIONS: Open: Joey Paraiso def. Bill Sell; A: Ravi Sohomi def. O.J. Hernandez; B: Ruben Roa def. Bill Hargus; C: Guillermo Yepiz def. Mike Szedlaczek; D: Andy Schoenfeld def. Ronald Weis; Nov: Dan McGaha def. Derek Galvin; 19+: Adam Karp def. Alvarado Maldonado; 25+: John Ivers def. Robert

Hardesty; 30+: Bill Sells def. Barry Fredieo; 35+: Jerry Hilecher def. Robin Dixon; 40+: Leo Gurnoe def. Daryl Keene; 45+: Leo Gurnoe def. Tom Hanson; 50+: Luis Guerrero def. Joe Flores; 55+: Harry Keast def. Gene Stull; 60+: Vance Lerner def. Robert Cambell; 65+: Nick Sans def. Tony Duarte; 70+: Nick Sans def. Jerome Singer.

WOMEN'S DIVISIONS: Open: Chris Evon def. Kippi Thulin; A: Julie Ambrosia def. Julia Miller; B: Kathy Mellini def. Carolyn Graver; C: Diana Torres def. Tina Steele; Nov: Donna Everett def. Isabelle Thompson; 25+: Debbie Tisinger uncontested; 30+: Dee Ferreira def. Debbie Tisinger; 35+: Kippie Thulin def. Terry Hokanson; 50+: Susan Embry uncontested; 55+: Susan Embry def. Mary Walker; 60+: Betty Railey uncontested.

SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

Track and Racquet

Tournament Director: Al Seitelman

MEN'S DIVISIONS: Open: Adam Priamo def. Ellis Walthour; A: Matt Anderson def. Ubaldo Cruz; B: Paul Paterniti def. Paul Cohen; C: Kevin Wren def. John Laffan; Nov: John Lasher def. Todd Hochenberger; 19+: Scott Liparelli def. Adam Priamo; 25+: Tom Adams def. Ted Pitinaro; 30+: Joe Mootz def. Jeff Hanno; 35+: Kevin Dautrich def. Steve Schwarz; 40+: Mike Janiak def. Charlie Felton; 45+: Charlie Garfinkel def. Jim Winterton; 50+: Charlie Garfinkel def. Dick Gustafson; 55+: Ron Crawford def. Victor Sacco; 60+: Victor Sacco def. David Weinberg; 65+: Victor Sacco def. Jack Gushue.

WOMEN'S DIVISIONS: Open: Josee Moore def. Debbie Coleman; A: Donna Curry def. Andee Glansberg; B: Lori Schreck def. Kim Fish; C: T.J. Winchip def. Kelly Deeb; Nov: Kelly Deeb def. Cathy Rossi; 30+: Shelly Had-dock uncontested; 35+: Dianne Nero def. Linda Schwarz; 40+: Andee Glansberg def. Dianne Nero; 45+: Jean Heckman uncontested; 50+: Marion Crawford uncontested.

MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

Memphis Supreme Courts

Tournament Dir.: Paul Redelhelm

MEN'S DIVISIONS: Open: Andy Yambrek def. Rick Mordachini; A: Kip Parrish def. Bill McCormick; B: Mark Green def. Joey Hadley; C: Mike Warren def. Richard Meyer; D: Richard Meyer def. John White; 19+: Ronald Mount def. David Albridge; 25+: Shane Pique def. Cam Cameron; 30+: Rick Mordachini def. Greg Blair; 35+: Greg Blair def. Randy Stafford; 40+: David Nowack def. Bill Guvner; 45+: Johnny Hennen def. Paul Redelhelm; 50+: Neville Silver def. Pete Petty; 55+: Neville Silver def. Ken Karmel; 60+: Kenneth Karmel uncontested; 65+: Dale Henry uncontested.

WOMEN'S DIVISIONS: Open: Janet Miller def. Carol Bastien; B: Rita Fiamm def. Lynette Edenfield; D: Holly Schieber def. Martha Morrison; 25+: Becky Rush def. Sarah Blair; 30+: Carol Bastien def. Mary Lakatos; 35+: Drue McDade def. Lynette Edenfield.

SYOSSET, NEW YORK

Sportset

Tournament Director: Al Seitelman

MEN'S DIVISIONS: Open: Sudsy Monchik def. Jason Mannino; A: Brian Belrin def. Neil Tufano; B: Stephen Musacchia def. Brian Alleyne; C: Russ Bonanno def. Bill Engles; Nov: James Conlon def. Ken Dowd; 19+: Richard Baer def. Scott Liparelli; 30+: Thomas Adams def. Robert Haab; 35+: Ed Garabedian def. Jim Young; 40+: Bruce Shafer def. Don Crocker; 45+: Frank Ciociola def. Jim Winterton; 50+: Les Barbanell def. Charles Garfinkel; 55+: Louis Berson def. Tom Udvari; 60+: Dan Liacara def. Walter Shur.

WOMEN'S DIVISIONS: Open: Ellen Crawford def. Lorraine Galloway; B: Angela Corde def. Gloria Sullivan; C: Elyse Lensky def. Susan Silverman; Nov: Treena Muller def. Jan Krivosheiw; 25+: Lorraine Galloway def. Ilene Sofferman.

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES UPDATE

By Kevin Joyce

AARA Membership Director

STATE RANKINGS

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

FIRST QUARTER MEMBERSHIP January: 30,679, February: 30,674, March: 30,463, April: 31,152. As of May 31, 31,492 members were playing competitive racquetball.

INSIDE VIEWS

ATTENTION GOLDEN MASTERS PLAYERS

By Jo Kenyon



Racquetball competition will be included in the 1993 U.S. National Senior Sports Classic IV (USNSO IV) which will be held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana June 12-18. All first, second, and third place medal winners at 1992 state and local qualifying events will be eligible to compete in the national event. A player must enter and participate at a sanctioned site to qualify for the national competition. A list of local qualifying sites that will offer racquetball competition follows.

In addition to the qualifying rules stated above, the USNSO has granted a waiver of state qualification for those players that have placed 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in the 1992 AARA National Singles Championships and the AARA National Invitational Golden Masters Championships, held between March 1, 1992 and February 28, 1993.

If you were a medal winner in any of these events and you are planning on entering the USNSO IV Championships, you must request a verification letter from the National AARA Office which you must send to the USNSSO National Office

**Outer Forty Road, Suite N300
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If a participant qualifies in a competition held at a USNSO qualifying site, it will be the responsibility of that particular site to notify the USNSSO of those who qualified.

Let me again remind you that qualifying for the USNSO Senior Sports Classic is a once in a lifetime chance for a senior player to participate in an "Olympic" type competition.

Athletes 55 and over from all parts of the country will be displaying their skills and proficiency in over 18 different sports events. Five thousand athletes attended the 1991 Senior Games in Syracuse, and it is expected that 6,000 will compete in the Baton Rouge event. ESPN featured a segment on the 1991 Senior Sports Classic filmed during the Syracuse event and the 1993 Games promise to receive even greater exposure. Plans are moving forward in Baton Rouge for what promises to be an exciting and spectacular event. So don't miss this opportunity! Get involved and

along with your entry form to arrive no later than February 28, 1993.

Information must be mailed to:

**US National
Senior Sports
Organization
14323 South**

seek out your local Senior Games. Promote our sport the best way possible by actively participating. Ensure the future of racquetball in the USNSO Games and showcase the talent and sportsmanship that is so prevalent among our Golden Masters players. Racquetball needs to make a positive impact and impression in its first appearance in the USNSO Games. Why not be part of it?

For further information please contact John Mooney, 719/635-5396 or Jo Kenyon 305/564-0864

USNSO Qualifying Sites Offering Racquetball

July 17-26, 1992
Ohio Senior Olympics, Inc.
University of Dayton
300 College Park Dr.
Dayton, OH 45469
Dr. Mary Leonard,
513/229-4208

July 27-30, 1992
Tennessee Senior Games, Inc. *
400 S. Highland Ave.
Jackson, TN 37604
Sylvia Pinson, 901/423-0075

July 27-August 1, 1992
Pennsylvania Senior Games *
Keystone State Games, Inc.
Tom Byrens, 717/295-1632
Event site: Greystone Club,
c/o Sandy Kyner, P.O. Box 944,
Chambersburg, PA 17201

August 5-9, 1992
Idaho Senior Games
P.O. Box 2048, Boise, ID 83701
John Kirk, 208/385-2553

Continued on Page 68...

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CHAMPIONSHIP RACQUETBALL:

- _____ 1992 IRF World Championships (Montreal, Canada)
Available September 1
 - _____ 1992 Ektelon AARA Junior Olympic Championships (Salt Lake City)
Available July 30
 - _____ 1992 Ektelon AARA U.S. National Singles (Houston, Texas)
Chris Cole vs. John Ellis
 - _____ 1992 World's Best Racquetball (Highlights of Five Championships)
1990 Worlds, 1991 Intercollegiates, Singles, Doubles, and Pacific Rim
 - _____ 1992 Ektelon U.S. National High Schools (St. Louis, Missouri)
James Mulcock vs. Jason Thoerner -- Elkova Icenogle vs. Britt Engel
 - _____ 1991 Ektelon U.S. National Doubles (Phoenix, Arizona)
John Ellis/Eric Muller vs. Doug Ganim/Jeff Evans
 - _____ Michelle Gilman/Jackie Paraiso-Gibson vs. Malia Bailey/Toni Bevelock
 - _____ 1991 Penn World Challenge (Colorado Springs - SportsChannel)
Roger Harripersad (Canada) vs. Raul Torres (Mexico)
 - _____ 1991 Penn World Challenge (Colorado Springs - Prime Network)
Robin Levine vs. Sue MacTaggart -- Sherman Greenfeld vs. Brian Hawkes
 - _____ 1991 Penn U.S. National Outdoors (Gainesville, Florida)
Lauren Sheprow/Robin McBride vs. Mary Lyons/Susan Morgan Pfahler
 - _____ Brian Hawkes/Greg Freeze vs. Tim Hansen/Jason Waggoner
 - _____ 1991 Penn Pacific Rim Championships (Honolulu, Hawaii)
Michelle Gilman vs. Heather Stupp
 - _____ Tim Hansen/Jim Floyd vs. Mike Ceresia/Ross Harvey
 - _____ 1991 Ektelon U.S. Junior Olympics (Burnsville, Minnesota)
Elkova Icenogle vs. Jenny Spangenberg -- John Ellis vs. Sameer Hadid
 - _____ 1991 Ektelon U.S. National Singles (Houston - Prime Network)
Tim Sweeney vs. Egan Inoue (MO) -- Charlie Garrido vs. Brian Rankin (M19)
 - _____ 1991 Ektelon U.S. National Singles (Houston - SportsChannel)
Michelle Gilman vs. Toni Bevelock (Women's Open)
 - _____ 1991 Ektelon World Intercollegiates (Phoenix, Arizona)
Elaine Hooghe vs. Cindy Doyle -- Tim Sweeney vs. Jim Floyd
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INSIDE VIEWS



NOSTALGIA

Compiled by John Mooney

In February of 1968 Bud Muehleisen was 36 years old and Charlie Brumfield was a 20 year old law student. Both entered the Seventh Annual 4-wall Paddleball Championships using wooden paddles. Bud beat Charlie in the singles finals 21-20, 21-17, then they teamed up to win the doubles over Bob and Bernie McNamara 13-21, 21-16, 21-9. This paddleball championship was prelude to these two great athletes entering the paddlerackets, racquetball scene. Both Bud and Charlie were later inducted into the Racquetball Hall of Fame.

Charlie won the 1972 IRA National Singles and both the 1973 IRA Singles and Doubles Championships (with Steve Serot) before turning Pro and having a long and great career in pro racquetball. Muehleisen would go on to win seven national paddleball titles and 69 national racquetball championships before leaving tournament competition behind.

I recently talked to Bud Muehleisen and he is still practicing a little dentistry and coaching high school softball and "just having a good time." He said that Charlie Brumfield is a paralegal doing legal research and is playing a lot of golf with Carl Loveday. Bud also said that Steve Keeley lives in San Diego, barefoot with baggy pants and a "butch" haircut, trying to sell his collection of 1950's baseball cards so that he can make another trip around the world. He also said Steve was no longer playing racquetball. Charlie plays a little and Bud just plays for the fun of it anymore.

The 1968 4-wall paddleball tournament also included the first "Masters Division" and Fitchett and Austin from Green Bay defeated Carl Loveday & Dr. Kim Hill of San Diego 21-19, 21-17 for the first Masters title. The masters division was patterned after the Handball Nationals and evolved into the first Masters Racquetball Championships held as part of the first International Racquetball Association National Championships in St. Louis in April of 1969.

During the convention meeting held on April 26, 1969 the name of the IPRA (International Paddle Racquets Association) was changed to the IRA (International Racquetball Association). This was done to alter the

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impression that racquetball was played with a wooden paddle.

The Masters division at the 1969 IRA National Championships was won by 47 year old Marlowe Phillips when he defeated Chicago's Jim DiVito 21-11, 21-10. Marlowe then teamed with Milt Harris to win the Masters doubles against Joe Zelson and Ed Foster, 21-16, 16-21, 21-19.

Bud Muehleisen defeated Charlie Brumfield in the Open Singles of this tournament just two weeks after Charlie dethroned Dr. Bud at the 8th annual 4-wall paddleball tournament, held in Ames, Iowa.

In April of 1975 Victor Neiderhoffer shocked Marty Hogan in the U.S. National Singles Championships, held in Las Vegas. In a five month period, Vic had won everything there was to win in the world of squash. He announced that, even though he had not played racquetball, he was entering the Nationals and would win it.

This statement of course bristled the hairs on the necks

of players like Brumfield, Schmidtke, Keeley, Serot, Strandemo and Hogan. Hogan was 17 years old and still six months away from his first Pro win, but on a roll. He was winning every amateur event he entered. His on-court antics left a lot to be desired, he ranted, raved, belittled and baited all his opponents, but no one doubted his shotmaking ability, power and control.

In what ended up to be one of the greatest matches of all time

-- with thousands of illegally bet dollars at risk -- the match began. With Marty yelling and screaming after every point he took a 10 to 0 lead. Screaming at Vic that he was going to hold him under 10, the match continued. Vic's shots were "up" as he was used to the telltale board in squash, but his squash passing shots were starting to give Marty trouble and he was able to score 14 before Marty closed out the first game.

Continued ...



Dr. Bud Muehleisen (left) and Charlie Brumfield.

CONTINUED...

The second game started off just like the first but the passing shots by Neiderhoffer were holding him in the game and it seemed that he was starting to bring the ball down to the bottom board more often. Vic won the second game setting the stage for the 21 point tiebreaker. "Hogan was in a frenzy," said Neiderhoffer, and was putting a lot of pressure on himself. By the middle of the game two, Neiderhoffer's serve was starting to be more effective and his kill shot was looking a lot better.

Two hours and 15 minutes later, it was 19 all in the third game, then 20-20 with Vic serving. He served an overhand Z serve which Marty blasted past Vic. Vic lunged at the ball, hit it into the back wall and the ball went to the side wall and slid down the front wall for match point. Neiderhoffer lost in the next round to Ron Rubenstein and didn't play racquetball again until 1978 when he tried a brief comeback. He had a severe ankle sprain and increased business obligations, so decided hang up his racquet. As most of you know Marty Hogan went on to become one of the greatest racquetball players to play the game.

Correction to the last nostalgia article... the first "Gut Strung" Racquetball Championships were held in Milwaukee, not Madison, Wisconsin. Bill Schultz was the winner of that tournament and he was from Madison.

SENIOR GAMES...From Page 64

August 6-8, 1992

Wyoming Senior Games
1000 Douglas Highway
Gillette, WY 82716
Bonnie Fitch, 307/682-7406

August 13-16, 1992

Rocky Mountain Senior Games
Greeley Sr. Ctr., 1010 6th Street
Greeley, CO 80631
Jim Riesberg, 303/350-9439

August 21-23, 1992

Nebraska State Senior Olympics
P.O. Box 607
Kearney, NE 68847
Roger Jasnoch, 800/227-8340,
800/652-9435 (in state)

September 10-12, 1992

South Dakota Senior Games
700 Governors Dr., Pierre, SD
57501 -- Jaci Casanova-Keller,
605/773-3656

September 12-19, 1992

Bay Area Senior Games
P.O. Box 10385
Oakland, CA 94610
Robert Brown, 510/452-5577

September 16, 1992

Green Mountain Sr. Games *
Rt. 1, Box 93, Weston, VT 05161
Ardis Smith, 802/824-6521

September 23-27, 1992

Oklahoma Senior Olympics
Parks & Rec. -- 707 S. Houston,
Suite 201, Tulsa, OK 74127
Craig Thompson, 918/596-7852
Event site: Thornton YMCA,
5002 S. Fulton, Tulsa, OK 74135

September 24-27, 1992

Illinois Senior Olympics
1415 N. Grand Ave., East

Springfield, IL 62702
Annette Fuchs, 217/789-2284

October 1-4, 1992

North Carolina Senior Games *
P.O. Box 33590
Raleigh, NC 27363
Margot Raynor, 919/851-5456

October 1-3, 1992

Georgia Golden Olympics
878 Peachtree Street, NE #102
Atlanta, GA 30309
Vicki Pilgrim, 404/894-4451

October 7-10, 1992

October 14-17, 1992
South Mississippi Senior Sports
Classic * 1800 Beach Drive
Gulfport, MS 39507
Donald Cross, 601/896-8469

October 8-10, 1992

Maryland Senior Olympics *
Towson State University
Baltimore, MD 21204
Dr. Robert Zeigler, 301/830-3163

October 19-26, 1992

Louisiana Sr. Olympic Games *
P.O. Box 14748
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-4748
Jennifer Taylor, 504/925-1748

February 93

Arizona Senior Olympics
1202 N. 3rd Street
Phoenix, AZ 85004
Irene Stillwell, 602-495-5490

February 21-March 1 93

California Senior Olympics
480 So. Sunrise
Palm Springs, CA 92262
Ben Green 619-323-5689

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WPRA ... From Page 34

Sue MacTaggart, Carol McFetridge, Josee Grandmaitre, and regular tour players Cathy Nichols and Julie Dechene, who represented Canada's strength in the sport.

In the round of 32, all of the top seeded players advanced but not without a struggle. Toni Bevelock had her hands full with Carol McFetridge, dropping the first game 9-11 but coming back to win the next three, and Cindy Doyle pushed Kaye Kuhfeld to four games.

The round of 16 has held surprises all season and this tournament was no exception. Dee Ferreira-Worth gave her strongest showing of the season by taking Jackie Paraiso-Gibson to four games and nearly forcing a fifth. Ellen Crawford almost pulled the upset of the tournament against Toni Bevelock. After losing the first game, Crawford came back to dominate Bevelock with an excellent serve and shoot strategy that seemed to leave Toni a bit stunned, but her experience was evident as she pulled herself together to come back and win the next two games 11-2 and 11-2.

The most exciting match-up in the 16s was between Lynne Coburn and Marci Drexler. Both are hard hitting players and rallies were fast and furious. Drexler's victory was a series of come-backs. Down two games to none, Drexler began to drive serves cross court to Coburn's forehand, forcing weak returns and earning the occasional ace. In the fifth game, Coburn again held the lead at 6-2 and at 9-6. She skipped a front court pinch attempt that would have given her match point, which was all the break Drexler needed to finish the game 11-9.

The quarterfinals provided the anxiously awaited match-up between the current #1 ranked player Jackie Paraiso Gibson and former #1 Michelle Gilman. Gilman came out strong in game one and took an early lead 7-4. In an extended rally, Paraiso-Gibson hit a pass down the right side wall, Gilman lunged to hit it into the back wall and visibly pulled up in pain. Paraiso-Gibson kept Gilman off balance by alternating off-speed

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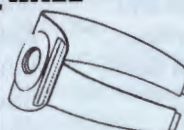
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CONTINUED ...

drive serves to the right side with hard Zs to the left and then passing Gilman to the right side in the rallies to take the first game. Paraiso-Gibson totally dominated game two by mixing up the serve and pinching to end the rally. In game three, Gilman staged a come-back with the help of some unforced errors by Paraiso-Gibson. After a time-out, Paraiso-Gibson settled down and finished the game to win the match in three.

The match between Toni Bevelock and Marcy Lynch held potential since both players have enjoyed their best seasons on the tour. The very first rally of game one was a marathon that set the tone. The points were well played and earned. Lynch had the lead at 10-8 and Bevelock hit an overhead from a ceiling ball that rolled out. She served out the next three points and won the first game 11-10. Bevelock took the second and third games and seemed to catch the service rhythm that made her a dominant force all weekend.

Dottie Kelly and Marci Drexler fought to a tiebreaker before Kelly came away with the win 11-8 in the fifth game. In the first four games it looked as if Kelly's plan was simply to pass, but in game five she changed her strategy to pinch and kill.

Between Kaye Kuhfeld and Malia Bailey, the crowd was treated to another five game match. In games one and two Kuhfeld was serving well and

executing her shots with pinpoint accuracy. In game three, Bailey began to successfully pass Kuhfeld to take games three and four. By the fifth game, Bailey was playing with the confidence Kuhfeld seemed to have in the first two games and took the match 11-3.

The first semifinal was between Dottie Kelly and Malia Bailey. Kelly took the early lead in game one, but at 10-2, Bailey staged a comeback. She started serving backhand drives to Kelly's forehand and tied the score at 10-10. Serving at 10-10, Bailey skipped a set-up. Kelly took the serve and the first game 11-10. It was Kelly who dominated the second game, 11-6. Bailey started game three with an early 5-1 lead, only to see Kelly match her 5-5. Bailey was killing the ball off Kelly's left up shots to win 11-6. The fourth game could have gone either way. Bailey started to use the pinch to end the rallies tying the score at 7-7, then 8-8. Kelly looked a little nervous but took a time-out and settled down enough to serve her way to an 11-8 victory and her first trip to the finals.

Toni Bevelock and Jackie Paraiso-Gibson met in the other semifinal. Paraiso-Gibson won the first game 11-7, then games two and three went to Bevelock. Paraiso-Gibson was extending the rallies but not creating any offense. In game four Paraiso-Gibson switched to offense and began driving the ball instead of popping retrievals to the ceiling. She won 11-5.

In game five, Bevelock dominated the rallies, the game, and the score in an 11-3 win.

The finals proved to be an exciting pairing since neither player had ever won a pro stop and each had defeated the other in competition. Kelly jumped to a 10-6 lead before Bevelock got the serve and pulled out the game 11-10. In game two, Kelly either skipped the return of serve or caught the side wall on down the line attempts, leaving Bevelock with easy set-ups. In game three, Kelly took the time to make her serves more precise and won several points by pinching the third shot off a weak service return. Down 4-1, Bevelock battled back and Kelly's focus seemed to stray, giving Bevelock the lead at 6-5 on unforced errors. Kelly still managed to pull out game three 11-6, even without a consistent first serve.

Game four was a battle of wills. Bevelock sensed the win but Kelly had a plan that took her to a 6-3 lead. Bevelock hung in through several side-outs where she scored only a point or two, then started moving the serve around well, alternating jam serves with drives to Kelly's backhand. Kelly started to look a little tentative and Bevelock tied the score at 7-7, then took an 8-7 lead. Kelly needed a time-out, which she took at 7-9, then got the serve back but failed to score. Bevelock served back to back jam serves for points 10 and 11 and her first pro tour victory.

THE CLUB RACQUET

AARA CLUB RECREATIONAL PROGRAM NEWS

Nearly 100 clubs have now taken advantage of the AARA Recreational Club Membership Program, and offered some 2500 of their members the benefit of a recreational membership and subscription to *RACQUETBALL Magazine* for a low \$3.00 per person fee.

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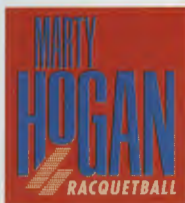


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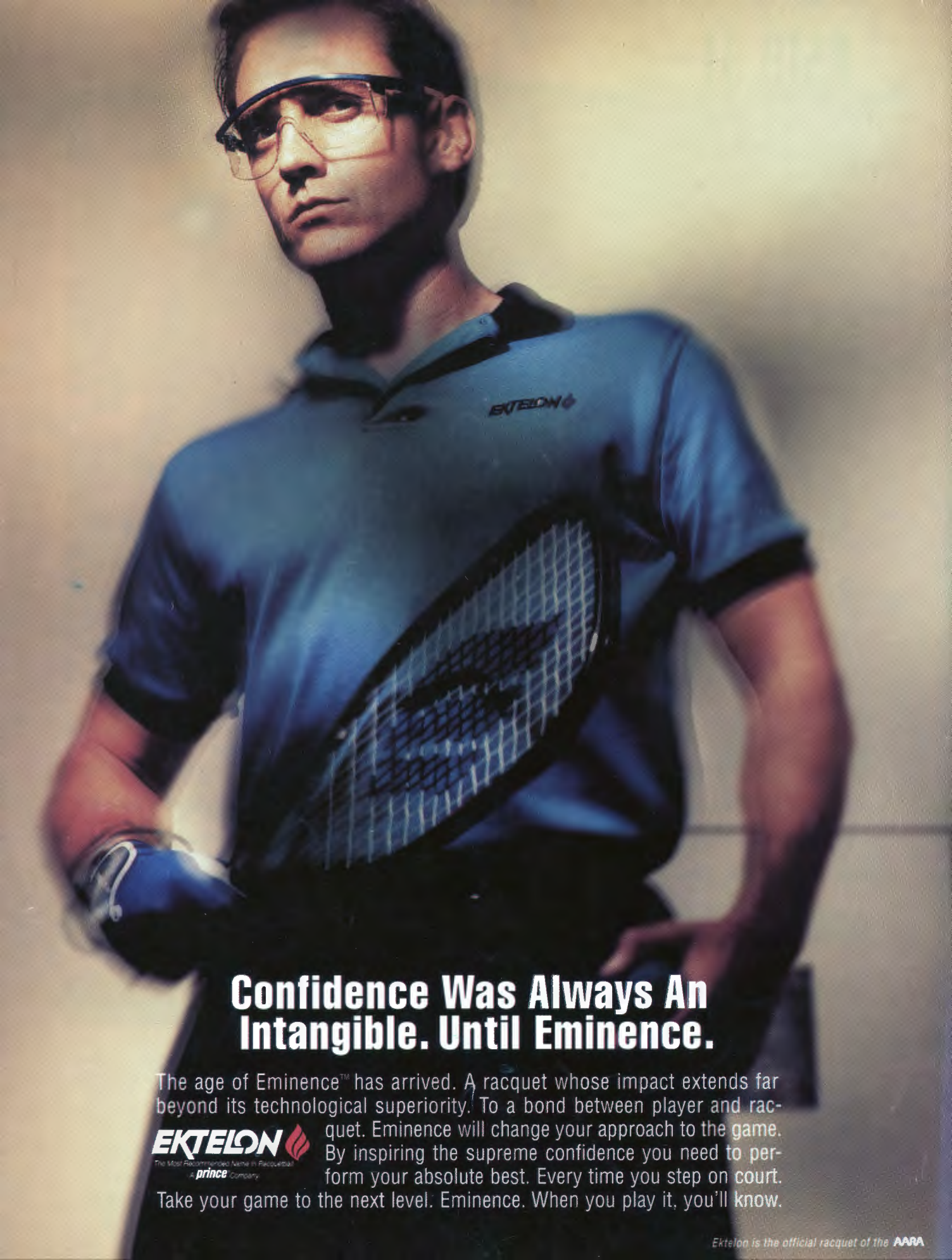
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