

National Racquetball®

Vol. 9 No. 10
October 1980
\$1.50

RACQUETBALL POSTERS

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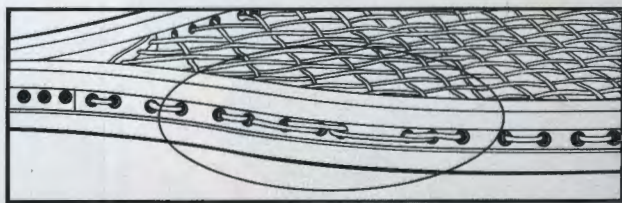
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On the Cover . . .

Northwestern University's Laura Aronberg, a senior majoring in communications, and her University of Wisconsin badger mascot display the latest way to paper the walls of a college dorm or apartment. To learn where to get posters and how they're created turn to page 16.

— Arthur Shay photo

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Opinions

From Bob Kendler



Should We Separate Amateur and Pro Nationals?

Lord knows we have our hands full at every National Championship tournament. Crowds, players, press, owners, members and sponsors—all present varying problems that require the most intricate handling. Apparently we have done well since the sponsors' budgets have expanded considerably and club owners book tour stops three years in advance. We think we are to blame for this very wholesome condition of the racquetball market and it would be easy to rest on our laurels.

That's the last thing we plan to do.

Now we think the time has come for the Amateur to take his Place in the Sun. That means just one thing. An Amateur National Championship—one huge tournament—FOR the Amateur, OF the Amateur and BY the Amateur. The spotlight, the glass court, the prime time, the crowds, the plaudits and all the glow that goes with being the best of the breed would belong to the amateur alone.

So with your blessing . . . AND ONLY WITH YOUR BLESSING . . . we would like to separate the pros and the amateurs. Two separate events. Two different cities. Two different dates. Two impressive shows instead of one.

Now we also think the time has come for the pro to take his Place in the Sun. That means just one thing. A Professional National Championship—one huge tournament—FOR the Pros, OF the Pros and BY the Pros. They'll bring a different audience—the general public, no less.

Like the amateurs the pros have created their own market. The regard and respect they enjoy today was hard earned and well deserved. We must admit that the pros play for pay. And rightly so. By the same token it is a fact of life that the amateurs play for glory, for the Olympic ideal that means something above and beyond material rewards. We are committed to the

achievement of our amateurs' glory and the first step in that direction, we think, is A Tournament of Their Own.

There was no doubt in Las Vegas last year that the gallery was sold out for the pro final—to amateur players. Amateurs paid to see pros and the only conclusion we could arrive at was that our best customer was the amateur player. We think giving amateurs their own tournament will give them the recognition they deserve.

What do you think?

Do you believe we can run a successful amateur tournament without the pros? Do you believe the pros can run a successful professional tournament without the amateurs? We have all been together for so long, and we have supported each other for so long, and we have been pals for so long. Can we survive separately? We came from the same beginning, and you know what? This is the end of the beginning.

Come what may, it will never be the same. We won't always have good old Charlie Brumfield holding court in his professorial way. We won't always have Marty Hogan belching brim stone and hell fire to all who raise his ire. We won't always have Dave Peck and Mike Yellen conspiring to spread the wealth. We'll just have racquetball at its professional best—for money—and racquetball at its amateur best—for the glory.

Your advice is important to us because things are happening. We've talked about TV many times and we feel as you do—when we see it, we'll believe it. But now Cable TV and Public TV have made the first overtures to us and even Network TV has made some meaningful inquiries.

It would be presumptuous of us to lead you to believe this is the year of our network debut. This we can say however—if this is the year of our network debut, racquetball will never be the same. Big names and big prizes won't be able to get out of each other's way. Center stage will belong to racquetball and not to tennis. Like a huge tidal wave the game our Association is responsible for will sweep across the shores of every land. Its growth and acceptance will make sports history, and for this—we better get ready!

So unless you can give us some convincing reasons why we shouldn't be ready for the inevitable, we are going to begin to plan for our transition into the big time. Running separate National Tournaments is just the first step and only a very small part of the whole.

Frankly every tournament commitment makes our job more involved. But we don't mind if the idea of split Nationals puts us

KILL

new!

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The Official USRA Ball

MEET THE ASSASSIN

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into the big leagues. If it opens the way for a hundred Hogans, Brumfields, Yellens and Pecks, we will have fulfilled our destiny.

Two things you can do for me. Write what you honestly feel we should do and permit me to publish your reply.

Evie & Bob Kendler

Evie and Bob Kendler

Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all the ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.
Proverbs 3:5, 6

From the National Commissioner



Juniors Best in Five Years

This year our National Juniors Championships were held at the Court Club in Indianapolis, a very successful 14 court club that's been in operation for three years with a record of almost one hundred percent occupancy. A successful operation like this occurs mostly because of proper management, and in this case the owners are fortunate to have Lady Dillman, who's done a super job managing the business end of the operation and overseeing a dedicated staff. That includes Program Director Camille McCarthy, who's won her share of titles at our USRA tournaments and has traveled with our NRC pro tour.

So here we had the ideal situation for a National Juniors. We had 225 boys and girls from eight to 17 years, representing almost every state, all enjoying the marvelous hospitality of Camille and Lady.

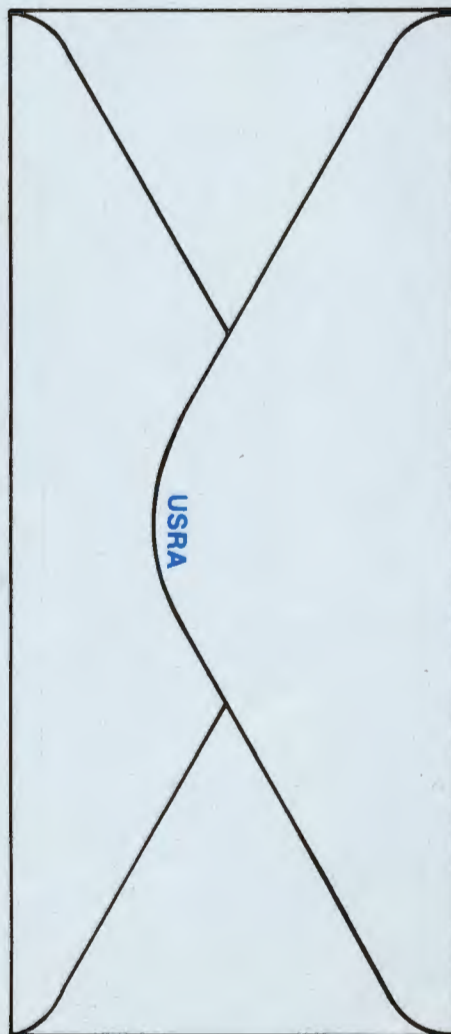
In watching the boys and girls playing their matches I was happy to see how much their performance had improved and how well behaved they were. The dedication of the Court Club staff seemed to rub off on all of the players, the many parents who attended and the other spectators.

This most successful tournament was gratifying to me, as if all were saying "Thanks, Joe, for starting the National Juniors five years ago."

Joe Ardito

Joe Ardito

From our Readers



National Juniors Thanks

Dear Joe Ardito, Dan Bertolucci and Bob Keenan:

Once again our sincere thanks to all of you who worked so hard to give us a really great Junior National tournament. Your efforts to see that everyone had a very good time are most appreciated.

The tournament — as always — was well run. The Court Club management and staff was most cordial and hospitable and made our week in Indianapolis a very pleasant one.

Looking forward to the 1981 Junior Nationals.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Snyder
Arvada, CO

Racquetball Scholarships

Dear Editor:

I have been playing racquetball for almost two years. It is no longer recreational for me, but a serious sport. I have been setting goals of playing in many tournaments across the country. Being 14, the prospect of college has come into view, and I am very interested in racquetball scholarships. If there are any colleges that offer racquetball scholarships, I would greatly appreciate you sending me their names and addresses.

Sean Gannon
Charleston, WV

Memphis State is one school that now offers racquetball scholarships, but by the time you're ready for college there might be many schools willing to help pay for your education so you'll play racquetball for their teams. The other route to college scholarships is by winning the 17 and under National Juniors or the Intercollegiate Nationals, both sponsored by the USRA. ED

Interior Designer Is Kathy Doyle

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the staff and owners of the Territorial Courthouse Aerobic Fitness Center, I would like to thank you for featuring our operation in your Court Clubs article (July 1980). Being recognized in your magazine is quite an honor and we greatly appreciate all the work of Carol Brusslan in coordinating the effort.

Just for the record I would like to make one correction. Our Interior Designer was Kathy Doyle of Sundancer Design Co. of Prescott and not the individual credited

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This new Ektelon racquet blends flexible fiberglass fibers and stiffer lighter-weight graphite in a super-tough nylon matrix.

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in the article. Mrs. Doyle was responsible for the research, selection and purchase of the furniture, floor and wall coverings, lighting fixtures and decorator items. The results can only be described as outstanding. Sundancer Design Co. carried out our 'Turn of the Century' motif to the finest detail. Our finished product is truly a credit to Mrs. Doyle.

Thank you again for the article.

Kathryn N. Edwards
Prescott, AZ

Bobby Bible's Winners

Dear Bob:

Each year at the USRA Nationals the players are asked to recognize those players displaying consistent good sportsmanship from National to National. We look for the players who (1) maintain perspective, win or lose, realizing it is a blessing just to be healthy and able to play such a fun sport, (2) try to turn the cheek on *questionable* calls while heaping coals of good calls onto opponent's head and (3) state true calls they do see.

1980 pro winner is David Peck, second is Larry Myers and third is Bruce (no cuss, smoke, drink, drugs nor gamble) Christianson (I have changed the spelling from Christensen for this purpose.)

1980 amateur winner is Ed Andrews out of Spring Valley in San Diego, a finalist in the Open singles, exhibiting superb control of tongue while getting a lesson from Bret Harnett on how to play "avoidable hinder" Vegas glass. Second goes to Jim Wirkus, semi-finalist in singles and doubles, and third goes to his brother and doubles partner Joe Wirkus, who took second to Pete Wright in the new 30-35 Singles division.

Winners receive personal travel Bibles, their name is engraved on a permanent trophy and a letter of commendation is sent to good ol' mom and dad.

Past Christian Attitude Award Winners are 1975 Pro Steve Keeley, Am. Jay Jones; 1976 Pro Craig McCoy, Am. Gary Lusk; 1977 Pro Sarah Green, Am. Gordon Kelly; 1978 Pro Peggy Steding, Am. Jeff Bowman and 1979 Pro Mike Yellen, Am. Keith Dunlap.

Here's a final "Amen" to your consistent Bible verse at the end of your column each issue.

Bobby Bible
Long Beach, CA

Baldehyrou Is President

Dear Sir:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Fédération Française de Racquetball, which I represent as *délégué international*.

All of us thoroughly enjoy reading your magazine, which is most informative, and we read with great interest your feature entitled "Making Them Try Harder," which talked about racquetball in Europe and which was featured in your March 1980 issue.

In that magazine you talked about the President of the French Racquetball Federation being a Daniel Roveri and, on this point, I would like to state that the president of the Federation is Raymond Baldehyrou, who is an internationally eminent boxing referee, who has refereed some of Muhammad Ali's fights and the Sugar Ray Leonard/Roberto Duran World Championship Fight at the Olympic Stadium here in Montreal, Canada.

The French Racquetball Federation was formed as a result of a visit to Montreal of two French tennis buffs, who immediately fell in love with the game and returned to form the Federation with Mr. Baldehyrou.

We are presently looking into the possibility of setting up some racquetball courts in conjunction with several new squash developments which are being built in the Paris area and will certainly look forward to keeping you informed in that regard.

George F. Lengvari
Montreal, Quebec

Harmful

Dear Mr. Kendler:

I thought the tone of Tom Reinman's story on the Nationals in the August issue of *National Racquetball* was harmful to our sport.

Richard Peck
Coral Springs, FL

Humorous

Dear Mr. Kendler:

I would like to congratulate Tom Reinman on the terrific article on the 1980 Nationals. It gave all the information on the tourney with a fine humorous flair.

Jim Podraza
South Holland, IL

Here's Camille

Dear Carol:

You goofed on my picture in the magazine! You owe me one.

Camille McCarthy
Indianapolis



Sorry we didn't recognize you playing against Sue Carow in a story in the August issue. ED

Future Camper

Dear Sirs:

I am looking for information on racquetball camps for next summer.

Theresa Hanson
Bellevue, NE

Each year National Racquetball lets readers know about upcoming racquetball camps. Check us in the spring, and that will give you time to sign up for camp next summer. There is a winter racquetball camp in Ft. Lauderdale, which you can learn about in an ad in this issue. ED



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We can make a difference in your game. AMF Head

Shots that Stick to the Wall

by Ivan Fuldauer



Racquetball has become B.S.O.C. (Big Sport On Campus) from Delaware, Vermont and Connecticut on the east coast, through the southland, midwest and mountain states, to California, Oregon and Washington.

Not only is racquetball big on court, it's getting even bigger in dormitories and off campus housing. It's not that collegians are looking for another way to break into the *Guinness Book of Records* by attempting to play the game in a 12 by 16 room. Beds and desks removed, of course. It's simply that posters of rock groups, Farah Fawcett, Donny and Marie and Cheryl Tiegs are passé. Sports personalities are number one now.

According to Bob Hennkens, president of Marketcom, Inc., the St. Louis firm that produces and distributes the vast majority of sports posters, poster sales of the top baseball, basketball, football, racquetball and tennis stars account for the largest slice of poster sales nationally.

"Sales of professional sports celebrity posters just took off about a year ago," Hennkens reports. *"Those of Marty Hogan and Charlie Brumfield, which we distribute through Sports Illustrated, do very well. Hogan has done especially well since he began appearing on television."*

Marketcom distributes sports posters through magazines, as well as book, stationery and sporting goods stores. *"Our biggest season is autumn. Posters are to college students what wallpaper is to an interior designer,"* he insists. *"Students like to identify with the top stars of their favorite sport. And now that racquetball has become so popular on campus, racquetball poster sales have zoomed."*



Racquetball Posters Are Papering College Rooms



Racquetball's Tough

Hennkens says "basketball and racquetball are the two toughest sports to photograph. First you're working indoors and that restricts the speed at which photographers can shoot. You cannot use flash under game conditions. Most racquetball posters, though taken of action, are staged setups. Posters are more than likely to be used as part of a point-of-purchase marketing program rather than simply as a wall display at a racquetball club, sporting goods store or someone's dorm room."

The difficulty of shooting racquetball posters was pointed up by *National Racquetball* photographer Arthur Shay, who probably holds the record for putting the most racquetball action on film. Shay's assignment was to shoot pictures of Jannell Marriott and Kathy Williams for a possible poster. Shay, who has traveled the world as a photographer for *Life*, *Sports Illustrated*, *Time* and a plethora of other magazines and corporate clients, utilized high speed strobe lights positioned in the balcony overlooking the court. He was thus able to take fast action photos of Marriott and Williams without too much staging.

Using a radio control procedure Shay shot the balcony lights off without a single wire between him and the lights. Each time he clicked his Nikon shutter it sent a radio impulse to the strobe lights that said "shoot." In the time—1/125th of a second—it took for his shutter to open and close, he was able to get a series of color pictures suitable for dozens of posters as well as for publicity and advertising purposes.

—Lauren Shay photo



Working with both a two and a quarter inch square camera as well as with a 35mm SLR, Shay had his subjects hit a series of shots straight over his sprawled body. Once that action had been completed, Shay had his assistant throw a ball at the players in an effort to simulate a shot ricocheting off the front wall. Finally Shay let Marriott and Williams hit at will, as hard as they could, using the back wall as the front wall so they faced his balcony lights. Working fast, Shay, within an hour, took more than 100 color shots of the court action.

"It's another thing shooting matches," Shay says. "You're right at the threshold of both film and action. Marty Hogan has begun to hit so hard, for example, that I've had to double my shutter speed from a 250th to a 500th to stop the action. That really presents problems with lighting. Though it's not discernable to the naked eye, racquetball court lights flicker. If you shoot faster than a 250th, you run the risk of streaking the negative. That results in an unusable print. I always get to the club where the NRC matches are scheduled well in advance of the first competition. That way I can light the back half of the court, making it suitable for fast action photography."

Another top sports photographer, John Kelly, who also does fashion layouts for *Harper's Bazaar*, but who prefers shooting NBA basketball, NFL football, Wimbledon tennis, and skiing in Aspen, CO his home, finds racquetball the most difficult sport there is because "it's almost impossible to shoot. For a photographer the courts usually have the worst lighting. Racquetball's not a photographer's sport."

—Ivan Fuldauer photo



"It would be great if racquetball tournament promoters would allow photographers to put strobes in the ceiling to overpower the natural court light. It's not a real problem with black and white. Once you get into color, though, the problems seem to multiply. You have to use corrective filters to do away with the greenish cast of the unfiltered color photos. Shooting through glass doesn't help either."

Talent Spotters

"Even though racquetball is a tough sport to shoot, the game is hyped by the intensity of the audience. Almost everyone is a player, unlike most other sports where spectators are merely watchers, not doers. Racquetball fans are knowledgeable and they recognize talent."

Kelly was hired by Marketcom to photograph several of Leach's leading contract players, including Hogan and Brumfield. Hogan's and Brumfield's posters are marketed through Sports Illustrated "Superstar 'Signature'" series, which includes Steve Garvey, Reggie Jackson, Pete Rose, Julius Erving, Artis Gilmore, George Gervin, Jim Zorn, Earl

Janell Marriott shoots straight at Art Shay and his son, Steve, for a series of high-action shots taken during a poster photo session.

Charlie Brumfield



Marty Hogan



Campbell, Tony Dorsett, Walter Payton, Franco Harris, Hale Irwin, Nancy Lopez, Laura Baugh, Jimmy Connors, Bjorn Borg, Rosie Casals, Billie Jean King, Virginia Wade, Martina Navratilova, Guillermo Vilas and John McEnroe.

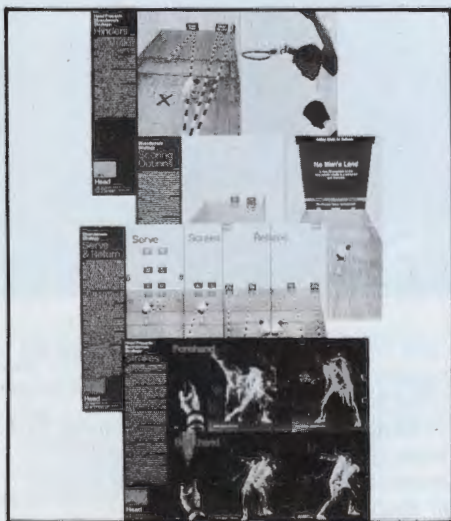
For the Leach shooting session, Kelly arrived at the court club at 6 a.m., three hours before the photography was scheduled. Kelly's principal concern was lighting.

"Leach," he says, "is very strong on product and we had to get clean shots. No blurred racquets. Everything in absolute focus."

To accomplish this Kelly used several thousand dollars worth of equipment, including cameras—everything from a Polaroid to multiple 35mm SLRs and a two and a quarter by two and a quarter Hasselblad—strobe lights, umbrellas and the other paraphernalia photographers love to work with.

Kelly shot Polaroids of every player to be posterized to ensure there were no *"hot spots"* to blemish the final photograph. If necessary he adjusted the lighting. Once everything was ready to go, Kelly, like Shay, asked the players to shoot over his head as he sprawled in front of them. Toward the end of each of the seven shooting sessions, the players hit away at will. Working rapidly Kelly was able to shoot about 50 shots of each player in the 15 to 20 minutes devoted to action photography.

It was an all day session, Kelly says. *"The only time I came up for air was when I took a few minutes off for a lunch break. Chocolate chip cookies and fruit juice. Then back to work. Everyone was very cooperative. If they hadn't been, it could have been a very long day."*



Head offers four instructional posters.

Where to Get Racquetball Posters

Leach Industries, 10251 Scripps Ranch Blvd., San Diego, CA 92131. Posters of Steve Keeley, Steve Serot, Ben Koltun, Craig McCoy and Karin Walton are available in limited quantities at no charge.

Sports Illustrated, c/o Marketcom, Lock Box 2257, Hampton Bank, 4301 Hampton Ave., St. Louis MO 63109. Marty Hogan and Charlie Brumfield posters cost \$3 each or three for \$8.50. Check should be payable to Sports Illustrated.

Ektelon, c/o Armen Keteyian, The Phillips Organisation, 2206 Balboa Ave., San Diego, CA 92109. Check on availability of posters of Ektelon-sponsored players.

Wilson Sporting Goods, Check with your local club for Shannon Wright and Davey Bledsoe posters, available in limited numbers at racquetball centers around the country.

AMF Head Racquetball, 4801 N. 63rd St., Boulder, CO 80301. Free posters are available of Steve Strandemo, Doug Cohen, amateur players in action, *"The Racquetball Girl,"* scenes from the *Off the Wall* film and a four part instructional series covering strokes, hinders, serves and scoring options.



Stamina for Big League Musicians

Racquetball Conditions Chicago Symphony Players

Don't tell Sir Georg Solti that Ray Still, his star oboe soloist, has found a new way to unwind from the tensions of playing in the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. If Solti could envision Still smashing and sweating on a racquetball court, persuing perfection with his customary gusto, it probably would give the famed maestro a heavy dose of Wagnerian sighs.

"But he gets a lot more exercise than we players do," Still notes with a laugh. "That's probably why symphony conductors tend to be very long-lived. Our work, though, is mostly sedentary, so musicians must constantly fight to keep in shape."



by Peter Gorner

"The Chicago Symphony is filled with golf and tennis addicts—even the elder statesmen have been playing golf all their lives. Many live near the Ravinia Festival in Highland Park, the orchestra's north suburban summer home, and they regularly ride their bikes to work."

These days, though, a lot of Ray Still's colleagues are getting into racquetball.



Ray Still,
oboe



Gail Williams,
French horn



Louise Dixon,
flute



Larry Combs,
clarinet

"Time is often a premium for us, and you can condense a solid workout into an hour," he says. "You pack more fun into a session, too, because the space is small, and you don't have to spend time chasing the ball. I'm just a beginner, though—I've only been playing less than a year, and still am trying to learn the moves. But I'm very enthusiastic about the game."

At age 60 Ray Still might seem a bit up in years to be taking up such a strenuous sport—the average racquetball player is in his late 20s—but big league classical musicians must be superb athletes as well as artists. They call on their stamina and coordination much the same way the ballet dancers do. And Still has filled his solo hotseat with the Chicago Symphony for 27 years.

Born in Ellwood, IN he was raised in Los Angeles, and worked his way through New York's Juilliard School of Music by working as a short order cook and driving

a tow truck. He chose the latter job because he could practice oboe in the cab in between calls.

Once hooked by the beauty and nobility of the oboe, though, he faced an uncertain future. Top playing jobs always have been few, and competition fierce. There only are five major symphony orchestras in America (in Chicago, New York, Cleveland, Boston and Philadelphia), and while each has four oboe players, only one sits in the first chair.

Conductors pick that player carefully, too, because the solo oboe helps determine the character of the entire ensemble. If the strings of a symphony orchestra comprise its heart, then the oboe is its soul. Of all the woodwinds (flutes, oboes, clarinets and bassoons), the oboe is most prominently displayed, with its plaintive tone easily penetrating the orchestral fabric. Music buffs, in fact, often can identify an orchestra just by hearing the first oboist.

Ray Still, in the center of this photo, has been playing solos with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra for 27 years.

An Ill Wind

But the oboe is a fickle beauty—*"it's notorious in music as the 'ill wind that nobody blows good',"* Still notes, grinning. It requires phenomenal breath control and an exceptionally cool head.

"The mechanism of the horn is very delicate," Still says. *"It needs constant adjustment, and is very sensitive to temperature and humidity changes. Oboe players also must make their own reeds, a fastidious task that takes several hours each week. It would be like a violinist having to make his own bow before he could play, or a guitar player his strings."*

Great oboe players, though, mustn't wilt under pressure. The instrument demands strong personalities with the confidence to tackle its problems and master its many moods. And Ray Still is one of the greatest of our time.

Tall, gracious and witty, he is a no-nonsense perfectionist when it comes to his art. But he's also a very nice guy who simply must find ways to relax from the crushing pressures of his job.

He charts his life hour-by-hour in an appointment book and the blanks always are filled. Each week the Chicago Symphony holds regular rehearsals and concerts, plus periodic taping sessions that have made it the busiest recording orchestra in the world. *"We've won 16 Grammys so far,"* Still notes with some pride. *"Even more than Stevie Wonder."*

He also teaches full time at Northwestern University, where students compete to study with him. And he makes solo recordings, with two recent ones now on the shelves—on Telefunken he plays music by Poulenc and Schumann and on Angel he plays the Mozart Oboe Quartet with an all star line of Violinist Itzhak Perlman, Violinist Pinchas Zukerman and Cellist Lynn Harrell.

Still also regularly hits the road, lecturing and performing around the world. And if this weren't enough, last year he founded a crack chamber ensemble, the Chicago Symphony Winds, which quickly has won a devoted following.

Such a schedule calls for some relief. So Still jogs, listens to old jazz records and does nightly yoga sessions with his son James, 18, the last of the four Still children living in the family's renovated century-old-house on Chicago's North Side.

And he and James play a lot of racquetball. *"When I heard about the game, I picked up a couple racquets and we got busy. My son isn't particularly athletic, and this is the only sport he's enthusiastic about."*



Ready on Cue

Increasingly the game has been fitting into his grand plan for keeping loose enough to perform.

"I think anyone who plays a principal part in a major symphony learns to live with stress," Still says. *"When the conductor cues you, you must be ready, and it's gotta be right."*

"When playing the oboe, though, you can't choke up. You play the horn by letting the air seep into the reed at a very small, controlled rate. But there must be great pressure behind it. An oboe reed actually is two reeds tied together. They vibrate when you focus air between them, though the opening is smaller than the eye of a needle."

"People can't understand how I can be out-of-shape and still hold a tone in one breath for a minute and 20 seconds. That's a long time, if you stop and think about it. The training, though, has been for a specific muscular task, and all the psychology is directed toward one thing—playing the oboe."

"So you can be in terrific shape for a specific task, while your overall condition is terrible. But when you're in shape, of course, you feel better and play better, too. That's why I work out regularly."

A frequent Still racquetball partner is Larry Combs, the Chicago Symphony's principal clarinetist. It goes without saying that Combs also is a virtuoso and highly competitive. When the two men hit the courts, though, there's a million dollars worth of chops at risk.

Ray Still, right, often plays with son James, second from the left, while Larry Combs, left, and Gail Williams compete in an adjacent court at Chicago's Downtown Court Club.



—Lauren Shay photos

"Our lips are our living," Combs agrees, "and it wouldn't do to get whacked with a racquet. So we don't play with great abandon. We try for finesse."

For Ray Still, the hardest thing about racquetball has been "to anticipate where the ball will be, and get there first. I suppose if musicians have any edge at all, it deals with rhythm. Much of it in racquetball is unpredictable . . . surfaces, angles, speeds . . . but there's a definite rhythm to the swing and the way you use your body. That's what I'm trying to master."

Combs, on the other hand, says his biggest problem is a classic one: "I don't always keep my eye on the ball. The worst thing I do among many bad things, is to move my eyes away as soon as the ball approaches. Also I'm just learning how to competently take the ball off the back wall. These are basics. But like Ray says, we're just beginners."

Combs was introduced to racquetball by his wife, Gail Williams, the Chicago Symphony's fine assistant principal French horn player. She gave her husband a club membership last year as a Christmas present.

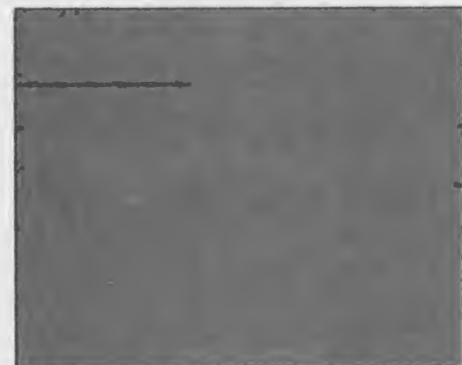
Gail, in turn, was initiated on the court by Louise Dickson, a Symphony flutist. "Louise took me out and really wiped me," Williams recalls. "I was determined to get even."

Female horn players of Williams' caliber are rare. She gets an unusually big sound on her instrument, but women have a smaller lung capacity. So regular exercise is essential to her.

"There's a lot of tension in our profession, too," she says. "You're up against the gun all the time, and it sometimes gets to the point where you just have to hit something."

"At least with racquetball, you can hit it as hard as you want and not really worry about hurting yourself." ●

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra's first chair oboist, left, returns a shot by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's first clarinetist.



EXTRA!

Step Right Up: A Million Plus Buys TV Control of Racquetball

Twin-Vue Glass, Inc. has put its portable glass court on the market for \$1,200,000.

The price includes a standard size court with four walls of glass that look clear to spectators and like a solid white wall to players, along with a truck, mechanical and handling equipment, air conditioning, lighting, floors, a PA system, a scoring device and a stage.

"The portable court will arrive with the excitement of the circus coming to town," says Ron Haber, vice president of Twin-Vue Glass, Inc., which owns the patent for the portable court that can be set

up anywhere from a college gym to a massive stadium.

"We're looking for someone who can promote the sport for TV," Haber says, "who can take advantage of the fact that—for the first time—you can follow the sport perfectly from all sides.

"We have people who want to produce a full length movie on it and others who have television interest. It's too big for us. We're not in the TV promoting business. We're engineers and glaziers—we want to remain the country's experts on glass racquetball courts."



David Pearson, displaying a Twin-Vue glass sample, is also negotiating in Europe for sale of a portable squash court. Pearson, Ron Haber and his brother, Jerry, own the portable court patent for both squash and racquetball.

One of Twin-Vue's most recent installations is at King's Court in Lyndhurst, NJ, opening with 28 Strongwall courts this fall.

This first three wall use of Twin-Vue glass is complete with special lighting and a gallery seating 1,200.

Men Pros Form PRA

A group of top ranked touring professionals has formed the Professional Racquetball Association (PRA).

The players founded the organization Aug. 11 in San Diego to "increase sponsorship by private companies and public awareness, and set standards of player conduct and sponsor responsibility," according to a PRA spokesman.

Membership, which was open to all of the top 16 ranked players until Aug. 25, was then closed for one year. Charter members of the group include three time National Champion Marty Hogan, who holds the number one National Racquetball Club ranking, Dave Peck,

three; Don Thomas, five; Steve Strandemo, six; Ben Koltun, seven; Charlie Brumfield, eight; Doug Cohen, nine; Lindsay Myers, ten; Craig McCoy, 11; and Dave Fleetwood, 14.

Strandemo, a touring pro since the NRC established professional racquetball seven years ago, is chairman of the committee formed to encourage other eligible players to join the PRA and to develop bylaws for the new organization. Other members of that committee include five time National Champion Charlie Brumfield, and, representing Dave Peck, attorney Jerry Day.

"We see this as a great opportunity to help the sport

grow," said Brumfield.

"Together we can form a solid leadership front and effect changes for the better."

Among the group's prime concerns are club standards and sponsor requirements, increased prize money, improved referees and a new method of drawing seeds in the 32 man pro events, all of which is expected to improve the level of play and thereby increase public recognition and interest in the game.

"As a group of the top players, we can sell the sport much more easily to those we think are interested sponsors," said Hogan, who has won 29 of the 36 events he has entered in his five year career.

The Pro-Am tour, co-sponsored by Leach Industries and Seamco Sporting Goods, opened its eighth season with the \$15,000 King's/Bank of Newport Racquetball Classic Aug. 27-31 in Westminster, CA the first of 12 1980-81 NRC stops sanctioned and supported by PRA players.

Original members of the PRA will be active members as long as they are touring pros. Membership will be open to any touring pro in the top 16 of the NRC's computer rankings at the end of each season. The PRA is open to members of other pro players' associations, and will not lock out of its events members of other groups.

More than One Way to Look at a Marathon

You won't find a racquetball category in the *Guinness Book of World Records*, but you can still dream of the day when your marathon record will put you on a page near the 1,248 hour trampoline bounce or the two hour juggle of a soccer ball with feet, legs and head without letting the ball touch the ground.

As of late summer, 1980, Guinness' New York office reported "not enough information on racquetball" to put the sport in the book that has recorded extremes in human performance and the natural world since 1956.

It would seem, though, that Guinness is storing statistics that could lead to a racquetball category in a future edition.

When Joe Gintoli, operations manager of the Stratford (CT) Racquetball Club, contacted the sports office of Guinness Superlatives Ltd. in Middlesex, England last July, he learned that the current (but unpublished) record in Guinness' file was 25 hours of singles by two players.

That figure was many hours apart from the record *National Racquetball* announced in its June issue—the 168 hour marathon by Frank Araque that ended at 2 p.m. on April 12 at the Edgewater Park (NJ) Racquetball Club.

What's different between the marathon records Guinness has begun to collect and the ones the USRA has been clearing for the last three years?

- The USRA recognizes the individual who has played racquetball for the longest number of continuous hours, no matter who the record breaker's opponents are.
- Guinness recognizes those individuals who oppose only each other for the longest number of continuous hours. That eliminates the "all comers," or rotating opponent format by which Araque set his record.

Tony Foster, left, and Dave Johnson train for their racquetball marathon. They topped Guinness' figure by 39 hours, but were 104 hours short of the USRA record.



In all other respects the Guinness and USRA marathon record rules are the same. Both require:

- A log book showing the starting and finishing times and scores of each game countersigned by judges certifying that the facts in the book are true, that the official rules were observed (including two minutes between games) and that play was at a satisfactory rate
- A signed statement of authentication by two independent individuals of standing in the community giving their titles and addresses
- Other independent corroboration, such as newspaper clippings
- Evidence of medical attention before, during and after the attempt

The USRA and Guinness agree on the five minute break permission, too. Five minute breaks after every completed hour of play are optional and cumulative and unused accumulated break periods cannot be added to the final figure. The record is the gross time & the total elapsed time from start to finish.

Tony Foster and Dave Johnson resolved the Guinness-USRA difference in their July marathon at the Stratford Club. They played each other first, easily passing the 25 hour marathon of the Guinness records, and then they tried to break the USRA record by standing a succession of opponents.

If you're trying for either record, *National Racquetball* wishes you luck. Contact us for the latest record & then let us know how you do.

Two-Time Record Holder

Phil Ciarco set his first 102 hour 58 minute racquetball marathon, in August of 1978. The following year, Ciarco went back in the court to play for a continuous 157 hours.

—Lauren Shay photos taken at Spaulding Club, Northbrook, IL

New Games in Court

Racquetball players are brainy.

What else but high I.Q.s could be creating all those new games for the 20 by 40 by 20 foot space of the racquetball court?

The inventor of one racquetball spinoff does, indeed, hold a Ph.D. in engineering. Joseph Benedyk dreamed up Cesta Ball in his job as corporate staff scientist in the new games division of the Skokie, IL-based Brunswick corporation.

"I played racquetball and I was familiar with jai alai, and I thought we could combine the two into an interesting game," Benedyk recalls.

Brunswick, which plans to sell the racquetball variation to a sporting goods manufacturer, gave the game the temporary tag of Cesta Ball because jai alai players catch and throw with a breadbasket-like device called a "cesta," attached to a glove that ties to the hand.

In the Brunswick variation the cesta is made of curved plastic and a Velcro band keeps the glove securely on the player's hand. The ball called a pelota in jai alai is a modified platform tennis ball, heavier and with a lower friction surface than a racquetball.

"These features are necessary because they allow for easier catching and rebounding off the wall," says Brunswick's Bill McGlone, who directed the Cesta Ball project. "We wanted a safe ball, which you don't have with the jai alai pelota that's more like an oversized golf ball." Brunswick has eight patents pending on the game, balls and racquets.

McGlone says Cesta Ball is "best played on a conventional racquetball court. The court needs no changes except on 'out' line some 18 inches off the floor on the front wall. The 'out' line prevents easy killshots the same way it does in jai alai, and it can be detachable, so racquetball players can remove it."

Sally Murphy uses jai alai's forehand catching motion in a Cesta Ball game against Kathy Williams.



Cesta Ball mimicks the graceful movements of jai alai.



Two young players get the feel of the Cesta at a demonstration for a sporting goods manufacturer.



Also removable is the net that goes up for "walleyball," "wallyball" or "four wall volleyball," three names for the same basic volleyball game that competitors around the county are playing in racquetball courts.

Official Cesta Rules (Condensed)



The rules of Cesta are the same as racquetball except for the following:

1. The ball is caught and thrown with a cesta instead of being hit by a racquet.
2. Balls rebounding from the front wall, side wall, ceiling or the floor, that have not touched the back wall, must be caught cleanly and thrown immediately without a noticeable pause.
3. Balls rebounding from the back wall are thrown without a separate catching motion. The effect is that the ball's motion towards the front wall is not slowed down as a result of its contact with the cesta. The continuous play off the back wall is called a "rebote."
4. A ball thrown against the back wall is out of play and results in a point or an out.
5. One serve is allowed for each point; if a fault occurs it results in an out.
6. Games are played to 15 points.
7. To serve the server looks to see if the opponent is ready, bounces the ball once on the floor inside the service box, catches it in the cesta and throws it against the front wall. If the server fails to catch the ball from the bounce, it is an out.
8. There is a one and one-half inch wide line running across the front wall, parallel to the floor, 15 inches from the floor to the top of the line. Any ball hitting on or below this line is an illegal ball and results in an out or a point.



adding basketball and badminton—again to expose an entirely different audience to racquetball.

"Racquetball players like these innovations, too. They're playing just as much racquetball, but they're trying alternatives. All these programs are making us more like a sport center than just a racquetball club." ●

Joe Garcia's Wallyball Rules



—John Witt photo

Sabrina Mulloy helps display the Wallyball that's part of the package Joe Garcia is selling to court clubs. Garcia, former baseball player and actor who's now president and major stockholder of Wallyball Incorporated, hopes to make his game a major amateur and professional sport.

—Tennis Press photo by Arthur Hochstein



They're playing wallyball in Missouri.

In a story in the May, 1980 issue of *Rhode Island Racquetball News* Everett Kartun writes "It began in Hawaii, they say at the Nuannuu YMCA in Honolulu in 1970 . . . when [volleyball players came in from the beach in the rain] and set up nets on the handball courts. The game quickly spread to California . . . and caught on big in the wake of the racquetball club boom."

At the Celebrity Courts in Warwick, RI four wall volleyball teams line up on either side of an eight foot high net over which they toss a volleyball deadened by taking out some air to shorten the bounce. All players can attack from anywhere on the court, but the same player cannot hit the ball twice in a row.

Players in St. Louis' Spaulding clubs and in Moraine, OH's Dayton Court House both call their game "walleyball," but play it different ways. Dayton's teams use the ceiling (except on the serve), while at Spaulding the ceiling is always out.

Joe Garcia of Calabasas, CA standardized the game he's trademarked as "Wallyball", and he sells it to clubs as a kit comprised of rules, ball, net, hardware and a "Wallyball" stool to stand on when hanging the net.

But standardized or not Wallyball-walleyball-four wall volleyball is collecting fans. "Whistling and whooping have become regular sounds when the game is in progress," Donna Christian reports in the Dayton Court newsletter. "A change of pace. . .very intense. . .very social," says Kartun. And *Tennis Press*, Ltd.'s Arthur Hochstein in St. Louis says "like volleyball it's a great coed sport . . . like racquetball it really lets you get your jollies by slamming to your heart's content."

At Bob Boone Action Courts in Maple Shade, NJ "Wallyball" is only one racquetball cousin that smart management is using to get players in the courts. "Wallyball attracted volleyball players," says Manager Dan DelVecchio. "Now we're

Soccer, Too

The Game — Wallyball is similar to volleyball, except that it is played on a racquetball/handball court, where balls may be hit off the side walls as well as directly over the net. There are two teams each with two, three or four players each.

The Court — Wallyball is played on an indoor court 40 feet long by 20 feet wide by 20 feet high. Top of the net is from 8 feet to 8 feet 2" off the floor.

The Ball — The official Wallyball is the AMF Voit S.S.T. leather volleyball.

Scoring — Points are scored only by the side that is serving, when the other team commits a foul. The game is won by the first team scoring 15 points, provided there is a two point advantage. A match consists of three such games.

Serving — The ball is served from the back right hand corner of the court, from 3 to 10 feet from the back wall. Serve is lost when the serving team commits a foul.

Out of Bounds — The ball may be played off the side walls. It is, however, out of bounds when it hits the ceiling, hits the back wall on a serve or volley, or hits two or more walls on a serve or volley. (The back wall is only in play on the side of the team that is returning the serve or volley.)

—photo courtesy Rhode Island Racquetball News.



The racquetball relation emerging from Lee Jones' imagination is called Court Soccer.

Jones, a member of AMF Voit's research and development group, developed the game for use with a ball that's the same size as a number four soccerball, but has a foam rubber cover that allows players to bank angles and spin to place their shots.

The rules that Voit wrote for Court Soccer are almost identical to racquetball's. Singles or doubles players serve by a drop or place kick from the service area to the front wall, and the ball is in play as soon as it rebounds on the back court. The best killshots in Court Soccer are to the four corners, especially the back wall. AMF Voit in Santa Ana, CA, has test balls and copies of the rules.

Smacket



Racquetball offshoots are moving out of the clubs as fertile minds plug into the popularity of our sport.

Tom Bassett of Coral Springs, FL has come up with Smacket, which he describes as "easier to play than

ping pong and requiring less space." Bassett has filed an application for a patent on his Smacket Game Table, inspired by the three wall outdoor courts that abound in his state. ●

Four wall volleyball takes off in Rhode Island.

Stringing Your Racquet

Reprinted with permission of *The Stringer's Assistant*, official newsletter of the United States Racquet Stringers Association, P.O. Box 40, Del Mar, CA 92014.



As racquetball "booms" in much the same way that tennis did, players are becoming more concerned with the strings and tension in their racquets. Although nearly all racquets presently leave the factory pre-strung (usually at 26-28 pounds), the day is coming when racquetball players will be as fussy as tennis players with regard to strings and tensions.

Tension

At one time advanced racquetball players preferred higher tensions for power. However the current trend seems to be toward looser tensions for advanced players and medium tight strings for the beginners or less experienced players. The rationale behind this change results from the advanced players having the timing and power in their shots but looking for more control from their racquet. On the other hand beginning racquetball players seem to need power from their racquet first, while acquiring the control skills as they become more experienced.

This difference in tension preferences is also a result of different balls used in racquetball. Most advanced players seem to prefer a "fast" ball, and therefore need less power and more control from their racquet. Beginners usually use a softer, "slower" ball, thus having more success with a racquet which is strung tighter.

The following chart may be used as a guideline when stringing racquetball racquets:

Loose: 15-23 pounds • Medium: 23-23 pounds • Tight: 29-35 pounds

Guage

Although manufacturers string their racquetball racquets with 15 guage string, more and more players are using 16 guage string or even 17 guage for the tournament players. The lighter guage gives more "feel" for the ball, and therefore more control. The compromise is more frequent string breakage.

Differences

There are a few notable differences, aside from tensions, between stringing racquetball racquets and stringing tennis racquets. First of all racquetball racquets are always strung with nylon. Tensions are too low for a racquetball player to reap the benefits of playing with gut.

Secondly due to the low tensions and softer ball, you'll rarely see a racquetball string break in the center of the racquet. They most always break at the frame. Therefore tubing may be advisable, at least for the few center mains. Two of our members recommend tubing the 10 or 12 center mains at both the head and at the throat. They claim that not only will tubing reduce the possibility of string breakage, but it will lend considerable support to the strings.

Thirdly power pads are rarely, if ever, used in racquetball stringing. Power pads relieve the stress of strings rubbing against a tennis frame. This same stress is not present in strings rubbing against a racquetball frame because the tension is 50 to 75 percent lower than in a tennis frame.

In short the same care must be taken when stringing a racquetball racquet as is taken for a tennis racquet. As racquetball players become more serious about the game and their equipment, the stringer must bear some of the responsibility for the playability of the racquet. ●

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Ask the Champ

by Marty Hogan

Three Time and Current Champion Marty Hogan, a Leach player, answers questions about improving your game in this exclusive *National Racquetball* series. Marty won the \$30,000 first prize at the June Nationals in Las Vegas. Send your questions to Marty Hogan c/o Ask the Champ, Managing Editor, *National Racquetball*, 4101 Dempster, Skokie, IL 60076

This month Marty answers a question and asks one, too. Please check the last question to see what Hogan has in mind.

Question: I am like a lot of players today. A strong forehand and an average backhand. I can go down the line or cross court, but when I try cross court pinch or cross court roll corner, it usually ends up a cross court pass. Am I contacting the ball back too far in my stance or is it a matter of more snap in the wrist? Can you tell from this limited information?

Andy Butterbaugh
North Manchester, IN

Hogan: Hitting the ball down the line with your backhand is the hardest shot in racquetball because of the position of your body has to be in to execute this shot. You tell me that you can already hit the ball down the line, so the other shots you should be able to learn fairly easily. To pinch the ball with your backhand let the ball fall deeper into your stance and hit the ball off the back foot and take your normal swing. The position of the ball will force it to go to the left side wall, making for a nice pinch shot. It is not as easy to bring the ball down with your backhand. Therefore it is extremely important to let the ball drop down to between knee and ankle height to consistently kill your backhand. I don't believe you're hitting the ball too far out in front of you if you are still able to take the ball down the line. To hit the ball effectively cross court you must contact the ball farther out in front of you.

One problem you may be having that might be keeping you from killing your backhand cross court is you may lifting up too soon with your shoulder. Keeping your shoulder down and coming through the ball is extremely important for killshot consistency. The backhand swing should feel more like the opening up of a gate; the swing should come around. Stay away from lifting with the shoulder. This causes the head to jerk up and makes the ball fly on you. The wrist snap has little to do with the killing of the backhand; the snap of the wrist will only add the needed power. However it is easier to bring the ball down from shoulder height with your backhand,

when your swing comes down, through and over the ball.

Question: Will training without a ceiling (the only place I have to play is a public handball court) help me any in minor amateur tournaments? Will this help me turn pro in a few years? I practice my serves 25 times a day. Is this helpful?

Kris Williams
La Place, LA

Hogan: One thing that training in a court without a ceiling will do is make you become extremely offensive-minded. Since there is no ceiling and hence you have no opportunity to hit ceiling balls, there is no true defensive shot that you can hit. As far as sharpening up on your fundamental strokes not having a ceiling will have little or nothing to do about perfecting your forehand or backhand.

You're one of the very few people I know who spends time practicing their serve. Keep this up. It is very important to go into a tournament with the confidence in your ability to score points off your serve. I wouldn't worry about not having a ceiling on the court you practice on. Ceiling balls are probably the easiest shot in racquetball for the beginner to master. It only takes about 15 minutes a week of practice on the ceiling ball to become very proficient at hitting this shot.

You mentioned you were concerned with turning professional. If you possess the needed talent to turn pro, practicing on a court without a ceiling should not delay your realizing that ambition. In fact that could even help because without the advantage of any defensive shots, you should be forced to learn to kill the ball better from both sides than most of your peers. These will be the people you're competing against in the future.

Question: I've been hearing about the attempt to have racquetball go to the single serve. What is your opinion on the one serve rule?

Cheri Montano
St. George, UT

Hogan: Depending on the mood I'm in at the time my answer could go both ways. Right now I do not feel that going to one serve would hurt the game of racquetball any. Even though the serve has become an integral part of the game, I really don't know how exciting the serve is to the average spectator. Ask yourself what is more thrilling to watch, an ace or a long rally with many good diving gets? A player would have to rely on his own shotmaking abilities much more.

Another thing the single serve would do is force the player into becoming more well rounded. His or her game could no longer be based on the booming serve. There are some players on the tour who would be put into very uncomfortable situations if they had to rally for each point they scored. Also you would not need to slow the ball down to put excitement back into the game if the rules adopted the single serve.

If the rules ever do change to accept the single serve, that will be a long time away.

I don't think the players on the tour right now would pass a vote for this rule change. Too many of their games depend too much on the serve to win. I realize also that the serve is a giant part of my game, but I would openly accept this rule change. All you have to have is confidence in your own shotmaking ability to make up for the loss of the ace serve. People say that the game of racquetball needs to be slowed down to be effectively filmed for television. Well this could be the answer we are all looking for. Bringing back the longer rallies could be exactly what our sport is looking for to get TV exposure. ●

I would like to hear what you—the readers—think about racquetball going to the single serve. I would like to hear your thoughts on the subject. Feel free to write to me in care of *National Racquetball*, 4101 Dempster, Skokie, IL 60076. When I get enough responses, I'll tell you how the readers opinions stand next to mine.

The Good and Bad of Back Wall Play

by Mike Yellen

In this exclusive *National Racquetball* series Mike Yellen, second place winner at the 1980 Nationals, discusses topics that come up in clinics he runs for his sponsor, Ektelon.



Without the back wall racquetball would be strictly a game of kills and hard drives. Like playing basketball without a backboard it would be either swish or nothing.

The back wall adds another dimension to racquetball. It can put some crazy English on the ball, but it also insures that you'll always have at least a chance at it. There's no home runs, long bombs or fast breaks by which your opponent can get the ball over your head and out of play as in baseball, football and basketball.

On the other hand how many times have you seen a down-the-line drive rebound off the back wall like it was shot from a cannon, sending you diving after it like you were sliding into second base?

The back wall can be either a blessing or a curse, depending on the situation. It usually takes a while for beginners to get used to and there's always room for improvement.

Ball judgement is the key and, when it comes to developing the ability to play shots off the back wall, there's just no substitute for experience. But there are a couple of points to keep in mind which can move the learning process along a little faster.

Let's start with the good news: back wall setups. The nice thing about having a backstop is that you don't have to cut off every shot that comes your way as you do in three wall or tennis.

A ball which reaches the back wall on a high lob trajectory, as is the case during a ceiling rally, is more difficult to judge than one which would pass you at midcourt about head height and carry back at a flatter angle. Although this ball appears headed for a spot high on the back wall, its downward angle would take it into the wall only a couple of feet up from the floor, therefore requiring a ceiling return. If it were to strike the wall above my chest or bounce on the floor a couple of feet from the wall first, I would have a setup. Note that my practice partner, Nathan Martin, keeps his eyes always on the ball.

Playing Tips for Women

Should a high lob or ceiling ball strike the back wall above your chest or bounce on the floor a couple feet from the wall before going into it, a low offensive return is in order. Although you will be well behind what is usually considered shooting range, this is a setup which is too good to pass up. The shot should be a kill, roll corner or pinch, as shown here.

—Mike Hogan photos

The difference between taking a back wall setup or one of those zingers that come off the front wall is a little like the difference between taking a cut at a Nolan Ryan fast ball or tossing the ball up in the air yourself to swing at. The biggest problem is knowing which balls will make the back wall and which won't.

Assuming that you're in center court where you're supposed to be while awaiting an opponent's shot, you can pretty well count on any shot that passes you on the fly above shoulder height reaching the back wall. If you are somewhere else, you'll just have to guess.

From center court, though, you are also pretty close to the spot where you will want to contact the ball after its rebound. Shuffle back a step or two so that you can again shift and come toward the front wall as the ball does.

Maintaining eye contact with the ball is all important here as with any on court situation. You should determine whether to take the shot on your forehand or backhand while moving back, and then get your racquet up into the correct position.

You want to contact the ball off your front foot somewhere between knee and ankle height, so let it drop accordingly. How far it rebounds from the back wall is dependent, of course, on the velocity it had when it went into the wall.

A simple drill is to toss the ball into the back wall at different heights and speeds and practice hitting it on the rebound. This will be particularly helpful on your backhand side and you'll soon learn to judge these shots.

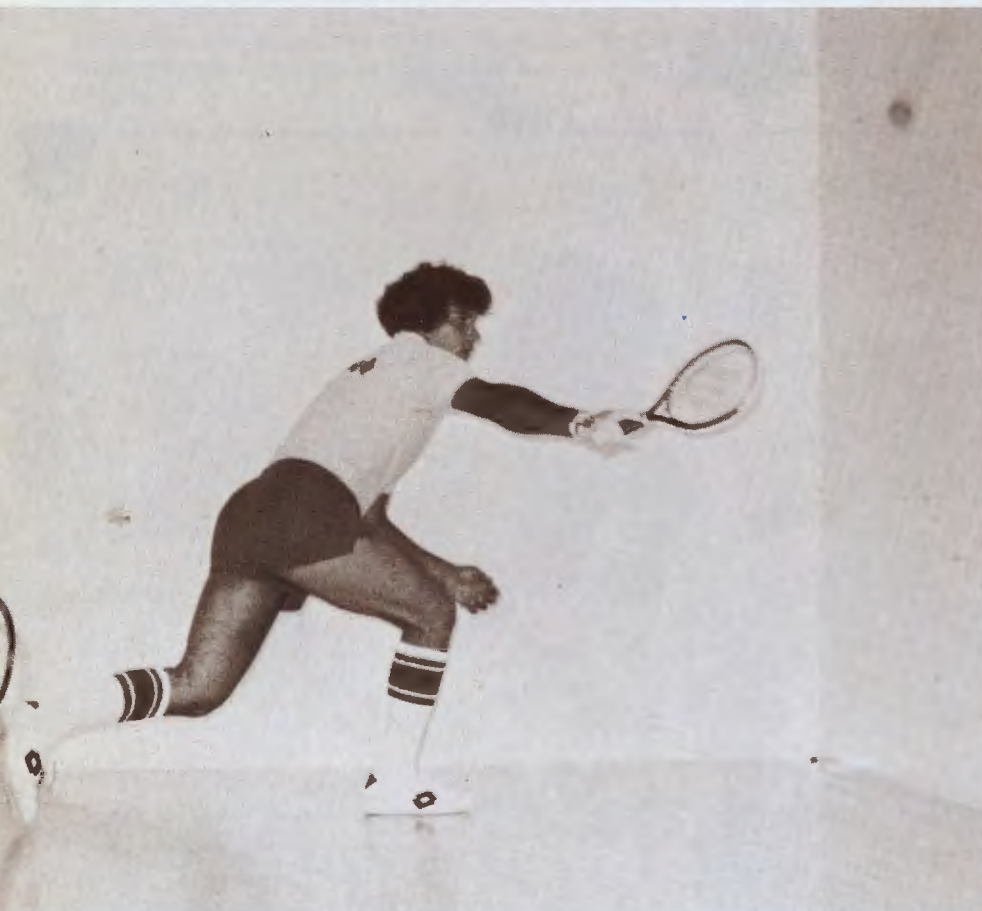
Of course this is the optimum back wall situation. Let's take a look at a slightly more complicated play, such as a ceiling rally or lob serve.

During these situations your back will already be to the wall and you'll have less time to make a judgement about a ball



The most confusing back wall play comes, of course, in the corners. I had anticipated that this ball would take a wider bounce after it rebounded from the side wall to the back wall. Instead it reversed its spin and forced me to stretch back in to hit it.

The Good and Bad of Back Wall Play



A simple drill, particularly helpful for your backhand, is to toss the ball into the back wall at different heights and speeds and practice hitting it on the rebound.

which is dropping out of the air at a fairly sharp angle. There are three possibilities:

First the ball is on a trajectory from which it will strike the back wall above your chest. You know it will rebound out for a nice setup, so you get set facing the side wall with your racquet up just behind the spot where it will probably bounce on the floor.

Likewise if **it is going to fall a foot or so short of the wall**, you can also count on a setup. However if the ball is going to slide right down the wall or contact it only a couple of feet off the floor, you're in trouble.

This is a well hit ceiling ball and can only be safely returned by another. Cut it off before it strikes the back wall.

Now for the fun part: **a shot to one of the rear corners.** The added question here is will or won't the ball hit the side wall before going into the back wall?

These situations provide us with a racquetball corollary to Murphy's Law: *"If the ball can possibly bounce in a direction you are unprepared for, it will."* It can miss the side wall and take that leap I talked about earlier or sweep around behind you or jump into your lap. Sometimes it will just die in the corner.

It's impossible to position yourself for all of these possibilities, so just try to cut your losses by staying three to four feet from either wall. As always keep your eye on the ball, your racquet up and be ready to spring after the ball that jumps out from the wall.

In the situation of the previous photo the suggested return is a ceiling ball. In fact any time you can't get set up properly on a corner shot, I recommend you go to the ceiling.

Ideally you want to take a low offensive shot but, unless a good opportunity presents itself, go up to the ceiling. At the very least you should be able to pop the ball off the back wall itself so that a high lob makes the front wall.

That's not a good habit to get into, though, since it usually doesn't yield a very effective shot. It is best used only in desperation.

I'll admit that it sometimes seems as though desperation is a permanent state of affairs during back wall play. Not to worry.

All the ball can do is crack out in a seam, die in a corner, take a spin behind you or jump into your lap. Aside from those maneuvers, back wall play is a piece of cake. You'll get it. ●

Playing Tips for Women

If you're a beginner, glance down at your feet occasionally to make sure you're not taking a "Dancer's Stance" described in this excerpt from *Inside Racquetball for Women* by Pro Jean Sauser, now teaching at the Milwaukie (OR) Racquetball Club, and *National Racquetball* Photographer Arthur Shay. *National Racquetball* is printing tips from the instructional volume with permission of the publisher, *Contemporary Books of Chicago*. ●



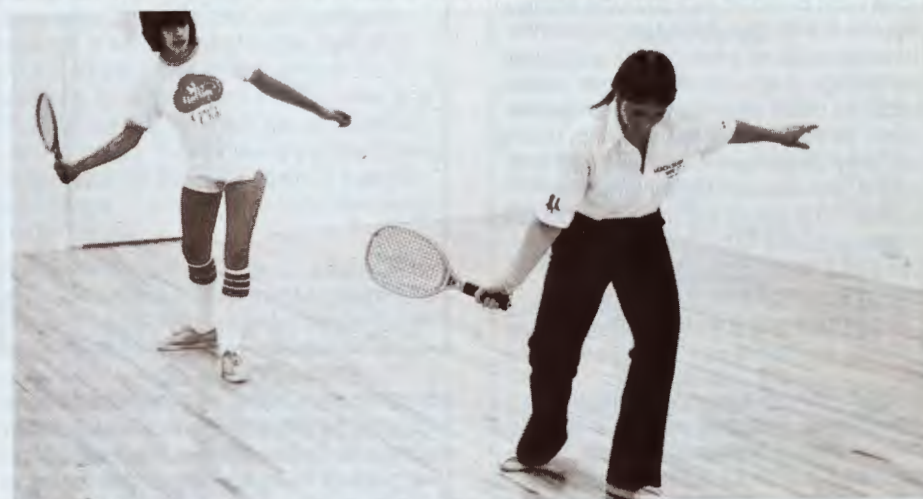
Mistake: Dancer's Stance

Unfortunately many women fall into a dancer's ready stance when getting ready to hit a racquetball. This causes a degree of awkwardness to set in as the shoulders swing around. Hitting from this position usually results in a return that goes predictably up the middle or bobbles into one of the corners. The dancer's stance sharply reduces your arsenal of possible shots. It is also extremely difficult to make accurate shots when your legs are in this position.

Correction: Bring front foot around

Glancing back at the dancer's stance we see that one thing is retrievable—the position of the back foot. That position is okay. To correct the stance, however, you must bring your front or lead foot around and point it to the side wall. Now you can hit the ball "down the line"—that is, hit the wall and return the ball very close to where you hit it from—and if you turn your shoulders slightly toward the front wall and step slightly in that direction, you can hit the ball almost anywhere.

A good practice drill is pointing the lead foot and shoulders to the side wall and trying a few dozen shots down the line. Practice hitting this shot so that the ball returns to both sides of you. As with most racquetball shots the key is good footwork.

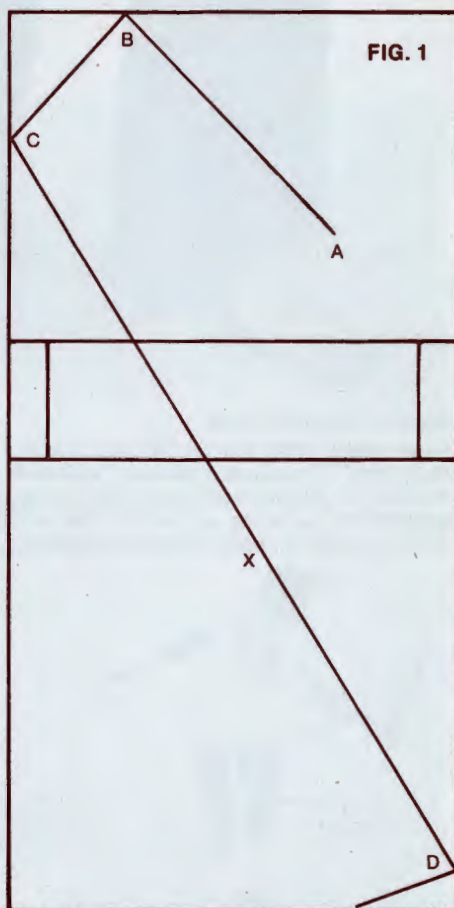


Three Z s for Better Players

by David E. Belka and Joseph W. Kennedy

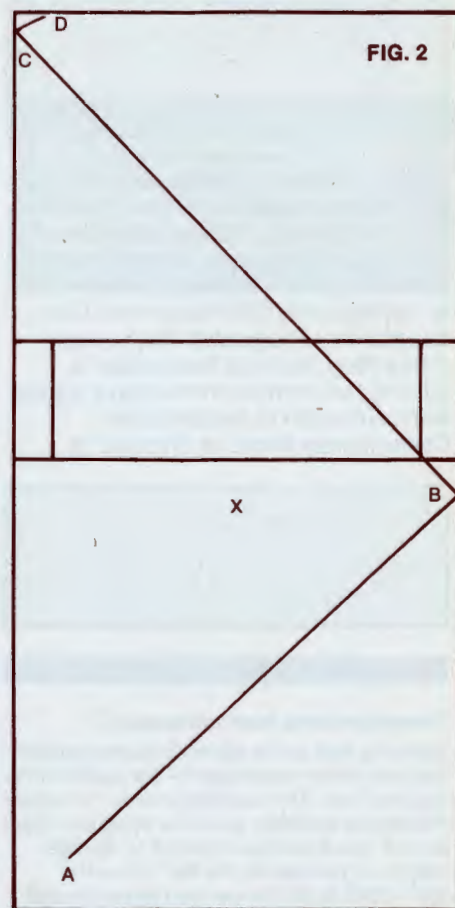
Can you remember those first awesome Z serves you attempted to return? Not only did they come zipping to your infant backhand, but the ball caromed unpredictably; you stumbled, lunged, missed and groaned. Eventually, of course, you caught up with the Z serve and now use it yourself. But that wicked Z bounce can be used to fresh advantage if you can master its use in rally play.

We suggest the addition of the Z shot during games. Correctly executed Z shots, an aspect of strategy which few of us have considered seriously, can be sureshot point winners. They are tremendous additions to your overall strategy and have negative effects on the opponent's psychological condition. Remember, though, these shots are NOT for beginners. Beginners do not have the power and pinpoint accuracy the shots require, nor do they have the experience that tells a player when to risk such low percentage shots. Finally a player needs excellent court awareness to handle the safety factor involved with Z shots during rally play. Beginners may practice Zs, of course, but shouldn't use them in games—the risk of injuring an opponent or losing points is too great. The three types of Z shots described in the following paragraphs are reserved for intermediate and advanced players.



HIGH Z. This shot is very similar to the high Z serve. Suppose you are in the shaded area in front court and your opponent is at point X (figure one). Hit the ball extremely hard from points A to B to C and on toward the back corner at D. Keep the trajectory to point D high to prevent the opponent's intercepting the ball on the way back. Ideally point D should be shoulder high, or higher. The ball shoots out from the sidewall, at point D, nearly parallel to the back wall (maybe even scraping it) and is impossible to return well. If the contact point, D, isn't quite close enough to the crotch of the side and back wall, the ball will still be hard to return and your opponent will be in a poor court position.

We recommend that you use the forehand stroke, with some upward swing. An overhead stroke would be all right, but it is not a likely stroke from that court position and it requires more setup time. A strong, accurate backhand could also be effective



Z DROP. A full force drop shot sounds like a contradiction, but that's just what this baby is! The ball is slammed hard against the side wall to point B which is three to four feet high (figure two). The ball travels to point C, which is within a foot of the front wall, and then on to the front wall (D) and a nothing bounce. This is the easiest of the three Zs and can be absolutely devastating! Your opponent won't believe that a ball hit so hard won't come out of

the corner to him and will hold the center court position until it is too late to retrieve this Z drop. We have not seen one of these returned, even by a player standing only six feet away. The ball, racquet, player and front wall are all piled up if the player can even get to the shot.

It is probably useless to try this shot unless you are behind the short line since the angles are so difficult. Four or five feet from the back wall and from a side wall appear to be the ideal positions, at least for us. Positions nearer the short line, or center court, are acceptable. Considerable experimenting will be needed to locate spot B for various individuals since several factors are involved. These include:

- Resiliency of ball, racquet and wall
- Player's height and height of contact point
- Court position
- Power.

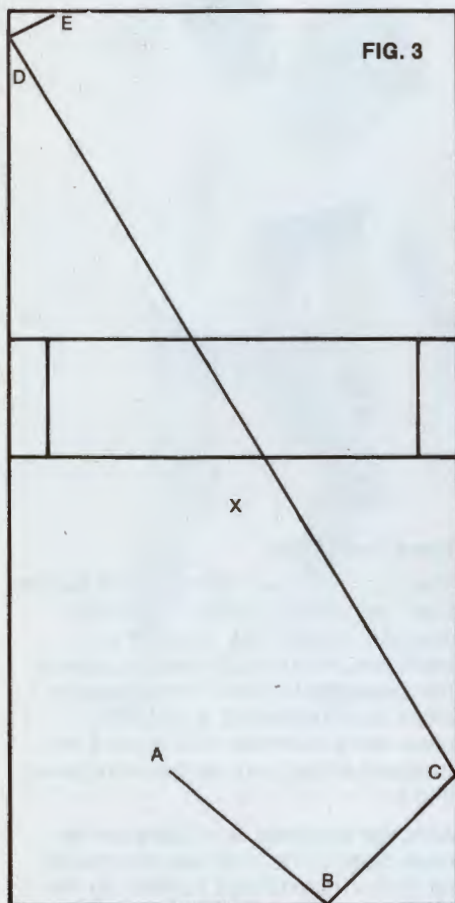


FIG. 3

We have found best results when the opponent could not anticipate that we were going to shoot this Z drop. It appears that having the opponent in front of you and facing the front wall would be beneficial, especially if the opponent is planted very well and confident that he controls the court.

The shot is low percentage and requires unbelievable accuracy. If the front wall is hit before the side wall, then an easy set-up results. If the side wall is hit just a few inches short, the ball never reaches the front wall at all. If the side wall is hit too high, an easy setup off the front or the front and opposite side wall results. It becomes an all-or-nothing shot. The psychological effect is substantial, however, and even if the shot just comes close, your opponent will hardly trust any of your shots again.

A WORD OF WARNING. We do not suggest these shots for beginners; we do recommend extensive practice before any is attempted in an actual game situation. These shots demand execution by players who know exactly where the opponent is and how he or she will react to balls caroming from unexpected directions. These Z family shots are very low-percentage, extreme power and accuracy shots. They should be used sparingly by experienced players. You use these Zs for surprise strategy, but remember that your partner will probably be surprised with the direction of your swing and the ball flight. So enjoy the Zs, but be careful.

REVERSE HIGH Z. Suppose you are in the back court (figure three) and your opponent is in the ideal position, X. The ball is at A, either coming from the front or back wall. Drive the ball hard and up to point B. It caroms off the side wall at C and onto the other side wall near the front wall and low. The Z action takes over and the ball bumps the front wall and dies a natural death. Your opponent doesn't even know what hit him! You claim it was all accidental, of course, and promise never to do it again.

It may be necessary to pivot quickly at the very last instant to fool the opponent and keep him from recognizing this shot until it is too late. The pivot does add to the complexity of the already very difficult shot. This shot could also be executed with a backhand, with or without using the last-second pivoting. The surprise element is the main effect of the shot. The opponent may expect a ceiling shot, but probably will have no inkling that a very high Z into the low front corner is coming.

Some practice will help you realize how difficult these shots are and that they should not be used very often. Extended practice is absolutely essential for most intermediate players to gain control over these Z bombs. Use a partner, on the court or in the observation area, to advise about contact point, wall placement, power, etc. You might mark target areas on walls and floor while practicing and keep a record of placement and results so you can assess your progress from time to time. ●



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Beginner's Racquetball

Offensive Strategy

by Jack Kramer

For the benefit of the millions of men, women and children who are taking up racquetball for the first time *National Racquetball* is serializing *Beginner's Racquetball* by Jack Kramer, copyright 1979, with permission of the publisher—World Publications, Inc., Mountain view, CA. If you're an experienced player you might like to pass these articles along to a friend who's just starting the game.

For good offensive play you will need an array of different shots and three good ones are the pass shot, the kill shot and the drop shot. Each is played differently; none are difficult to master.

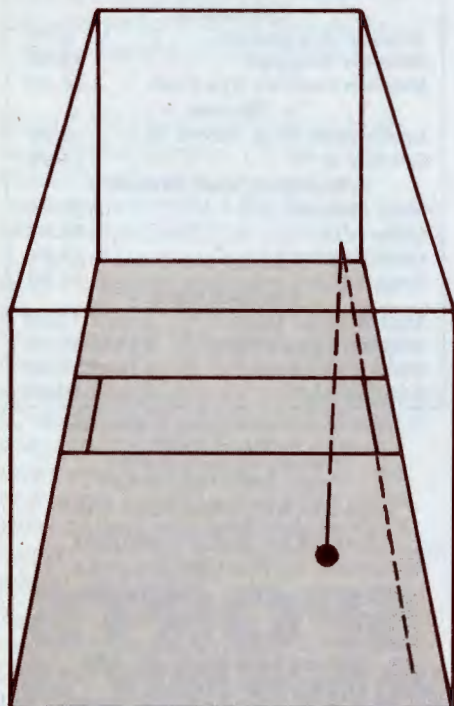
The Pass Shot

The pass shot is as essential to your play as the racquet. It is a shot aimed to pass your opponent rather than a ball your opponent can easily return. This is a bread and butter shot and part of all good play. It can be played down the line (backhand) or cross court, either backhand or forehand.

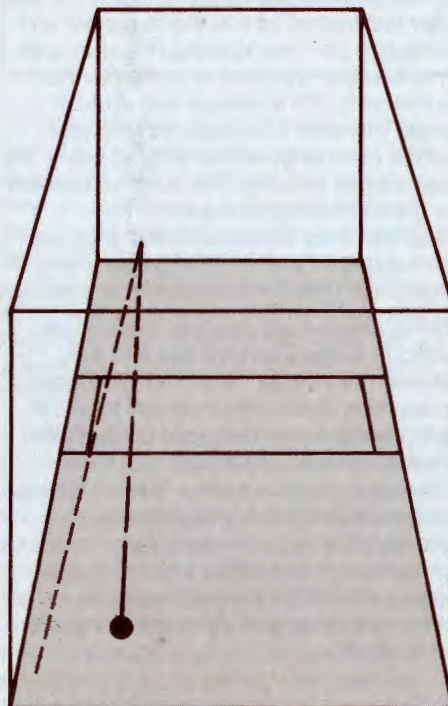
Down-the-line Pass

The down-the-line pass is usually executed on the backhand side of the court, with the player fairly deep in this court position. The standard backhand

stroke is used. Hit the ball anywhere from your knee to navel height; the ball should strike the front wall one to three feet from the side wall (figures one and two). The idea is to get the ball to rebound off the front wall rather low, about three feet up from the floor, and skin back along the same side wall to the back court. The difficult part of the shot is keeping the ball close to the wall, that is, parallel to it. If the ball strikes the side wall, it ricochets usually into midcourt—not an enviable place for you because then your opponent can do anything with it. If you can, put a spin on the ball so it is less likely to strike the side wall. This is done with a quick slicing stroke hitting the lower half of the ball in a vertical motion. It is not easy and takes practice.



Forehand down-the-line pass



Backhand down-the-line pass



Cross Court Pass

The cross court ball, termed the V ball (the flight path makes a letter "V") can be executed equally well forehand or backhand. For two right handed players the more effective shot is the forehand cross court because it is hit to the opponent's backhand. And since it is a forehand stroke, you can get more power into it.

Although the cross court pass can be done close to the front wall, it is usually hit from a more distant position on the court. Make contact with the ball at knee to waist height. Take a step or two back, and make a smooth stroke at the ball. The ball should strike the wall two to four feet high and then be propelled to the backhand rear court. There it is generally difficult for the opponent to play.

The secret of the cross court pass is how wide and how high the ball is hit. It should be wide enough to hit the center of the front wall, although a foot to the left (or right) will make the ball travel at a wider angle—all the better. The ball will then have more chance of carrying past your opponent's outstretched racquet. If the ball is too far to the right (or left)—two feet say—the ball will travel directly to your opponent's racquet.

Striking the ball at right height is also important. The ball should strike the wall two to four feet high for the most effect. However a ball gains elevation after striking the racquet and so usually hits higher. Aim for one to three feet above the wall and let the ball (or gravity) do the rest.



Cross Court Ceiling Shot

The cross court ceiling shot is hit from a position right or left of the center court and aims for the center of the ceiling. The ball strikes the ceiling and then the front wall and veers toward the corner opposite you.

How hard should you hit the ball for these passes? Generally with about 70 percent power, although beginners should practice with less power until they have some expertise with the shot.

Strategy for Pass Shots

The successful pass shot is a ball that is hit away from your opponent. It should hit past your opponent without rebounding high enough off the back wall to be played. It should also be hit without rebounding off the back wall to the side walls because if the ball hit the side wall, it rebounds back into the center court area, making it easy to return.

Practice pass shots with a friend; your friend should stand in the server's area and serve all different ways to you.

Control is the key to success in the pass shot; it is not as important to hit low shots as it is to strike the shot exactly *when* you want it, so it goes where you want it.

The Killshot

The killshot is a ball that hits so low on the front wall and with such force that it is unreturnable. This is a vital racquetball shot and can win you many points, and it is not that difficult to master. You hit the killshot with either the forehand or the backhand stroke.



If you hit the ball too low for the killshot, it will bounce or skip before it hits the front wall losing the point, so accuracy is vital. If you hit the ball too high, it will come off the front wall so your opponent can return it easily.

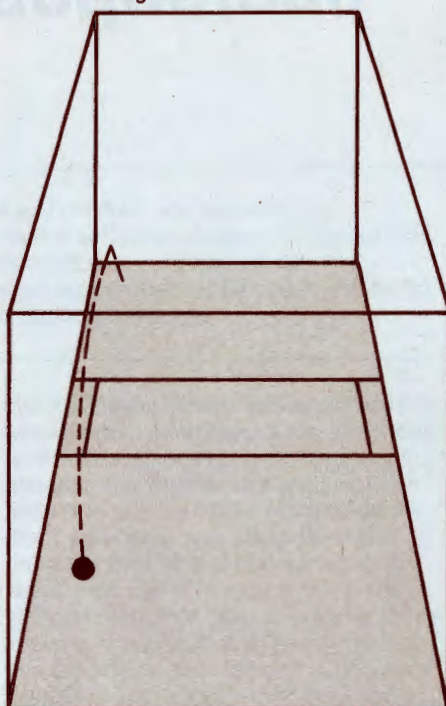
The killshot may be a side wall – front wall hit or a ball that strikes the front wall – side wall or ball that is hit off the back wall. It also may be a straight front wall shot— this is the most common. This latter shot can be mastered in short time while the others take some doing.

To make the straight killshot, hit the ball low when it is about a foot off the ground. You will have to bend your body and your knees to do it.

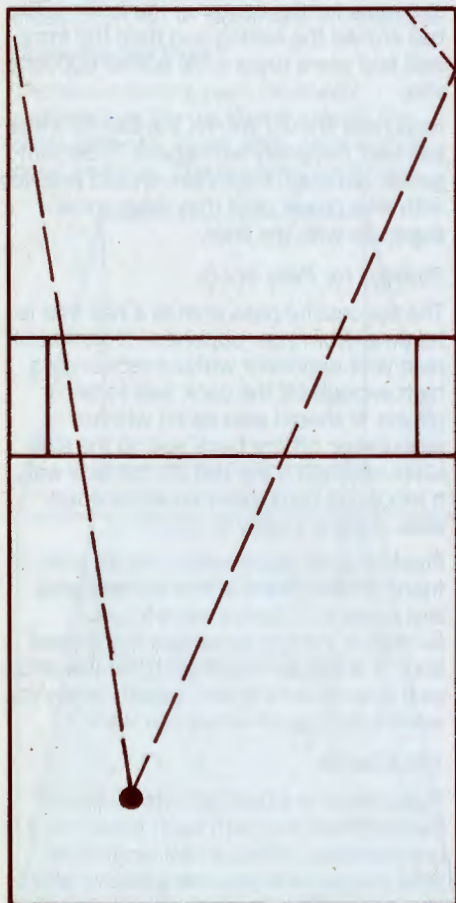
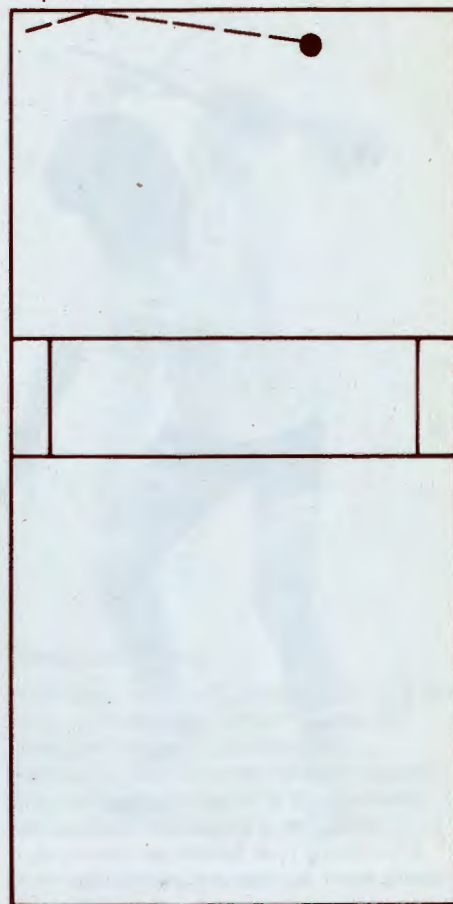
Hitting the kill to the front wall first is done usually by hitting the ball cross court away from your opponent hoping that the ball bounces low and dies.

If you are hitting the killshot off the back wall, wait for the ball to come to you and then hit it as you would a normal straight killshot directly to the front wall.

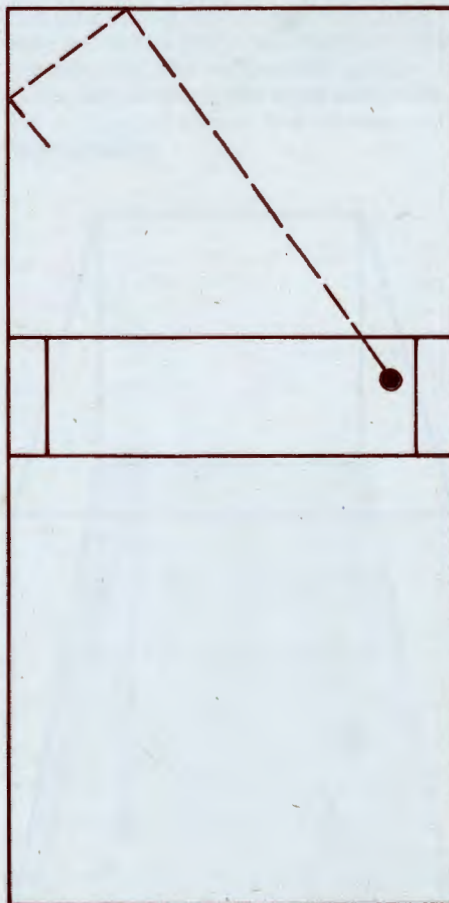
Straight kill



Drop shot



Overhead kill (forehand)



Front wall – side wall kill

The Drop Shot

The drop shot is not a hard hit shot, but it can win points if done properly. When you are near the front wall and your opponent is near the back wall, move up rapidly and hit the ball softly at an angle toward the front wall. With luck the ball will drop against the front wall and almost die before your opponent can scurry to it.

Also the surprise of the drop shot makes it a good candidate for a winner. It is a deliberate slow ball mixup to catch your opponent off guard and as such must be controlled. Do not swing too much— rather just catch the ball on your racquet and push it gently toward the front wall. What you don't want to do is hit the ball hard so that it comes off the front wall with any zing because then your opponent will be able to catch up to it and make a return. ●

APRO Teaches . . . Using Visual Aids

by Chuck Sheftel

Chuck Sheftel is president of the American Professional Racquetball Organization, which certifies instructors around the country. "APRO Teaches" is a regular feature of *National Racquetball*.



Visual aids often help when a student can't seem to follow a teacher's verbal explanation of stroke or strategy. Even when verbal instruction is working, visual aids are a way to reinforce and enhance understanding of a certain skill.

Also teaching devices as pictured in this article can make learning fun. To encourage players to start and continue playing racquetball, we must make it enjoyable.

Visual aids are especially valuable for teaching juniors, whose concentration span is very short. Juniors try much harder when they're stimulated by games that tie in with objects in and around the court.

- Painter's tape stretched across the court emphasizes the idea of hitting low on the front wall. The racquetball teacher can use painter's tape anywhere on the walls to emphasize a direction in which to hit either through a drill or a game.

- The human body as a target is a good aid, though sometimes dangerous. The teacher can stand anywhere and tell the pupil to hit the ball at him or her. It seems that my pupils always hit the target when I say "Just aim for me." I, of course, tell them not to murder the ball when aiming for my body.

- String or yarn on the wall in the shape of a box is helpful for pinch shots. This is an excellent visual aid for this type of shot, which is difficult to explain verbally. In fact a box placed at various points on the wall can be of value for many shots.

- A pupil can try to hit a kill shot by toppling over a few cans. If the pupil is not an advanced player, stack up many cans, and as the pupil progresses, take off a



can. Hitting a can produces an immediate sense of achievement.

- A hula hoop taped on the wall gives a pupil a target to aim for in learning a straight pass shot down the side wall. The student in this photo always smiled when she made a bullseye, a better reward than my saying, "Good shot."

- An "X" taped on the floor encourages the player to jump back into the correct area for center court positioning. In my special education classes students often forget or fail to comprehend what I mean by moving back to center court position. This visual aid was an immediate success.

- Money will make anyone do anything. By putting money on the walls as targets you will see the pupil's progress increase rapidly. If you are an extravagant teacher, you can place high denominations on the walls and give them away as rewards. If



you are a starving teacher, use the money as an incentive, put it back in your pocket and treat everyone to a lemonade after the lesson.

- A small racquetball can in the corner emphasizes the need to hit low for the kill or pinch shots. The more advanced players have fun aiming for such a difficult target. ●

Starting Out on the Right Foot

A Podiatrist's Advice
to Racquetball Players



The right insole, insert, support and/or protector could prevent foot problems on the racquetball court.

by Charles Gudas D.P.M.

Almost every racquetball player can recall the moment of revelation. Suddenly the ball no longer was an object of torment. Its angles and caroms weren't haphazard after all; the path of its flight could even be anticipated.

And with this anticipation came movement. Freed from paralyzing confusion, the former novice now was able to dart about the court with confidence, making an all out effort for every shot instead of watching hopelessly as the ball whizzed by. Such a moment of accomplishment and exquisite exhaustion is one of the great joys of any sport. Almost nothing can spoil it.

Except, perhaps, a pair of feet crying for relief.

Such is the price of proficiency for countless racquetball players. As a player learns to move on a racquetball court, the feet are subjected to constant punishment. Other than running no sport is harder on the lower extremities than racquetball. The quick starts and stops required to play the sport well put a tremendous amount of pressure on feet which in many cases have done nothing more strenuous in their adult lives than kick an occasional vending machine.

Blisters, callouses and bruised feet have become part of the initiation rite for racquetball beginners, especially for those who are seriously taking up a sport for the first time. There's no doubt a certain degree of discomfort is unavoidable for the tenderfoot. However there are several ways to soften the blows and minimize the aches and pains.

The following precautionary measures are made in conjunction with recommendations from Scholl's Pro Comfort advisory board, which includes some of the leading athletic trainers throughout the country. Most of these tips require little more than common sense, but they can be just as useful to a novice as a deep ceiling shot.



Since your foot absorbs three to five times your body weight with each step, it often requires additional cushioning and support. Inserts and insoles can help absorb the shock of impact and provide support for feet with weak arches or a tendency to overpronate.



Gudas is assistant professor of surgery at the University of Chicago Hospital and Clinic

If the Shoe Fits

The obvious first step towards proper foot care is making sure you're wearing the right shoes. Find a pair that suits your particular needs. If you have chronic weak ankles or arches, you'd be better off sacrificing some speed for extra stability with a heavier, leather shoe. An arch support also can be helpful for cushioning and support. Since sprained and twisted ankles are not uncommon, you might also want to wear an ankle support if you have any problem in that area.

No matter what type of shoe you decide to buy, try the pair on in the late afternoon when your feet have expanded to their maximum size. Have both feet measured,

and buy for the larger foot. Be sure to wear the socks, orthotics and/or insoles you'll use when playing.

Ideally the shoes should break at the balls of the feet and give good support to the sole from toe to heel. Unfortunately you probably won't be able to get that cushioning from commercial shoes. Insoles are a convenient answer to the problem. They not only reduce the effects of foot shock, but also help prevent blisters, one of the racquetball player's most common foot problems.

Fast stops can give you a pain in the toe which can be relieved by wearing soft foam toe protectors. Foot powder can help the other areas of the foot by keeping them dry to protect against blisters.

Avoiding Five Common Foot Problems

Fighting Blisters

Blisters form when the foot creates friction by rubbing against the shoe. This rubbing action separates the top layer of skin from the underlying layer, with the area in between filling with fluid.

Insoles can help reduce this friction on the sole by absorbing most of the moisture within the shoe and making it fit tighter. When a shoe fits snugly, the foot doesn't have as much room to move back and forth and generate friction. Moisture can be a problem since it causes the foot to stick to the shoe rather than gliding freely over its surface. That's why it's also important to keep your feet, socks and shoes dry with a dusting of foot powder.

If rubbing causes pain or sensitivity, you can still prevent a blister from developing by applying moleskin pressure point padding to the sensitive area.

The soles of your feet aren't the only areas that need attention. Another injury common to racquetball players is "tennis toe," an inflammation of the first toe caused by abrupt stops which continually slam the foot forward against the shoe. Cushioning protection is as important to relieving tennis toe as it is to relieving blister pain. Slip soft foam toe protectors over the toe to help relieve pressure on the tip.

The tops of your toes also are susceptible to rubbing against the shoe, which can scrape away the top layer of skin. Be sure your shoes aren't too tight in the toe area. There should be ample room for toes to flex and bend without losing any skin.

The Right Way to Lace

The last step in good foot care is lacing your shoes. Tie them snugly across the top of the foot to support your ankle and prevent sprains, but keep the laces loose near the toes to facilitate good blood circulation and to give the foot room to move.

Finally a few common sense precautions can go a long way towards eliminating sports related injuries. For instance if you have any trouble with your ankles or knees, be sure to wear a snug fitting elasticized support. The lateral movements in racquetball put quite a strain on these joints, and a good support will help prevent excessive side-to-side movements. Several pros also wear high top shoes to support weak ankles.

The Problem

Arch Pain

Athlete's Foot

Blisters

"Tennis Toe"

Weak Ankles

The Precaution

Be sure your shoes' built-in arches fit comfortably; wear an arch support; do warm-up flexing exercises for your feet and ankles.

Dry your feet thoroughly after bathing, especially between the toes; wear absorbent socks and insoles.

Keep your feet, socks and shoes dry with foot powder; wear insoles to absorb moisture; buy shoes that are flexible near the toes.

Wear shoes that aren't too tight; slip foam protectors over the toe to relieve pressure.

Use heavy, leather high top shoes for maximum support; lace the shoes tightly across the top and loosely near the toes; wear a snug-fitting ankle support.

Lace your shoes snugly across the top of the foot to support the ankle and prevent sprains, but keep them loose near the toes for flexibility and good blood circulation.



Don't try to do too much too soon. Fatigue and overuse strain affect the entire body and are major causes of injury. If you plan to give racquetball your best shot, you should begin an exercise and conditioning program to gradually increase your overall endurance, strength and flexibility. Jogging or running is an excellent way to improve your cardiovascular capabilities. Stretching exercises

will help condition muscles and tendons and lessen their susceptibility to strain or sprain.

These health tips won't improve your kill shot or help you answer your opponent's Z serve. That takes time and practice. But when your moment of accomplishment does arrive, such precautions will help you enjoy it to the utmost. ●

Who's Playing Racquetball?

Glenda Young:

From Pro to Podiatrist

Glenda Young knows first hand what it's like to be an injured athlete. She remembers the first time she sprained her ankle during a softball game. That's why this 27-year-old Chicago based racquetball pro is studying to be a podiatrist. She wants to help other athletes avoid unnecessary injuries.

A self-avowed "born athlete" Young was the Illinois Open Women's champ in 1978 and 1979, number one in the 1979 midwest regionals and tops in the state doubles tournament in '79 and '80.

The tomboy from Fond du Lac, WI taught herself by watching and imitating other athletes. At nine she was on the YMCA swim team. When she was 11, she learned racquetball and played against high school boys. Then it was tennis, basketball, field hockey and softball in high school, followed by a swimming scholarship to the University of Wisconsin at LaCrosse.

Graduating with a degree in health and P.E. she taught elementary and high school gym classes before she moved to Milwaukee to become a racquetball teacher and a regular competitor in tournaments around the country. She moved to Chicago two years later.

Now an instructor at the Michigan Avenue, Lake Shore and Oriental racquetball clubs Young cut down her teaching schedule from six to two days a week in September of 1979 when she became a student at the Illinois College of Podiatry. And though she emphasizes that "studying is my first priority," she still has time to run five miles a day, play squash and lift weights.

Young, who warns against lifting weights that are too heavy, does "30 repetitions with dumbbells for the upper part of my body," and uses "the exercise machine for the lower half." The whole routine of exercise, racquetball and running has slimmed her down from 135 to 122, and she says "it's all muscle."

All her contact with sports has shown Young how athletes get hurt needlessly. Besides eye injuries ("It's important to wear eyeguards") the most common injuries among racquetball players are sprained ankles, twisted knees and sore backs, Young reports.



Glenda Young hopes to do something about those problems. After she receives her D.P.M. from podiatry school, she plans to specialize in sports medicine ("I hope in Houston, TX") and hook up with a team as its doctor.

"I want to do more than help injured athletes," Young says. "I want to educate them before they get hurt. My goal is to help people enjoy sports safely and sensibly." ●

—Dorothy Weinberg

Young steers clear of racquetball injuries by working out a half hour before she plays.



In her second year at podiatry school Glenda Young gets on hand experience examining injured feet.

—Steve Donisch photos



National Racquetball's November issue will carry stories and four-color photos covering Leach/Seamco Junior Nationals.

Those Incomparable Juniors

Indianapolis will never be the same! The invasion of hundreds of racquet wielding pee wee's (and some not so pee wee), ranging from eight years old through 17, gave the speedway capital of the world something to think about besides finely tuned cars. Finely tuned kids!

In next month's issue look for full results, photos and stories covering the week's action. In the meantime here are some personal reflections.

In the 17 and under Boys, Gregg Peck's brilliance added another notch to his string of titles — plus a \$1,500 scholarship from the Robert W. Kendler Scholarship Fund . . . National Open Champ Bret Hamett, runner-up to Peck, had more to lose than anybody — and probably did . . . Girls 17 and under champ, Stacey Fletcher, said *"I should have lost in the quarters"*. Liz Alvarado wished she had . . . Marty Hogan attended the Friday evening awards banquet and said *"the Fletcher/Alvarado match was the finest display of women's racquetball I have ever witnessed — pro or amateur"*. We couldn't agree more . . . In the 15 under Boys did John Kleerman take California's Gerry Price too lightly? Should anyone take Gerry Price too lightly? Someone said *"Price doesn't even look like a racquetball player — more like a bowler"*. No bowler has a backhand like that! Gerry says he watches a lot of TV. His favorite program? You guessed it — *"The Price is Right"*. . . The 15 and under Girls had Lynn Wojcik of Tucson topping Loretta Ann Peterson of Salt Lake City in a thrilling finale. *"I've never heard of her,"* said Lynn. *"She has now"* said Loretta! . . . In the Boys 12 and under there was Baltimore's David Simonette — and then there were the rest. David is the most refreshing player since Hogan. He's polite, knowledgeable and very good. Almost too good for just 11 years old. Andy Gross from St. Louis was his finalist opponent when asked how he felt about his own performance he said *"gross"*. . . Ohio can boast of a resident National Champion by way of 12-year-old Elaine Mardas from Columbus. Elaine was the class of the Girls 12 and under, keeping all her opponents to 11 points or under throughout the entire week.

Michigan produced the first Boys 10 and under National Champion — Jimmy Floyd. Casual and confident best describes Jimmy in his finale against Brad Nelson from Lincoln, NE like playing on a Thursday afternoon match back at his home club in Burton . . . The state of Texas is rapidly gaining the reputation of producing winners and one of Dave Peck's *"bad"* girls, Alma Fuentes from El Paso, cemented that reputation in the Girls 10 and under. Cindy Doyle from Williamsville, NY pushed Alma to the limit and can be extremely proud of her performance . . . A pretty 10-year-old from Connecticut named Christine won a consolation trophy. That trophy will probably gather some dust in the future, but the new 10 speed bike won in the drawing certainly won't! Many miles of driving separate Indy and Connecticut, but for Christine they were miles of smiles!

The week long event produced a few tears also but Moms and Dads knew how to handle those. A *"nice try"* or *"we're proud of you"* worked wonders, but a handful of quarters for a game or two of *"Space Invaders"* was the most effective cure. Some of the kids were better than others on the racquetball courts but they were all awesome at *"Astroids"* and *"Space Invaders"*.

Kleerman and Peck gave this writer an impromptu dunking in the Holiday Inn pool one evening. Beware John and Gregg — the score will be evened! There was a field trip on Wednesday to Connor's Prairie Settlement, the Indy 500 Museum and the Paramount Music Palace for a pizza party with a total of 146 kids and parents.

Did we ever find Kenny Stern? . . . Marty Hogan made an appearance at the Friday evening banquet (Marty always shows up for food) and gave all the kids some good advice. Marty knows the importance of a good education, and we couldn't agree more.

John Amatulli received most votes for the USRA Sportsman of the Year Award and he is deserving. We know you're proud of him Sav — as any father would be . . .

How about our youngest player Adam Karras from Hammond — just eight years old! Hogan gave Adam one of Leach's new AC250 racquets, along with a few words of wisdom on how to use it . . . Mark Lindsay, Hawaii's Junior Regional Champ, came all the way from Honolulu and received the travel award. "I can't thank Leach and Seamco enough" Mark said. And let's not forget Leach and Seamco, whose generosity made it possible for 94 regional winners to receive round trip air fare. Junior development is high on Leach and Seamco's budget priorities and both these fine companies have already committed financial support to the 1981 National Junior Championships. The USRA appreciates all the letters of thanks we've received, but don't forget to write and express those same feelings to Charlie Drake at Leach and Walter Eichelberger at Seamco.

I mentioned our trip to the Paramount Music Palace for our pizza party. This famous Indianapolis establishment features the world's largest Wurlitzer pipe organ. A special tune was played in honor of the National Juniors — *"Star Wars"*. What more perfection description could we give those incomparable juniors!

— Bob Keenan

Bob Keenan, USRA director, coordinates amateur competition around the country, working hand in hand with the USRA state chairmen listed on this page.



USRA State Affiliates

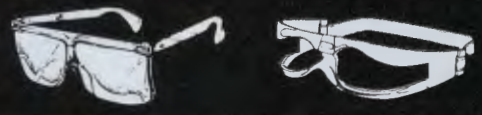
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Alaska Dino Paolini 630 East Tudor Rd. Anchorage 99503 907-276-0700	Hawaii Jane Goodwill The Courthouse 45608 Kam Hwy. Kaneohe 96744 808-235-5839	Massachusetts Jim McConchie RB International 12 "A" Street Burlington 01803 617-273-1025	New Mexico Gary Mazaroff 1619 Solano N.E. Albuquerque 87110 505-266-9213	Rhode Island Jerry Melaragno 15 Rena Street N. Providence 02911 401-274-4900 #569	West Virginia Dave Taylor Rec. — Intramural Sports Off. Stansbury Hall, — W.V.U. Morgantown 53711 304-293-5221
Arizona Chuck Hallock Marc's Backwall P.O. Box 275 Tempe 85281 602-967-0001 John Marsh Phoenix/Metro Chairman (Central) 602-247-2041 Cassey Blitt Tucson/Metro Chairman (Southern) 602-626-6239	Idaho Dirk Burgard 130 N. Placer Idaho Falls 83401 208-523-0600	Michigan Dennis Wood 2808 S. Deerfield Lansing 48910 517-882-8789	New York (Mid-Hudson) Tom Flannery 34 Alpine Dr. Wappingers Falls 12590 914-297-5010	South Carolina Hayward Thompson 121 Doyle Drive Greenville 29615 803-242-6920 (Off.) 803-244-9266 (Res.)	Wisconsin Joe Wirkus 4912 Hammersley Rd. Madison 53711 608-237-8746
Arkansas James Bixler 2601 Ridgeway Rd. Pine Bluff 71603 501-879-4656	Illinois Alan Shetzer 570 East Higgins Rd. Elk Grove Village 60007 312-439-3030	Minnesota Robert M. Adam Diamond Intl. Corp. 7600 Parklawn Ave. Suite 228 Edina 55435 612-835-6515	New York (Upstate Assn.) Jim Rougeux Westvale Clubhouse 3328 W. Genessee St. Westvale 13219 315-488-3126 (Off.) 315-446-9159 (Res.)	South Dakota Harvey Magee Supreme Cts. RB & Fitness 4020 Jackson Blvd. Rapid City 57701 Doug Schneider (Co-Chairman) Box 702 Sioux Falls 57101 605-338-3233	Wyoming Dan Sell 2311 Hanway Casper 82601 307-237-2208
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Racquetball's a Passion with Most Improved Players

"In love with racquetball" . . . "hooked the minute I started playing" . . . "love at first game" is the way many of the winners in National Racquetball's Second Annual Most Improved Player contest feel about their favorite court sport.

Those same players—men, women, teenagers and adults in their 30s, from all over the United States — put their racquets where their hearts are. They all spend countless hours improving their racquetball games.

Virginia's winner, Capt. Marsha L. Lutz, USAF, started playing racquetball every morning in the Pentagon Officers Club after she was transferred to the capital last July. The three time All-American diving champ, who found that *"compared with every other sport . . . nothing gave me the exercise and pleasure of racquetball,"* reaped the rewards of that steady play. In October of 1979 she won the Cs in her first tournament in Timonium, MD, and the following May she was number one in the As in the All Military Racquetball Championships in Virginia Beach, VA. She topped off that victory by making it to the third round of the Women's Open at the USRA/NRC Pro Am Nationals last June in Las Vegas.

Sixteen-year-old Cheryl Mathieu, Missouri's winner, is typical of the younger Most Improved Players who were singleminded about improving their games. The winner of the USRA Junior Midwest Regionals for the 17 and under division practices two hours a day, and even gave up a catcher's position on the Lafayette High School softball team to devote her time to racquetball.

Other young players who nabbed their state's Most Improved Player titles as well as USRA junior recognition are California's Gerry Price, who won the 15 and under division at the Junior Nationals; Florida's Richard Potter, winner of the Southeast Regionals 12 and under slot; Maryland's Mark Levy, 15 and under Northeast Regionals title holder, and New Mexico's Brenda Young, who took first in the Southwest Regionals 15 and under category.

Tim Tracy, who's 17, is so caught up in racquetball he moved last December from Florida to Birmingham, AL, where his grandparents' home gives him easy access to four wall courts. *"Practicing day in and day out"* took him from a second place spot in the men's novice USRA Florida championships in June of 1979 to first in the Men's A division at the NRC/USRA pro-am Catalina Classic in Atlanta last April.



Capt. Marsha L. Lutz, USAF



Cheryl Mathieu



Gerry Price



Michael Diamond



Janine Toman



Pat Joiner



Tim Tracy

New York's Most Improved Player, Michael Diamond, and Illinois' Janine Toman, managed to work on their racquetball games between college classes. Toman, who earned a thousand dollar scholarship for winning the USRA 1980 Intercollegiate Women's Singles, came up from a third in that tournament the year before and believes *"racquetball has helped me improve my grades and personal development. Practicing at school made me manage my time and studies better."* Diamond, who started playing at Brooklyn College, where he's majoring in sports medicine, progressed from C division play to taking second last June in the As of the New Jersey First Annual Pro-Am Scholarship Fund Open.

National Racquetball's Texas and Arkansas winners have something else in common. Their husbands are their coaches—and fans.

"Down in that wide expanse of country called Texas," Russ Joiner wrote, *"lives a blonde, blue eyed beauty named Pat Joiner, student accountant, racquetball fanatic and women's club pro at the Racquetball Club of Ft. Worth."* Pat Joiner earned her state's Most Improved Player award by progressing from a B Consolation winner in her first tournament to a third place in the Open in the Texas State Championships.

In Arkansas James Dailey was the coach behind his wife's racquetball progress. Vickie Dailey won only one match in a round robin tournament at the Don Kessinger Club in Memphis in July of 1979 and then went back to take a second place competing against those same women the following October.

One more entry from a husband must be noted, even if the subject of the letter was an Honorable Mention, rather than a winner in a state where competition was especially keen for this Second Annual Most Improved Player contest.

Holly Ferris



has lost over 20 pounds and has greatly improved her physical muscle tone, coordination and endurance. She has advanced from a 'klutz' to one of the top players in Sacramento and in the California's Central Valley."

Describing Holly Ferris' racquetball progress her husband, Robert Elliott, noted: *"Before Holly started, she had not participated in any competitive or non-competitive sport. Since taking up her racquet she*

The Winners

National Racquetball's Second Annual Most Improved Player Contest.

Each of the following winners receives a handsome, engraved desk pen set, Steve Keeley's *The Complete Book of Racquetball*, a certificate of achievement and a lifetime subscription to *National Racquetball*, with its built in lifetime membership in the United States Racquetball Association.

Canada

Dwayne VeVang, 25. Calgary
Plays at Centre Court, Calgary

Alabama

Tim Tracy, 17. Birmingham
Plays at The Racquet Place, Birmingham

Alaska

Harold Campbell, 26. Anchorage
Plays at Alaska Athletic Club, Anchorage

Arizona

Dave Follett, 18. Ft. Huachuca
Plays at Barnes Field House, Ft. Huachuca

Arkansas

Vickie Dally, 26. Jacksonville
Plays at Base Gym, Little Rock Air Force Base

California

Gerry Price, 15. Castro Valley
Plays at Four Seasons, Castro Valley

Colorado

Stacey Snyder, 16. Arvada
Plays at Colorado Court Springs, Arvada

Connecticut

Nick Caruso, 34. Milford
Plays at ICC, Bridgeport and Stratford
Racquetball

Delaware

David MacKelcan, 28. Wilmington
Plays at Branmar Racquetball Club, Wilmington

Florida

Richard Potter, 12. Altamonte Springs
Plays at Jacksonville RB Club and
The Racquet Ball, Orlando

Illinois

Janine M. Toman, 20. Western Springs
Plays at University of Ill. IMPE, Champaign

Indiana

Kevin C. Smith, 23. Indianapolis
Plays at Levee Court Club, Indianapolis

Hawaii

Dancetta Feary, 27. Honolulu
Plays at Central YMCA

Iowa

John R. Schellenger, 17. Davenport
Plays at North Courtside Racquet Club,
Bettendorf

Kentucky

Missy Strober, 15. Louisville
Plays at Jewish Community Center, Louisville

Louisiana

Kristen Swigart, 23. Baton Rouge
Plays at The Wallbanger Court Clubs,
Baton Rouge

Maine

Linda Fitzpatrick, 15. Falmouth
Plays at Playoff Racquetball, South Portland

Maryland

Mark B. Levy, 14. New Carrollton
Plays at Supreme Courts, Columbia

Massachusetts

Michael P. Killion, 19. Melrose
Plays at Racquetball International, Burlington

Missouri

Cheryl Mathieu, 15. Chesterfield
Plays at Spaulding of Ballwin, Chesterfield

Montana

Mike Kiffe, 17. Great Falls
Plays at Universal Sports and Courts, Great Falls

Nebraska

Rodger Lindwall, Jr. 16. Omaha
Plays at Racquetball of Omaha

New Hampshire

Debbie Wilber, 15. Concord
Plays at Racquet Club of Concord

New Jersey

Lonnie Allgood, 25. Pennington
Plays at Mercer Racquetball Club, Mercerville

New Mexico

Brenda Young, 15. Las Cruces
Plays at Tom Young's Racquet Club, Las Cruces

New York

Michael Diamond, 18. Brooklyn
Plays at Brooklyn College

Oregon

Ed Burns, 23. Beaverton
Plays at Beaverton Racquetball Club, Beaverton

South Carolina

Paul Elliot, 24. Charleston
Plays at Charleston Racquet/Nautilus Center

Texas

Pat Joiner, 20. Ft. Worth
Plays at Racquetball Club of Fort Worth

Vermont

John A. Bostwick, 36. St. Albans
Plays at Racquet's Edge, Essex Junction,

Virginia

Marsha Lutz, 32. Annandale
Plays at Pentagon Athletic Club and Courts Royal
East, Alexandria, VA

West Virginia

Doug Quick, 27. St. Albans
Plays at Huntington Racquet and Health Club,
Huntington

Wisconsin

Tim Usher, 26. Madison
Plays at Supreme Court, Madison

Watch these pages for more stories and pictures featuring the winners in *National Racquetball's* Second Annual Most Improved Player contest. And start saving your scorecards and other evidence that could put you in the running for 1981 Most Improved Player in your state.

Tournament Results

Honorable Mention Awards 1980 Most Improved Player Contest

K.C. Barton, 26. Essex Jct., VT Plays at Racquet's Edge, Essex Jct. •Linda Baumlir, 24. Newport News, VA Plays at Court Square, Newport News •Jerry Belcaster, 15. Chicago, IL Plays at Eden's Court House, Chicago •Ed Curtis, 24. Bangor, ME Plays at Holiday Health and Racquet Club, Bangor •Jenelle DeLugg, 13. San Bruno, CA Plays at What a Racquet, Colma •Gary R. Edlin, 13. Louisville, KY Plays at Jefferson Racquetball •Chris Evon, 23. Oak Park, IL Plays at Oak Park-River Forest Racquet Club •Holly Ferris, 29. Citrus Heights, CA Plays at Placerville Racquetball Club, Diamond Springs •Kathy Gail, 20. Hialeah, FL Plays at Public Park, McDonald Pk., Hialeah •Katherine Germand, 29. Torrington, CT Plays at Pinewoods Racquet Club, Torrington •Bill Grassell, 28. Appleton, WI Plays at Wisconsin Athletic Club, Appleton •David Gries, 13. Montgomery, AL Plays at Montgomery Athletic Club •David D. Haggarty, 23. South Burlington, VT Plays at Racquet's Edge, Essex Jct. •Ken Jones, 38. Centralia, IL Plays at Centralia Racquetball Club, Centralia •Simon Lightman, 14. Downsview, Ontario, Canada Plays at JCC, Downsview •Dennis Lutz, 21. Chicago, IL Plays at Mid-Town Court House, Chicago •David L. Maturah, 28. East Hartford, CT plays at Rollout Racquetball Club, Rocky Hill •Marshall Naimo, 27. South Meriden CT Plays at Wallingford Club House, Bristol •Jack Newman, 16. Morton Grove, IL Plays at Four Flagg's Court Club, Niles •Craig J. Stelchen, 21. St. Charles, IL Plays at Metro Club-Glass Court, Lombard •David B. Sledge, 34. Odessa, TX Plays at Odessa Family YMCA •Mack R. Turner, 26. Burlington IA Plays at YMCA Westside Club, Burlington •Desi Vega, 15. Violet, LA Plays at Racquetball South, Violet



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Please send tournament results and clear black and white action photos to Bob Keenan, USRA, 4101 Dempster, Skokie, IL 60076. Type your results double spaced, including name of tournament, dates and place with scores listed in style you see on these pages. Use first and last names the first time you mention a player (in doubles matches, too) and last names only after that.

Allow two months or more for your tournament writeup to appear here.

New York

The Pelham Racquetball & Health Club held the Westchester Open May 2-4 under sponsorship of Coca-Cola.

Results

Men's Open

Quarter-finals: Victor Niederhoffer d. Gary Valinoti 21-5, 21-4; Chas Horton d. Willie Wong 21-11, 21-13; Art Diemar d. Dave Arnold 21-15, 21-13; Ruben Gonzales d. John Bierman 21-17, 21-9

Semi-finals: Niederhoffer d. Horton 21-6, 21-3; Gonzales d. Diemar 21-14, 21-14

Finals: Niederhoffer d. Gonzales 21-9, 7-21, 11-8

Men's B

Quarter-finals: Ray Gonzales d. Vincent Colonna 21-9, 21-17; Steve Freifeld d. Peter Chardavoyne 21-18, 21-19; Richie Devito d. Julian Gershaw 21-10, 21-18; Jerome Martin d. Marshall Naimo 21-19, 4-21, 11-5

Semi-finals: Gonzales d. Freifeld 21-19, 21-3; Martin d. Devito 21-17, 19-21, 11-5

Finals: Gonzales d. Martin 21-20, 21-10

Men's C

Quarter-finals: Cal Betts d. Charles Schirm 21-17, 21-20; Gerald Santoro d. John Mendello 21-8, 13-21, 11-6; Mike Aquino d. George Bardoff 21-13, 21-14; Bob Hintleman d. Jerry Ende 21-4, 21-7

Semi-finals: Santoro d. Betts 21-18, 21-7; Aquino d. Hintleman 21-12, 21-10

Finals: Aquino d. Santoro 21-17, 13-21, 11-1

Men's Novice

Quarter-finals: Ralph Calabrese d. Frank Luchetto 21-8, 21-15; Glenn Rudofsky d. Scott Ferber 20-21, 21-20, 11-9; Steve Gifford d. Kenny Teape 21-18, 18-21, 11-4; Craig Schoenhaus d. Perry Yeager 21-10, 9-21, 11-9

Semi-finals: Calabrese d. Rudofsky 21-11, 20-21, 11-7; Gifford d. Schoenhaus 21-8, 21-19

Finals: Gifford d. Calabrese 21-11, 21-9

Men's Senior

Quarter-finals: Pat Columbo d. Mel Fine 21-2, 21-8; Arnold Frumin d. Mark Flakov 21-16, 21-16; Peter Prucha d. Fred Weber 21-8, 9-21, 11-10; John Geremia d. Bob Anderson 21-10, 21-10

Semi-finals: Columbo d. Frumin 21-3, 21-10; Prucha d. Geremia 21-20, 7-21, 11-5

Finals: Columbo d. Prucha 21-9, 21-11

Women's Open

Quarter-finals: Karen Borga d. Ginger Sottile 11-21, 21-11, 11-6; Lorrie Pallas d. Laurie Vanderwoude 21-19, 19-21, 11-9; Lia Marchini d. Karen Kimbling 21-18, 21-19; Maryanne Cluess d. Linda Nastasi 21-8, 21-12

Semi-finals: Borga d. Pallas 21-19, 21-18; Cluess d. Marchini 21-16, 19-21, 11-10

Finals: Borga d. Cluess 21-20, 15-21, 11-6

Women's B

Quarter-finals: Jean Ende d. Joyce Martin 21-17, 21-10; Helene Burden d. Kara Keran 17-21, 21-5, 11-1; Carole Nestle d. Liz Kaplan 21-8, 21-12; Diana Nyad d. Sherri Feldman 20-21, 21-2, 11-1

Semi-finals: Burden d. Ende 21-17, 21-8; Nyad d. Nestle 21-18, 21-7

Finals: Nyad d. Burden 21-8, 21-13

Women's C

Quarter-finals: Laurie Grele d. Sue MacLennan 21-6, 21-13; Liz Steiner d. Madelyn Badillo 21-19, 21-5; Lynn Molina d. Jody Grossman 21-15, 21-5; Johnnie Hill d. Liz Williams 21-7, 21-12

Semi-finals: Grele d. Steiner 21-11, 21-2; Molina d. Hill 21-4, 21-13

Finals: Grele d. Molina 21-20, 21-8

Women's Novice

Quarter-finals: Shelly Aldridge d. Paula Scarborough 21-15, 21-17; Jane Levine d. Carrie Montalbano 21-16, 21-10; Randi Freidman d. Joanne Licausi 21-10, 12-21, 11-4; Debbie Munroe d. Gail Fischer 21-8, 21-15

Semi-finals: Levine d. Aldridge 21-11, 21-5; Munroe d. Friedman 21-7, 21-4

Finals: Levine d. Munroe 18-21, 21-2, 11-5

Men's Open Doubles

Quarter-finals: Art Diemar/Jerry Yee d. Jim Vandenheuvel/John Bierman 21-8, 21-9; Jim Valinoti/Joe Giamportune d. Fred Singer/Joe Kendell 21-9, 21-9; Chas Horton/Pat Columbo d. James Casio/Michael Diamond 21-20, 21-10; Don Alvarez/Dave Arnold d. Bob Steffens/Ernie Fraas 21-15, 10-21, 11-7

Semi-finals: Diemar/Yee d. Valinoti/Giamportune 19-21, 21-16, 11-8; Horton/Columbo d. Alvarez/Arnold 8-21, 21-16, 11-3

Finals: Diemar/Yee d. Horton/Columbo 15-21, 21-9, 11-8

Men's C Doubles

Quarter-finals: John Peterson/Neil Tufano d. Ted Weiss/Joe Hendler 21-3, 21-13; Frank Bernardi/Ed Fox d. Steve Squire/Andy Saluga 21-18, 21-14; Richie Devito/Sam Borrero d. Vinnie Colonna/Victor Vasquez 21-20, 21-18; Ed Peluso/Jack Covello d. Adam Santiago/Jim Schlichting 21-7, 21-12

Semi-finals: Peterson/Tufano d. Bernardi/Fox 21-19, 6-21, 11-10; Devito/Borrero d. Peluso/Covello 21-16, 21-1

Finals: Peterson/Tufano d. Devito/Borrero 21-17, 21-20

Women's C Doubles

Quarter-finals: Leslie Fleischer/Marta Riker d. Barbara Maurau/Lorraine Lichtenberger 20-21, 21-13, 11-10; Johnnie Hill/Michael Hill d. Maureen Luciano/Toni Villanova 21-11, 21-16; Madelyn Badillo/Debbie Munroe d. Dolores Cannella/Coleen Rowell 21-9, 21-18; Lynn Barta/Joyce Martin d. Joyce Greenwald/Jean Ende 21-8, 21-12

Semi-finals: Hill/Hill d. Fleischer/Riker 17-21, 21-7, 11-4; Barta/Martin d. Badill/Munroe 21-9, 21-18

Finals: Barta/Martin d. Hill/Hill 21-13, 21-6



In her first racquetball tournament Swimmer and ABC Sports Commentator Diana Nyad won the Women's B division and a plaque from Tournament Director Bob Anderson at the Westchester Open in May.

Indiana

The Indiana State Racquetball Association's Third Annual Indy Open Racquetball Tournament took place May 16-18 at the Court Club in Indianapolis.

Results

Men's Open: 1st-John Knauer, 2nd-Jim Hamilton, 3rd-Don Davis, 4th-Jack Ecktmann

Men's B: 1st-Charles Gordon, 2nd-Tom Brokaw, 3rd-Ted Champion, 4th-Greg McCall, Cons-Mike Simpson

Men's C: 1st-Steve Lynch, 2nd-Hai Spiro, 3rd-Larry Walden, 4th-Larry Morwick, Cons-Craig Barker

Men's Veterans: 1st-Jim Edwards, 2nd-Bruce Shafer, 3rd-Mike Skene, 4th-Bill Lancet, Cons-Denny Owen

Women's Open: 1st-Pam Clark, 2nd-Linda Green, 3rd-Carol Baker, 4th-Lori Fisher

Women's B: 1st-Marie Younger, 2nd-Theresa Nellan, 3rd-Adine Winkle, 4th-Marianne O'Rourke, Cons-Michale Overton

Women's C: 1st-Debi Mackell, 2nd-Sharon Marion, 3rd-Barbara Tansey, 4th-Barbara Mohr, Cons-Veronica Krupinski

Women's Veterans: 1st-Diana Cremeans, 2nd-Diane Sanderson, 3rd-Lynne Rumbaugh, 4th-Pam Grieger, Cons-Connie McCart

Men's Seniors: 1st-Bob Steege, 2nd-Mike Holtzman, 3rd-Charles Childers, 4th-Dusty Silver, Cons-Ron Brooks

Men's Masters: 1st-Leo Cox, 2nd-Jim Stevens, 3rd-Tom Robinson, 4th-Karl Schmidt, Cons-Bill Lindner

California

Wallbanger's Spring Fling '80 took place June 20-22 at Wallbangers Racquetball Club in Huntington Beach.

Results

Men's Open Singles

Round of 16: Mark Martino, bye; Ruben Lopez d. Randy Markley, 21-18, 21-0; Scott Scofield d. Marion Haggins, 21-7, 21-16; Mark Bryant d. Neil Chapman, forfeit; Jim Carson d. Mario Chavez 21-7, 21-12; Bob Holcomb d. Dave Zurborg 21-13, 21-10; Chuck Cernicky d. Paul Carlson 21-20, 14-21, 11-8; Carl Buggs, bye.

Quarters: Martino d. Lopez 21-6, 21-19; Bryant d. Scofield 21-14, 21-14; Carson d. Holcomb 21-12, 21-16; Buggs d. Cernicky 21-10, 21-18.

Semis: Martino d. Bryant 16-21, 21-3, 11-4; Buggs d. Carson 21-18, 18-21, 11-10

Finals: Martino d. Buggs 21-13, 21-14

Men's B Singles

Round of 16: Paul Martino d. Mike Boucheau, forfeit; Randy Markley d. Hans Eckardt 21-6, 21-8; Paul Carlson d. Bill Hanson 21-3, 21-9; B.J. Jenkins d. Steve Hebler 21-18, 21-20; Llemonte Fuqua d. Gilbert Gutierrez 21-16, 21-19; Henry Hanna d. Scott Reed 21-17, 21-8; Marc Chittenden d. Kai Walters 21-16, 21-10; Barry Loomis d. Marion Haggins 21-12, 21-12

Quarters: Martino d. Markley 21-13, 21-12; Carlson d. Jenkins 21-17, 21-10; Hanna d. Fuqua 21-14, 21-20; Loomis d. Chittenden 21-14, 21-12

Semis: Carlson d. Martino 21-8, 6-21, 11-10; Loomis d. Hanna 21-9, 21-8

Finals: Carlson d. Loomis, 20-21, 21-18, 11-9

Men's C Singles

Round of 16: Bob Wilson d. Paul Aguirre, 21-18, 17-21, 11-4; Daniel Espinoza d. Burt Carlson 21-10, 21-9; Kai Walthers d. Glen Valencia 21-12, 21-19; Gerald Boswell d. George Tellez 21-11, 21-13; Bill Martinez d. David Zurborg 21-15, 20-21, 11-9; Chris Chinnici d. Adrian Saint 7-21,

21-13, 11-3; Thomas Franck d. Marc Munoz 21-12, 12-21, 11-7; Allan Trunck d. Dave Delgadillo 21-5, 21-8

Quarters: Espinoza d. Wilson 21-16, 21-4; Walthers d. Boswell 21-16, 15-21, 11-7; Martinez d. Chinnici 19-21, 21-2, 11-7; Franck d. Trunck 21-9, 9-21, 11-7

Semis: Espinoza d. Walthers 21-10, 18-21, 11-5; Franck d. Martinez 21-11, 9-21, 11-5

Finals: Espinoza d. Franck, 21-18, 21-8

Men's Novice Singles

Round of 16: Randy Cole d. Alfred Ontiveros 13-21, 21-10, 11-10; Mark Dunn d. Rob Dameron, 21-14, 21-8; Steve Williams d. Dale Beverly 21-4, 21-5; John Schoonmaker d. James Chavez 21-7, 21-7; Kenny White d. George Telez 21-13, 16-21, 11-7; George Sims d. Phil Lachina 14-21, 21-8, 11-6; Fred Doma d. Tom Binninger 19-21, 21-12, 11-4; Burt Carlson d. Bill Jackson 21-11, 18-21, 11-0

Quarters: Dunn d. Cole 21-14, 21-11; Williams d. Schoonmaker, forfeit; Sims d. White, injury forfeit; Carlson d. Doma 21-12, 21-11

Semis: Williams d. Dunn 21-18, 21-8; Carlson d. Sims 21-7, 11-21, 11-8

Finals: Williams d. Carlson 19-21, 21-14, 11-7

Men's Beginner Novice

Semis: Steve Saucedo d. Doug Pipes 16-21, 21-11, 11-1; Gary Cleaveland d. Jim Brodsky 21-18, 3-21, 11-5

Finals: Saucedo d. Cleaveland, 21-17, 21-14

Women's Open B Singles

Quarters: Huguette Zahn d. Anne Mirrielees, 21-6, 21-7; Terri Gilreath d. Janet Preleyko 21-4, 21-4; Cindy Moore d. Kerry Miles 21-9, 21-2; Lori Mullan d. Joni Howard 16-21, 21-11, 11-4

Semis: Gilreath d. Zahn 21-11, 21-9; Moore d. Mullan 21-14, 21-18

Finals: Moore d. Gilreath, 21-13, 21-5

Women's C Singles

Qualifying: Deanne Williams d. Alice Gibson, 21-10, 21-9; Sandy Trippett d. Lisa Lundquist, forfeit.

Quarters: Williams d. Gaby Hylton 21-1, 21-8; Barbara Brandt d. Linda Convery 21-14, 21-11; Kim Stockstill d. Donna Chenier 21-14, 21-9; Lindsey Bramlett d. Trippett, 21-2, 21-5

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Semis: Williams d. Brandt 21-3, 21-3; Stockstill d. Bramlett 21-8, 21-14

Finals: Williams d. Stockstill, 21-16, 21-10

Women's Beginner Novice

Quarters: Susan Normoyle d. Clarke 21-14, 21-15; Linda Dominguez d. Denise Perez 21-13, 21-5; Linda Saucedo d. Megan Hertzberg 21-15, 21-11; Sue Van Ostrand d. Anne Baker 21-0, 21-6

Semis: Dominguez d. Normoyle 21-15, 21-8; Saucedo d. Van Ostrand 21-9, 21-7

Finals: Saucedo d. Dominguez, 21-17, 9-21, 11-4

Mixed Doubles

Qualifying: Estralla/Mirrieles d. Chavez/Chavez 21-5, 21-8

Quarters: Estralla/Mirrieles d. Delgadillo/Delgadillo 21-5, 21-6; Rountree/Rountree d. Sapp/Quinn, 21-6, 21-5; Martinez/Williams d. Nedeau/Barger, 21-5, 21-10; Mullan/Crawford d. Drayer/Casas 21-13, 21-12

Semis: Estralla/Mirrieles d. Rountree/Rountree 21-13, 21-9; Mullan/Crawford d. Martinez/Williams 21-20, 21-16

Finals: Mullan/Crawford d. Estralla/Mirrieles 21-13, 21-13

Men's Upper Doubles

Quarters: Martino/Martino, bye; Sisneros/Jenkins d. Bramlett/Fuqua 21-13, 21-12; Wolfe/Spruill d. Hernandez/Hart, forfeit; Carson/Cernicki d. Buggs/Hill 21-11, 15-21, 11-10

Semis: Martino/Martino d. Sisneros/Jenkins 21-14, 21-15; Carson/Cernicki d. Wolfe/Spruill 21-20, 21-9

Finals: Carson/Cernicki d. Martino/Martino 18-21, 21-20, 11-7

Men's Lower Doubles

Round of 16: Bowen/Allin d. Loseth/Saint 21-4, 21-10; Beverly/White d. Lepley/Leisheid 21-13, 21-9; Weber/Pointer d. Valencia/Valencia 21-18, 21-14; Wolfe/Spruill d. Wahlstrom/Campbell 21-2, 21-4; Brunk/Alfaro d. Vargas/Ontiveros 21-15, 21-18; Loseth/Martin d. Holcomb/Moore, forfeit; Lantz/Dameron d. Membriola/Flores 21-9, 21-5; Espinoza/Munoz d. Castinno/Castillo 21-7, 21-12

Quarters: Bowen/Allin d. Beverly/White 21-5, 21-6; Weber/Pointer d. Wolfe/Spruill, 21-12, 21-11; Brunk/Alfaro d. Loseth/Martin, 21-2, 21-6; Espinoza/Munoz d. Lantz/Dameron 21-18, 21-18

Semis: Weber/Pointer d. Bowen/Allin 17-21, 21-19, 11-6; Brunk/Alfaro d. Espinoza/Munoz 21-18, 21-16

Finals: Weber/Pointer d. Brunk/Alfaro, 21-16, 21-14

Florida

The Tampa Bay Courthouse hosted the second annual Maas Brothers/Catalina Classic June 20-22.

Results

Men's Open: 1st - Terry Aydt, 2nd - Carson Turlington, 3rd - Ralph Fernandez

Men's B: 1st - John Thompson, 2nd - Cathy Perez, 3rd - Eric McCall

Men's C: 1st - Alex Tischler, 2nd - Ernie Ortiz, 3rd - Oscar Alvarez

Men's Novice: 1st - Dennis Porter, 2nd - Steve Laridazabal, 3rd - Steve Cona

Men's Seniors: 1st - Bill Koenig, 2nd - Lee Duda, 3rd - Mike Londrigan

Women's B: 1st - Nancy Moon, 2nd - Sally Chase, 3rd - Donna McCarthy

Women's C: 1st - Vicki Cooper, 2nd - Peg Turlington, 3rd - Verna Ortiz

Women's Novice: 1st - Yolanda Fiedler, 2nd - Debbie Long, 3rd - Chris Bogdanski

Ohio

The Fourth Annual Dayton Area Racquetball Tournament (DART) at Congress Park Circuit Courts in Dayton June 6-8 raised \$3,750 for the Children's Medical Center.

Results

Women

B Singles: Linda O'Keefe d. Sandy Hyre 21-18, 21-18

B Doubles: Sandy Hyre/Karen Wolff d. Cory Surmann/Suggy Hooghe 21-16, 21-1

C Singles: Joni Earach d. Rosie Barlow 21-17, 21-17

Novice: Lisa Blake d. Patti Turner 21-11, 21-14

Men

Open Doubles: Jack Dalton/Denny Stitsinger d. Jim Marsh/Barbara Young 21-14, 21-10

Open Singles: Jack Dalton d. Herb Textor 21-15, 21-20, 11-9

B Singles: Carl Fischer d. Bob Placek 21-13, 21-19

B Doubles: Rick Creager/Gary Cross d. Carl Fischer/Wayne Driscoll 21-10, 21-11

C Singles: Tim Anthony d. Steve Kent 21-19, 21-17, 11-1

Novice: Rick Aiken d. Chuck Lenhart 21-7, 21-4

Seniors: James Duda d. Bill Wening 21-17, 21-9, 11-0

Masters: Jack Little d. Don Boyer 21-14, 21-20

Ohio

Jack Nicklaus Sports Center - Kings Island Pro-Am Racquetball tournament held its first annual contest at Countryside YMCA in Lebanon June 13-15.

Results

Men's Pro

Quarters: Larry Fox d. Mike Sipes 21-20, 21-13; Tom Travers d. Danny Clifford 21-18, 21-9; Kelvin Vantrese d. Jeff Riehl 21-18, 20-21, 11-5; Clark Pittman d. Kevin Delgan 21-11, 21-11

Semis: Fox d. Travers 21-20, 21-13; Vantrese d. Pittman 21-11, 21-11

Finals: Fox d. Vantrese 19-21, 21-15, 11-2

Women's Pro

Quarters: Becky Callahan d. Pat Martin 21-12, 20-21, 11-1; Holly Rentz d. Deanna Parabeck 21-20, 17-21, 11-8; Karen Brunkus d. Pat Westmark 21-7, 21-6; Jeanine Farrell d. Lu Ann Gifford 21-20, 21-14

Semis: Callahan d. Rentz 21-12, 21-9; Brunkus d. Farrell 21-20, 21-14

Finals: Callahan d. Brunkus 21-20, 21-3

Men's Seniors

Quarters: Jack Soble d. Kevin O'Brien 21-4, 21-12; Pete Keiser d. Peter Cardullias 21-14, 21-8; Jim Marsh d. Earl Heidtman 21-6, 21-18; Frank Cremiens d. Elijah Helton 20-21, 21-18, 11-9

Semis: Keiser d. Soble 21-14, 21-18; Marsh d. Cremiens 21-16, 21-13

Finals: Marsh d. Keiser 18-21, 21-17, 11-9

Men's B

Quarters: Rick Scotten d. Tom Morre, forfeit; Don Eiring d. Tim Delghan 21-17, 21-18; Sol Fahuna d. Mike Ward 21-20, 20-21, 11-4; Larry Gibbs d. Brooke McCarter 21-16, 21-20

Semis: Rick Scotten d. Don Eiring 21-19, 21-18; Sol Fahuna d. Larry Gibbs 21-17, 21-15

Finals: Rick Scotten d. Sol Fahuna 21-12, 21-15

Men's C

Quarters: Rick Fisher d. Jeff Reece 21-10, 21-16; Pat Casey d. Maurice Sweet 15-21, 21-12, 11-3; Ken Bussell d. George Rivera 21-19, 21-11; Gary Hornsby d. Dave Bundalo 21-20, 21-17

Semis: Casey d. Fisher 21-20, 21-9; Hornsby d. Bussell 15-21, 21-14, 11-5

Finals: Hornsby d. Casey 21-3, 21-8

Women's B

Quarters: Sandy Hyre d. Pat Zellner 21-2, 11-21, 11-4; Melanie Britton d. Rose Sulfsted 21-8, 21-2; Babs Skilling d. Jana Fowler 21-1, 21-19; Maria Turner d. Sandi Bloomfield 21-17, 21-10

Tennis-Playing Doctor Discovers New Relief For Tennis Elbow

New York, N.Y. A tennis-playing doctor has developed a device to help relieve the discomfort of tennis elbow. It acts as a "shock absorber" and is sold under the name ACE™ Brand Tennis Elbow Brace. This innovative product is so unique in design that it has been awarded a patent by the U.S. Government. The ACE Brand Tennis Elbow Brace provides comfortable protection, with firmer support than ordinary elastic braces, to enable the user to play with confidence, while it helps reduce elbow strain. Yet it is lightweight and completely adjustable—goes on and off quickly and easily. Now available to the public in the Sports Medicine Section of drug stores and other fine stores where ACE® Elastic Bandages are sold.

ACE is a trademark of Becton Dickinson and Company.

Semis: Britton d. Hyre 21-15, 21-3; Skilling d. Turner 21-19, 21-14

Finals: Britton d. Skilling 21-7, 21-1

Women's C

Quarters: Sue Roberts d. Debbie Constantine 21-13, 21-11; Sherry Rawlings d. Becky Snider 18-21, 21-18, 11-6; Karla Redden d. Debby Brandenburg 21-17, 21-20; Cory Sumann d. Mitzi Wiesenbahn 19-21, 21-17, 11-7

Semis: Rawlings d. Roberts 21-5, 21-9; Redden d. Sumann 21-19, 21-18

Finals: Rawlings d. Redden 21-9, 21-6

Men's Masters

Quarters: Leo Cox d. Don Brandenburg 21-9, 21-16; Jerry Merz d. George Leasure 21-7, 21-8; Ken Millecker d. Charles Hon 21-7, 21-17; Frank Redden d. Bill Bachman 21-4, 21-6

Semis: Cox d. Merz 21-13, 21-11; Redden d. Millecker 21-6, 21-19

Finals: Redden d. Cox 21-10, 21-16

Women's Novice

Quarters: Joyce Brill d. Suzee Smith 21-12, 21-7; Judy Morgan d. Maureen Ward 21-16, 14-21, 11-3; Debbie Larrick d. Kay Louiso 21-19, 21-15; Marsha Curtas d. Dorinda Azbill 21-2, 21-0

Semis: Judy Morgan d. Joyce Brill 21-7, 21-9; Curtas d. Larrick 21-3, 21-8

Finals: Morgan d. Curtas 21-16, 7-21, 11-8

Mixed Juniors (15 and under)

Quarters: Robi Bradley d. Ted Ferguson 21-6, 21-18; Mike Clark d. John Helbling 21-5, 21-2; Jeff Surran d. Mark Mason 21-5, 21-1; Paul Rogers d. Ken Stern 21-4, 21-2

Semis: Bradley d. Clark 21-16, 16-18, 11-3; Rogers d. Surran 21-18, 14-21, 11-9

Finals: Bradley d. Rogers 21-3, 21-7

Men's Pro Doubles

Quarters: Clark Pittman/Mike Sipes d. Sol Fahuna/David Gipson 21-12, 21-19; Rob Abrams/John Moore d. Miller/Lillis 18-21, 21-15, 11-3; Fox/Clifford d. Soble/Stern

21-18, 21-12; Kelvin Vantrese/Tim Vantrese d. Dave Eagle/Elijah Helton 21-18, 13-21, 11-9

Semis: Pittman/Sipes d. Abrams/Moore 21-12, 21-20; Fox/Clifford d. Vantrese/Vantrese 21-17, 21-16

Finals: Fox/Clifford d. Pittman/Sipes 21-13, 20-21, 11-6

Men's Novice

Quarters: Tony Moore d. Stan Leeman 21-14, 21-15; Robert Mitchell d. Denis Shulte 21-19, 21-8; Russel Myer d. Charles Saunders 20-21, 21-17, 11-5; Kevin Hackenburg d. Jeff Larry 21-18, 15-21, 11-9

Semis: Robert Mitchell d. Stan Leeman 21-9, 19-21, 11-10; Russ Myer d. Hackenburg 6-21, 21-14, 11-6

Finals: Mitchell d. Myer 15-21, 21-4, 11-5

Connecticut

May 30 was the first day of the three day Genesee Open at the Court Club of North Haven.

Results

Men's A: Scott Eliasson d. Jack Nocera 13-21, 21-15, 11-9

Men's B: Scott Eliasson d. Chuck Vernazza 21-15, 21-15

Men's C: Phillip Yohe d. George Morgan 21-13, 21-12

Men's Novice: Barry Lucibello d. Gil DeVega 21-11, 21-14

Women's B: Susan Huggan d. Deborah Billington 21-14, 21-11

Women's C: Karen Gamblin d. Truidi Heidenman 21-18, 21-17

Men's Open Doubles: Nocera/Demada d. Evens/York 17-21, 21-16, 11-0

Men's B Doubles: Kroopneck/Marshall d. Gershaw/Greitzer 21-19, 21-15

New Jersey

More than 350 entrants from six states (New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Virginia, and Maryland) played in the 1980 USRA Quakerbridge Mall Racquetball Classic June 13-15, at Hopewell Valley Racquetball and Health Club in Pennington.

Results

Men's Pro-Am/Open

Round of 16: Charles Horton d. Jimmy Young, Joe McAndrew d. John Bierman, Don DeFillippos d. Lonnie Allgood, Ray Capitelli d. Chris Bluckie, Doug Clark d. Al Horne, Stan Danzig d. Chris Mathewson, Dave Mackeleian d. Bobby Nix, Art Diemar d. Tom Bevelock

Quarters: Horton d. McAndrew, DeFillippos d. Capitelli, Clark d. Danzig, Mackeleian d. Diemar.

Semis: Horton d. DeFillippos, Mackeleian d. Clark.
Finals: Horton d. Mackeleian 3rd

Men's B

Quarters: Joe Borcich d. Bill Lynch, Tom Neal d. Lee Carter, Jim Deritis d. Bob Evans, Rich Bowman d. Rich Prall

Semis: Neal d. Borcich, Bowman d. Deritis

Finals: Neal d. Bowman.

Men's C

Quarters: Harold Foss d. James Bachman, William Schope d. Michael Sleek, Prince Knight d. Vincent Diodad, Larry Buonocore d. Tony Bauer

Semis: Foss d. Schope, Buonocore d. Knight

Finals: Foss d. Buonocore

Men's Novice

Quarters: Jim Cook d. Robert Capri, Joe Paradiso d. Ted Fitzer, John Quarles d. John Falchetto, Doug Sutton d. Glen Matejek

Semis: Paradiso d. Cook, Quarles d. Sutton

Finals: Paradiso d. Quarles

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Men's Seniors

Quarters: Fred Letter d. Charles James, Al Aquilar d. Mike Vanore, Henry Polite d. John Deminco, Dario Mas d. Jack Burke

Semifinals: Letter d. Aquilar, Mas d. Polite

Finals: Letter d. Mas

Men's Juniors

Finals: John DeGroot d. Guy Jackson.

Women's Pro-Am/Open

Quarters: Molly O'Brien d. Laurie VanderWoude, Toni Bevelock d. Ginger Scottile, Linda Kennedy d. Karen Borga, Cindy Dalton d. Patti Armstrong

Semifinals: O'Brien d. Bevelock, Dalton d. Kennedy

Finals: O'Brien d. Dalton.

Women's B

Quarters: Karen Reeves d. Lynne Hitchner, Jane Enderlein d. Linda Stickney, Val Ablaza d. Michael Hill, Cherul Goffus d. Cleata Cling

Semifinals: Reeves d. Enderlein, Goffus d. Ablaza

Finals: Reeves d. Goffus

Women's C

Quarters: Donna Dulay d. Johnnie Hill, Kathy Starkey d. Rose Donahue, Cathy Cascio d. Kim Vavolo, Liz Kaplan d. Darlett Jenkins

Semifinals: Kaplan d. Starkey, Dulay d. Cascio

Finals: Kaplan d. Dulay.

Women's Novice

Quarters: Mary Erni d. Marti Kacko, Vikki Tandler d. Jane Labate, Nancy Crook d. Mary Ellen Reilly, Amy-Sue Grubow d. Cathy Gentile

Semifinals: Grubow d. Erni, Tandler d. Crook

Finals: Grubow d. Tandler.

Men's Open Doubles

Quarters: Lonnie Allgood/Bobby Nix d. Jim Deritis/Rich Bowman, John Bierman/Alan Horne d. Billy Johns/Leo Zamparelli, Jimmy Young/Dave Mackellean d. Chris Bluckie/Tommy Bevelock, Joe McAndrew/Chris Mathewson d. Doug Clark/Rick Platas

Semifinals: Bierman/Horne d. Allgood/Nix, McAndrew/Mathewson d. Young/Mackellean

Finals: Bierman/Horne d. McAndrew/Mathewson

Open Mixed Doubles

Quarters: Don Alvarez/Ginger Sottile d. Rick Platas/Val Ablaza, Art Diemar/Cindy Dalton d. Bobby Nix/Elaine Brubaker, Joe McAndrew/Toni Bevelock d. Jimmy Young/Lia Marchini, Lonnie Allgood/Linda Kennedy d. Rick Englander/Susan Englander

Semifinals: Allgood/Kennedy d. McAndrew/Bevelock, Diemar/Dalton d. Alvarez/Sottile.

Finals: Allgood/Kennedy d. Diemar/Dalton.

Wisconsin

Oak Creek Racquetball Club, Oak Creek, played host to the first Wisconsin State Junior Championships June 13 and 15, with all entrants receiving designer shirts from Bloomfield Realty, plus Wagner's Thirst-Quencher and Tombstone pizza.

Results

Contenders

Quarters: Kemper Martin d. Kent Frie 21-19, 19-21, 11-5; Larry Gnewuch d. Brad Monroe 21-11, 21-9; Bill Miller d. Steve Maasch 21-9, 21-19; Kevin Smith d. Kim Gnewuch 21-3, 21-10

Semifinals: Gnewuch d. Martin 21-5, 21-13. Smith d. Miller 21-17, 21-17

Finals: Smith d. Gnewuch 21-3, 21-20

3rd: Miller d. Martin 21-19, 21-17 **Cons:** Steve Maasch

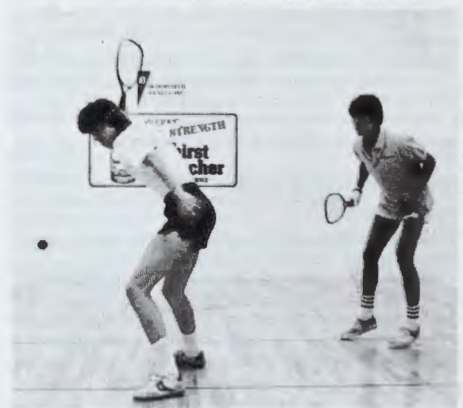
15 and Under

Quarters: Jeff Plazak d. Brain Nowak 21-2, 21-3; Scott Shanks d. Ross Frie 21-7, 21-3; Mike Leban d. Steve Crewz 21-11, 21-20; Dan Mohr d. Greg Sheahan 21-10, 21-18

Semifinals: Plazak d. Shanks 21-7, 21-17; Mohr d. Leban 21-7, 21-19

Finals: Plazak d. Mohr 21-2, 18-21, 11-17, 3rd: Shanks d. Leban 21-5, 21-9 **Cons:** Greg Sheahan

Bob Kohl, left, lost to Bob Kinney in the 17 and Under finals of the Wisconsin State Juniors.



17 and Under

Semifinals: Bob Kinney d. Brian Kohl 21-18, 21-12; Bob Kohl d. Dino Piscione 21-20, 21-10

Finals: Kinney d. Kohl 21-12, 15-21, 11-2, 3rd: Piscione d. Kohl

Cons: Mike Mannine d. Jeff Jensen 21-19, 21-15

Okinawa

Biggest upset at the Okinawa Racquetball Association's (ORA) second annual Memorial Day Tournament at Camp Kinser was in the Men's Novice division where a 13-year-old Navy dependent, Craig Allen from Kadena, defeated all comers to win the first place trophy. School boy Allen defeated Tony Archer, a marine from Futenma 21-11, 21-12 in the final match of the double elimination tournament. This year five other singles and doubles events were conducted with the top womens singles position going to Francine Young, an Army dependent wife who defeated Geneva Allen 21-10, 21-11 in the final womens match. In the Men's Open Don Green of Kadena upset Defending Champion Glenn Allen, U.S. Navy White Beach, two out of three matches.

Men's B Singles competition resulted in victory by Bill Winowitch, a civilian, over Runner-up Jack McMillan, USMC, 21-13, 21-16 in the final match. In mixed doubles the top seeded Navy team of Glenn and Geneva Allen defeated the second place duo of Joan Huber and John Nelson from Kuwae Hospital 21-13, 21-13. Defending Island double champions Chuck Myers and Glenn Allen captured their third straight Open Doubles title with a victory over two newcomers, Jim Womack and Sunny Masanial.

Japan

Navy men and women from Okinawa commands captured all three first place trophies in the recently completed Navy Western Pacific Regional Racquetball Championships conducted in Yokosuka. Competing against teams from Atsugi, Misawa, Yokosuka, Sasebo and Korea, the Okinawa Navy women's team consisting of Joan Hubert and Jean Thurber from NRMCC Okinawa captured first and second place, respectively, as the two women met in the finals won by Hubert 21-16, 16-21, 11-7. In

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Sandy Coffman was the featured Speaker on women's programming at the 1979 NCAA Convention. She has served as a consultant to over 50 clubs across the nation. Hundreds of participants in past seminars can attest to the success of Sandy's methods.

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mens action Glenn Allen from COMPHIBGRU ONE won the singles title with a 21-6, 12-21, 15-11 finals victory over Mitch Jordan from Atsugi. Okinawa also captured the Men's Doubles title, as Fred Lynch from COMPHIBGRU ONE teamed with Allen to defeat the runner-up USS Midway doubles team of Bob Rhea and Ken House 21-6, 21-8 in the finals.

Spain

The second annual Smash 'n' Bash was held June 27-29 at Rota, Spain in cooperation with the Spanish Racquetball Association.

Results

Men's A

Quarters: Denny Ladwig d. George Goeltz, Jack Kules d. Rick Ortiz, Paul Krueger d. Roy Smith, Gary Humphreys d. Mike Ladwig.

Semis: Kules d. Ladwig, Humphreys d. Krueger

Finals: Kules d. Humphreys

Men's B

Quarters: Fred Beigner d. Stu Partington, Al Batista d. Pat Cargile, Juan Sevilla d. Mike Bailey, Mike Ladell d. Marvin Cooper.

Semis: Batista d. Beigner, Ladell d. Sevilla

Finals: Batista d. Ladell

Women's

Quarters: Jane Runyan, bye, Paula Zeien d. Debbie Foster, Vicki Mazarella d. Kim Smith, Patty Reynolds d. Joan Jaeger

Semis: Runyan d. Zeien, Mazarella d. Reynolds

Finals: Runyan d. Mazarella

Men's/Women's Handicap Consolation

Quarters: Greg Allen d. Wes Loukota, George Goeltz d. Tom Fogel, Paula Zeien d. Tim Jaeger, Mike Ladwig d. Roy Smith

Semis: Goeltz d. Allen, Ladwig d. Zeien

Finals: Ladwig d. Goeltz.



Upcoming Events

Oct. 10-12

The 1980 USRA New Jersey State Racquetball Championships, Hopewell Valley Racquetball Club, P.O. Box 277, Pennington, NJ 08534

Nov. 6-9

Kansas City Follies, Linden Oaks Racquetball Club, P.O. Box 8371, Prairie Village, KS 66208, Tournament Director Debbie Herr 913-432-3904, Entry deadline Nov. 1

Nov. 7-9

21st Point-Rubicon Open Tournament, 21st Point Racquetball & Handball, 199 E. Middlefield Rd., Mountain View, CA 94040, 415-969-1783, Tournament Director Don Davies, Entry deadline Oct. 31



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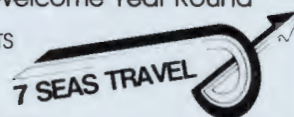
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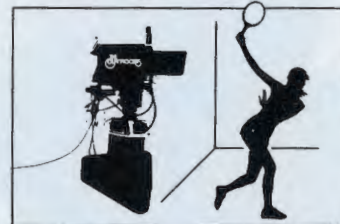
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Court Clubs

Dieters Days, Fashion Show Sell Racquetball

Dover Business College students, left to right, Judy McMorrow, Donna Cintron and Bonnie Venable, model racquetball clothes from local sportswear stores at the Knoll Club shows, broadcast over Channel 3 cablevision.

— Anne M. Cousineau photo



New Court Club Listings

Abbey Racquetball Club, Inc.
6613-17 Rising Sun Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19111

The Court Club
100 Elm St.
North Haven, CT 06473

The Front Wall
140 Derby Downs Rd.
Newark, OH 43055

Gleneagles Racquetball & Athletic Club
825 Courtland St.
Orlando, FL 32804

Wallbangers of Buena Park
8161 La Palma Ave.
Buena Park, CA 90620



—Candy Pefly photos

Women enrolled in twice a month Dieters Days enjoy warm-up routines, racquetball and a light lunch at the Dayton Court House. Ready to consume a minimum of calories are, left to right, Leslie Leonard, Sandra Gantner, Joy Wallen, Ginny Focke, Donna Christian and Ryka Shaffer.



A Motto that Works

A program Cindy Pefly invented to bring women into the Dayton Court House Racquetball Club in the summer is still filling non-prime hours in the fall.

Starting in June Pefly, program director of the Moraine, OH club that's part of the Circuit Court chain, began offering two hours of exercise and racquetball, topped off with a light, high protein lunch.

From nine to 23 women showed up for each Dieters Day, paying a \$4 fee for a half hour of warm-up exercises, two hours of round robin racquetball and lunch that Pefly prepared in the club snack area. A typical Dieters Day menu was a tossed green salad with low calorie dressing, cottage cheese, fresh fruit, wheat crackers and iced tea.

In Lake Hiawatha, NJ Tony Ettore, manager of the Knoll Indoor Tennis and Racquetball Club, staged a fashion show featuring students of the Dover (NJ) Business College and benefiting the Northern New Jersey chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

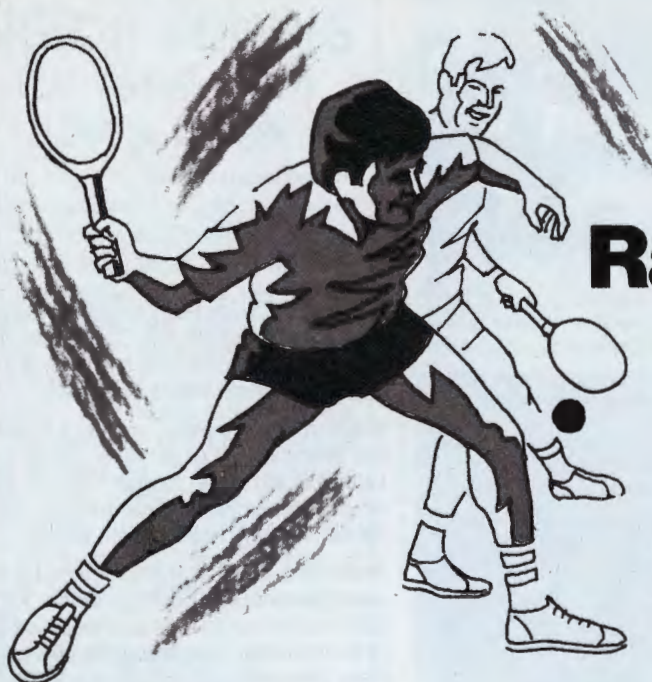
Stella Hart, who coordinated the promotion, reported that the show introduced racquetball to "many young women who'd never seen the game before." ●

**"Any sport that attracts
such a diverse contingent
of players must have
something joyously
wonderful about it."**



Wall St. Journal

In 1977 when Leroy M. Merritt opened his first Maryland club in Towson, most easterners had never heard of racquetball. So he picked up a quote from the Wall Street Journal and printed it on the outside of his promotional mailer. The brochure has been so successful Merritt used it to pull members into his second operation, the Annapolis Court Club, which he opened in 1979, and most recently for the Security Court Club, which opened in Baltimore Sept. 1.



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ELIGIBILITY: All participants must be USRA members in good standing. Membership applications and renewals should accompany entry fee at time of mailing. Membership fee is \$12.00. Proof of membership will be required at registration desk or may be purchased at tournament.

ENTRY FEES: \$30 in professional event, \$20 in amateur event. Limit one amateur event per player. Players may enter one pro event and one amateur event.

ENTRY DEADLINE: Monday, November 10th. Entry fee must accompany entry form. Entries postmarked later than November 10th will be returned. No entries accepted without payment or by phone.

SANCTION: By United States Racquetball Association and National Racquetball Club as part of the NRC Pro/Am Tour Co-sponsored by Leach/Seamco. Further sanctioned by Illinois State Racquetball Association (ISRA).

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STARTING TIMES: Players should check in 1 hour before scheduled match play. Matches will start on time or early. Winners must referee next match or risk forfeiture. For starting times call 312-934-4900 no earlier than Friday, November 14.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Charlie Club Resort Hotel & Fitness Center, 1500 E. Dundee Rd. Palatine, IL 60067, Attn: Garry Deetjen.

TOURNAMENT HEADQUARTERS: Charlie Club/Best Western Hotel & Fitness Center, 1550 E. Dundee Rd. Palatine, IL 60067, Phone: 312-934-4910. Special rates for tournament players. Contact, Steve Heilig.

GENERAL INFORMATION: USRA/ISRA rules on bracket eligibility applies. Tournament Director reserves the right to change players brackets in accordance with these rules. All players should be prepared to play Wednesday, November 19th, in the pro qualifying rounds and Thursday, November 20th, in amateur events. Twelve players are necessary to complete a bracket and each bracket is limited to the first 64 entrants. In the event of an incomplete bracket the Tournament Director reserves the right to move players into next youngest applicable bracket.

The NRC in conjunction with the PRA (Professional Racquetball Association) reserves the right to implement alternate game format in professional event and/or amateur events at the Robert W. Kendler Classic. Notification of such will transpire if necessary.

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 - ☐ A
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 - ☐ C

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- ☐ Veteran Masters 50+
- ☐ Golden Masters 55+

- WOMEN**
- ☐ Open
 - ☐ A
 - ☐ B
 - ☐ C
 - ☐ Veterans Open 30+

- ☐ Seniors 35+
- ☐ Veteran Senior 40+
- ☐ Masters 45+
- ☐ Veteran Masters 50+
- ☐ Golden Masters 55+

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I also hereby for myself and my agents waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the U.S. Racquetball Association, the National Racquetball Club, the Illinois State Racquetball Association, Charlie Club Resort Hotel & Fitness Center, Seamco Sporting Goods, Leach Industries and any of their agents, for any and all injuries received by me in connection with this tournament.

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Going Up

Mike Walsh, Racquetball and Success Go Hand in Hand

by Mike Hogan



Mike Walsh

—Mike Hogan photos

He's taking on new challenges these days as vice president of Cummins Engine Corporation, the world's leading producer of diesel engines, with more than a billion and a half dollars in sales last year. But before he moved to Columbus, IN, there were a lot of stories going around San Diego about the grit and determination of U.S. Attorney Mike Walsh both in and on the court.

One tale was that Walsh got so caught up in his three-times-a-week racquetball matches that neither illness nor an accidental blow from an opponent's racquet was enough to let his game slide even in those "recreational" contests.

"I've seen him play with some pain," says Tom Delaney, Walsh's San Diego neighbor and frequent racquetball partner, "but he's so intense about the game, he doesn't let up. Even when I'm far ahead and serving—which is rare—all I have to do is look back at his face to know there's no such word as 'quit'."

Walsh carried the same degree of intensity into the courtroom and in his administration of the federal prosecutor's office for southern California's San Diego

and Imperial counties. The drive and singlemindedness he showed when locked in courtroom debate or directing a criminal investigation raised a few eyebrows, ruffled a few feathers and earned his office a reputation as one of the best in the federal prosecutor system.

Walsh was embroiled in controversy even before he took office as the only non-Democratic U.S. Attorney in the country. President Jimmy Carter's appointment of a registered Independent produced considerable protest among the Democrat's who'd been vying for the coveted post.

Once in office Walsh showed a marked insensitivity to whether the toes he trod on were Gucci clad or barefoot. Flak flew his way for his prosecution of a sitting San Diego vice mayor on customs fraud, former policemen for Bunko schemes and border patrol agents for abusing illegal aliens. He logged the first successful local prosecution of a Ku Klux Klan member for civil rights violations and he broke up a \$10 million MB Financial Company investment fraud.

Boos in Court

Ironically 150 victims of the MB Financial fraud came down to court to boo Walsh during the trial because they felt that if he had let the chain letter type scheme continue a little longer, they could have retrieved their losses from future victims.

"That U.S. attorney job took a strong constitution," he says, laughing.

Evidence of Walsh's sturdy constitution dates back to the time when he tried out for his high school football team in Portland, OR. A childhood bone ailment had put him in braces and, before he could make the team, Walsh had to teach himself to run correctly.

He overcame that setback, of course, became a star running back and went on to Stanford with a four year football scholarship. It looked like Walsh was headed for a pro football career until a series of injuries and operations left his shoulders looking like a railroad switching yard and threw his football career in the wastebasket.

He describes it as "the biggest crisis in my life."

Characteristically Walsh didn't waste any time on self pity. He ran track, coached the freshman football team and graduated in the top 10 percent of his class with a large share of the school's academic honors.

A year after graduation Walsh was in Washington, DC, the youngest among 15 White House Fellows chosen from 3,400 applicants. As assistant to then-Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman, he traveled to foreign capitals and participated in Food-for-Peace negotiations.

Next came Yale Law School, where — unlike ordinary students buried in briefs — he helped Former Cabinet Secretary John Gardner found the national consumer organization, Common Cause. Walsh later set up the group's 50,000 member California chapter and personally led the successful initiative drive that resulted in the state's tough political campaign disclosure law.

Bob White, left, aide to San Diego Mayor Pete Wilson, is ready for Walsh's backhand.



Indigent Clients

Mike Walsh—star Yale Law graduate—then turned down offers from prestigious law firms and the Rockefeller Foundation to work for the San Diego-based Defenders, Inc. During the next three years he defended more than 200 people who couldn't afford to pay a lawyer.

Later, as a member of one of San Diego's big name law firms, Walsh was just as dogged in his defense of wealthy defendants accused of white collar crimes.

It's obvious what attracts a person like Walsh to racquetball. A former squash player he made the switch when he moved to San Diego and found few squash courts, but plenty of racquetball facilities. A firm believer in the strong mind-strong body doctrine, he dismisses "passive sports, like golf," because they take too long and don't provide him with the degree of physical exertion he feels he needs.

"You can only do them on the weekends," Walsh notes, "and that's out of the question for me because I spend every weekend with my wife and three kids. But

for people who are highly competitive and used to getting an intense physical workout racquetball does the trick."

Walsh is gung-ho on the court, says his San Diego racquetball partner, but doesn't have a large emotional investment in winning.

"He's the kind of guy who is pure competition on the court," notes Delaney, "but he's just into it for the exercise and his conversation reflects that once it's over."

The difference between trying to win and needing to win is often obscure to competitive individuals, but Walsh is able to put his on and off court battles in perspective.

A few years ago *Time* magazine identified Walsh as one of the nation's 200 fastest rising leaders. Walsh's latest move from U.S. Attorney to giant corporation executive shows that label still applies.

At age 38 Mike Walsh is only beginning his climb. He's one racquetball player we'll hear more about in the future. ●

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—Peter Borsari photos

Archie Bunker's



Friends Cheer for Racquetball

Screen Actors Strike Draws Unexpected Celebrities to L.A. Tournament

by Kris Gilmore

When Carroll and Nancy O'Connor hosted the Second Annual Celebrity Racquetball tournament in Los Angeles in August, more than 20 top name entertainers spurred their teams to victory.

The tournament at the Sports Connection in West Los Angeles drew nearly 2,000 area residents and raised more than \$10,000 for the Committee to Cure Cancer Through Immunization (CCCI). The committee benefits a cancer research division of UCLA's school of medicine.

Celebrities including recording artists, sports veterans, television and motion picture stars and a host of Playboy Playmates, along with a variety of commercial backers, sponsored the 32 four man and woman teams.

Team names were prominently displayed on specially designed tournament T-shirts donated by Seamco Sporting Goods. Seamco also supplied all balls used in the two day competition.



The O'Connors became acquainted with CCCI and the research work being conducted at UCLA when a young family member was stricken with cancer.

Nancy O'Connor's efforts for CCCI amount to a full time commitment. She has organized numerous drives which have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for the charity. And though his role of Archie Bunker requires much of his time, Carroll often has assisted Nancy in her charity efforts.

For Carroll the Celebrity Racquetball tournament has special benefits. *"This competition raises some money, although not a great deal. More importantly this event will make all these people aware of the valuable research now underway. These young people are health conscious and active - the type of individuals who will support life saving research. Several individuals here have already asked me how they can offer their time to CCCI in the future."*

"Racquetball is growing," O'Connor said, surveying the filled-to-capacity gym. "I estimate there are about three times as many people here today than turned out last year. As racquetball continues to gain

popularity, we expect this event to grow in recognition and funds. I think there's no stopping the growth of racquetball."

The celebrities' racquetball expertise varied from one extreme to the other.

"I play racquetball like I ski - on my face," was Tom Howatt's assessment of his ability. Howatt stars in the movie *Hanger 18* and earlier starred in the day time serial, *The Young and the Restless*. *"In Hanger 18 I play a NASA investigator who is trying to find out what the aliens are up to."*

Athletic Actor

Ed Marinaro, ex-NFL star turned actor, represented the other end of the spectrum. Marinaro's team won the 1979 Celebrity tournament.

"It's a little easier competing against actors than athletes," he said, *"But not much. I think we have a lot of talent here, Judy Norton-Taylor (Mary Ellen on the Waltons) is becoming a strong player and Leslie Ackerman (one of the stars of last season's SKAG) looks good on the court, too."*



"But I think all of us turned out for the event more to help the CCCI and have a good time than for anything else," said Marinaro, who is cast as a regular on *Laverne and Shirley* for the coming season.

The competition resulted in a close win for Jonathan Harris's team. (Harris starred in the old television series, *Lost in Space*.) His foursome narrowly edged former major league catcher Tom Satriano's team.



Debra Jo Fondren, the 1979 Playmate of the Year, and her three teammates captured third place while fourth place went to Heidi Hagman's team.

Heidi is the daughter of Larry Hagman, *Dallas*' notorious villain, J. R. Ewing.

J. R. wasn't able to make it to the Sporting Connection, so his brother, Bobby Ewing, represented the *Dallas* clan.

Bobby (Patrick Duffy in real life) is a three year racquetball devotee who says that the game is a popular sport around the *Dallas* set. Duffy frequently works out with Hagman and Steve Kaneley, who portrays Ray Krebbs on the CBS series that *Time* magazine reports has a worldwide viewing audience of 300 million.

"I would say that the racquetball court is the only spot where I would care to take on J.R.," Duffy quipped. *"Actually I'd rate myself to be an average player. I work out as often as I can but sometimes it's difficult to fit games into our busy work schedule."*

Bobby Ewing's Game

"Racquetball is one of my favorite sports and I intend to keep playing it for a long time," he said. *"I've always been athletic. In high school and college I went out for football and track. I'm not going to sit back now."*

Michele Lee, who portrays Karen Faragut on *Knot's Landing*, a *Dallas* spinoff, was another team sponsor.

"Carroll asked me to participate in this event," Michele said. *"I had never played racquetball, although my husband (James Farentino, a tournament sponsor) is an avid player. Now I can see why he enjoys the game so much. There's so much activity! I wouldn't mind taking some lessons."*

Most of the celebrities present had signed as sponsors weeks before the tournament but others, like Ed Asner, star of *Lou Grant*, were late additions when the Screen Actors Guild strike suddenly freed up their schedule.

Asner has played racquetball once — during the filming of a *Lou Grant* episode in which Grant periodically meets and works out with a source for an investigative story at a local club.

"Racquetball's a great game and I wish I had more time to play," Asner said. *"But you know how it is. You're always busy. You're either filming 10 hours a day or you're out on strike walking the picket line."*

Three celebrities were members of the Sports Connection, a club with four locations in Southern California. Norton-Taylor, Florence LaRue of the vocal group *"Fifth Dimension,"* and Persis Khambatta starring as Ilia in the movie version of *Star Trek*, participated in the event.

La Rue plans to squeeze in as much racquetball as possible before the *Fifth Dimension* schedules its next tour. *"We just returned from tours in Australia and the Bahamas,"* she said. *"I'm starting to get my game back in shape."*



Bottle, Not Beanpole

Khambatta, who has worked out at the Sporting Connection on weight equipment for the past several months, is now planning to add racquetball to her schedule.

"In my native country, India, women are considered beautiful when they have a shape like a Coca-Cola bottle," Khambatta said. "I prefer to have a good figure, not look like a straight bean pole. That's why I work out with weights, and I think racquetball would be a good way to exercise, too."

Singer Jerry Vale was another tournament player. Vale took up the sport two summers ago while performing in Las Vegas.

"Racquetball's been good for my health," Vale said. "If I hadn't started playing a couple of years ago, I would have really expanded with the way I like to eat."

Other activities augmented the tournament schedule. Top Pro Jay Jones played exhibition matches with Sporting Connection President Mike Talla and Club Pro Lee Pretner, all day raffle drawings benefited CCCI, a Mr. International Body Building Exposition and disco demonstrations filled a stage and *"The Fox"* billed as the fastest beer chugger in the world challenged willing celebrities, such as Comedian Jeff Altman.

Children collected autographs while photographers had a field day.



"The Fox" repeats a beer drinking feat familiar to TV viewers.



Jay Jones' props even up his exhibition match with Debra Jo Fondren.



As the days' activities concluded, the actors traded in their racquets for their placards.

"With the way this strike's going, we'll all be pro level players by the time we get back here next year," Duffy predicted. ●

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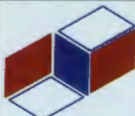
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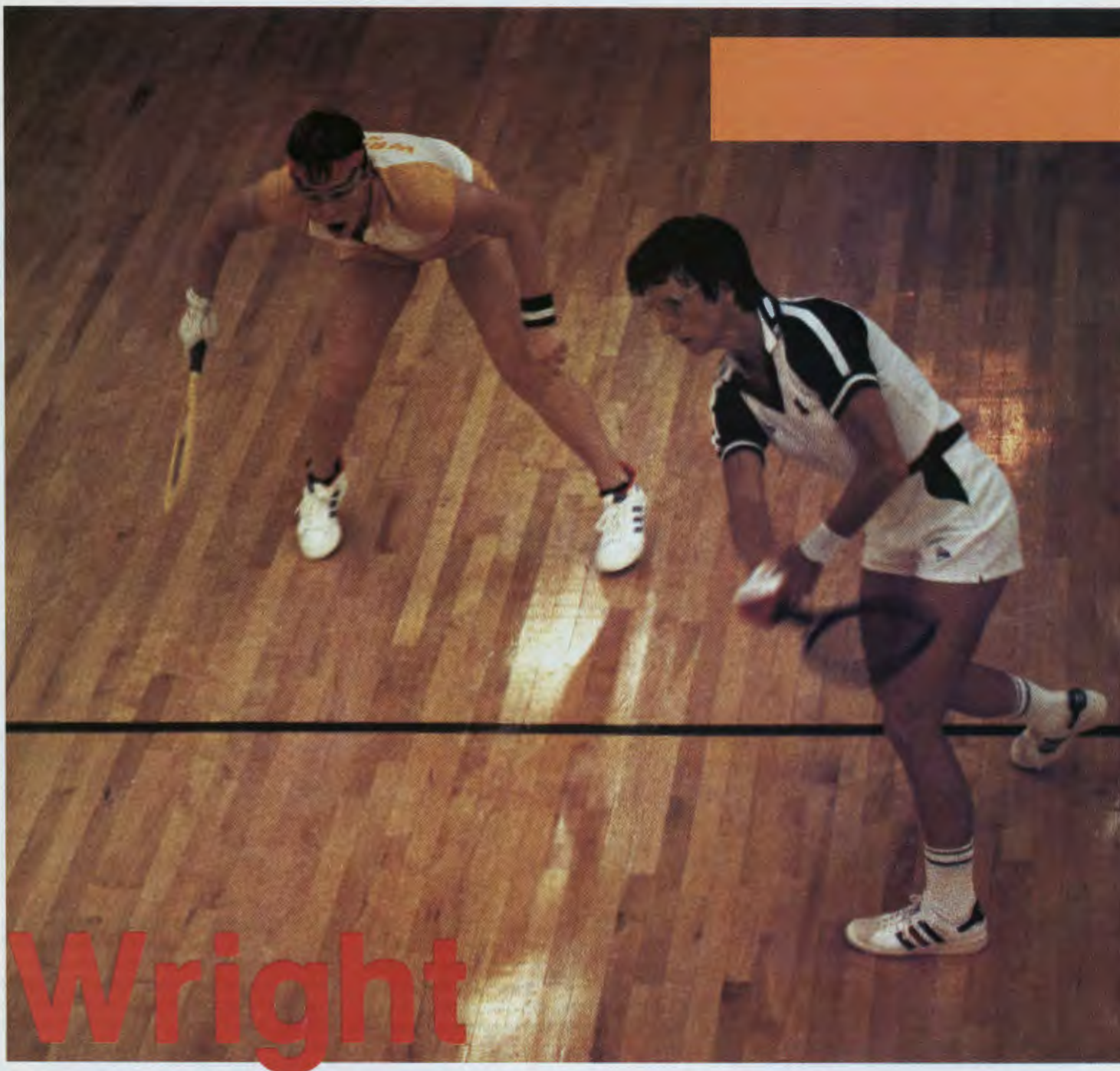


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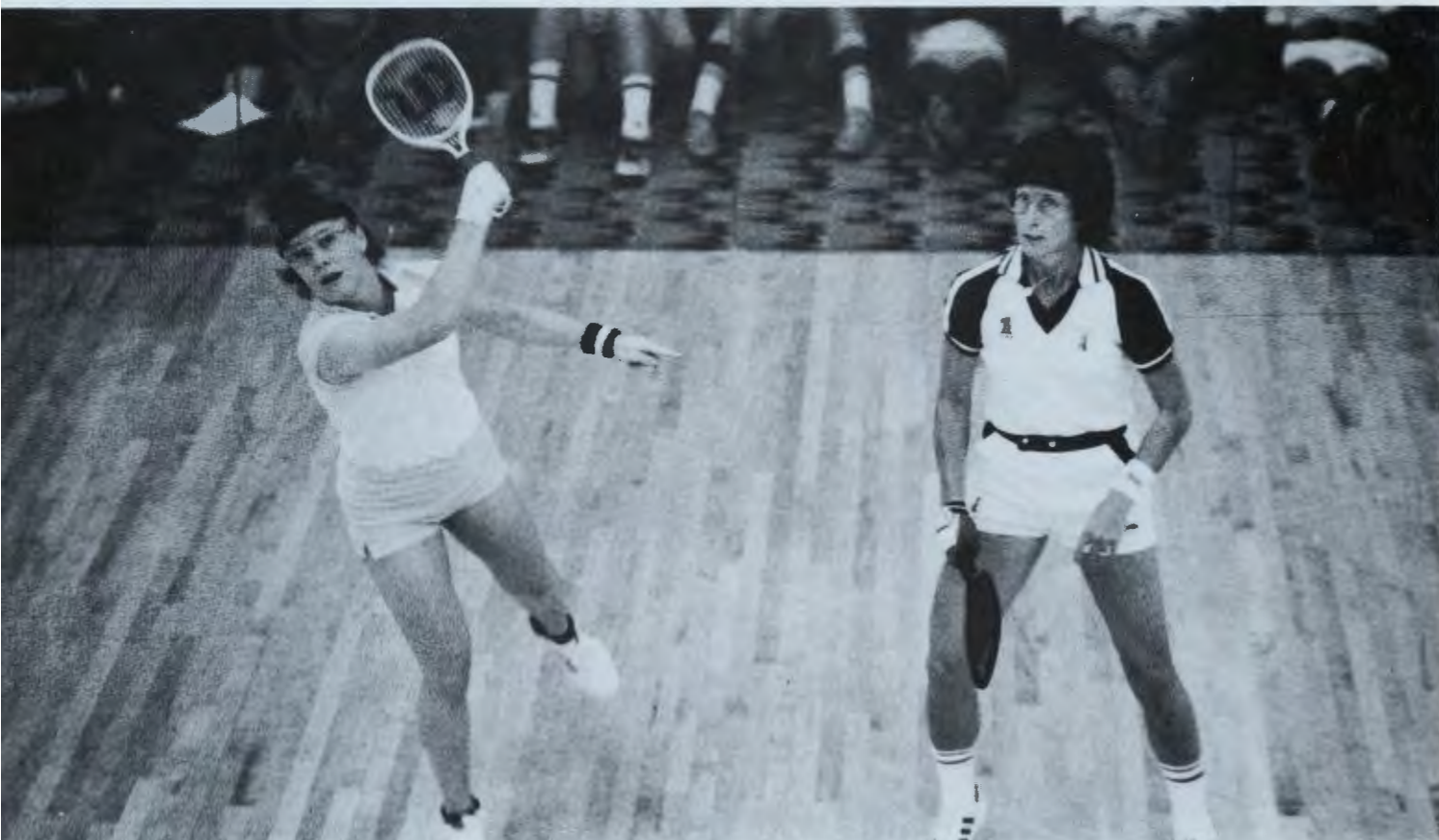
Wright Downs McKay

**It's Shannon's Turn for a Victory over Canadian
Champ at W.P.R.A. California Stop**

by Carole George

The Women's Professional Racquetball Association kicked off its second season Aug. 14-17 with the Sundance Racquetball Pro-Am at California's Newport Beach Sporting House. Nearly 500 amateurs and women's professionals competed in 18 divisions for prizes and a \$15,000 total purse for the pros.

Shannon Wright, left, and Heather McKay, who have been exchanging wins since the women's tour began last year, play the finals to a Wright 21-20, 21-16 victory.



Two Time National Champion Shannon Wright of Las Vegas, NE swept through the draw to earn \$4,000. As predicted her toughest matchup was in the finals against top seeded Heather McKay of Toronto, the current women's national champion in both the U.S. and Canada. Slightly more than a year ago McKay entered her first racquetball tournament and won the USRA national amateur title, after dominating women's squash for the past 16 years. Wright and McKay have been trading off victories for the past six months, with neither having total hold on the number one ranking.

McKay's usual cool disposition got a little hot when she felt that Wright was crowding unavoidably. On one shot in the first game McKay herself played too closely and felt the follow through of a Wright backhand, causing an immediate lump on McKay's elbow.

Undaunted by her injury McKay took Shannon to the limit before losing the first game 21-20. The second game was filled with more of the same close calls, hinders and a technical on Shannon for throwing the ball back at Heather. But again it was Wright who finished on top with a score of 21-16.

After the tournament Shannon and her younger brother, Pat, enjoyed some scuba diving off the California coast. Pat recently moved to Las Vegas and has been accompanying his sister on the tournament circuit, taking notes and helping Shannon analyze her game.

In the semis Wright had little trouble with former rival, Janell Marriott of Salt Lake City. Up until that point Marriott had had an easy draw, defeating a qualifier first round, then Sue Carow in the 16s and surprise quarter-finalist, Laura Martino. But against Wright she fell 21-7, 21-7.

In the upper half McKay had a tougher match against the hometown favorite, Lynn Adams of Costa Mesa. Adams was behind 18-8 in the first game and then went on an eight-straight winning streak to close the gap at 18-16 before losing 21-17. In the second game McKay held Adams to seven. Adams then defeated Marriott in the play offs for third place.

In the quarters New Jersey's Francine Davis got to try her luck against McKay, after upsetting Rita Hoff of St. Louis, but it was McKay who was in control. Adams had a rough match against 1979 National Champion Karin Walton-Trent. With hubby, Steve, watching behind the glass Karin pushed Adams to the tie-breaker before losing 15-21, 21-8, 11-1.



Lynn Adams, left, defeats Janell Marriott to take third in the California tournament. Marriott is president of the Women's Professional Racquetball Association, which staged the women's pro stop, and Adams is a board member along with Vice President Rita Hoff, Marci Greer and Heather McKay.

W.P.R.A. Rankings as of Sept. 1, 1980

1. Shannon Wright 564 points
2. Heather McKay 530 points
3. Lynn Adams 366 points
4. Jannell Marriott 224 points
5. Marci Greer 190 points
6. Sarah Green 166 points
7. Bonnie Stoll 130 points
8. Elaine Lee 114 points
9. Rita Hoff
Martha McDonald 112 points
10. Fran Davis 102 points
11. Karin Walton-Trent
Linda Prefontaine 100 points
12. Peggy Steding 92 points
13. Vicki Panzeri 90 points
14. Joyce Jackson 82 points
15. Sheryl Ambler 74 points
16. Hope Weisbach 72 points
17. Jennifer Harding 70 points
18. Judy Thompson 62 points
19. Kippi Bishop
Jean Sauser 60 points
20. Becky Callahan
Sue Carow 52 points
21. Peggy Gardner
Laura Martino 50 points

Laura Martino of Fountain Valley, CA met Marriott in the quarters, and finished with a respectable 21-9, 21-9 loss. In the 16's Martino upset third seeded Sarah Green of Las Vegas, NE 21-16, 17-21, 11-9. Wright had few problems with Martha McDonald of Gainesville, FL 21-9, 21-7.

The first round produced some exciting matches. Qualifier Kippi Bishop of Los Alimitos, CA, another recently married pro, was able to defeat Peggy Steding, the veteran from Odessa, TX 21-16, 21-14. Jennifer Harding of Portland, OR got hot for her match against Adams, which Lynn finally pulled out 12-21, 21-19, 11-8.

Two San Diego rivals, Karin Walton-Trent and Marci Greer, had a first round battle with Walton-Trent pulling it out in three.

In the amateurs Mary Dee, who has moved from St. Louis to San Diego, won first place and a trip to Hawaii by defeating Ellie Hertz of Tarzana, CA in the finals. Hertz won a racing bike.

In the semis Dee defeated Melannie Taylor of New Jersey, while Hertz took out Diane Heims of Huntington Beach, CA a former outdoor racquetball champion. Heims won a warm-up suit by Kori of California as the third place finisher.

In the Men's Open Gary Berberet of Anaheim, CA upset Larry Meyers, a pro tour regular, in two games. Meyers regained his composure in order to win the mixed doubles with his partner, Jackie Harding.

In the semis Meyers beat Dave Bush of Long Beach, CA, and Berberet defeated Laura Martino's younger brother, Mark. The men played for the same prizes as the women.

The newly formed W.P.R.A. plans to have one pro stop per month this season, hoping for a 10-step tour with \$100,000 in prize money. ●

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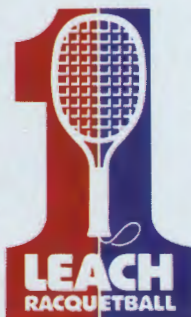
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