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FEATURES:

International 3-Wall



Instructional Article



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*Deceased

ON OUR COVER

ACE is the magic word in handball and our August cover boldfaces this "key" to the game . . . ACE for the unreturnable serve . . . ACE magazine for the binding communication of our Players' Fraternity throughout the world . . . ACE as the trade name for our official Spalding balls and Saranac gloves. Now, we will add ACE to racquetball for the new Seamless ball that has gotten the stamp of approval after exhaustive tests, for the Sportcraft precision made racquets, and a specially-constructed Saranac non-slip grip glove.

1969-70 Season Underway . . .

It's serve time in full swing at Detroit's Palmer Park over the Labor Day weekend as the "court" season gets underway. Although there's more and more summertime action with air conditioned courts and the many buffs who like to keep active the year around, the comparative lull of June, July and August does allow a breathing spell to the upswing in tournament scheduling. More and more invitationals are planned for the coming months.

Our big 20th anniversary four-wall nationals is set for the Los Angeles Athletic Club, March 16-21. Duke Llewellyn, major domo for the Club's president, Frank Hathaway, reports that two more courts will be cut to standard 20x40 measurements, giving us six for what promises to be a new record entry. Our new four-division plan provides the opportunity for "big league" hosting. Salt Lake City has already bid for the West Division. Mike Dau will conduct both a North Division and National Intercollegiate at Lake Forest College, Illinois. The national YMCA tournament is set for the Chicago area Northwest Suburban YMCA in Des Plaines.

Our October ACE will have the full tournament calendar. Those scheduling tournaments are asked to send in full details so we can include in the calendar.

Following the three-wall at Detroit our attention will go to the 11th Annual National One-Wall—handball's three-ringed circus at the Brownsville Boys Club in Brooklyn . . . the Irv Ehrlich extravaganza (see entry blank).

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ELEVENTH ANNUAL UNITED STATES HANDBALL ASSOCIATION NATIONAL ONE-WALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

IN COOPERATION WITH THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS

At — BROWNSVILLE RECREATION CENTER, 1555 Linden Blvd., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11212

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1. MEN: Age 19 and over Blackball	Oct. 11	8:00 AM Sat. Oct. 18
*2. BOYS: Juniors—Under 19 Blackball	Oct. 18	8:00 AM Sat. Oct. 25
3. NOVICE: No age limit: Pinkball	Oct. 18	8:00 AM Sat. Oct. 25
DOUBLES:		
1. OPEN: No age limit: Blackball	Oct. 25	8:00 AM Sat. Nov. 1
2. MASTERS: One 40+, other 45+ Blackball	Oct. 18	8:00 AM Sat. Oct. 25

Players will receive notification by mail as to time of first match. If notification is not received by Thursday, call in DAYTIME: IRVING EHRLICH — DI 2-6014; AT NIGHT — HY 8-1121.
Games scheduled to 3:00 P.M. Saturday and Sunday and from 6-10 P.M. Mon.-Fri. Your time preference will be honored only in so far as the tourney permits.

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BOYS \$1.00 per event per player

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MAIL APPLICATION BELOW

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☐ MENS AGE _____	☐ MASTERS NAME _____
☐ BOYS ADDRESS _____	☐ OPEN AGE _____ AGE _____
☐ NOVICE BOROUGH _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____	(check which applies) _____ Address _____
(check which applies) TEL: # _____ AREA CODE _____	Borough, State and Zip _____
SCHOOL CLUB OR PLAYGROUND _____	Tel. # and area code _____
TIME PREFERENCE SAT. _____ SUN. _____	School, club or playground _____
COMMENTS: _____	Time Preference Sat. _____ Sun. _____
Signature _____	Signature _____ Signature _____

Newspaper Coverage Excellent

Haber Exhibition-Clinics Stimulate Game In Full Summer Months Schedule



SPRINGFIELD, O. WELCOME . . .
Haber met with Bob Gueth, chairman
of the clinic for the YMCA (l) and Bob
Metzger, handball chairman. Amongst
the players was Robin Freeman, former
Ohio State U. basketball all-American.

Paul Haber put on a dazzling exhibition of handball and conducted an informative and interesting clinic in Charlotte, North Carolina on August 1 on the Y courts. A large and enthusiastic crowd (estimated at 200) were awed by Haber's display of his uncanny control of the little black ball.

He played three singles games against opponents, namely Eddie Sloan, Charlotte, the man mainly responsible for handball's increasing popularity in the Carolinas; Howell Lackey, High Point, the current Carolinas singles champion; and Al Clark, Charlotte. As would be expected Haber was far superior to his competition; however, the game with Lackey lasted 42 minutes and although Haber won by a score of 21-4 the game produced some fast and exciting action. Paul then teamed with George Diehl, Charlotte and defeated two of Charlotte's most promising youngsters, Dick Gehron and Heath Howie. Some minutes later he teamed with Jim Teague and defeated Charlotte's city champion doubles team of John and Morris Gamble. During the singles and doubles games Haber repeatedly made impossible returns and had the crowd on the edge of their seats with behind the back kill shots and his amazing consistency and control of the left hand ceiling shot.

After the exhibition Paul conducted a most interesting clinic explaining how to execute certain shots such as the hook (which he advised against), explaining certain basic rules that are frequently misinterpreted and answered questions from the spectators for about 45 minutes. To say Paul was a big hit in Charlotte would be putting it mildly and the crowd reflected their feelings for his showmanship by giving him a standing ovation upon the completion of the clinic.

Prior to the exhibition a dinner was

held at the Ramada Inn Motel with about 25 local officials and handball buffs in attendance. After dinner Haber was asked numerous questions regarding his handball career and especially about his training preparations for the national championship. He answered all questions with confidence, poise and

charm. His easy and friendly manner won the respect of everyone.

After watching Paul dispose of Lackey as he did a number of people indicated keen interest in bringing Paul and Bill Yambrick to Charlotte for a one or two day exhibition.

Otis Skipper
District Commissioner

Paul Haber makes for good copy . . . In his various exhibition-clinics this Summer several feature columns have been devoted to his achievements and a background story of a brilliant career.

Gerry Robichaux of the Shreveport Times interviewed Paul and the subject matter covered potential Olympic participation ("no good for handball if AAU dominates"); dressing up the game with color uniforms; only two schools with full-time coaches — Mike Dau at Lake Forest and Pete Tyson at Texas; national-caliber invitational tournaments as proposed for Phoenix.

"Control is the key to the game," Haber told the reporter . . . "Most of us hit the ball about the same speed. But hitting the ball where you want to and when you want to is the secret."

Allen Sloan in the Charlotte Observer opined, "Paul Haber No Monk, He Lives Well" . . . Paul related in this interview that he had once been a dead last place finisher as a cross country runner in high school. And, a subhead was tabbed — "Handball's Broadway Joe." This all makes good newspaper copy and whether it's good or bad, has generated lots of publicity for handball. We did get a kick out of the description of the Yambrick-Haber finals match . . . Sloan describes it, "It was a classic battle between Good and Evil. Evil won, two games to one." Haber added, "I get boos, but I just hear it and keep playing. They're there to holler and I'm there to play. So I play and let them holler."

One thing for certain. Haber has kept an ambitious, heavy schedule and given exposure to championship grade handball wherever he has appeared. It has opened the eyes of the avid players throughout the country. It is one thing to have the local champion dominate the picture, and then quite another story when a Haber comes into town and proceeds to thoroughly demolish and disillusion this young man. But, the end result is to demonstrate just what can ultimately be accomplished with that Spalding ACE, and you can be sure that the boys are practicing that "feather touch" to the ceiling after Haber has planed out of town.

The brand of handball is certain to improve after such an appearance just as it does when a city hosts one of the USHA division or national tournaments. "Imitation is the ultimate form of flattery." Seeing is believing.



FIRST BALL . . . Governor Albert Brewer of Alabama starts Montgomery Invitational tournament by tossing in first Spalding ACE.

Lee Jaffe breezed by all opponents with no one taking them to three games. In the first round they eased by the local entry of Don Camp and Fats Jones 21-3 21-8. In the quarter-finals they defeated the Knoxville entry of Don Littrell and Tom Pannell 21-17, and 21-5. The Jaffe brothers won the finals on forfeit from the Atlanta entry of Sol Barth and Ken Gregor due to Sol Barth hurting his back in a previous match. Barth and Gregor defeated Caine and Rubin, Montgomery, 21-11 and 21-3 to move to the semis where they defeated a teenage team from Birmingham 21-17 and 21-16 composed of Jeffery Barnes and Brewer.

Clark Wins Montgomery Invite

The First Annual Montgomery, Ala., Open Handball tournament was a huge success with more than 50 entries competing on three new air-conditioned courts. Alan Clarke came out on top of the Open Singles competition by defeating all opponents in two games. The Birmingham Downtown YMCA product defeated Don Littrell, Knoxville, Tenn., in the final match 21-8, 21-14. Getting to the finals, Clark defeated Dick Gehron, Charlotte, N.C., 21-6, 21-8; Don Camp, Montgomery 21-10, 21-11, and Joe Salome, Atlanta, in the semi-finals 21-6, 21-13.

Littrell defeated George Pfeiffer, Athens, Ga., 21-6, 21-13, Jay Magness, Montgomery 21-7, 21-13, and had a 2-hour and 15-minute match with Sol Barth, Atlanta, in the semi-finals before finally pulling it out in the third game 21-16. At one time in the third game Barth had Littrell 13-6. Don won the hearts of the spectators with his "never-give-up" type of playing that he is noted for. He is truly a great competitor, gentleman and untiring promoter for the game of handball.

Salome and Barth agreed to play off for third place in Atlanta the following week. I have never seen any more humorous and likeable players than these two Atlanta boys. Carl Ojala won the consolation championship of the losers' bracket by defeating Bill Hern 21-11, 17-21. Both boys are from Athens, Georgia.

In the open doubles, the Birmingham brother combine of Howard and Perry



OUT-OF-TOWNERS GRAB PRIZES . . . Kneeling in front is Birmingham's Alan Clark, singles winner of first Montgomery Invitational. Standing (l to r) — Perry Lee Jaffe and Howard Jaffe, brother doubles winners, also of Birmingham; and Don Littrell, Knoxville, singles runnerup.

Nick Martinez Discovers Handball—Affability

NOTE: Nick Martinez has played handball some 35 years, starting while an undergraduate at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque . . . he had 15 prime years in St. Louis, where in the early 40s he was ranked third behind the late Jack Srenco and Bill McGreevy. Nick holds a win over Jack and wound up third in the 1945 YMCA national doubles with Larry Meisel. For more than a decade he has played around Chicago and was club champ at the famed Town Club and later Evanston YMCA No. 1 man. In the following story Nick relates the warmth of host handballers in an extensive trip. With his wife, Barbara, Nick will now return to "whence he came", purchasing five acres in the Albuquerque mountains where they will raise some horses and teach music in the city. And, Nick now finds he has willing court cohort in Barbara. She is a devoted fan and will go into the court with a racquet and play against Nick's hands.

* * *

Over the past 30 years of handball, I have played in almost every major city in the U.S., and have been treated with the same friendliness and hospitality. But my most recent trip was different. During the months of March, April, and May, my wife Barbara and I headed south from Chicago in our tent-camper to enjoy 11,000 miles of sunshine and beaches with no appointments or deadlines to meet. I was going to play a few games of handball along the way to keep in shape. We didn't realize when we left early in March that the handball families we were to meet would add so much warmth to our trip and make this experience mean much more than beaches and sunshine. This is our thank you to the people who contributed so much to our vacation, and an illustration of the caliber of person involved in handball.

Most of the players were at the national tournament in Austin when our trip began, so it was not until late in March, after we had travelled down Florida's east coast to the Keys, and up the Gulf Coast to Tampa that I was able to play my first game. I was quite anxious to play, and entered the court with real determination only to receive a shellacking at the hands of Ernie Ortiz, a highly developed player with two good hands, excellent court generalship, and a tremendous will to win. Ernie and his wife Carmen really need to stay in condition to keep up with their five lively children! We thoroughly enjoyed all the time we spent with this wonderful family — specially the fresh ocean fish dinner that Barbara and I caught and Carmen prepared. Thank you Ernie, Carmen, and children for the two evenings we spent together in Tampa.

We continued north along the Gulf Coast to New Orleans. I was still smarting from the Ortiz defeat and went in with even more determination, only to be walloped by the singles champion, Manuel Sala, who combines excellent court strategy with marvellous condition. I was delighted to see an old friend from St. Louis, Val Vogel, who invited us to lunch at the New Orleans Athletic Club. Thank you, fellows, for your friendliness and company in New Orleans.

Early in May we headed south again along the Gulf into Texas. Our first stop was Houston, where I was happy to see and play with my old friends, John Lomax, Jake Looney, and Al Sheppard. All of the playing consisted of doubles, and we had some interesting, close games. Hats off to these wonderful men for retaining excellent condition and competitive spirit in the handball court! John Lomax, at 61, is not only playing excellent handball, but has gained quite a reputation as a folk singer. It is a moving experience to

hear him perform his cowboy and work songs.

Barbara and I spent two wonderful evenings with John and his number one fan, his wife Margaret, who makes the best homemade rolls and jelly in the world. One evening was spent taping as John sung some of the folk songs his father, the noted John Lomax Sr., collected. The next evening John and Margaret took us to a meeting of the Houston Folk Society, a group which John himself established in 1951. It was a pleasure to hear young and old alike singing songs and having fun together. We heard a lot of fine talent that night. Thank you John and Margaret for those evenings we spent in your home. Barbara and I hope you can visit us soon in Albuquerque.

We met John and Margaret again in Corpus Christi, where John and I played in the Masters Doubles during Buccaneer Days, the opening of the summer season there. Typical of Texas and handball hospitality, Wilbur Maxwell threw a big fish fry at his home along the Gulf Coast. There was dancing, singing, and plenty of food and beer. We all had a terrific time.

It was at this tournament that I met another fine handball player, Dr. Joaquin Gonzalez of San Antonio. Barbara and I decided to leave our Corpus Christi campground one day for a visit to San Antonio and a game with Dr. Gonzalez. Afterwards, he invited us to his home for dinner, where we met his lovely wife Marina, and Monica and Bobby, two of their six children. We soon found out that Marina has gained quite a reputation as a cook. She specializes in Mexican cooking. Among those who have sampled some of her delicacies is Lyndon B. Johnson himself. Lucky L.B.J.! Barbara and I can testify that the Mexican rice, beans, and tamales we had that night were surely presidential caliber. It's a miracle that Joaquin can stay in such good shape! After dinner, these lovely people invited us to spend the night with them rather than make the two hour trip back to our campground. We did. The next day brought more handball for the Dr. and me, and more time together with our new friends. It was heartwarming to be received like we were into the Gonzalez household. Thank you, Joaquin, Marina, Monica, and Bobby — we hope to see you again very soon.

Finally we turned south again, following the Rio Grande along the Texas-Mexican border into El Paso. There I was able to play with Mr. Benites, and his 19-year-old son; I also had some excellent games with Sam Ellowitz. My good friend Oscar Villareal was on the injured list and unable to play, but Barbara and I spent several delightful evenings with Oscar and his wife, Florence, and enjoyed meeting their adorable baby daughter, Celeste.

While we were visiting El Paso, the annual invitational handball tournament with Albuquerque was held. I played on Albuquerque's side, knowing that I would soon be relocating there. I won my match. However, the El Paso contingency overpowered us, and they won the tournament, which was based on a point system. The tournament was climaxed by an outstanding banquet given by the El Paso group in honor of the Albuquerque players. Trophies were awarded, and everyone had a wonderful time. Thank you El Paso players for such warm hospitality, and to you Oscar and Florence for showing us around your city.

As we approached Albuquerque, the speedometer registered 11,000 miles. I am now getting acquainted with the Albuquerque players, who boast of a very fine single champion, Cordy Garcia, closely followed by Dr. Robert Sanchez.

(To page 18)

Banquet Closes Olympic Club Year

By BOB HASSING

The annual San Francisco Olympic Club singles and doubles handball banquet held May 23 in the Olympian room brought to a thrilling conclusion the 1968-1969 program. The competition in all categories added another thrilling chapter to the great athletic tradition which so nobly belongs to our club. Aside from the heights reached in local and national competition it was to witness a record breaking number of Olympians, for the program in all types of competition.

Of particular importance was the large number of new young faces who participated so enthusiastically in the program; it certainly speaks well for the future of Handball at our club. Officially presented with the winners trophies in the doubles category were Bob Brady and Tom Fleming in championship class; and Jeff Capell and Bob McGuire, runner-ups; Roy Cauwet and Dick Calender over Jack Schroth and Andy Zopolos in junior championship; Jack Benjamin and Charlton Buckley over Fred Nagle and Bill Wagner in first class; Dave Marcelli and John Shirley over Dick Hoedt and Charles Wagner in second class; Pete Colichidas and Luis Chaparro over Bill Keays Jr. and Bill Smith in third class and Mike Sordelli and Ed Coste over John Johnson and Fred Flowers in fourth class. In the singles competition it was Bob Brady over Mike Kelly in championship play; Jack Schroth over Bob Lazzaretto in junior championship; Fred Bertetta over Stan Martin in first class; Art Kenney over Charlie Leach in second class; Al Chaparro over Ed Dullea



EASTMAN GRAMMAR SCHOOL PROGRAM . . . Pennsylvania grade school conducts handball classes. First placers pictured back row (l-r) Mike Murphy, David Beck, Tom Skogman. Second placers, front row (l-r) Biff Alexander, Dwight Henry, Chuck Dixon.

in third class and Jim Scheihing over Henry Chaparro in fourth class. Club Treasurer Dar Ahern accompanied by his charming wife Thelma stood in for President Alfred Cleary at the speakers table and gave a very glowing report as to the future of handball. Dar reminded the audience that it was not too many years ago that flying mashed potatoes were usually part of the official welcome extended the speaker and expressed gratitude for the presence of all the lovely ladies which certainly pre-

vented such hi-jinks. Helping to make the evening more memorable was the presence of Board members Frank Brush, Albert Maggio, E. Walter McCarthy and of course, their lovely and charming brides, who, we are quite sure, thoroughly enjoyed the festivities. Past members of the Board of Directors John Egan and Val Cosper together with their respective wives, Virginia and Kay, certainly enjoyed the evening and it was delightful to have with us the charming Mrs. Paul Clifford, daughter of the John Egan's. It was great to have with us former handball greats of the gas light era Jerry O'Connor, Al Washauer and Walter King.

Through the intense persuasive efforts of Coach Mike de la Pena, John Goodwin cancelled a very important business trip to act as master of ceremonies and as usual did a beautiful job. As usual the quality and quantity of door prizes were outstanding; our sincere thanks to the following who so generously donated: Lorry di Grazia, Angelo Campana, Rino del Curto, Fred Foster, Milt Coleman, Ed Proll, Al Schroth, Heinie Thompson, Roy Leu, Marshall Dunn, Dar Ahern, Harry Saxe, Tony Garcia and Tony Jr., Jeff Capell, John Matteucci, Bob Nonken, Bill MacDonnell, Dave Randolph and Richard and Angelo Campodonico.

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Handball Medical Study Applications Coming In Steadily to Dr. Fleming ... All Types of Age, Condition Desired

RETURN ADDRESSES . . .

From: C. R. White III, Research Administrator . . . "Owing to the fact that some of the volunteers for the medical study failed to include their return addresses in their letters, we have been unable to acknowledge their receipt. It is requested that those who have not heard from Dr. John S. Fleming write once more and include return addresses."

Dr. John S. Fleming of Orlando, Florida, has received 30 applications on his proposed ten-year medical study regarding the health of regular handball players. Dr. Fleming wants to point out that he is equally interested in players who are known to have heart trouble or such conditions as diabetes.

"I would like to stress the fact that I'm interested in studying all players whether they are healthy or not. I get the feeling that only those players who feel they are perfect physical specimens are applying.

Applicants have received a letter stating that they will receive the forms to be filled out by themselves and their physicians as soon as a list of approximately 200 names is acquired.

This is an excellent opportunity to gain an insight as to the physical values of our game. Everyone must be interested in getting some concrete information about the merits of regular exercise.

Once again we are printing Dr. Fleming's letter.

Take advantage of this testing and write to him for an application form TODAY!

Dear Fellow Handballer:

As you may know from reading ACE Magazine, I am interested in conducting a Medical study regarding the health of regular handball players. It seems to me that we are a rather unique group in that we regularly undertake a very strenuous sport even though we are, by and large, not professional athletes but business and professional men. In these days of sedentary existence, there has been much controversy lately about the merits of regular exercise, and I think handballers as a group are worthy subjects for a scientific study to add further knowledge to the available information regarding the value of rigorous exercise and health.

In choosing participants for this study we are surveying members of the USHA who are age 25 and over and who meet the following qualifications:

- (1) Have the willingness to participate in the study.
- (2) Play handball at least 3 times a week.
- (3) Have regularly played handball during the past 5 years and anticipate

playing regularly during the next 10 years.

- (4) Agree to undergo a physical examination, electrocardiogram and blood tests by their own physician.

It is hoped that each participant, out of interest in the subject and in the interests of his own sound health, will agree to finance his own physical examination by his personal physician and will consider it as having fulfilled his need for a yearly checkup. Electrocardiograms and blood samples will be forwarded to a central laboratory for interpretation. In many cases participants will probably have physician friends who are players and who, out of interest in this study, will perform the examination at no charge or at a very nominal fee.

If you meet the above criteria and would like to participate in a very worthwhile scientific project, please write to me for application form.

Research Adm.
John S. Fleming, M.D.
P.O. Box 478
Winter Park, Florida 32789

Africa's Newest Sport...

Joe Vasquez, the former pint-sized junior from San Bernardino, now is our roving ambassador for the game and a resident of Accra, Ghana, West Africa.

Joe, his brother Steve, and his father, Joe Sr., have a thriving import-export business, and have been able to forward the promotion of handball by building a fine air-conditioned court on their estate.



DEMONSTRATION . . . Joe Vasquez conducts classes in West Africa to two willing pupils in his family's air conditioned glass back walled court. Much progress has been made in developing some top notch players to represent GHANA in international competition.

Young Joe, now 22, first visited Accra in 1964 and discovered that handball was totally unknown in the country.

The first step was building the court. Then Joe searched out boys who he thought might show a talent for the game. Now, he has a fine group, who practice long hours and show definite promise. "Some of them are really good, and they are all doing marvelous work," Joe says.



PUPIL DEVELOPMENT . . . David Bobson has become one of the country's leading players through his dedication to the sport. Here he shows exceptional form to other members of the team in a practice session on the Vasquez court.

Joe plans to introduce the game to schools and colleges with the cooperation of the Ghana government. If the response from the schools is sufficiently encouraging Joe will erect courts in the various schools and colleges, a plan which he has already discussed with the Director of Sports.



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Outline Offered on Basics of Game—Offense and Defense

NOTE: Stewart Harkness of New Jersey took instructional tapes from Bob Davidson and made up the following outline, which covers the course of study very well. From this outline much "meat" of the basic fundamentals can be obtained . . . and if more intensive information is desired we advise writing. Bob Davidson, 1519 Metropolitan ave., Bronx, N.Y. 10462.

TIPS FOR BETTER HANDBALL

I. Point of Contact.

A. Finding your Point of Contact:

1. Meet ball as far from you as comfortable without losing balance.
2. Near center of body .
3. No need to aim.

B. Position of Hand.

1. Heel of hand parallel to floor.
2. Close to floor as possible.

C. Drill for finding Point of Contact and to develop rhythm:

1. Stand near back wall, 4 to 6 feet away.
2. Throw ball up with shooting hand, an arm's length away from the body.
3. Let ball get in front of you and when it gets low, step into it.
4. Purpose of this exercise is to meet ball properly.
 - (a) As low as you can.
 - (b) As far from the body as is comfortable.
 - (c) Around center of body.
5. If this exercise is done properly you will:
 - (a) Find your Point of Contact.
 - (b) Develop your rhythm.
 - (c) Your power will increase.
 - (d) You will be flattening the ball with surprisingly little effort.
 - (e) You will start feeling it in your shoulders that you are developing a good swing.
 - (f) Your improvement will be fantastic.

D. Use this Point of Contact whenever you go on the court.

E. Reason that ball is thrown to the back wall instead of front wall and letting it bounce and then taking it off the back wall is:

1. To have better control of ball.
2. So ball doesn't get away from you.
3. To develop rhythm.

II. Shooting the Ball

A. The shot is the most important thing in handball.

B. Knowing how to shoot, and when to shoot, is very important for the good player.

C. Be in good position. Don't shoot for the sake of shooting.

D. Preparation to shoot.

1. Keep eye on ball.
2. Concentrate
3. Don't worry about opponent.

4. Position your self properly.

5. Lower you get to floor the better your shooting average.

E. If you want to be shooter you have to go for the "low" board.

1. Practice . . . practice . . . practice.
2. Hit with firm wrist.
3. Loose, sloppy wrist is bad habit.
4. Meet ball firmly, place it well.

F. If ball is coming out from front wall.

1. Step back.
2. Get away from it to give yourself swinging room.
3. Then step into it — take your steps — 1, 2, 3 — stop — and then bomb it.
4. Meet ball around center of body.
5. Don't let ball come at you and just stand there flicking your wrist at it.

G. Types of shots.

1. Kill shot.
2. Pass shot.
3. Ceiling shot.
4. Back wall shot.
5. Fly shots (kill, pass, ceiling).
6. Low, driving shot down side wall.

H. There is a Point of Contact for every shot.

I. Volleying.

1. Besides flat shooting you have to know how to volley.
2. Still meet ball around center of body.

J. Placement of shots.

1. Left sidewall, front wall.
2. Front wall, left wall (occasionally).
3. Right side wall, front wall — when opponent to right side.
4. Front wall, right corner (good one).
5. Straight along walls, about 2 or 3 feet high, hitting hard.
6. If stuck in corner, go up and around.

K. Faking of shot.

1. Not feasible if you take your eye off the ball.
2. You can change your shot if your opponent anticipates and moves in, then you can pass him or go to ceiling.

L. After you go for your shot.

1. If opponent retrieves it get him out of front court.

2. Your next shot should not be into corner but a low pass shot along side walls around him with ball that hits front wall, side wall on side opponent is, about 3 feet high or lower.

III. The back wall shot.

A. Let ball get slightly in front of you.

B. Take your steps — 1, 2, 3, stop . . . (short steps or long, depending on speed and which way ball is going).

C. Keep eye on ball until it is almost in your hand.

1. Meaning 6 inches from hand before you look where you are hitting ball.

2. Don't look at opponent.

3. If you can see ball you can hit it.

4. No excuse for missing ball.

D. Don't take shot unless you are in good position.

E. If ball goes too far in front and you can't go for kill to right side.

1. Go for left side wall, front wall (a sure point).

2. Go up and around.

3. Other options: right side wall, front wall; left side wall, front wall; straight along side wall.

F. One of the best shots to develop off the back wall is to go left side wall, front wall when you are positioned on left side.

1. Most players shoot for right corner.

2. Trick to making this shot is: - (a) Let ball come off back wall a little more than you usually do.

- (b) Turn to right and pick left foot up so that when you put it down it is facing left wall so body swings to the left.

- (c) You will still meet ball in center of body.

- (d) Aim for crotch and you will be hitting side wall.

- (e) Secret is picking up foot so it is facing left side wall and body will swing around.

IV. Fly kill.

A. Everything in front of you should be taken on the fly.

B. Depending on the situation you can shoot:

1. For the corners.
2. Pass.
3. Up and around.

C. You must be able to judge the flight and speed of ball as soon as it hits front wall.

D. Give yourself room. If possible step back and then step into it.

E. Points to remember:

1. Take ball low. (This will be a little higher than back wall shot).
2. Arm closer to body than usual.
3. Firm wrist, firm arm.
4. Shoot for corners.

F. Practicing Fly Shooting.

1. Stay around service area.
2. Throw ball to front wall and step into it.
3. Don't shoot if backing up.

V. Ceiling shot.

A. Taking the ball high it is like throwing baseball from outfield — overhand, follow through.

B. Taking the ball low — off driving serve or low shot into deep court, you can develop underhand "bolo" fist shot with your offhand. There are many good players who use it effectively with both hands.

1. Either overhand or underhand you attempt to get ball to opponent's off hand, deep court corner.

(a) Keep ball from coming off side wall.

(a) "Feather" stroke so ball does not come off hard off back wall.

(c) Hit ceiling about 2 feet from front wall.

(d) Keep eye on ball.

C. Retrieving ceiling shot:

1. Go back quickly.

2. Touch back wall to see how close you are.

4. Always give yourself room to swing. Ball should be about arm's length from body.

5. Line up ball if it comes down side wall.

VI. Serving and Importance of staying on the Short Line.

A. Suggestions for serving:

1. A soft serve to opponent's off hand which doesn't reach back wall.

2. A serve down left side that hits back wall and comes out along side wall.

3. Don't let ball hit side wall and back wall for a setup to op-

ponent's strong hand.

4. Whatever serve you use, if it is effective, stick with it.

5. Observe other players' serves and experiment with them.

B. If you short on first serve.

1. Second serve should be cross court (Z or "Scotch Toss") to opponent's off hand.

2. This can be hit high, low, overhand, underhand.

C. That all-important short line.

1. After serving don't leave short line unless forced to.

2. Shooting around short line gets best results. Don't always depend on back wall.

3. Fly ball at every opportunity.

4. If ball bounces in front of you, step away, then step in. Shoot for corners whenever possible.

(a) Shoot left side wall, front wall, or . . .

(b) Front wall, right wall (especially in doubles when man is on your left side).

(c) Keep it low.

(d) Go for that "low" board.

5. Concentrate on opponent's opposite hand, especially in volleys.

6. Volley, volley, volley — won't get you 21!

7. Name of game is "KILL" — when you have setup.

D. Handball is not a volley game; rather a maneuvering of the opponent to get the ultimate setup.

E. You have 10 seconds to serve. Make use of this time by:

1. Thinking about the serve. Don't quick serve.

2. Take stock of the game.

3. To be a good ball player you must concentrate and think.

(a) Concentrate: Using right shot, how to beat opponent, realize what you are doing wrong.

VII. Return of service.

A. Most important that you get your opponent off short line with:

1. Ceiling shot.

2. Around the walls.

3. Pass shot.

B. NEVER shoot off the service unless you have setup.

C. If opponent's serve is bothering you:

1. Move into it . . . closer position . . . spot he is serving to.

2. Make him go for another serve.

3. If he makes 4 or 5 easy points call time and diagnose why he is scoring.

D. After long volley, if you lose point, and need breather, don't hesitate in calling time out.

VII. Footwork.

A. When shooting:

1. Don't have feet facing front wall.

2. Proper swing can only be attained by facing those side side walls.

B. Defense:

1. If your opponent is shooting from right side have left foot forward, face sidewall, watch opponent.

2. If opponent is shooting from left side have right foot forward, facing side wall.

IX. Retrieving balls close to side wall.

A. On ball coming from front wall, get out quickly and run to back wall.

B. Line up ball coming along side wall . . . if you see it will not come off back wall, step into it, punch or stroke it straight up to left side. If it comes out a little from side wall, bring ball up to front wall, right side wall so it will come back to left hand corner.

C. On ball that comes straight along wall which you cannot reach and will go to back wall:

1. Assume position for back shot.

2. Let ball get in front of you.

3. Step into it.

4. Go to ceiling.

5. If it comes off side wall, bring it up and around.

D. Don't run with ball and grab it as it touches wall. Run back quickly, line it up along side wall and you will get your depth. This will help you return ball without setting opponent up and you will be able to score.

E. Remember that most of your energy should not be spent retrieving unless it is near end of game where every point counts. Most of your energy should be used shooting.

X. Advice for young players.

A. Use fast tempo at all times . . . hard and strong.

B. Hit hard, don't go for soft shots.

C. Keep ball in play.

D. Don't shoot for kills unless you have the setup.

E. Work toward Point of Contact.

F. Don't throw points away.

XI. Developing opposite hand.

A. Practice with opposite hand whenever possible.

B. Realize that it is a defensive weapon.

Davidson's Capsule Tape Interviews

Instructional...

NOTE: Bob Davidson taped instructional material with various top notch players, getting observations, and then sent the tapes on to us. We have picked out excerpts that should be helpful to many.

FRED LEWIS: 21-year-old University of Miami (Fla.) national intercollegiate champion, who has had the advantages of competition with the best players in the New York City area where he spends his summers, and at the Flamingo Park courts in Miami Beach.

LEWIS: Over the past half a dozen years I don't think my speed afoot has improved but through play with the better ball players I have learned to anticipate better, knowing what shots they will probably take under certain circumstances.

I realize my shortcomings of not training enough to attain championship stamina level. I know, to be on top nationally, a player must make the sacrifice — run a lot . . . the little extra things that are necessary. If I would do these things I am confident I could get in there and play 'toe to toe' with anyone in the country. To the younger players I would suggest is 'sneak in' as many extra games as possible in your everyday play and this will pay off in the tournaments.

ON THE CEILING SHOT: When you see a ceiling shot being hit the idea is to get to the back wall as soon as possible . . . then there are two things that can be done — either go back to the ceiling, or if the ball comes off the back wall decide what you want to do with it, determinate upon the position of your opponent.

ON BALLS HIT DOWN THE SIDE WALLS: Hustle to get behind the ball so you can position for a ceiling or up and around high shot that will get your opponent back in deep, defensive position and allow you to move into the all-important short line spot.

TERRY MUCK — now playing professional baseball with the Atlanta Braves' Class A farm club at Greenwood, South Carolina. Terry has come fast, was a two-time national intercollegiate champion, USHA Midwest regional winner, and holds credits over Dave Graybill and even one over Bill Yambrick.

TERRY: In observing different players — Pat Kirby with seemingly effortless movements around the court, gets his shot and bombs away . . . Stuffy Singer seems to play the same pattern. Coming from the same locale as Billy Yambrick, I have played against him and watched him closely for years and like his style

. . . constant movement and always being in the game. But, of all the players I would like to pattern my game around it would be Oscar Obert. Editor's Note: It is my feeling that Terry, being a lightning fast afoot player, likes the excitement of the Obert game. It is like the running game in baseball — take the chances, gamble . . . break up the momentum with the unexpected . . . crack through the conservative, steady game with the deep court, off hand kill . . . perhaps compensate for daring shooting errors with tremendous retrieving.

Davidson interjected with the statement that Terry Muck could not play the Obert style because he would mentally reject this type of performance. Oscar's outstanding physical equipment and natural shooting strength overcame his lack of four-wall know how in his switch from the one-walls.

ON CONFIDENCE: It seems I can get myself "up" for some matches and not for others. The question is whether it is better to go into court with the attitude that no one in the world can beat me, or, to have some fear of losing but be able to concentrate fully?

DAVIDSON: It is only natural to have some trepidations at times, but to say to yourself if I play hard from the go, dig out his weaknesses, I can beat him.

If I can't find the opening then I'm in trouble but I will still give it all I can. This is where the fast tempo is advantageous. Very few players can override the real momentum. If Marty Decatur is in shape he's practically unbeatable with his fast tempo.

JOE VASQUEZ, the traveling ambassador from Accra, Ghana, West Africa . . . very impressed with the younger generation of handballers . . . impressed with the Straus twins . . . ability to bomb away can gain them wins over most doubles teams but when they come against a Sandland-Kelly team they must adjust and learn the finer tactics.

Originally I started playing handball on the West Coast. Not until I saw the New York type of ball did I realize the importance of proper skills in finishing a rally. The one-wallers are so adept at the bottom board fly kill that it becomes obvious to me that I should learn to get low, position properly and power that ball in flat when the opportunity would present itself. What value is the ability to retrieve and keep a volley going if you can't put a shot away when it comes your way?

I personally have witnessed the impact of power success in the person of Gordie Pfeifer. Even in strong tournament play he is able to win with sheer right hand power.



"We've always had a great many members of the medical profession playing at this Y".



By MORT LEVE

From the . . . KILLSHOT ROOM

Haber-Hofflander Team Up . . .

Latest off the "hot-line" is the amalgamation of Paul Haber and Denny Hofflander for the upcoming three-wall classic in Detroit over the Labor Day weekend. Haber wound up the winner in the Chicago Rainbow Beach doubles tourney, playing with Jack McDonald. Hofflander, recently out of the Army, after a rugged stint in Vietnam and six months of instructional combat duty at Camp Polk, La., wound up second with Rich Drabik.

Haber, our four-wall kingpin, is confident he and Denny can overcome the proved three-wall talents of defending titlists, Marty Decatur and Lou Russo, even though he has played the game only through this Summer season.

I reminded Paul there would be plenty of New York backing for the Decatur-Russo combine; in fact, many will put forth Lewis-Smolack and the Straus twins as other Eastern teams that will have to be beat . . . not to discount the known talents of Oscar, Carl and Ruby Obert.

But Haber, disdainful of 'em all, and giving it the "Broadway Joe" cockiness, insists, "Denny and I will win it all. Neither one of us will play singles . . . we're going after the one prize and will give it the full effort."

Like the Jets' Namath, Haber has been able to back up his mouth with championship talent. Nobody gave him a chance in that highly-publicized Sports Illustrated exhibition match with Jim Jacobs a couple of years ago at the N.Y. 92nd St. Y, and look what happened. After an in and out invitational campaign this past four-wall season he came into Austin, loudly proclaiming, "No way they can stop me from regaining the title." And, he proceeded to thoroughly drub Stuffy Singer, defending champ, in the semis, and stop Billy Yambrick for a third match (others in 1966 and 1967).

Those who have seen Haber play three-wall at Rainbow will readily admit that he has acclimated himself to the game quickly and with his marvelous two-handed talents. Paul has that innate ability to swiftly adjust his game to the court. He showed this in the mini-Dallas A.C. confines . . . he adjusted his controlled ceiling shots against the home "pro," Buzz Shumate, something no other outsider had been able to do.

Haber is a student of the game. Although he has never been to Detroit's Palmer Park, we found he knows everything about the courts. He will not hesitate in picking other players' brains and will go in there prepared.

As we said to Paul, "It should be ver-ry interesting."

To demonstrate his athletic skills, Haber attended the 20th Annual Chicagoland Sports Industries Golf Tournament with our sport distributor, Ned Singer, and tied at 73 for second low gross. And, he had not played golf in months!

Haber is an intense competitor and such athletes often rub other players and fans the wrong way. His is a well known credo of "There's no substitute for winning" — or "Winning isn't the only thing, it's everything!" . . . and he appreciates the all-out competitiveness in others.

"Do you know who the top competitor in the history of handball is?", he threw at us. Now, this is a good one for 99.44% of the champions are tremendous competitors. "This isn't just my opinion," Haber insists. "I've talked to my Dad and others about it and they place Ken Schneider right at the top." Now, this is quite interesting because Ken is also a "nice guy" in the courts. But, he puts out 120%, and even today at 47 plays a tremendous tournament game of doubles.

And, he'll go with anyone around for one game of singles, despite any age differences.

Haber says Ron Santo of the Cubs is one of those hypoed competitive performers. He thinks his very driving personality on the field is the key to the Cubs' current successes. And, if Ron occasionally opens his mouth too wide,

it can be understood because there's others of that breed who react in the same vein.

Santo plays handball in the offseason and becomes frustrated at times because he tries so hard but is of the B classification. He has that extreme desire, hustle and condition but lacks knowledge of the four walls and despite his coordination rushes the ball too much. And, so one time he became so enraged at the ball he fired it against the wall with his powerful right wing . . . the ball caromed back and hit his opponent in the side of the head. The opposing young man became enraged, doubled up his fists, then took a second look at the smoldering Santo and decided to forget it.

Bourbeau Takes Reno 'Blackjack'

Bob Bourbeau, Reno, Nevada won the Second Annual Blackjack Handball Tournament held at the Reno YMCA, June 20-22, by defeating Jim O'Brien, San Francisco, 21-7, 21-2.

The "big" game of the tournament was Bourbeau playing Harold Price, Los Angeles, and defeating him 21-10, 21-9.

In doubles play Mike Kelly and Howie Wyrsh, San Francisco, defeated Dino Pezzi and Spencer Johnston, San Francisco, for first place. For third place Rudy Stadlberger and Donald Birrer, San Francisco, won over Jerry Cooke and Bill Snyder, Sacramento, 21-11, 5-21, 21-14.

Claude Mabry, Reno and Price did not play for third place in the singles division due to injuries to both.

EXHIBITIONS CLINICS

Anyone interested in setting up an exhibition-clinic date can use USHA as a "clearing house". Write USHA — 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, Ill. 60076 — or Tel. — (Area Code 312) ORchard 3-4000. We will contact key players from your general area and have these men contact you directly. Specify dates you want.

Paul Haber, switching his talents to three-wall, quickly adapted his ambidextrous shots and won the Chicago Rainbow Beach annual doubles open with Jack McDonald as his worthy partner. The Haber-McDonald team, seeded third, demonstrated the power and shooting ability to overshadow a 26-team field, and establish themselves as a new threat in the USHA classic to be held in Detroit over the Labor Day weekend.

The host Rainbow Beach team of Tom Smith and Joe Tackosh came back after a 21-2 loss in the first game of the semi-finals to Haber-McDonald and pressed the eventual winners to 18 in the second one. Meanwhile, former national four-wall champion Johnny Sloan and his partner, Andy Upatnieks, fell to the Vietnam vet, Denny Hofflander and Rich Drabik, 21-20, 21-15. Hofflander, just a few weeks out of the Army, is rounding into top condition fast and should be another strong entry at Detroit.

In the finals Hofflander and Drabik took the first game 21-19, but couldn't maintain the momentum in the final two games — losing 21-10 and 21-14. Hofflander and Drabik had scored a big win over Bob Koenig and Don Ardito, 21-18, 19-21, 21-10.

McDonald was one half of the 1968 champion team with Tom Brownfield. Tom could not play this year.

NOTES FROM CHUCK CAVELL: Brian Falknor and Frank Epstein, representing Northwest Suburban YMCA, played good, losing a three-game match to Upatnieks and Sloan. Frank is a former Notre Dame footballer, has put on quite a few pounds since his college days . . . Pete Cocalis and Bob Fitzpatrick, Irving Park Y, showed well, lost to Falknor-Epstein, 21-20, 21-18 . . . actually, Hofflander-Drabik, were not seeded, and knocked out three seeded entries . . . there were three Dohman boys in the tournament — Chuck, Tom, and the oldest — Larry, present University of Illinois champ . . . Tom Fitzpatrick donated fine souvenir t-shirts for the final 16 players plus some hard-working refs . . . John Manion, Jack McDonald, Andy Upatnieks, Joe Ardito, Ben Costello, Chuck Cavell, Paul Olson, the Dohmans, Tom Johnson, Paul Haber, Bernie Kelly, Ed Beirne, and the top ref — Floyd Olson. Three 111th St. Y reps were in the finals — McDonald, Hofflander and Drabik . . . an idea was forwarded to include eight out-of-town over the final Fourth of July weekend but only three

responded so it was scrapped. Dr. John Scapis and Dr. Steve August of Detroit were all set to play and were disappointed . . . coming up the open singles — Aug. 9-24 — after the Master doubles . . . co-sponsoring these events — Illinois Handball Association, Chicago Park District and Rainbow Beach Club.

FIRST ROUND: Elihu Blanks-Lee Hunt, Washington Park, def. Chuck Dohman-Tom Peterson, Rainbow Beach, 21-6, 21-4; Brian Falknor-Frank Epstein, Northwest Suburban Y, def. Phil Stice-Mike Laloeff, 111th St. Y, 20-21, 21-2, 21-13; Pete Cocalis-Bob Fitzpatrick, Irving Park Y, def. Tony Reitingen-Frank Chapp, Austin Y, 21-18, 20-21, 21-15; Dennis Hofflander-Rick Drabik, 111th St. Y, def. Tim Steen-Terry Shaprio, Leaning Tower Y, 21-3, 21-2; Ben Costello-Norm Singer, Duncan Y, def. Walter Blythe-William Smith, Washington Park, 21-4, 21-11; Tom O'Neil-Jim Bigham, West Suburban Y, def. Mike White-Gary Behnke, Rainbow Beach, 21-9, 21-14; Paul Olson-Jim Cosentino, Rainbow Beach, def. Jack Harkins-Ed Zahorik, Rainbow Beach, 21-6, 21-9; John Eck-Bernie Kelly, Rainbow Beach, def. Nick Gegan-Terry Funderburk, Rainbow Beach, 21-9, 21-9; John Manion-Ed Wagner, Rainbow Beach, def. Tom Dohman-Scott Madigan, Rainbow Beach, 21-5, 21-17; Larry Dohman-Charles Hetherington, Rainbow Beach, def. John McNulty-Lee Leinweber, 111th St. Y, 21-13, 21-16.

SECOND ROUND — John Sloan-Andy Upatnieks, Irving Park Y, def. Elihu Blanks-Lee Hunt, 21-18, 21-14; Falknor-Epstein def. Cocalis-Fitzpatrick, 21-20, 21-8; Hofflander-Drabik def. Tom Johnson-Dr. Allen Murphy, Rainbow Beach, 21-7, 21-8; Bob Koenig-Don Ardito, Irving Park Y, def. Costello-Singer, 21-18, 19-21, 21-19; Paul Haber-Jack McDonald, Rainbow Beach, def. O'Neil-Bigham, 21-5, 21-6; Eck-Kelly def. P. Olson-Cosentino, 21-7, 21-9; Floyd Olson-Ed Beirne, 111th St. Y, def. Manion-Wagner, 21-15, 21-7; Tom Smith-Joe Tackosh, Rainbow Beach, def. L. Dohman-Hetherington, 21-8, 21-5.

QUARTER FINALS — Sloan-Upatnieks def. Falknor-Epstein, 11-21, 21-9, 21-8; Hofflander-Drabik def. Koenig-Ardito, 21-18, 19-21, 21-10; Haber-McDonald def. Eck-Kelly, 21-8, 21-1; Smith-Tackosh def. Olson-Beirne, 2-16, 21-16.

SEMI-FINALS — Hofflander-Drabik def. Sloan-Upatnieks, 21-20, 21-15; Haber-McDonald def. Smith-Tackosh, 21-2, 21-18.

FINALS — Haber-McDonald def. Hofflander-Drabik, 19-21, 21-10, 21-14.

THIRD PLACE — Smith-Tackosh, default.

Garber Stadium, located in that rabid Brighton Beach area of New York, was the site of "Handball Oldtimers' Day" June 29. It was a delightful, nostalgic afternoon for blackball aficionados. Veterans of great matches of the 20s, 30s and 40s enjoyed exchanging greetings and reminiscing. Credit the herculean efforts of Vic Herschkowitz, Irving "The Mayor" Rosenblatt and Moe Orenstein for the SRO turnout.

Silver-tongued Sam Silvers, who loves a 'mike' like a baby loves pabulum, was super-elloquent in introducing: Jack London, Red Kravitz, Bernie "Slugger" Raskin, Freddie Geller, Dr. Phil Silverstein, Lou "Injun" Cornsweet, George and Frank Gluckler, Irving and Leo Block, Ben Sheiber, George Baskin . . . PLUS Artie Wolfe, Artie Schwartz, a pair of good Jacks — Seaman and Wildman, Heckie Seiler, Sam Koppelman, Saul Schmookler, Marty "Ace" Rosenfield, Al Goldstein, Sid "Muscles" Balinsky, Joe Spector, Moe Schlesinger, Harry Mischitch and Dave Norvid.

Exhibiting their talents were the current outstanding one-wallers — Steve Sandler, Carl and Rudy Obert, Marty Russo, Joel Wisotsky, and sensational youngster Mark Levine.

Gals receiving "Oldtimer shirts" were: Bea Shapiro, wife of former star Murray Shapiro; Hannah Rosenfeld, who plays a heckuva paddleball game; Hazel Shapiro, Shirely Wolfe and Little Maddy Weisenfeld.

Topping off the day's festivities was a bountiful feed and giant-size cake for the athletes; courtesy BBB (Brighton Beach) management.

A poignant moment was the "one minute of silence" to the memory of a stellar athlete and gentleman, Joe Garber, who gave his life in World War II. Garber Stadium, a mecca of one-wall for over a quarter of a century, was named to perpetuate his memory.

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Fleming Champ Class Winner in Nor-Cal

By MARTIN JUDNICH

The 10th Annual USHA Nor-Cal Singles Handball Championships enticed a record entry of 143 dedicated handballers representing 37 handball clubs vying for titles and trophies in five categories. The 1969 trophy winners are:

CHAMPIONSHIP (A) CLASS: 1st — Tom Fleming, Olympic Club; 2nd — Jay Kent, South End Club; 3rd — Bob DesMeules, South End Club; 4th — Mel Schwarz, San Jose YMCA.

JR. CHAMPIONSHIP CLASS: 1st — Denis Lose, Palo Alto Elks Club; 2nd — Kevin Sheehy, Olympic Club; 3rd — Joe Hare, Olympic Club; 4th — Jack Schroth, Olympic Club.

FIRST CLASS: 1st — John With-
erow, Palo Alto Elks Club; 2nd — Dr.
Leo McCarthy, Palo Alto Elks Club; 3rd
— Ideale Gambera, S.F. Central
YMCA; 4th — Al Crosat, South End
Club.

B. CLASS: 1st — Keith Calkins, Cha-
bot College; 2nd — Neil Wong, Castle
Air Force Base; 3rd — Bob Levinson,
S.F. Central YMCA; 4th — Augustin
Uribe, Oakland YMCA.

(NOVICE) CLASS: 1st — Pete
Colichidas, Olympic Club; 2nd — Ger-
ald Sheehy, S.F. Embarcadero YMCA;
3rd — Al Chapparo, Golden Gate Park;
4th — Richard Hackett, South End
Club.

**CHAMPIONSHIP CLASS (27 EN-
TRANTS:** Tom Fleming, 32, Olympic
Club, who learned handball and car-
pentry in Ireland, was extended to the
limit in a hectic finals before downing
Jay Kent, South End Club, to seize the
NOR-CAL top title, 14-21, 21-8, 21-18.
The smiling, grim and hard-fighting
Irishman was fast and had to be in
superb condition. Tom has improved sub-
stantially in the last year. He kills
accurately, frequently with either hand,
and is beginning to learn the benefits
of mixing his deadly kills with pass drives
down the sides when his opponent com-
mands the center court.

Fleming registered preliminary vic-
tories over strong contender: Hal Solin,
Howard Wyrsh, and Bob DesMeules —
all from the handball stronghold at the
South End Club. Fleming recently forced
Buzz Shumate to an all-out effort before
yielding at Austin in the USHA Na-
tionals, in a gruelling three-gamer.

Kent, 26, a physical education instruc-
tor, learned one-wall handball in New
York, won a three-wall tournament
against the best in the L.A. area; and re-
cently moved to San Francisco. His four-
wall game is picking up fast at the South



USHA JUNIOR WINS NOVICE . . . Peter Colichidas (left), 16-year-old from the Olympic Club and an entrant in the 1968 USHA National Juniors, won Class C (novice) crown in Nor-Cal annual. At right is Al Chapparo of Golden Gate Park. Both youngsters are being tutored by Mike de la Pena.

End Club where he routinely encounters many dedicated talented handballers. Kent alerted the forecasters early in the tournament when he rubbed out highly-regarded Mike Kelly, defending cham-
pion, of the Olympic Club, and a veter-
an of many nationals, 21-15 and 21-17.

Next, Jay ousted veteran campaigner
Stan Clawson, South Ender, by scores
of 18 and 2; came from behind to take
out an extremely efficient and rapidly
improving Mel Schwarz, San Jose YMCA
19-21, 21-55 and 21-7; but lost to Flem-
ing in the exciting finals. Kent's right
is probably as deadly and strong as any
player in the game, especially his blazing
serves. His left is not weak, but should
improve at the South End where the
many quality performers will routinely
force him to use his left if and when
they can return any of his bombs. Kent
was the most exciting player in the tour-
nament and appears destined for star-
dom.

Other scintillating performers in
Championship Class include: Spencer
Johnston and Jim O'Brien Jr. of the
Olympic Club; Rudy Stadlberger, Hal
Solon and Bob DesMeules of the South
End Club; Gary Ryan, SF Central
YMCA; Jay Capell Jr, San Jose YMCA;
and Mitch Covington up-and-coming-
player of the Fresno YMCA. Many hand-
ballers in Championship and other
classes from Northern California are al-
ready talking about entering the USHA
Nationals at the LAAC in 1970, where
California will be strongly represented
in depth.

**JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP CLASS
(32 ENTRANTS):** Denis Lose', Palo
Alto Elks Club, displayed an excellent
all-around talent to take the Jr. Cham-
pionship title from durable Kevin Sheehy,
Olympic Club, in a bitterly-contested
finals, 20-21 and 21-9. Sheehy and Lose',
battled fiercely for each point in the
first game, with both players exhibiting

excellent condition, speed, ability to retrieve, and intense desire to win to keep the large audience on the edge of their seats. It seemed that an edge in experience was the deciding factor in favor of Lose'. Joe Hare, Olympic Club won third place over teammate Jack Schroth.

In his earlier rounds Lose' gained wins from: Dave Dobrinen, S.F. Central YMCA; Bob Garner, Oakland YMCA; Dave Hawkins, San Jose YMCA; and Joe Hare, in the semi-finals.

Sheehy victims included: Bob Rowe, University of California; Leonard Leib, South End Club; Abe Woodson, former football star of the National Football League, now learning handball fast; and Jack Schroth, Olympic Club in the semis. Many in the Junior Championship Class are qualified to move up into AA Class, especially: Lose'; Sheehy; Schroth; Woodson, SF. Central YMCA; Hawkins, San Jose YMCA; John Parent and Dennis Moser, South End Club.

FIRST CLASS: (56 ENTRANTS): John Witherow, Palo Alto Elks Club, defeated Dr. Leo McCarthy of the same club in a furious finals to gain the First Class title, 21-13, 15-21 and 21-18. Witherow was in sharp shape for the event. His accurate and consistent ceiling game prevailed over McCarthy's more sophisticated kill type of game.

Witherow earned his title with preliminary victories over formidable opposition from: Robert Foglia, Oakland YMCA; Jim Noreen, Stockton YMCA; Ray Brennan, South End Club; and Ideale Gambera, SF Central YMCA in the semi-finals. Likewise, Dr. McCarthy won from competent foes such as: Stanford Martin, Olympic Club; Dan Litowsky, unattached; Lou Cartagena, Castle Air Force Base (17-21, 21-17 and 21-10); and Al Crosat, South Ender in the semi-finals. Gambera, SF Central YMCA, won third place from Crosat, South End Club, 21-9 and 21-8.

Many contenders in First Class may be properly promoted into upper classes of competition, notably: Ed Mendell, Palo Alto Elks Club; Dick Wilson, Sportsmen of Stanislaus of Modesto, Al Crosat; Lou Cartagena — Castle A.F.B.; Otis Grimbale, Sacramento State College; Ray Brennan, South End Club; Ideale Gembera and Dave Contrares of the SF Central YMCA. The fierceness and closeness of the competition in First Class is clearly indicated in the third round wherein each of the eight contests required three games to settle the issue. Naturally, such results attest to the efficiency of our Nor-Cal schedule committee which screened entrants in all classes and reclassified many players into proper division of competition.

CLASS B: (64 ENTRANTS): Two well-conditioned newcomers to Nor-Cal tournaments tangled in the finals of Class B, with Keith Calkins, Chabot College, defeating Neil Wong, Castle Air Force Base, in a close contest 21-17 and 21-19. Calkins is a natural all-around athlete: football coach, boxer, ski-instructor and now an enthusiastic handballer who is preaching the handball gospel on the Chabot campus where the game is spreading like wildfire. Keith demonstrated his natural handball skills throughout the tournament, winning from: Carlos Ortiz, SF Central YMCA; Tim Johnson, Sacramento Elks; Charles Leach, Olympic Club; Carlos Guerrero, Oakland YMCA; Gus Uribe, Oakland YMCA in the semi-finals and finally Neil Wong.

Wong also flashed real ability with victories over sturdy competitors: Fred Hirschfield, SF Central YMCA; Keith Ferguson, Alameda Air Force Base; Jerry Schiffman, unattached; Bruce Williamson; Berkeley YMCA; and rugged Bob Levinson, SF Central YMCA. Many of the 64 candidates in Class B showed talent galore, worthy of promotion, namely: Keith Calkins; Neil Wong, Gus Uribe; Carlos Guerrero; John Tarantino, S.F. Jewish Community Center; John Sheline and Milt Byron of Castle AFB; Jim Costello and Charles Leach, Olympic Club; Martin Sammon and Mark Driscoll, San Jose YMCA; Gary Costello, San Mateo Elks Club, and several others.

CLASS C (NOVICE) 64 ENTRANTS: Peter Colichidas, Olympic Club, a 16-year-old Lowell High School Junior, surprised by capturing top honors in Class C. Pete upset Gerald Sheehy, SF Embarcadero YMCA, in the finals 21-13 and 21-8. Al Caparro, Golden Gate Park, won the third place trophy over Richard Hackett, South End Club.

Young Colichidas won each of his six contests in two games, from older and more experienced players consisting of: Lou Fabbri, San Mateo Elks Club (14 and 7); Al Jones, Palo Alto Elks Club (12 and 16); Fred Kroman, Embarcadero YMCA (18 and 17); Paul Miller, Embarcadero YMCA (16 and 15); Richard Hackett, South End Club (19 and 7) in the semi-finals; and Sheehy (13 and 8). Pete showed two excellent hands, a fighting spirit, confidence, speed, ambition to be a champion, and outstanding court savvy for his tender years.

Gerald Sheehy reflected the potential of surpassing his brother Kevin, finalist in Junior Championship. Gerald won from: Ed Towers, SF Central YMCA; Mark Wayne, Chabot College; Joe Padua, Jewish Community Center, Marvin Snowbarger, San Jose YMCA; and

Al Chapparo, Golden Gate Park in the semi-finals.

The tournament's application form describes Class C (Novice) in the following language: "Generally, for enthusiastic beginners with less than 2 years in the courts; or for jolly veterans (born losers) who play for laughs or social purposes but are good enough to extend the average novice. Juniors under 19 may fit appropriately, or if exceptional should enter higher."

Many Class C players are dedicated, hate to lose and are ambitious to play against the best. Those who appear most likely to improve and jump upward in class include: Pete Colichidas; Gerald Sheehy; Al Chapparo; Richard Hackett; Frank Aguilar and Wayne Landman; Chabot College; Marvin Snowbarger; Julian Cane and David Green of San Mateo Elks; Bill Keays Jr., Olympic Club; Alfred Avila, Stockton; Robert Vanina, a young, clever left-hander of Sacramento Elks Club; Felipe Rosando, SF Central YMCA; Tony Gibson, Embarcadero YMCA, and others whose talent was hidden.

Handball throughout Northern California is enjoying tremendous growing pains. The 37 different handball clubs represented in our 1969 Nor-Cal Classic included six new organizations sending representatives into the event for the first time. The new clubs welcomed into Nor-Cal competitions deserve a mention in ACE, namely: Watsonville YMCA; Mt. Diablo YMCA; Sequoia YMCA (Redwood City); Castle Air Force Base; San Mateo Elks Club; and Piedmont A.C.

We were again fortunate in obtaining prior permission to use 19 handball courts for our first day's round of action (121 games), through the generosity of: University of California, Berkeley (8 courts); Chabot College, Hayward (6 courts); S.F. Embarcadero YMCA (2 courts); and South End-Dolphin Clubs in S.F. (3 courts).

Tom Walsh, the Tournament's chairman, again successfully engineered most of the intricate details concerned in conducting a colossal tournament; 243 total entrants; 37 clubs represented; 19 courts at 4 locations; and all completed within a span of 9 days with 6 days of tournament action. Northern California handball enthusiasts are indeed grateful to Tom Walsh, especially your scribe.

Al Masyk, South End Club Commissioner, and John Tarantino, Jewish Community Center Commissioner deserve special credits for their valuable assistance during the tournament.

INDER Handball DOUBLES OB LETTERS

What Handball Has Meant To Me . . .

First of all it has given me a physical strength beyond what a 52-year-old man should have in this era of TV viewing and overeating.

In going to the various tournaments, both as a spectator and competitor, I have enjoyed meeting many kinds of people (for the game has a strange attraction for all kinds) that I would not ordinarily meet. It has taught me to lose without regrets, just enjoying the game for the game itself. I like to win but losing doesn't bother me.

Handball has also given me something in common with many fine people — Bob Kendler, Darryl Zanuck, Art Linkletter, Gale Sayers, and many other athletic greats who play handball in their off season to maintain top physical condition.

Handball has personally done wonders for me. On lonely days I always know I can go to that spot near the Aquarium at Coney Island, near West 5th Street on Surf Avenue, and regardless what time of the year it might be, find someone equally as enthusiastic and indulge in a spirited match. Both sides emerge the better for it.

Now, at the age of 52, I don't need the game as much as I used to. But I still play a bit slower, but with everything I have, and still love it.

—Morris Weldon

EXHIBITION . . .

Dear Mr. Leve:

I wish to thank you very much for your cooperation in acquiring Paul Haber to put on an exhibition at the Decatur YMCA. The Handball players who attended the clinic were very impressed and enjoyed themselves talking to Paul and learning new concepts of Handball that they never knew even existed.

Ron Warner
Program Director
YMCA-Decatur, Ill.

MORE FILMS . . .

Dear Mr. Leve:

Our handball film production is scheduled for this winter. We still are planning to do it at the University of Texas.

It will be produced in Super 8mm cartridge film loops and on Super 8mm reels. We don't know at this time how many films will be included in the series, but I would guess about five or six. I will let you know when we have reached the planning stage.

Richard S. Snider, General Mgr.
NCAA Films
Washington, D.C.

FROM JCC . . .

Dear Bob:

On the eve of my annual trip to Flamingo Park for some handball and conversation with Commissioner Barney Goldstein, we were pleased that you found time in your busy schedule to visit our Center.

I know you enjoyed your reunion here with such old-timers as Mike Wood, Harold Kahn, Dan Isaacson, Paul Saposnik, Art Mandel, Irv Gray, Max Stern, Ruby Krako, Allan Rudman and Hally Gradman.

Our handball match against Marvin Serota and Sam Malkin was especially enjoyable. It is always a delight to beat a couple of good losers.

Sam Brahill,
Director
Horwich Health Club
Chicago, Ill.

Back to USHA . . .

Sirs:

Please enroll me in the USHA. Just returned to the game after a two year absence — Vietnam. Played for six months at Bien Hoa, two courts there, built by the French, I believe. Four concrete walls and one chicken wire ceiling to the open air. Not exactly first class but at least playable. Water exhaust troughs were in each corner so no one drowned during Monsoon. It's kind of different playing in the rain.

Capt. Maurice F. McHugh
Davis-Monthan AFB,
Tucson, Arizona

11,000 MILE TRIP . . .

(From page 7)

Albuquerque's number 2 player, and a number of other very fine players, among whom is Capt. Chuck Allen, president of the Albuquerque Handball Club, and the top man at Kirtland A.F.B. Chuck and I have enjoyed many fine games together.

And so our 11,000 miles of leisure travel has ended, and we just want to thank you handball families again for contributing so much friendliness and life to our vacation. Barbara and I want you all to know that our home in Albuquerque is open to you whenever you may travel out that way. We think that the warmth displayed among handball players is a fine thing, and that a high standard of friendliness goes hand in hand with the high athletic standard of the game.

LET'S HEAR FROM YOU!

This is your exclusive corner of ACE magazine. Send in your views—pro or con . . . take advantage of the opportunity to SOUND OFF!

OBSERVATION TOWER

By BOB DAVIDSON

Picks Russo-Decatur Again

The upcoming 3-Wall Labor Day Weekend tournament in Detroit should be a great one. It will start a day earlier this year because of the large entry in singles, doubles, and Masters play.

The contingent from New York should be larger than usual, judging from all the talk about who's going to Detroit.

Castle Hill Beach Club members planning to make the Detroit trip are:

Marty Decatur — Reigning singles and doubles 3-wall and 1-wall singles champ. Marty is currently teaching close to home at Hauppauge High in Long Island. He will have more time to get into top condition this year and expects to enter singles and doubles with Lou Russo again as his partner.

Lou Russo — Defending doubles champ with Decatur in 3-Wall and current 4-Wall Doubles champ with Lou Kramberg. Russo works for Grauman Aviation as an engineer and is in charge of a group of engineers on the moon lift phase.

I expect Russo and Decatur to repeat as doubles winners, and for Marty to take the singles crown rather easily. Russo may give him a rough game in the finals if he is in top shape.

Paul Haber and Jack McDonald should do well as partners in 3-Wall. They are fresh from a strong victory over Dennis Hofflander and partner Rich Drabik at Rainbow Beach in Chicago. Dennis is back for good from Vietnam and we expect great things from him in his handball career.

A little more passing with his shooting ability and Dennis can go a long way. Haber and McDonald should be right up there for semis and maybe in the finals, but I don't think any team can take Decatur and Russo.

Fred Lewis, current national collegiate champ from the University of Miami, Fla., is teamed up with Ken Smolack, and I expect this team to reach at least the semis now that Smolack is down to a svelte 200 pounds. Ken hits the ball as hard as anyone in the game right now and is moving quite well. He is attending college in New York and also works for a trucking firm as a route man.

Another young team that has shown well in Detroit is Bobby Harbatkin, the "Cake King" and Richie Greenwald. Harbatkin, 25, is playing a strong right and Greenwald, 21, is a natural lefthander with lots of power. Richie is a student at Community College of New York and is taking a course in surveyor engineering.

Another young, dynamic team is the teenage duo of Steve Lott, 19, and Wes Yee, 18. Although they are hot and cold the potential is there for these two, with lots of power and great natural lefthands. Their main problem, as youngsters, is lack of concentration. Lott attends Bronx Community College and Wes plays for Mike Dau at Lake Forest (Ill.) College.

William Yee, 18, also a member of Coach Dau's team will team up with 19-year old John Paveletz. John won the "B" Collegiate crown in 1968 and William won the same title this year.

Another good prospect who did a fine job in Detroit a year ago as Larry August's partner is Allen Findel. Al kept the ball in play with a strong opposite left hand.

Phil Wohlfarth is returning to Detroit for his second appearance. He gave viewers a good show at all times last year.

Mitchell Straus at seventeen will do a workman-like job playing the right side. Mitch expects to go to Long Island University next year.

Jack Goldstein is eligible for the Masters and I hope he doesn't change his plans; he's been talking about Puerto Rico and the good times.

This is the group that represents Castle Hill Beach Club and the 92nd St. YMHA.

In the Masters we have the current 3-wall champs in George Maier, 43, a phys. ed. instructor at Rye High School and Billy Gluck, 52, our elder statesman who gets all the youngsters in shape by chasing them all over the court.

Gluck won the Masters twice with Jack Weitz, and can still muster up enough speed. I expect George and Billy to reach the finals although it will be tougher this year with Ken Schneider in great shape and Gus Lewis moving with his usual speed.

Lou Kramberg, assistant director of the 92nd St. YMHA and newly crowned doubles 4-wall partner of Russo, should show well in Detroit if he teams up again with Steve Sandler the reigning 1-wall singles and doubles champion. Kramberg and Sandler should do a lot better this year — Steve is a much improved player the last couple of years, has good serves, can shoot well, and his volley game and retrieving capabilities are great. I'm sure this team will show extremely well this year.

Marty Grossman and Julie Rothman of the 92nd St. YMHA went three games with Drs. Scapis and August last year before Julie came up with a pulled groin muscle. This is another team that should reach the semis in the Masters.

Max Laskow, formerly of Detroit and back now in his hometown of the Bronx and 92nd St. Y will be back in the Masters doing the "Spoiler Act."

I doubt if Jim Jacobs will enter the 3-wall tourney — but I'm sure Jim will be there. He loves the atmosphere of Palmer Park.

The 92nd St. Y team of Howie Eisenberg and Ken Davidoff can go a long way if Kenny's left arm holds up. This is a strong team with a "heady" game — Ken

is an accountant and Howie is in St. Louis as an IBM program director.

Artie Reyer of Long Island, former 1-wall doubles champ with Joe Danilczyk may come up with a new partner in Norman Ray, a big strong, shooter with good hooks.

Cyril Vincent, former partner of Frank Munsch is due back in Detroit for another try. Cy is playing again after a layoff of more than a year following a freak car accident. It will be good to see Vincent again. He's playing at the West Side Y.

Another West Side Y member, former 4-wall singles champ in 1932 and 1946 will be back again to see what he can do in the Masters. I mean, none other than Angie Trulio, in the best shape of any man his age which is now around 62 or 63.

Too bad that the greatest all around champion of them all, Vic Hershkowitz, is not making the handball circuit. He owned the 3-wall singles title for the first 9 years . . . I doubt if we will ever see anyone with his overall talents in all phases of 1-wall, 3-wall and 4-wall.

I know Oscar Obert's back is always acting up, but I'm sure that when Labor Day shows up he will be there with his "Darling Marge."

Since Fred Munsch got married he got a little heavier, but I'm sure he won't miss Detroit with his strong partner, Jackie Walsh.

It would be great to see John Sloan again. The "Little Mechanic" was a great champion in 4-wall. He was also 3-wall doubles champ with Marty Decatur as his partner and once with Bob Brady.

I wonder if Stuffy Singer will be back for another try at 3-wall? He did quite well in doubles a year ago.

As usual, Chicago will send its best to Detroit. In the Masters Doubles, Ben Costello and Joe Ardito usually team up and Don Ardito, Joe's son will team up with Andy Upatnieks making a strong open team. Don and Andy looked especially good in the 4-wall in Austin.

The Murphy brothers of Chicago, both orthopedic doctors, do real well in the Masters.

If winning the 4-wall Masters at Austin means anything in the 3-wall tourney, look out for Dr. John Scapis. He was in great shape and he wouldn't be denied, with lots of courage and tenacity. If he teams up with Dr. Al August they will give anyone a tussle.

Steve August, now a full-fledged doctor, has done well in 4-wall and 3-wall but I doubt if he can pass Decatur. Marty is playing 3-4 times a week so, look out!

Larry August was a surprise at the collegiates. After a bad first game against Fred Lewis he came up with 16 points in the second game. His back wall game is greatly improved. Larry does well in the 3-wall game and with a strong partner and a little better percentage in shooting should show up well.

It looks like we can't get Ft. Lauderdale to host our Junior tourney. The problem was boarding the 35-40 boys. It's too bad because Lauderdale would have been the ideal place, with four air-conditioned courts and no weather problem.

(To page 23)

CAROM SHOTS...

Lou Russo, who holds the "doubles" distinction of both three-wall (Marty Decatur) and four-wall (Lou Kramberg), received a promotion recently at Grauman Aviation, working directly under the head man . . . responsible for the Lunar Module of the Moon landing and for ten more lunar landings.

Lou, active at the Cavalier A.C. on Long Island, reports Club ready to add three more courts, one of which will be glass gallery type, and then possibly a bid for the USHA nationals.

* * *

Nick Martinez, the ol' control artist, back in Chicago briefly after an 11,000 mile camping trip that included handball with Ernie Ortiz in Tampa, participation in the Corpus Christi tournament over July 4 . . . Nick and his wife purchased five acres in the mountains outside Albuquerque and will settle down there.

* * *

From your editor: I can't resist telling this one . . . my 12-year-old daughter Marsha is always sending in coupons for various items . . . this time she sent for some gum and got this reply — "We have received your order today in which you enclosed 75 pennies in an envelope. When the post office delivered the letter to us it was so heavy that they charged us another 82 cents to accept the order. Since you owe us 82 cents in postage due and you sent a total of 75 cents for your order, we must ask you to send an additional 7 cents just to pay for the postage. If you wish this order to be filled please send to us an additional 83 cents and we will send this out to you. Please do not send it in coins as it makes the envelope very heavy." — (one cent too much!)

* * *

Lake Forest College (Ill.), fast becoming an intercollegiate handball mecca under Mike Dau, has scheduled both a North Division tournament and the annual Nationals for the upcoming season.

The Divisional will be played in February and the big nationals a week prior to the open USHA nationals — March 8-10, 1970.

* * *

Fred Long, our faithful correspondent and telephone official from Altoona, Pa. called . . . the handball boom is forthcoming there . . . Penn State U. branch will have courts and ready in 1971 . . . the local Y, now devoid of any courts, will build one standard facility . . . and students from the Vocational high school are now constructing three wall outdoor courts.

* * *

Elliott Ets-Hokin, formerly of Tucson and Phoenix, is now back in his ol' home town of Chicago and heading up Hyde Park Chevrolet (see his ad in this issue) . . . "For a good deal — in or out of the court — call on Elliott."

* * *

I think that when a handball addict takes a vacation it is only logical an ideal time to try and get in a lot of court play. My wife is always getting after me, as we pack each year to go on vacation, about wasting her valuable suitcase space with all my handball gear. This is, however, the first vacation that I have had a chance to use it. While touring Tokyo, Japan. I couldn't believe my eyes when I saw a sign that I could read. It said YMCA. At the end of the day when I returned to our hotel I called the YMCA and inquired as to whether or not they had a handball court there . . . and they replied they did. I told my wife that the following day she would have to look at the Cherry Blossoms by herself because I was going to play handball.

I took a taxi to the YMCA, wondering whether or not there was really going to be a court there, and when I arrived, my misgivings were relieved, because there it was . . . one real four-wall handball court. I was invited to play doubles and accepted readily.

My Japanese opponents, who spoke very little English, played barefooted and for the most part, barehanded. They enjoyed the game very much and I should add, hinders seemed to be non-existent

— short of a major collision. I became rather concerned when I heard the term "Bonzai" repeatedly because this took me back to my World War II days. However, after a little while I realized that they were simply calling "kill shot." They enjoyed playing with me to such an extent that they invited me back the next day to play with more formidable opponents. I had a wonderful workout from my two days of handball in Tokyo and although it may sound unusual, I feel that this was a highlight of my entire trip.

My Japanese opponents were most hospitable, inviting me to the famous Japanese baths and massage parlor complete with lady masseuses. I will long recall with delight the hospitality shown me due to the fraternity . . . international fraternity of handball players.

Elihu C. Blanks
Hyde Park YMCA
Chicago, Ill.

* * *

And, another flash from Mike Dau, impresario of the Lake Forest College handball facility . . . a proposed Nov. 29 exhibition between Paul Haber and Jim Jacobs! This would resume the cross-country rivalry that opened so auspiciously at the 92nd St. YMHA in New York City a couple of years ago when Haber upset the vet Jacobs . . . a day later Paul got the treatment and then was hurt on the final point in the first game of a third meeting at the Los Angeles A.C. More details will be forthcoming.



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Having just completed the First Centennial Doubles and Singles Handball Tournament in Hawaii, and as Chairman of the Handball Tournament with Jack Schaff, Physical Director of Central YMCA, Joe Nishimoto and Bob Meyers of the Nuuanu YMCA assisting with the schedules and officials, I would like to make a report of the final results. Before so doing, I would like to thank all those responsible for the success of the tournament, for without their help, this would have been in vain.

The fellows who attended the clinics on officiating and those who were privileged to attend the exhibitions given by one of our finest champions, and a very good friend, Stuffy Singer, did in fact benefit by both. Watching Stuffy in the few exhibitions he gave on the fundamentals of handball, it gave me added pride, because as an ex-Hollywood YMCA member for four years, I was one of the privileged that attended Jim Jacobs' Clinics every Saturday morning at the Hollywood "Y" on the fundamentals of handball, which included Stuffy Singer.

Giving credit where credit is due, we in Hawaii owe so much to Stuffy for his exhibitions and for the way he has improved handball in Hawaii. We hope, someday, Hawaii will be represented, not only in "hospitality" and in the famous "Aloha," but in championship handball caliber.

The results of the Centennial Handball tournament were as follows: Doubles champions were Carl Kaimikau and Henry Kaalekahi, defeating the champions of the Marine Corps, Mike Kauffman and Frank Riney; Singles champion was Carl Kaimikau, defeating Jack Schaff. There were eight teams in the doubles and 20 entries in the Singles Tournament, making it by far, the largest participating tournament in the history of handball in the State of Hawaii.

Henry A. Kaalekahi, Sr.

Chairman

Centennial Handball Tournament

DID YOU KNOW??? Johnny Sloan has won 13 national senior four-wall YMCA championships — nine doubles and four singles . . . San Atcheson won 11 . . . five doubles and six singles.

* * *

From Richard C. Brand Jr.—Five "antiquated wood courts at Washington & Lee U. in Lexington, Va. . . right next to this college — Virginia Military Institute in process of building some new courts.

Next September will mark the beginning of a new era in the handball history in Jacksonville, Florida. At that time, three air-conditioned four-wall courts will be ready for play at the Central Branch YMCA. It has been a long uphill road to that point.

Four-wall handball was first played in Jacksonville at Rowe's Athletic Club during the late 1930's. During World War II Rowe's closed and handballers were without a home. In 1940 the Seminole Club provided one-wall courts but restricted play to members and their guests. In 1955, when the Central Y opened its doors, handball received a welcome shot in the arm. Two one-wall courts were built in the gymnasium. By 1962 the players were numerous and enthusiastic enough to request additional court space. In that year a group of players headed by Ed Parks signed a petition stating that they would promote and support four-wall handball if the courts were provided. The Central Y, impressed by such interest, obtained the necessary funds and two, outdoor four-wall courts were built.

Now there are over 60 active players at the Y and talk is for the future. Cause for the optimism is twofold: the new courts and an active handball committee. Plans are being discussed for the dedication of the courts. The committee would like to have two name players for an exhibition match and clinic. Local TV and press have already promised full coverage of the event. In the future Jacksonville will be an ideal site for a major tournament.

Handball activity is not confined to the Y. Jacksonville University has six fine 3-wall courts, and recently a ladder tournament was begun for students and faculty. Three Naval installations in the area have four-wall courts, and the newly opened University Club has two indoor four-wall courts.

Thus, the future looks bright for handball in Jacksonville.

JAMES H. ALTMAN

There were nine handball tournaments held at the 111th St. Y this past season. Five classes in the singles championships and four in the doubles giving players of all abilities a chance to compete on their own level.

Rich Drabik took the Y championship but had two close games of 40-39 winning over Mike Lalaeff and Tony Klimck in the playoffs.

Ed Beirne dominated the class A having only one tough game. He easily defeated most of the other players.

Bob Jolly was the class of the B singles and also had little trouble along the way.

In the C class Jim Littleton also had little trouble and only Bill O'Malley gave him any real competition.

Ray Filippi won out over a rough D class and lost two games along the way. He had a narrow call in the first playoff game winning 40-39 over Tom Van Ness.

San Francisco

On May 27-28 officers and men of the U.S.S. Canopus just returning from two and one half years duty at Rota, Spain visited our club to engage in handball competition with members of the Olympian team.

The Navy group was headed by the ship's skipper, Capt. John Trueblood, Comdr. Walt Kraus and Lt. Comdr. Dock Joplin, and several enlisted men.

Handball Commissioner Al Schroth and Coach Mike de la Pena arranged a series of matches between the Naval personnel and Olympians Bob Lazzaretto, Tony Garcia Jr., Jack Schroth. The competition was real spirited and everyone enjoyed the fun. The group was entertained with food and refreshments. Later in the evening Schroth, de la Pena and Bob Brady were dinner guests of the Captain aboard the Canopus, and all were presented with beautiful wooden plaques commemorating them for their fine hospitality.

By BOB HASSING

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We welcome to the Lifetime fold Harold Filsinger and his son, John, along with Californians Richard Neuss and Marty Singer. All avid handballers, the cause of a USHA Perpetuation Fund appeals highly. The Filsingers have been active in the Buffalo area for years with son, John, a worthy tournament performer. Singer needs no introduction to the national scene. He has always pitched in as a top drawer referee, and in his Southern California baliwick heads up the strong area handball association. Co-incidentally, he has an offspring who responds to the name Stuffy. We also welcome Steve Vasquez, West Africa member.



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OBSERVATION TOWER

(From page 19)

host the Juniors.

Here's a great idea about keeping our top players in action. Phoenix has started it again by inviting the top seven players along with their great local player Dave Graybill for a weekend of top handball.

A follow-up on this is a 3-day invitational at Lake Forest College with Coach Mike Dau taking care of all the details.

* * *

This is the time for Flamingo Park participants to get together and sponsor another Orange Bowl tourney. Just invite four top players and have a 3-day tourney with two big matches a day. There'd still be plenty of time for the locals to play in the mornings and evenings. Allow our local boys, Fred Lewis and Joel Galpern, to see what they can do against Haber, Yambrick, Singer, and Pfeifer.

I hope Hy Kirsner gets a committee together of Al Levine, Bill Segal, Syd Hoff, Lou Shapiro, Nat Miller, Fred Koran the former "Great," Sam Sheradsky, Ted Foster, Dr. Henry Luboro and the strength behind our handball activities, Dr. Morry Fox.

The goal we have to reach is under \$2000. This should cover the fare and

room/board for four outstanding national players. I'm sure that with this type of committee we can reach this goal.

The time to have this tourney is after New Year's in January so that we can get good accommodations for our guests.

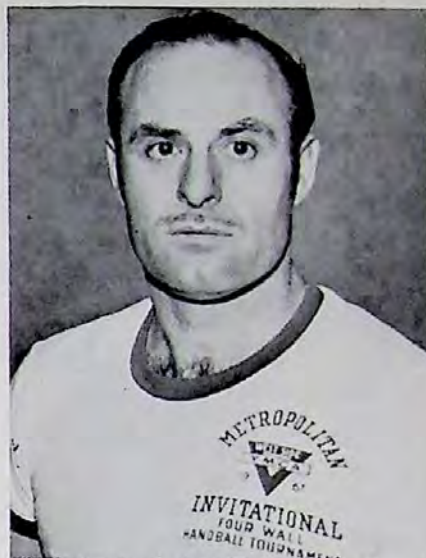
It would be interesting to have one of these players as your house guest — let's see if we can do it.

I'm sure Irene Scopis will be more active this year in welcoming out-of-towners. Castle Hill took all the titles last year and we expect it again this year.

We expect a little trouble in the Masters, but in the singles and doubles we pick Marty Decatur and Lou Russo. Now you guys have something to shoot for.

I've been getting inquiries about the tape I did on handball from players in all parts of the country. Stewart Harkness from Cherry Hill, N.J. was kind enough to put it down on paper. We had quite a few copies containing 13 pages of material. These are all gone. We have asked Mort Leve to print this material in ACE Mag. If he does, read it well and if you don't understand some of it, we will be glad to explain. Send return envelope.

See you in Detroit . . .



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

EVENTS: Singles . . . Doubles . . . Masters Doubles . . . Competition in Singles starts Wed., Aug. 27, 10 a.m. Doubles start Fri., Aug. 30 at 8 a.m. and Masters Doubles start Friday at 11 a.m. Note: Players may not play in both Masters and Open Doubles.

ENTRY FEE: \$5.00 per man for each event. Must accompany all entries. Make checks or money orders payable to: Michigan Handball Association.

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In consideration of the acceptance of this entry, I, for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns do hereby release and discharge the United States Handball Association, The Michigan Handball Association, and the City of Detroit of Parks & Recreation, their officers, directors, employees, agents or representatives of and from any and all claims or demands for damages, losses or injuries incurred by me at said meet.

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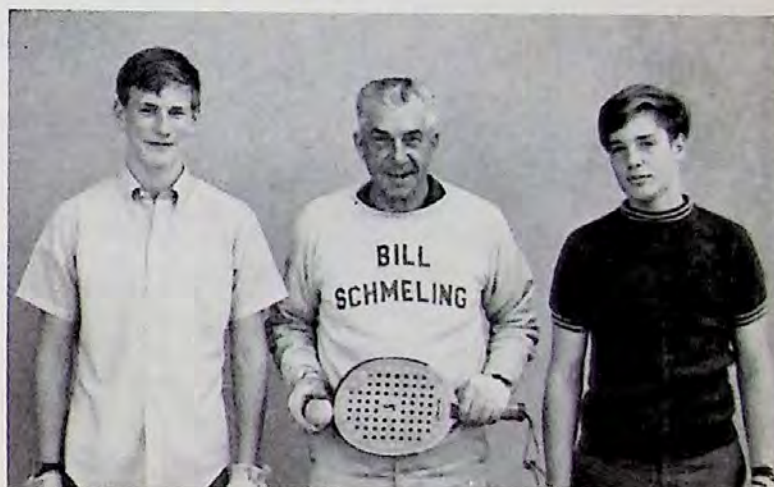
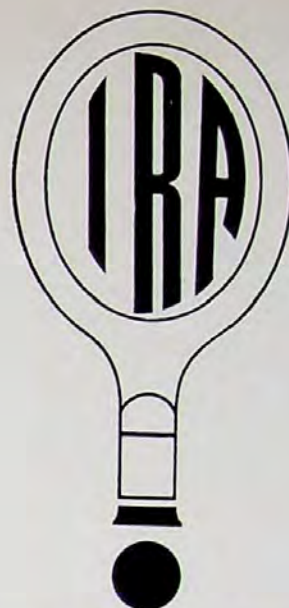
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COURT DEVOTEE . . . Bill Schmeling, long known in the Milwaukee handball circles and now in the Golden Years retirement in San Diego, devotes much time to the youngsters. Here he is with Craig Clark (left) and Brad Lucas. Bill picks four good players, aged 14, and they play one game of 25 point handball, take ten minutes rest and then they play one game of paddleball, 25 points. Each player has three matches on one Saturday afternoon, and the next Saturday a repeat performance. Players winning first and second places receive gloves as prizes . . . Lucas was No. 1 . . . Clark, second.

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IRA Adds Strong Eastern Area Commissioner

Doug Boyea's acceptance of the post as our IRA Eastern Area Commissioner greatly strengthens our position in that vital region. Doug, physical director of the YMCA in New Britain, Conn., hosted three national "paddle racquet tournaments" — 1959, 1960 and 1963 — at his Y and has long been a pioneer for the game.

Boyea is a 1943 graduate of Springfield College and received his M.A. degree from New York University in 1953.

He has had strong interests in various sports, organizing fencing clubs in Western Massachusetts and instituted the sport in Springfield's schools. Doug has been a writer and editor. He edited the Two-State Physical Education Society Bulletin and national YMCA Aquatic News, and wrote a "Report From Europe" on the World Seminar on Health, Physical Education and Recreation in Helsinki in 1952.

In addition to the three national paddle racquet tournaments he has effectively promoted two national YMCA gymnastics championships, organized crippled children's swim programs and pioneered in family physical fitness programming.

When Doug Boyea received the 1967 Roberts-Gulick Award for meritorious



DOUG BOYEY

service in the physical education field he was cited: "It gives us great pleasure in making this presentation. Doug is a true physical director's physical director. He has been an inspiration to both laymen and professionals. He chose physical education as a career and has made it his life."

Lapierre Finds Game's Growth Potential Sound in East Travels

Where do all the racquetball players go in the summer???

The warm weather is upon us again and the physical activity by the majority moves from indoors to outdoors. Court scheduling becomes an afterthought since one can practically walk in any time of day and have a choice of courts.

I have traveled through the northeastern part of the country and the interest is certainly on the increase. Cleveland alone claims that there will be at least 25 players going to the International next year. Dorance Frymire, our Pennsylvania District Commissioner, has recruited 50 new members in the State.

NEW BRITAIN, CONN.: It is always a pleasure to stop at the YMCA and chat with Doug Boyea, director of physical education. Doug has been the driving force of paddle racquets in the East since the year one. He has hosted three national Paddle Racquets tournaments at New Britain in 1959, '60, '63. There are approximately 800 active players in the State with New Britain and Meridan having a combine total of more than 500 players. During my brief visit, Doug has

consented to become our Eastern Area Commissioner. We are very fortunate to have him in our Association — he is well known and respected for his views and efforts in the physical education field. The New Britain Y is planning an expansion program and will have a total of seven courts next year — enough courts to hold an area or sectional tournament wouldn't you say.

OBSERVATIONS: As previously mentioned, the interest in the game and in particular, our Association is high. From this writer's point of view, the main factor for the keen interest must be attributed to our first International tournament, and in retrospect, from the fine efforts by the St. Louis Jewish Community Center.

—GERRARD LAPIERRE

Our esteemed national executive coordinator, Gerry Lapierre, will be available for racquetball clinics . . . drop IRA a note, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, Ill. 60076, and we'll coordinate with him . . . if at all practicable

Racquetball Start?

TIME Magazine came up with a very interesting article in the May 30 issue which may give us an inkling as to the foundations of our present-day racquetball game.

"In an idle moment 700 years ago, two French monks began batting a ball around a monastery courtyard with crude wooden paddles."

Supposedly this impromptu game, "which came to be known as court tennis," was very popular with royalty and Louis X was "so overextended chasing balls that he became ill and died shortly after a match."

The Duke of Wellington and Napoleon are both reported to have played the game.

The game of court tennis as it is known today, the forerunner of lawn tennis, ping pong, squash and badminton, is very complicated. The court itself is a "stylized version of the old monastery courtyard, costs up to \$250,000 to construct. There are only 27 courts in use today (seven in the U.S.)."

They now use pear-shaped racquets and bounce their serves off "shedlike roofs extending around three sides of the court. Points are scored by driving the cloth ball off a slanting 3-foot wide wall called the tambour (the monastery's flying buttress) at unreturnable angles, or by knocking it into rectangular openings called the winning gallery and the dedans (cloister) or a 3-foot, 1-inch square hole in the wall called the grille (buttery hatch). A player may also score points in the 'chase,' which means dropping placement shots into blocked-off sections marked on the wall."

NOTE: In a report on handball in South America carried in ACE magazine several years ago we pointed out the use of "tambours" in the right of the front wall. This affords the player a chance to stroke a shot into this angled wall (about 6 inches wide) as a highly effective weapon.

and possible ..

The clinic would use the following guidelines:

—Brief talk about the IRA.

—Discussion of rules.

—Method of play and ways of improving skills.

—Question and answer session.

—Display of approved and official IRA equipment.

—Exhibition play.

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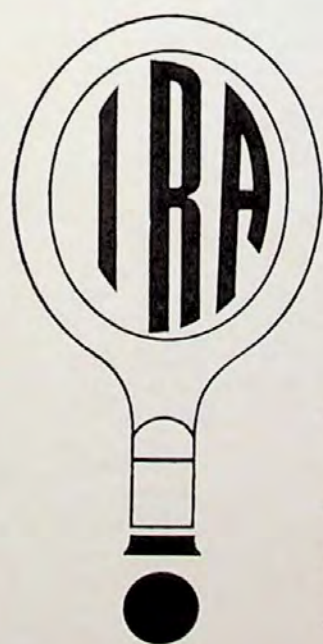
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Canada's Hanko Has Classic Excuse

NOTE: Gary Hanko, our Canadian IRA commissioner and athletic director at the Vancouver, B.C., MARC (Men's Athletic and Recreation Center), was the subject of a column in the Vancouver Sun — by Denny Boyd.

A funny thing happened to Gary Hanko on his way to fame and fortune in St. Louis. He got as far as the parking lot, stepped in a hole and found himself among lawyers.

All in all, it wasn't the strategy he had planned to win the U.S. National Paddle Ball Championship, which is why a lawyer is making his serves for him now.

Hanko is the athletic director at the Men's Athletic and Recreation Centre, one of the top handball players in town, a reasonable squash player and one of the top paddle ball players in Canada. (He also dabbles with talent at volleyball, gymnastics, swimming and boxing.)

Hanko sports a Ringo haircut, a nose most kindly described as generous and 140 muscled pounds arranged over a body that has been short-changed at only five feet and three inches.

The MARC is sort of an Empire Stout Building, where brokers, salesmen, dentists and other suspects go at the end of their day to have their waistlines ministered to, in the gym, rubdown room, sauna and racquet courts.

Hanko is in charge of keep-fit classes, teaches weightlifting, gives lessons in handball and paddleball and has even been called on to dive to the rescue of a member who went under while trying to rinse out his hangover in the Roman bath.

But paddleball is Hanko's specialty. Whatever else you may have heard, paddleball is not a yacht club dance. It is a hybrid sport, played on a handball court, using the basic rules of squash, with a stubby stringed racquet and a light, rubber ball. It is popular with former athletes in the 40-bracket.

Hanko is good enough at the game that he went to the U.S. Western Regionals in San Diego early last month and finished second, losing 21-9, 17-21, 19-21 in the final to Dr. Charles Hanna, the third-seed in the U.S.

Hanko was seeded into the Nationals, scheduled for St. Louis and he returned to Vancouver for two weeks of intensive practice.

Three days before he was to leave



BUFFALO RACQUETBALL FINALS . . . Charles Garfinkel (left), representing the JCC, defeated Chuck Wurzer (unattached) 20-21, 21-18, 21-5 in the final round of the fourth annual four-wall city singles racquetball championship held at the Downtown YMCA. Jack Bowling defeated Bud Low, both of the Buffalo A.C., for the consolation honors.

for St. Louis, Hanko went from the MARC to pick up his car, which was parked in a Gulf Oil station. The attendant was busy and asked Hanko to get the car himself. As he was walking down the ramp, the asphalt surrounding a drainage grille gave way, Hanko's foot went through and his ankle was severely sprained.

B.C. Lions' trainer Roy Cavallin strapped the ankle up and Hanko limped off to St. Louis. Once there, he got further treatment from the trainer of the St. Louis Blues hockey team but it was all for zip. He won his first round match, painfully, but in the second round he couldn't move to his right (he's left-handed), his opponent killed him with backhand passing shots and he lost in two straight.

Back in Vancouver, Hanko steamed for a couple of days, went to a doctor, then to a lawyer and filed suit against Gulf Oil for unstated damages. He contends that the prestige of a victory, or a good showing in the Nationals, would have given him greater earning power as an instructor (as would a U.S. Open victory to a golf club pro).

The case continues, as do Hanko's efforts to get the ankle operative again. Currently, he is exercising it on a rope-pully-weight device of his own invention called The Sport-O-Ring.

The portable exercising gizmo, which Hanko tossed off over a period of years research, has been used by Minnesota Vikings quarterback Joe Kapp to heal a 1966 shoulder injury, by B.C. Lions' Ted Gerela to strengthen his kicking leg and by the athletic department of UBC and Simon Fraser.

Whatever the disposition of the Hanko-Gulf confrontation may be, Hanko already has plans for the 1970 Nationals. He plans to be there.

And he plans to park his car at home.

Detroit

The following are the year's results for racquetball here at the downtown YMCA.

OPEN DOUBLES — Ken Crespi-Bob Pappas, 1st; Bill Kennedy-Joe Finn, 2nd; Ken Isherwood-Tom Harris, 3rd.

OPEN SINGLES — Bill Kennedy, 1st; Ken Isherwood, 2nd; Ken Crespi, 3rd.

A-B DOUBLES — Bill Kennedy-Irv Belmont, 1st; Bob Gregory-Norm Krugel, 2nd; Joe Finn-Jack Winshall, 3rd.

CLASS B SINGLES — Bert Townsend, 1st; Herb Levitt, 2nd; Bernie Davis, 3rd.

The most spectacular fight was in the open singles where Ken Isherwood upset two seeded players and then narrowly lost to Bill Kennedy in the finals.

Joe Finn

Detroit Area Commissioner

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is for racquetball



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And In The Beginning There Was Light...

NOTE: Hally Gradman is a past ten-year president of the Illinois Handball Association and Illinois State handball champ. He is our "guest" editorialist . . . and Bob Kendler invites other members of the Players' Fraternity to submit worthwhile editorial material for use in ACE.

* * *

I hadn't seen too much of Bob Kendler in recent months. Coincidentally, I ran into him in the Health Club of the Bernard Horwich Center just a few hours after our incredible astronauts completed the greatest mission since the creation of man.

Bob was still in an apparent state of exaltation over the event, and as handball's perennial booster, he found no difficulty in equating the magnificent moon shot with the giant strides of the USHA since its advent in 1951. Since this seemed like a good moment to recall the emergence of the USHA some 19 years ago, I suggested to Bob that he surrender this page to an old friend. Bob said, "O.K. Hally, just tell it the way it was."

Just as the steam boat was once referred to as "Fulton's Folly," I have vivid memories of the AAU brushing off the newly-formed USHA as Kendler's "dreamboat." Several spokesmen for the AAU predicted its demise in one year . . . "possibly two." Little did they realize that handball's Spaceage was born in 1951. Only a handful could visualize Bob's neophyte organization as the springboard to new horizons in the most challenging game of them all.

This writer bears no bitterness toward the AAU. It had, indeed, served its purpose by introducing Big League handball to the American public. But like the giant dinosaur, the AAU, as a meaningful entity, died a predictable death because of its lethargic response to

a game pleading for imagination and dynamic promotion. In retrospect, we can be grateful for the AAU for providing a standard of comparison, a convenient yardstick whereby the USHA can realistically measure its own remarkable rate of progress in less than a score of years.

Here we are on the threshold of new frontiers in handball, sponsoring 28 national and sectional tournaments, making it feasible for hundreds of players to compete in categories comparable with their skills; and most important of all, by exposing thousands of young people to a way of life that can, literally speaking, be enjoyed from "cradle to grave."

Looking back, we can view the sequence of events in proper perspective. The year 1951 was actually the end of a Beginning. And In The Beginning, thanks to the AAU, there was a shimmer of light. But the game was dangerously on the brink of total stagnation, and it is interesting that Bob Kendler is the first to admit that his own pioneering efforts would, sooner or later, have been superseded by players eager to fill the void left by an indifferent AAU.

Fortunately, Bob provided the rocket propulsion to put the game into orbit at the turn of the half century. As for the future, we predict that within the next one hundred years, handball will be played on the moon, not in its rejecting one-sixth gravity but beneath the lunar surface in air-conditioned and properly pressurized courts. And we are equally certain that the echo of a ghostly apparition of Bob Kendler will still be heard: "The answer is glass. WE NEED GLASS COURTS UP HERE SO THAT ALL MAY SEE."

Hally Gradman, Past. Pres. Ill. Handball Assn.

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