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Holidays

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THE OFFICIAL VOICE OF HANDBALL AND RACQUETBALL

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

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

S-90 Competition—A most popular glove. Saranac combines soft 'N tuff fold deerskin on a tapered fine fitting pattern, rugged and tight fitting elastic back. Velcro lock snap back to insure snug wrist.

Color: Gold—deerskin • Sizes XS-S-M-ML-L-XL.

Also available in similar design as S-90 are:

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PADDED MODELS

S-91—Competition—select Deerskin

S-89—Standard—select Steerhide

S-85—Deluxe—Bone Deerskin

S-87—Tuffy—Goatskin

S-93—Novice—Steerhide

S-95—Pigskin..

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

Color: Bone Deerskin • Sizes: XS-S-M-ML-L-XL

Also available in lightweight for tournament play.

S-88—select Steerhide, same in design as model S-84.

S-96—Same as **S-84**—in the new colors of Columbia Blue or Antique Gold

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The USHA is supported
solely by your
regular purchase of
ACE balls and gloves.



OFFICIAL
HANDBALL
GLOVES

"The gloves the champions use"

20th ANNUAL NATIONAL FOUR-WALL HANDBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Los Angeles Athletic Association
MARCH 15-21, 1970

IMPORTANT: All entrants for these events must present current USHA (1970) membership card. Renewals and new memberships may be obtained at the time of registration at the tournament site, or by mailing \$2 for one year; \$5 for three years to: USHA, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, Ill. 60076.

EVENTS: Singles . . . Doubles . . . Masters Doubles . . . Masters Singles . . . Consolation Singles. Competition in Singles will start Sunday, March 15. Competition in Doubles, Masters Singles and Doubles and Consolation Singles will start Monday, March 16. If preliminary round play is necessary in any of these tournaments it will precede first round scheduling.

ENTRY FEE: \$10.00 per man for each event. Must accompany all entries. Make checks or money orders payable to: **NATIONAL HANDBALL FUND.**

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

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 Los Angeles Athletic Club, and its 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 20th Annual USHA National Four-Wall Handball Championships including preliminary rounds, held March 15-21, at Los Angeles, Calif.

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

Signature (in ink)

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

DEADLINE FOR SINGLES ENTRIES: 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 11, 1970. Deadline for Doubles, Masters Singles and Masters Doubles, Sunday, March 15.

OFFICIAL BALL: SPALDING ACE.

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

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

Nat'l Tournament Committee — c/o Rod Rodriguez, Chairman, c/o Los Angeles A.C., 431 W. 7th St., Los Angeles, Calif.

Print Name

Address

City and State

Telephone No. Zip Code

HOUSING: Give us information ()

Please enter me in the

() SINGLES

Name

Entry Fee \$10

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

Name

or a player to be named prior to entry deadline.

Entry Fee \$10 per man.

() MASTERS SINGLES

Name

Entry Fee \$10

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

Name

or a player to be named prior to entry deadline.

Entry Fee \$10 per man.

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IN THIS ISSUE . . .

Happy Holidays is the theme of our year-ending ACE . . . a wrapup of our biggest year in handball, and the continued healthy growth of kissin' cousin, racquetball.

That three-ringed national one-wall show again burst at the seams with entries, exciting play, and the usual order-out-of-chaos accomplishment by Commissioner Irv Ehrlich and his tireless cohorts. When they jam that Brownsville Boys Club gymnasium to the rafters, with most of the sound effects coming forth from those Brooklynites, it adds up to handball excitement that has no equal.

In addition to a full report of the one-wall results we have feature material on proposed rule changes, vignettes on colorful, dedicated "characters" of the pastime such as Irv "The Mayor" Rosenblatt.

The first National Invitational Singles tournament in Birmingham was a rousing success, another major achievement for Dr. Jim Tanner & Co. As USHA President Bob Kendler puts it, "This was the first time I had my handball appetite fully satisfied. There was outstanding championship performances from beginning to end."

Everything is in readiness for our four divisional tournaments — all scheduled Jan. 30-Feb. 1. Ideal locales, fine facilities, experienced know-how leadership — East—New York's West Side YMCA; South—Charlotte's plush YMCA; Central—that new concept of family YMCAs in Tulsa; West—the famed Olympic Club of San Francisco. Entry blanks are available in this issue.

And, for the big extravaganza we put out the red carpet invite to one and all . . . our 20th Anniversary National Open Championships, March 15-21, at the Los Angeles Athletic Club. As always this is a "Big Week" with something for all, including those oft neglected "handball widows". Block out the dates on your 1970 calendars and spend those days in sunny Southern California.

In the racquetball world we have firmed up the Second Annual International IRA Championships for the Shangri La setting of the St. Louis JCCA, April 15-19. After such an outstanding inaugural last April we gave the boys and girls there an "option" on a repeat performance and they have come through for us. This time around we have our official Seamless IRA ball, official Sportcraft racquets, and 100% more interest and participation.

Dec. 28-30 we'll be in St. Louis for the National Juniors tournament, one that is always the big highlight of the season . . . for here are our "grass roots" — the champions of tomorrow. The alumni of the Juniors includes such national stars as Billy Yambrick, Denny Hofflander, Lou Russo, and Dr. Steve August. Coming on fast as recent graduates — Steve Lott, Larry August, the Yee brothers.

Handballers and racquetballers all — have a Healthy, Happy, Playable 1970!

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Birmingham 'Hit' Performance

Haber Over Benham In USHA's First National Invitational

Paul Haber won the first USHA National Invitational but it was no "cake walk." Dr. Claude Benham, the soft spoken, serious-minded veteran campaigner from Norfolk, was just two points away from the big prize against Haber but couldn't pull it off, Claude won the first game of the final round match 21-18 and was knocking at 19-20 in the second before losing. Haber then came back strong to take the third, 21-13.

The Birmingham YMCA hosts had hoped for a showdown between Haber and Jim Jacobs. But, Jacobs, after a first round win over Miami's Fred Lewis, put himself out in the quarter-finals with Benham leading 18-9. Jacobs ran hard to the back wall trying to retrieve a shot down the right and came up limping, a recurrence of a pulled hamstring muscle suffered just a fortnight previously.

So it was Benham who took over the bottom bracket, following with a strong win over Dr. Steve August in a match that was figured a toss up. August had shown to real advantage in eliminating Billy Yambrick in the previous round, 21-11 and 21-13.

Meanwhile in the upper bracket it was nothing but strength. Imagine second round matches of Haber against Marty Decatur, and Pat Kirby against Stuffy Singer?

After trailing 12-19 in the first game Marty made a brilliant run for it but fell short. He just didn't have the drive in the second game. It looked like a Kirby show against Singer with Pat piling up a big first game lead but Stuffy rallied and won a squeaker 21-20 . . . again, in the second game Kirby had a good margin but it was a repeat rally and match win for the Californian.

The Haber-Singer semi-final match created tremendous interest. And, when Stuffy rushed out to a 13-1 lead in the first game it appeared he would atone for the open national semi-final loss at Austin to Paul. Never had we seen Singer perform with better execution. He completely dominated the play and there were few in the gallery who thought Haber had any chance to overcome him in this first game. But, from that point on it was a different Singer in the court. And, slowly Paul closed the gap and won it 21-15. The second game was all Haber's for the match victory.

Your editor asked Stuffy what had happened: "This trick knee of mine wouldn't stand up under the pace," he told us. "I never know when it will act up and when it does I can't maneuver in a way that is necessary to beat a Haber."

Although Benham is a highly respected national tournament performer he has never seriously threatened the king-of-the-hill position. This, however, was his big opportunity and he gave it a full go. Claude wasn't hesitant to shoot

from deep court whenever the opportunity arose and in this he found Haber vulnerable for Paul has a tendency to lag back. After the match, a thoroughly tired Paul said, "Both Benham and Kirby give me plenty of trouble with their shooting game."

Benham's point making from deep court and some erratic Haber play made him a first game winner. The second game was a see-saw affair with Benham needing just those two crucial tallies to take the championship. But they were not forthcoming. With the chips down Paul was at his shooting best. Where he had not been able to "bottom board" some vital right hand shots earlier he did so at the tail end of the game along with two ceiling shots to the left that Benham just couldn't handle.

Sid Semel, our Southeast Commissioner, asked me what I thought would happen in the third game. My mind wandered back to Austin and a similar situation for Haber, who had split the first two games with Yambrick. Seemingly tired, Haber had roared back to take over completely in the decider. And, I thought that was what he would do in Birmingham. Bob Kendler also asked me about it, and I gave both the same answer, "It should be all Haber in the third game."

Paul went right out, grabbed a comfortable lead and never let Benham get within range of taking the match. For the most part he stayed with the lob serve to the left while Benham went more with the Scotch Toss (front wall, right side wall "Z" serve) to Haber's left.

The format of the tournament worked out exceedingly well. Sixteen prime invitees made up the Invitational Championship bracket — or "Sweet Sixteen." Another bracket of 16 made up a separate tournament to be tabbed "Tourney of Champions." On the opening Friday night all 32 players competed. The eight losers of the Invitational 16 were placed



PAUL HAS PATENT . . . The left hand kill into right wall, front wall is displayed here by Haber against a most formidable foe, Dr. Claude Benham, the Norfolk "Back Court Gunner". Benham was just two points away from taking all the marbles at Birmingham but in the third payoff game Paul bounced back to dominate the action.

in the Champions bracket after eight had been eliminated there. That meant eight original entries and the eight first round losers of the Invitational competing twice Saturday and twice Sunday for that crown. Eight first round winners left in the Invitational would compete twice Saturday and then once Sunday for the title.

The only original Champion bracket entry to win in the second round against the eight Invite "imports" was Lou Kramberg. The New York national doubles champion, beat Jim Leahy of Chicago, now a student at Memphis State University.

Lou Russo, first "Triple Grand Slam" doubles champ in the history of USHA, winning the 1969 four-wall, three-wall and one-wall, had looked sluggish in losing to August in the first round of the invite. But he bounced back strong in the Champion bracket and took all the marbles, beating Tampa's Ernie Ortiz, Ray Neveau of Oshkosh, and Kent Fusselman of Warren, Ohio, all in the two-game route.

See page 20 for more on Birmingham invitational.

All Four USHA Divisionals Set for Jan. 30-Feb. 1

All four 1970 USHA Division tournaments have been confirmed, and all will be run off on the same dates—Jan. 30-Feb. 1. There might be a necessity for preliminary round play in at least two of the divisionals but that will be contingent on number of entries.

USHA Executive Secretary Mort Leve visited both Tulsa (Central) and Charlotte (South) for pre-tourney orientation meetings and has been in close touch by phone and letter with the hosts in New York City and San Francisco.

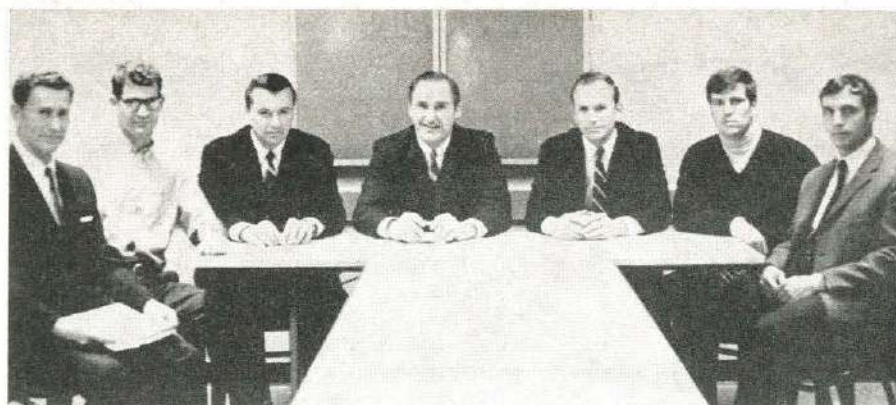
Entry blanks are included in this Dec. ACE along with eligibility information.

Jim Gilbert, physical director of the fine new Southeast YMCA in Tulsa, has formed his tournament committee: Dick Horkey, tournament chairman; Bill Jackson and Fred Keys, advertising campaign; Otto Cantrell, physical arrangements, bleachers, etc.; Terrie Ingram, hospitality room and banquet; Fern Pleasant and Gloria Hauger, welcoming committee; Al Bust and Eric Dahlberg, publicity; Gordon Morgan, officials chairman; Lyle Young, court managers chairman; Tommy Thompson, admissions.

Refreshments for the hospitality room will be provided by the Ford Distributing Co., distributor of Coors.

Harry Welch, physical director of the Charlotte, N.C. YMCA, will have Bob Gore as his tournament chairman. Jack Spiers, the enthusiastic man-in-motion will be very much in evidence. Eddie Sloan and George Diehl will be finance officials. Dick Gehron will also serve as a committee head.

Charles Van Essen, West Side YMCA



SOUTH DIVISION COMMITTEE . . . Charlotte YMCA hosts set up working force for their big tournament. (l to r)—Eddie Sloan, Greg LeNeave, Don Milkie, Bob Gore, chairman; Perrin Anderson, Dick Gehron, John Soldati. Coordinating with the group will be Harry Welch, physical director, and Jack Spiers, who will come up from his winter home in Ft. Lauderdale.

handball chairman in New York City, has things moving for the East Divisional. Because of the large number of players right in Metropolitan New York there is expected a record entry that will necessitate preliminary round play. Interested players can secure housing information when sending in their entries.

Another giant-sized entry is expected for the West division at the San Francisco Olympic Club. Al Schroth, the Club's handball commissioner, will have able assistance both from members of the Club and experienced officials of the Northern California Handball Association such as our USHA Commissioner Marty Judnich.

National USHA officials will coordinate with each divisional. Lou Russo Jr. is our East Area four-wall representative;

Sid Semel, Norfolk, Va., and our Southeast District Commissioner will be on hand at Charlotte. Joe Ardito and Mort Leve will attend the Central at Tulsa. Judge Joe Shane, National Commissioner; Ed Kelly, West Area Commissioner; Al Gracio, USHA national floor manager . . . will all be present in San Francisco.

Winners of the open singles and doubles (not Masters events) will gain, in addition to trophies, the special USHA award of a round trip air coach to the nationals, March 15-21, at the Los Angeles Athletic Club. Winners of the open doubles must participate as a team in the nationals to qualify.

This is the first year of the streamlined divisionals, cutting down from the former eight-regional alignment. Actually, what it entails is the doubling up of regionals: East & Mid-east; South & Southeast; Midwest & Southwest; Rocky Mountain-West & Northwest.

Entrants in these tournaments can participate in one event only. There are two reasons for this: the condensed time scheduling . . . and, to bring more winners into the nationals rather than have duplication.

There have been discussions about eligibility of those nationally-ranked players who have trips already to the nationals. This would involve such singles players as: Paul Haber, Bill Yambrick, Stuffy Singer and Jim Jacobs. Doubles players: Lou Russo-Lou Kramberg, and Mel Sandland-Matt Kelly. These are the only players that have trips plus per diem to the nationals. 5-8 place in singles get per diem only, and 3-4 in doubles get per diem only.

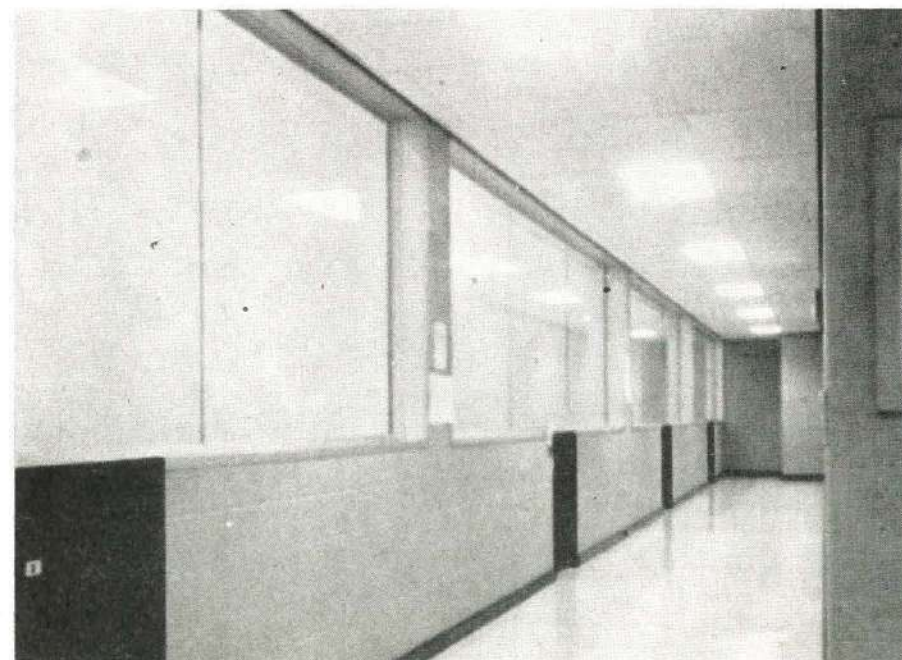
USHA national headquarters has made it "perfectly clear" that no eligible player is barred from these tournaments, whether or not he already has a trip coming.

Tops in Facilities for USHA Divisional Championship Play

Gallery and Courts Ideal For Incoming Participants



RED CARPET ENTRANCE . . . New conception in suburban-type family YMCAs is demonstrated at Tulsa Southeast. Spacious lobby entrance, complete with the red carpeting gives the private club feel, (below)—BATTERY OF GLASS COURTS . . . All four courts have glass in back wall, both downstairs and upstairs, giving double galleries.



TULSA Y EXTERIOR . . . Southeast Family Y has acreage for further expansion. Note swimming pool 'bubble' that permits year-round swimming.

Divisional Prelude To 20th Big Nationals

We could not have selected better sites for the 1970 USHA Divisionals. Going cross country — starting with the well-populated West Side YMCA in New York City — we have the best standard court operation in that area. The entry will, of course, be bulwarked by Metropolitan players but a goodly number of out-of-towners are expected to enjoy a big weekend in the big town and the chance to compete against the better known players.

Charlotte, North Carolina, has, in the opinion of Paul Haber, national champ, "the finest YMCA in the country". And, the four standard courts, with glass in the back walls and glass in the side wall of the one that will be used for championship play, are in excellent condition. This is USHA's first sanctioned tournament there and all indications point to a successful undertaking.

Tulsa has expanded from the established downtown Central YMCA to its neighboring family Southeast suburban-type YMCA. And, Jim Gilbert, physical director at this YMCA, is doing everything possible to promote the various sports activities. He asked for this divisional as a means of spurring better handball play and will have the cooperation and assistance of the experienced players and officials from "downtown". Headquarters for the players will be at a nearby motel and transportation will be provided in the form of Volkswagen shuttle buses provided through the courtesy of Southland Volkswagen of Tulsa. Hospitality room and awards banquet will be typical oil capital style.

Out West the famed Olympic Club will play host once again to a USHA event. The five standard courts were used for both the 1960 and 1967 nationals and the hospitality and know-how of Al Schroth & Co. will assure a splendid tournament. The vast amount of four-wall in both the Bay Area and in Southern California assures a bursting-at-the-seams entry with preliminary play probably necessary.



CHAMPIONSHIP COURT AT CHARLOTTE . . . Glass in both back wall and left side wall will afford seating for upwards of 150 during South USHA divisional. Portable bleachers will be set up behind the glass. Note that mullions have been eliminated giving clear view to all. There is also viewing area from balcony above back wall. Other three courts have glass in back walls.

SOUTH DIVISION TOURNAMENT

Jan. 30-Feb. 1, 1970

Covering Following States: Puerto Rico, Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Arkansas, Kentucky, Virginia, West Virginia, North and South Carolina, Maryland, and District of Columbia.

Site: Charlotte, North Carolina, YMCA, 400 E. Morehead st.

Entry Fees: \$10 per man. Player can *enter in one event only*.

Awards: Trophies to first four places in all events. Open singles, open doubles, Masters singles, Masters doubles.

Special USHA Award: For open singles and open doubles (not Masters events)—Round trip air coach to USHA Nationals, Los Angeles A.C., March 15-21, 1970. Doubles team must remain intact to qualify.

Special Host Award: Reimbursement of travel (air coach) and \$15 a day per diem to this tournament for winners of open singles and open doubles. (not Masters events)

Eligibility: Current USHA (1970) member. If not, can enclose \$2 to cover through 1970; \$5 covers through 1972. Check or money order payable to: USHA.

Entries close: Jan. 26, 1970. Players must arrive, ready to play by noon, Jan. 30.

Mail entries to: Harry L. Welch, Physical Director, YMCA, 400 E. Morehead st., Charlotte, N.C. 28202.

Official Ball: Spalding ACE.

Enter me in: () Open singles () Open doubles () Masters singles
() Masters doubles

Name YMCA/Club/Center
(Please print)

Address City State Zip

USHA Card No. Partner's Name YMCA/Club/Center
(Please print)

Address City State Zip

USHA Card No.

Make checks or money orders payable to: Tournament Committee.

CENTRAL DIVISION TOURNAMENT

Jan. 30-Feb. 1, 1970

Covering Following States: North and South Dakota, Saskatchewan and Manitoba provinces of Canada, Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Texas, Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, Missouri, and Louisiana.

Site: Southeast YMCA, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Entry Fees: \$10 per man. Player can *enter in one event only*.

Awards: Trophies to first four places in all events. Open singles, open doubles, Masters singles, Masters doubles.

Special USHA Award: For open singles and open doubles (not Masters events)—Round trip air coach to USHA Nationals, Los Angeles A.C., March 15-21, 1970. Doubles team must remain intact to qualify.

Special Host Award: Reimbursement of travel (air coach) and \$15 a day per diem to this tournament for winners of open singles and open doubles. (not Masters events)

Eligibility: Current USHA (1970) member. If not, can enclose \$2 to cover through 1970; \$5 covers through 1972. Check or money order payable to: USHA.

Entries close: Jan. 26, 1970. Players must arrive, ready to play by noon, Jan. 30.

Mail entries to: Jim Gilbert, Physical Director, 5002 S. Fulton, Tulsa, Okla.

Official Ball: Spalding ACE.

Enter me in: () Open singles () Open doubles () Masters singles
() Masters doubles

Name YMCA/Club/Center
(Please print)

Address City State Zip

USHA Card No. Partner's Name YMCA/Club/Center
(Please print)

Address City State Zip

USHA Card No.

Make checks or money orders payable to: Tournament Committee.

WEST DIVISION TOURNAMENT

Jan. 30-Feb. 1, 1970

Covering Following States: British Columbia and Alberta provinces of Canada, Alaska, Hawaii, Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Utah, Idaho, Montana, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, and Wyoming.

Site: The Olympic Club, San Francisco, 524 Post st.

Entry Fees: \$10 per man. Player can *enter in one event only*.

Awards: Trophies to first four places in all events. Open singles, open doubles, Masters singles, Masters doubles.

Special USHA Award: For open singles and open doubles (not Masters events)—Round trip air coach to USHA Nationals, Los Angeles A.C., March 15-21, 1970. Doubles team must remain intact to qualify.

Special Host Award: Reimbursement of travel (air coach) and \$15 a day per diem to this tournament for winners of open singles and open doubles. (not Masters events)

Eligibility: Current USHA (1970) member. If not, can enclose \$2 to cover through 1970; \$5 covers through 1972. Check or money order payable to: USHA.

Entries close: Jan. 21, 1970. Players must arrive, ready to play by 9 A.M., Jan. 30.

Mail entries to: Al Schroth, Handball Commissioner, The Olympic Club, 524 Post st., San Francisco, Calif.

Official Ball: Spalding ACE.

Enter me in: () Open singles () Open doubles () Masters singles
() Masters doubles

Name YMCA/Club/Center
(Please print)

Address City State Zip

USHA Card No. Partner's Name YMCA/Club/Center
(Please print)

Address City State Zip

USHA Card No.

Make checks or money orders payable to: Tournament Committee.

EAST DIVISION TOURNAMENT

Jan. 30-Feb. 1, 1970

(JAN. 26-28 — MAY BE PRELIMINARY ROUNDS)

Covering Following States: Quebec, Ontario, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia provinces of Canada, Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana.

Site: West Side YMCA, 5 W. 63rd st., New York, N.Y. 10023.

Entry Fees: \$10 per man. Player can *enter in one event only*.

Awards: Trophies to first four places in all events. Open singles, open doubles, Masters singles, Masters doubles.

Special USHA Award: For open singles and open doubles (not Masters events)—Round trip air coach to USHA Nationals, Los Angeles A.C., March 15-21, 1970. Doubles team must remain intact to qualify.

Special Host Award: Reimbursement of travel (air coach) and \$15 a day per diem to this tournament for winners of open singles and open doubles. (not Masters events)

Eligibility: Current USHA (1970) member. If not, can enclose \$2 to cover through 1970; \$5 covers through 1972. Check or money order payable to: USHA.

Entries close: Jan. 22, 1970. Players must arrive, ready to play by noon, Jan. 30.

Mail entries to: Charles Van Essen (A/C 516 501-6995), Handball Chairman, Westside YMCA, 5 W. 63rd St., New York, N.Y. 10023. A/C 212 SU 7-4400, Ext. 1502.

Enter me in: () Open singles () Open doubles () Masters singles
() Masters doubles

Name YMCA/Club/Center
(Please print)

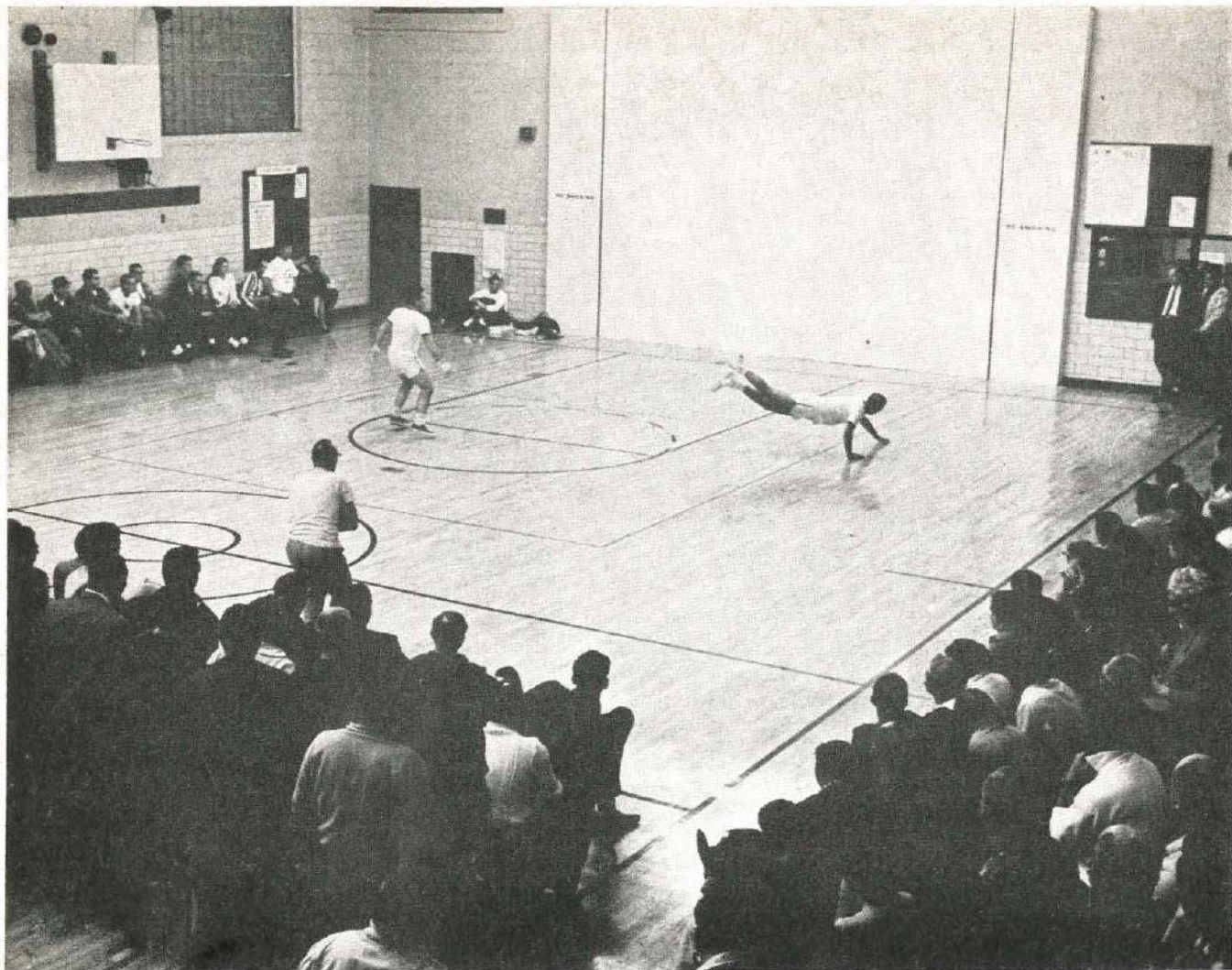
Address City State Zip

USHA Card No. Partner's Name YMCA/Club/Center
(Please print)

Address City State Zip

USHA Card No.

Make checks or money orders payable to: Tournament Committee.



Sandler Repeats One-Wall Singles; Russo-Wisotsky Win First Doubles

Steve Sandler took his fourth straight USHA National One-Wall singles championships — and, Lou Russo Jr. paired with Joel Wisotsky to take the doubles, highlighting another tremendously successful 11th annual tournament at the Brownsville Boys Club in Brooklyn.

Russo firmly established himself as "Doubles Player of the Year," capturing the crowns in all the national USHA events — one-wall, three-wall and four-wall. This is a first in the history of the game.

The One-Wall "Three Ringed Circus" is conducted in cooperation with the New York City Department of Parks and the Good Shepherd Mission assists in running off many of the early round matches along with some of the local playgrounds.

There were 128 entrants in the men's singles, necessitating eight rounds of play. Sandler posted his victory with a three-game conquest of veteran Howie Eisenberg, 21-19, 7-21, 21-9.

Surprise of this bracket were the

matches won by Tom Hopkins Jr., Yonkers. A comparative unknown he eliminated Bob Sparrow (25-11), Russo (25-20), Charles Sheldon (25-19), Norman Ray (21-15, 0-21, 21-16) before losing to Sandler in the semis, 21-16, 21-13. Hopkins wound up third on default from Ruby Obert.

Another unseeded player, Roy Myers, went all the way to the fifth round before being eliminated by Eisenberg in the quarters.

Third round winners: Mark Hart, Al Torres, Max Forcht, Cy Vincent, Jim Aversani, Steve Sofo, Ed Kaliner, Ron Berkowitz, Mark Goldberg, Russell Mannino, Dan Flickstein, Dr. S. Feldman, Graham Palmore, James Bond, Bob Sparrow, Tom Hopkins, Fred Feit, Martin Diamond, Marty Cushman, Pat Leccese, John DiMartino, Jeff Kirzner, Marshall Kider, John Paveletz, Steve Gorman, Ted Olds, Paul Garflick, Abel Leon, Dan DeLoach, Roy Myers, Art Diamond, Roy Conception.

SINGLES FINALS . . . Howie Eisenberg sprawls in futile attempt to retrieve well-placed Sandler left hand shot in national one-wall finals. Again, it was frustrating second place finish for Howie.

Fourth round winners: *Top 16 seeded players come into this round . . . *Steve Sandler, Torres, Vincent, *Bob Blass, *Mike Dikman, Sofo, Berkowitz, *John Reicher, *Artie Reyer, Goldberg, Flickstein, *Norman Ray, *Charles Sheldon, Palmore, *Lou Russo, Hopkins, *Ruby Obert, Feit, Cushman, *Ken Gamble, *Don Webster, DiMartino, Kider, *Bruce Davidoff, *Walter Ulbrich, Olds, Garelick, *Mark Levine, *Al Tomba, Myers, Diamond, *Howie Eisenberg.

Fifth round winners: Sandler, Blass, Dikman, Berkowitz, Goldberg, Flickstein, Ray, Sheldon, Palmore, Hopkins, R. Obert, Gamble, Webster, Kider, Ulbrich, Levine, Myers, Eisenberg.

Quarter-finals: Sandler def. Dikman, 21-13, 21-6; R. Obert def. Webster, 21-13, 21-20; Hopkins def. Ray, 21-15, 0-21, 21-16; Eisenberg def. Levine, 21-14, 21-13.

Semi-finals: Sandler def. Hopkins, 21-16, 21-13; Eisenberg def. R. Obert, 21-2, 21-15.

Finals: Sandler def. Eisenberg, 21-19, 7-21, 21-9.

Brownsville Handball Club Sportsmanship Award — Jimmy Aversani, Tucker, N.J.

Special Game Award: Norman Cohen (polio victim plays handball regularly and defeated Alvin Jacknin, 21-13. Alvin was First Army table tennis champion. All three-game winners receive trophies.

Honorable mention: Torres, Berkowitz, Goldberg, Palmore, Diamond, Webster, Gamble, Gorelich, Diamant. The old war horse Marty "The Farmer" Cushman, made a great effort but men's singles is a bit rough at his age.

Alternates: Effrain Saltares, Gilbert Gonzales, Louis Torres, Tom Calendrino, Tom Hayden of Miami Beach, Felix Estevez, Roy Myers, Abel Leon, Bruce Davidoff, Marsall Kider.

Brownsville Boys Club Trophy — Sportsmanship — Jim DeStefano . . . also a vote of thanks to Jim for his help . . . also to: Don Webster, Ken Gamble and Louis Jasper.

Semi-final match between Howie Eisenberg and Ruby Obert. Howie was very sharp in this match. He seemed never to miss a first service and hit it just where he wished to. He hit deep services to his left and deep services to his right and once in a while, a service just over the short line to his right. Ruby could barely return the services and made such weak returns that Howie immediately killed the ball. Ruby never had a chance in the first game won by Howie 21-2.

In the second game, Ruby knew he had his work cut out for him and tried very hard. He anticipated more, hit harder but to no avail. Ruby got 15 points in the second game.

The finals between Steve Sandler and Howie Eisenberg was one of the best I have witnessed. Eisenberg wasn't as sharp as in the semi-final match and was constantly short with his first serve. This is what happens to a player when he plays a better man. He tries to make his serve so good that he shorts it. As a result, Howie always had to make sure his second serve was in and thus we had some exciting rallies. Howie had Sandler running around like a rabbit which is rare as it is usually the other way around. Sandler was making unbelievable gets with left hand backhands and right hand backhands, shots other players would have never made. In order to get any ball passed Sandler, it has to be hit like a bullet and Eisenberg hits bullets.

Eisenberg was leading 19 to 17 and it looked like an upset but Howie was put out and Sandler got up. Steve started to place aces in the right hand corner just

(to next page)

KING-SIZED ONE-WALL NATIONALS . . .

591 participants! Men's singles — 128; Novice — 65; Boys Juniors Singles — 74; Masters doubles — 50 teams; Open doubles — 112 teams.

Tournament chairman — Irving Ehrlich. **Coordinators** — Mickey Blechman, Morris Levitsky. **Chief Referee** — Marvin Greenberg.

Referees — Herb Greenberg, Murray Collins, Ugo Bontempo, Norman Butler, Tony Quintero, Howard King, Abel Leon, Gil Hendler, Morris Levitsky.

Linesmen — Keith Williams, Sal Burgio, Dan Flickstein, Herb Isaacson, Mike Dikman, Bob Sparrow, Mel Agranoff, Nat Schifter, Marty Grossman, Lou Prussan, Jim DeStefano, Curley Martin, Dan DeLoach, Ted Olds, Andy Belskie, Ruby Ziff, Ben Klein, Tiny Arbeit, Ronnie Berkowitz, Lou Doodak, Murray Schustack.

Draw Sheet-Charts — Mickey Blechman, Morris Levitsky, Steve Schnapps, George Rosenbloom. **USHA Representatives** — Oscar Relkin, Irving Ehrlich. **Desk** — William Kong, Peter Kong.

Third round masters: Al Goldstein-Nat Schifter def. Ben Edelman-Jerry Rappaport, 21-6; Vern Coward-Cyril Vincent def. Mickey Blechman-Ace Kanakos, 21-20; Frank Glass-Louis Wigden def. Ed Clooney-Murray Samotin, 21-18; Herb Dayboch-Irwin Fox def. Al Danilczyk-Harry Reiss, 21-16; Ray Gershen-Jules Stack def. Wally Gaines-Henry Wachler, 21-10; Louis Caputo-William Taub def. Len Isaacson-Max Zeines, 21-19; George Feinstein-Steve Gallo def. Ed Jensen-Nat Morell, 21-10; Ted Russell-Meyer Selbst def. Art Heidenrich-William Kong, 21-16.

Quarter-finals: Goldstein-Schifter def. Coward-Kanakos, 25-22; Dayboch-Fox def. Glass-Wigden, 25-14; Gershen-Stack def. Caputo-Taub, 25-11; Feinstein-Gallo def. Russell-Selbst, (default).

Semi-finals: Goldstein-Schifter def. Dayboch-Fox, 25-12 (curfew); Feinstein-Gallo def. Gershen-Stack, 31-21.

Finals: Goldstein-Schifter def. Feinstein-Gallo, 20-21, 21-13, 21-12.

Third place: Gershen-Stack def. Dayboch-Fox, 31-21.

Brownsville Boys Club Sportsmanship Trophy — Vernon Coward-Cyril Vincent.

74 contestants . . . **Third round juniors:** Mark Levine def. Carvella Goytia, 21-6; Gilbert Gonzales def. Steve Orrus, 21-9; Ralph Basden def. Frank Costa, 21-10; Ken Ginty def. Michael Hacen, 21-9; Pat Clerkin def. Ed McDougal, 21-14; Quinton Abrahante def. Jose Martinez, 21-15; Roy Thompson def. Frank Karolas, 21-9; Gary Straus def. Samuel Soto (default); Terry Lazarus def. Gil Hojica, 21-8; Marcel Goldfarb def. Raymon Ortiz, 21-3; Louis Campione def. Tom Ojea, 21-18; Abel Leon def. Steven Bonafrio, 21-14; John McEnaney def. Reggie Barnes, 21-14; Stuart Kirzner def. Barry Drexler, 21-17; Richard Wos def. Ernest Keith, 21-3; Mitchell Straus def. Raymon Estevez, 21-6.

Fourth round winners: Levine def. Gonzales, 25-6; Ginty def. Basden, 25-15; Abrahante def. Clerkin, 25-17; G. Straus def. Thompson, 25-8; Lazarus def. Goldfarb, 25-10; Leon def. Campione, 25-19; McEnaney def. Kirzner, 25-13; M. Straus def. Wos (default).

Quarter-finals: Levine def. Ginty, 31-16; Abrahante def. G. Straus, 31-7; Lazarus def. Leon, 31-28; M. Straus def. McEnaney, 31-29.

Semi-finals: Levine def. Abrahante, 21-2, 21-4; Lazarus def. M. Straus, 21-19, 16-21, 21-11.

Finals: Levine def. Lazarus, 21-9, 21-9.

Third place: Abrahante def. M. Straus, 31-21.

Hon. Abe Stark, borough president, donated t-shirts to all juniors. Most parochial and New York City public high schools were represented. Coach Leo Hirsch, Tilden high brought his team . . . Bryant and Aviation high schools sent their entire squads.

16 seeded teams were placed in the fourth round and 21-point matches scheduled.

Fourth round doubles: Russo-Wisotsky; Chiolo-Piercynski; Fennelly-Ray; Sandler-Weber; Danilczyk-Eisenberg; Barone-Gamble; Isaacson-Flickstein; Chiovani brothers; Sheldon-Tomba; Seiden-Haspel; Palmore-Leccese; Reyer-Ulbrich; R. Obert-Hershkowitz; Berkowitz-Antebay; Quinterro-Torres; Kikman-Sparrow.

Fifth round winners: Russo-Wisotsky def. Chiolo-Piercynski, 21-11; Fennelly-Ray def. Sandler-Weber, 21-17; Danilczyk-Eisenberg def. Barone-Gamble, 21-

(to next page)

over the service line — serves nobody could get and won the first game 21-9. In the second game, which everybody figured Sandler to take, Howie began powering the ball so hard that Sandler was forced into many errors. Howie took this game 21-7. Everybody was now looking forward to the third game. It looked like Sandler had cracked up.

Sandler was up first and started to use his service as he only can. He started to place aces over the short line in the right hand corner, then he would shoot a serve to the left hand corner. The score was soon 8 to 2 in favor of Sandler. It was a total about face from the second game.

Everyone knew what the final outcome would be. Eisenberg never had a chance in this game. Sandler knew he had his work cut out for him and he was capable of the job. He comes through in the pinch, the quality of a true champion. Eisenberg got nine points in the third game. Steve Sandler maintained the one-wall championship.

In the open doubles tournament a big upset in the third round was the defeat of Steve Sandler and his partner, Don Weber, by Norman Ray and George Fennelly. The score of the game was 21-11. Sandler's partner, Weber, was not in the same class as the other players and Steve had to play two men. Ray and Fennelly killed the ball at every opportunity and Sandler never had a chance. They play only one game in the third round.

Another upset in the third round was the defeat of Mike Dikman and Bob Sparrow by Al Torres and Tony Quintero, two newcomers to the tournament. Torres hits a very hard ball and bears watching in the future as a top player.

Lou Russo Jr., who won the three-wall nationals with Marty Decatur at Detroit, playing with Joe Wisotsky, won in the third round defeating D. Chiolo and S. Piercynski, 21 to 11. Russo and Wisotsky were hitting the ball hard and making plenty of killers. Howard Eisenberg and Joe Danilczyk beat Ken Gamble and Barone 21-15. The Chiovari brothers took over Harry Isaacson and Dan Flickstein by the score of 21-8.

Sheldon and Tomba handed a defeat to Seiden and Haspel by the score of 21-9. This was a rough and tough game which lasted a long time because of long rallies. Neither side would kill the ball unless they had a setup. These types of teams never go far in a big tournament. Players have to learn to kill the ball at the first opportunity in one-wall. Artie Reyer, playing with Walter Ulbrich beat Pallmore and Lallese 21-5. Ulbrich was hitting the ball very hard and Pallmore and Lallese did not have a

chance.

One of the surprise players in the open doubles was Vic Hershkowitz, now past 50. He played with Ruby Obert as a New York A.C. team. Ruby and Vic defeated Berkowitz and Antebly 21-11.

In the quarter-final round, it was best out of three. In the opener between Al Torres-Quintero and R. Obert and Hershkowitz, Quintero reported late for the game and did not get a chance to warm up because of the 9 p.m. curfew. As a result, he played poorly in the first game. Quintero played much better in the second game. Obert and Hershkowitz took the two games, 21 to 7 and 21 to 13. Hershkowitz played the right side and used his service to advantage, hitting deep to the left side with strong hooks. Then he would follow with a serve over the short line. Hershkowitz's volleying was mediocre as he was constantly hitting the balls out.

Russo and Wisotsky took over Ray and Fennelly 21-18 and 21-5, continuing to hit the ball hard and counting more killers than they missed. Eisenberg and Danilczyk handed the Chiovari brothers a defeat 21-12, 21-14 in a match that was better contested than the score shown.

The match between Artie Reyer-Wally Ulbrich and Sheldon-Tomba was a lulu. Sheldon-Tomba play a high bouncing game and this made Ulbrich miss many kills and placement shots. However,

Reyer and Ulbrich won by the score of 21-5 and 21-13.

In the semi-finals held on Nov. 9, Reyer and Ulbrich played Ruby Obert and Hershkowitz. In the first game Ruby played the left side and the game was played even for the first few points. Then Ulbrich began serving bullets with hooks, getting many aces and weak returns. The weak returns were immediately killed by Ulbrich and Reyer. There were some fast rallies but as soon as the set-ups appeared the ball was killed. This was handball at it should be played. Ruby and Vic were out-classed and lost 21-11.

In the second game, Hershkowitz played on the left side. In one-wall, the player on the left side controls the game. Hershkowitz and Obert took the lead at five points and it began to look like a different ball game. Vic made Ulbrich miss shots. However, Ulbrich got up and began serving hard and low making Obert return the ball so that it was easy to kill. Ulbrich and Reyer then ran off about eight points and the game reversed.

Good rallies followed with Reyer or Ulbrich putting the ball away. Ruby began missing shots by inches. Ulbrich and Reyer ran the second game off 21-10 and it was all over.

The second semi-final match was between Eisenberg-Danilczyk against Russo and Wisotsky. Eisenberg and Danilczyk served deep with hooks. Russo and

Wisotsky hit the balls out or made weak returns. Russo was also missing his kill shots. Joe Wisotsky was wild and then soon lost the game 21-6.

In the second game, Russo-Wisotsky began hitting the ball very hard. Their serves were hard and true, Russo getting several aces. Eisenberg-Danilczyk were put on the defensive and forced into making weak returns. Russo-Wisotsky hit kill after kill. Eisenberg-Danilczyk were helpless. Could not do a thing, and were swamped in the second game 21-5.

As the third game started, fans wondered whether Eisenberg and Danilczyk would come up with something to stop Russo and Wisotsky, and slow up their torrid pace. These two questions were soon answered. Russo and Wisotsky did maintain the tempo and everything they hit were bullets. They never let up. Youth and power could not be stopped. Russo and Wisotsky powered themselves to a 21-12 win in the third game and went on to the finals.

In the finals Lou and Joel took the first game 21-15, not giving Ulbrich and Reyer any setups. In the second game Ulbrich began powering the ball with Reyer killing and they took the game 21-19.

The third game was a thriller. Both sides were hitting hard and killing the ball at every opportunity. In this game Russo showed his champion caliber. He was hitting aces, deep serves with a hook and killing the ball. He couldn't be stopped and he and Wisotsky took the final game 21-17. Lou Russo thereby became the 1969 doubles champ in one-wall, three-wall and four-wall.

Carl Arbor

The 1969 USHA one-wall doubles finals was "great"; it was "exciting"; it was "superlative." These were comments heard from the hundreds of spectators and handball fans who spent Sunday afternoon, Nov. 16, at the Brownsville Boys Club in Brooklyn watching Lou Russo Jr. and Dr. Joel Wisotsky beat Wally Ulbrich and his brother-in-law, Artie Reyer, in three fast intensely-played games.

Russo and Wisotsky are a "Mutt and Jeff" team. Obviously this is not said disparagingly, but refers to their physical appearance. Russo is short and stocky, a righty with a very good left, exceptionally fast and a great court coverer. Wisotsky is tall, slim, a lefty who hits with power. They complement each other beautifully.

Their opponents, Ulbrich and Reyer, are exciting players to watch. Wally hits the ball like a bullet with a hook on every hard smash and is deadly off the wall to the right corner. Reyer is an amazing man. An attack of Osteomyelitis as a kid left him with a damaged hip. He walks with a decided limp. But he is a



PINK BALLERS . . . National USHA One-Wall novel event . . . bottom (l to r)—Louis Torres, Steve Leventhal, Keith Williams, Ted Olds, winner. Top—(l to r)—Tony Quintero, Dan DeLoach, Quinton Abrahante. Tony and Dan organized and supervised entire tournament.

Class A handball player. He gets around very well. His forte is "steadiness." He has such marvelous hands and quick reflexes that it is practically impossible to get anything past him. There were instances when, after getting an almost dead kill, he returned three or four smashes at him with effortless-looking pick-ups.

With a good, fast one-wall court, an Ace handball, three linesmen, two referees, a receptive crowd, and the two teams described above, you have all the ingredients for that most exciting of events, the open doubles championship match.

It was all Russo and Wisotsky in the first game, even though Lou's left hand kill shots were not working. Wisotsky's serve was a thing of beauty. He has exceptional two-way hooks, which frequently fooled Ulbrich or caused weak returns that were flattened immediately on the fly.

In the second game, Ulbrich was easily the outstanding player. Wally is a younger edition of Oscar Obert. He oozes grim determination and gets better under pressure. Ulbrich was putting away Wisotsky's return of his deep, hard made several sensational gets. After leading 20-11, Ulbrich and Reyer got a scare when their opponents got up and made eight points to bring the score to 20-19. But they got the side out and serves with consistent regularity. Reyer won the game on the next exchange.

In the third game, Russo and Wisotsky went all out. Russo's left improved. At one point he made a marvelous return of a Reyer special, a left corner angle shot. Russo went from deep midcourt to his extreme left, and killed the ball to the corner with his left.

Russo jumped high in the air with joy after making the last point. And the crowd gave them and their worthy opponents a great hand of appreciation for a tremendous exhibition of fine handball.

Perhaps a few words should be said about the semifinals. After losing the first game to Howie Eisenberg and Joe Danilczyk, Russo and Wisotsky went on to win the next two. The story here was the triumph of youth and physical con-

dition over two top-notch veterans, who lost their touch in the last game.

And that too was the case in the victory of Ulbrich and Reyer over Ruby Obert and that perennial handball star, Vic Hershkowitz, who elected to play in the open rather than in the Master's doubles. Vic still has all the shots, the two great hands, the hooks and the court savvy. But he just couldn't take Ulbrich's power. Again it was youth plus ability over age plus ability, an old story in all sports.

On Nov. 16 the finals of the Masters doubles also took place. Nat Schifter and Al Goldstein met George Feinstein and Steve Gallo. The first game was a real hard-fought one, Feinstein and Gallo winning 21-20. In the second game, Schifter and Goldstein came into their own and made Feinstein and Gallo miss shots and won 21-13. In the third game, Schifter began running in on shots, taking them on the fly and killing. He did this time after time and Gallo and Feinstein could never get going. Schifter and Goldstein took the third game 21-12 and won their first USHA championship. Herb Daybock and Irwin Fox beat Ray Gershen and Jules Stack 31-20 for third place.

Ted Olds won the Novice soft "pink ball" title in a 65-player field. This phase of the championships was supervised by Tony Quintero. Referees — Howard King, Keith William, Dan DeLoach, Abel Leon.

Quarter-finals: Olds def. Louis Torres, 31-11; Steve Leventhal def. James Bond, 31-22; Keith Williams def. Tony Quintero, 31-24; Al Torres def. Morris Franco, 31-6.

Semi-finals: Olds def. Leventhal, 31-22; Williams def. Torres, 31-23.

Finals: Olds def. Williams, 31-14. Third place — Torres def. Leventhal, 31-18.

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15; Chiovari brothers def. Isaacson-Flickstein, 21-8; Sheldon-Tomba def. Seiden-Haspel, 21-19; Reyer-Ulbrich def. Palmore-Leccese, 21-5; Obert-Hershkowitz def. Berkowitz-Antebly, 21-11; Quintero-Torres def. Dikman-Sparrow, 21-17.

Quarter-finals: Russo-Wisotsky def. Fennelly-Ray, 21-18, 21-5; Danilczyk-Eisenberg def. Chiovari brothers, 21-12, 21-14; Reyer-Ulbrich def. Sheldon-Tomba, 21-5, 21-13; Obert-Hershkowitz def. Quintero-Torres, 21-7, 21-13.

Semi-finals: Russo-Wisotsky def. Danilczyk-Eisenberg, 6-21, 21-5, 21-11; Reyer-Ulbrich def. Obert-Hershkowitz, 21-7, 21-13.

Finals: Russo-Wisotsky def. Reyer-Ulbrich, 21-15, 19-21, 21-17.

Brownsville Boys Club Sportsmanship Trophy — Joseph Konik-Al Sussman.

AFTERNOON OF STARS

Jan. 18, 1970 — 1 p.m.

Brownsville Recreation Center
1555 Linden Blvd., Brooklyn, N.Y.

ALL top one-wall players have been invited to compete.

Benefits to Whirlaway Paraphelgic Basketball Team

and other worthy projects of

The Brownsville Handball Club Inc.

Morris Levitsky, President

OBSERVATION TOWER

By BOB DAVIDSON

National Junior Chairman

A great national singles invitational, done on the top level by Dr. Jim Tanner and his associates. Instead of the conventional trophies, silver service was the order of the day.

Paul Haber did it again, although he was on the brink of losing to a vastly improved Dr. Claude Benham. The match went three games and Claude was only two points away from the golden circle in the second game after having won the first one. His shooting won that first game. He used a cross court serve continually and showed an improved left hand that no longer gives setups.

Benham was in top shape but in my opinion went after several "ungettable" shots that tend to take much out. He proved this to me in getting a couple of shots back, losing the volley and, then followed a loss of a few points until he could "get his breath back." He recovered

but no one can give points away to a Haber. An exciting game with most everyone rooting for the underdog.

The good doctor has "arrived" and should be one of the Winter book favorites to challenge Haber in L.A. next March. Bill Yambrick did a fine job of refereeing the match with Joe Ardito as scorer.

The most exciting game of the tourney was between Marty Decatur and Gordie Pfeifer. Pfeifer blasted Decatur with kills and power passes for a 21-10 win in the first game. Marty couldn't seem to hit the ball solidly. Gordie had Marty 20-16 in the second game. Then Decatur scored four points to knot it at 20-20 with strong serves and kills off weak returns. Then the score changed hands four times with Marty finally killing for the game win. The third game was anti-climatic with Decatur winning easily, 21-7.

Pat Kirby had a tough time beating Kent Fusselman in their second game, 21-20.

Stuffy Singer beat my former protege, Ernie Ortiz, formerly of Bronx Union Y, now doing a great job with the Big Brothers organization in Tampa.

Jim Jacobs beat my Florida State and intercollegiate champ Fred Lewis by hooking off the back wall in the first game. Fred adjusted to this and came up with 12 points in the second game.

Ray Neveau pushed Claude Benham for a 21-16 win in their game but then lack of stamina showed and Benham's shooting decided it, going away.

Dr. Steve August, now playing out of the Hollywood YMCA, while stationed in the Army on the West Coast, looked strong and impressive by knocking off Lou Russo in the first round, 21-8, 21-5. Steve looked strong and now has the advantage of good competition like Stuffy Singer and Harold Price.

Bill Yambrick is down to fighting weight but didn't appear in his sharpest playing form. His tempo was slower than

usual and after beating Don Ardito fell by the wayside.

In the quarters Haber beat Marty Decatur 21-19, 21-8. Paul didn't seem to be up for this tourney at all. (Editor's Note: Paul states he was "up" all night). Marty didn't seem to have his usual power game going.

Kirby had Stuffy Singer in both games but let him pull them out. He seemed to lose his concentration at times. He couldn't get Stuffy off the short line for about six points in the first game. Pat forgot to continue shooting and when he finally tried his shots were pressed and errors occurred.

Benham had Jim Jacobs 18-9 in the first game when Jim threw in the towel because of a recurrence of a pulled hamstring.

Yambrick lost to August with Steve doing some outstanding shooting and passing whereas Yambrick went for the soft kill that invariably failed to reach or turned out to be a setup.

The way Stuffy Singer started out in the semis against Haber it seemed like a sure thing that he would run over him. Stuffy's first seven out of ten points were kills. He had Paul 13-1, then stopped shooting. Reason forwarded was continued knee problems.

In the other side of the ledger Benham gave quite an exhibition of shooting and retrieving over August. Steve has a bad habit of letting the ball get ahead of him and bringing the ball back over his shoulder, time and again, and with a good shooting opponent that spells t-r-o-u-b-l-e.

The Tournament of Champions included many Southern area city and state winners along with the eight first round losers of the national invitational coming in for second round play. Lou Kramberg joined this group and the co-holder of the national doubles, displayed good form despite 15 or 20 excess pounds.

Joe Salome, former senator from Atlanta, almost pulled the upset of the tourney by beating Kent Fusselman in the first game, 21-20, but youth will out and Kent won the next two.

Another surprise was the closeness of the first game between Ed Johnson of Birmingham and Gordie Pfeifer — another 21-20.

Joe Ardito's pride and joy, Don, joined the T of C bracket and eliminated Birmingham city champ, Alan Clark, showing good power and a clever left hand. Clark's lack of good shooting ability holds him down.

Ken Geiselman, Memphis champ, after losing to Fred Lewis in the first game, won the second then tailed off and got smothered in the decider, 21-2.

Ray Neveau had to play well to beat Danny Kallman, many times Birmingham champ. Danny, a veteran performer, has those tantalizing corner soft kills but Ray's power decided it finally.

Lou Russo showed his shooting skills by beating 47-year-old Fred DeNuccio of Norfolk, Va., 21-8, 21-9.

Fusselman played well in stopping Kramberg in the quarters . . . Pfeifer was strong and did a lot of killing in beating Ardito . . . Neveau showed that Lewis is still away from the top echelon by beating him 21-10, 21-16. Ernie Ortiz played right into Russo's tempo and got clobbered. I had a talk with Ortiz after this match and he was thankful and honored for being invited to this great tourney and being included with all these top drawer players.

In order to get to Birmingham Ortiz was sponsored by Stan Ashe, former childhood crony in the Bronx, now vice president of Ashley Aluminum Co. in Tampa. Ernie promises from now on it will be shoot, shoot, shoot! Russo made him a believer.

Russo and Neveau started out slowly in their semi final T of C match. Ray had a 5-0 lead but then Russo got going and when the first game was over Lou appeared as good as ever, picking up his tempo and his shooting and passing was sharp. Ray seemed off his game, missing too many and setting up Russo. There was no contest in the second game.

Fusselman had no semi final match as Pfeifer defaulted so was well rested for the finals set on the same Sunday. But, Russo with only an hour and a half rest was still hot and took complete charge, 21-6, 21-12. With Russo's type of shooting and fast tempo he could go as far as his desire to get into proper tournament physical condition.

Now, to what I really want to say about the Birmingham classic and its six courts. The man who made this thing go, who gave his untiring efforts and time, who organized his efficient com-

mittees, raised the money and brought in the top players . . . made up a program booklet filled with ads and information . . . and then refereed Russo-Fusselman match when everyone was watching Haber-Benham . . . set up television and radio exposure . . . beautiful trophies and sweaters to the players . . . to add up to a real class tournament — who is a quiet, forceful, and an organizer with a great bunch of guys and gals as helpers — Dr. Jim Tanner!

Alan Clark is his aide-de-camp and gives all of his time when needed. Bill Schuler, former tackle for the New York Giants, was most influential in getting the courts built. Bill Miller, as treasurer, keeps the money coming in. When Al Gracio needs an able substitute as floor manager, Robert Reeves of Birmingham could fill the job.

The banquet was a success because Duncan Moon was the chairman. A. J. Smith and his chicken tidbits were the talk of the hospitality room at the Tutwiler Hotel. Ray Hill, executive director of the downtown Y, was the one who was behind the extra four courts. Don McMurray of the health club, took care of the out-of-town players in true Southern style.

This tourney was dedicated to "Mort the Sport," who with our National Coordinator Joe Ardito made it one of the smoothest running ever.

Sol Barth, formerly of Miami Beach, now of Atlanta . . . played with Sol and made him a winner, but Jerry Uritsky, formerly of Bronx Union, now of Atlanta, got mad and played left side against us, so we had to concede and let him win, seeing that it was Sol's fifth game.

We had quite a number of Flamingo Park members in attendance . . . the world renowned traveler, Bill Segal, who will soon leave on another junket to end up at L.A. for the nationals next March, with his charming wife, Sylvia . . . one of our big contributors to the youth fund is Hy Kirsner, also of the Beach . . . this was his first handball trip and it won't be his last . . . he's got bug and will be with us in L.A. also. After watching Russo play Neveau he tabbed Lou a "dynamic spark plug." Another visitor from Flamingo Park was Billy Haas. Billy is a gabby one and got me in trouble at the dinner by his continual talking.

* * *

I don't want to overlook another outstanding Irv Ehrlich one-wall production. There were plenty of problems getting this one underway . . . instead of concluding matches in six days it was done in five.

Steve Sandler again took the singles, but had to work three games against a determined Howie Eisenberg.

National One-Wall Masters Doubles Headliners



VETERANS SHOW 'EM HOW AT BROWNSVILLE . . . The newly-crowned Masters doubles champions are Nat "Heart" Schifter and Al Goldstein; runnersup—George Feinstein and Steve Gallo. Pictured above—kneeling (l to r)—Herb Greenberg and Ugo Bontempo. Standing (l to r)—Goldstein, Gallo, Schifter, Feinstein, USHA East Area Commissioner Irv Ehrlich, major domo of the classic; Norman Butler.

In the under 19 Juniors the boys from Brooklyn dominated. Mark Levine repeated as he beat his buddy, Ted Lazarus, 21-19, 21-9. Ted was too emotional and burnt himself out. He has a strong game and should show up well with more experience. Mark should ascend to the open one-wall throne when Sandler steps down . . . he has the knowledge and the shots. Mark will switch to four-wall for the USHA Junior nationals at St. Louis, Dec. 28-30. He is picking up the indoor lore at Union Temple. Third place was taken by one of our Bronx boys, Quinton Abrahante, beating Mitchell Straus, 31-21.

Ken Ginty, who is hoping to win the under 17 at St. Louis, lost to Levine, 31-16. Another of our Bronx boys who will be in the under 17 is Abel Leon, who lost to Lazarus, 31-28. Jack McEannaney lost to Mitchell Straus in a close one, 31-29. Mitchell and Jack will be in the under 19 bracket. Jack plays out of the 92nd St. YMHA so has good exposure.

In the pink ball novice the champ was Ted Olds, who beat Steve Leventhal, with Al Torres over Keith Williams for third place.

The open doubles was a good one. Norman Ray was sensational in the win over Steve Sandler and his partner.

The semi final win by Russo and Wisotsky was quite a comeback after losing the first game, 21-6.

In the finals, Joel Wisotsky could do no wrong as he killed and passed continually for a 21-15 first game win. In the second game Ulbrich took the full power of Wisotsky and flattened the ball for many points. Joel couldn't keep the ball away from Wally. Joel has a tendency as a southpaw to play the man on the left and as the game progresses his return loses power. Reyer was his usual steady self and the second game was a reversal in form, 21-19. In the deciding game Russo and Wisotsky got off to a 14-10 lead but after a time out lost the momentum and then Ulbrich and Reyer took the lead. Then, another time out and Russo began to click with serves and kills and for the first time became an open one-wall doubles champ — and wound up 1969 with the unprecedented "Triple Crown of Doubles" — one-wall, three-wall and four-wall.

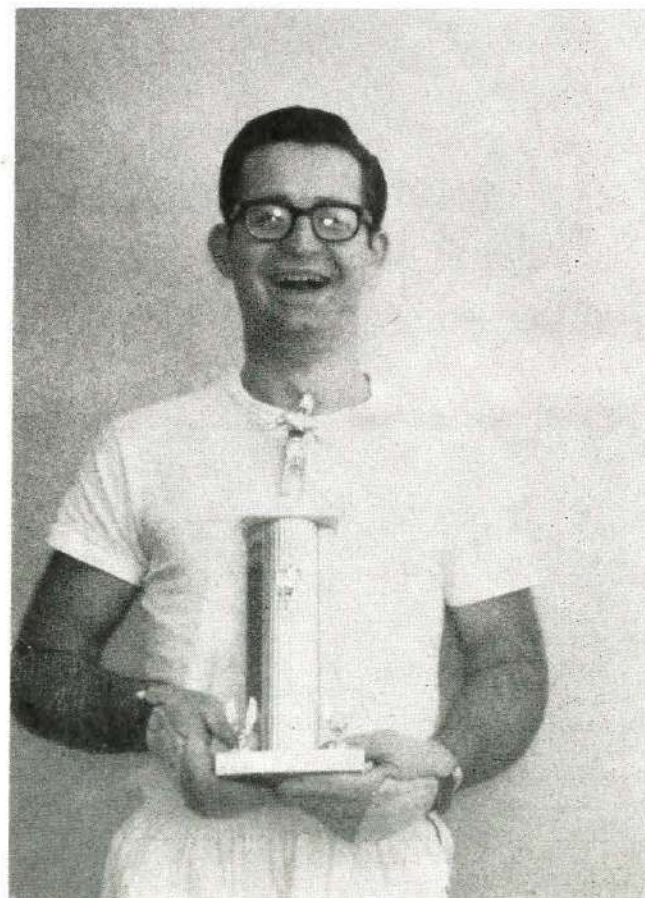
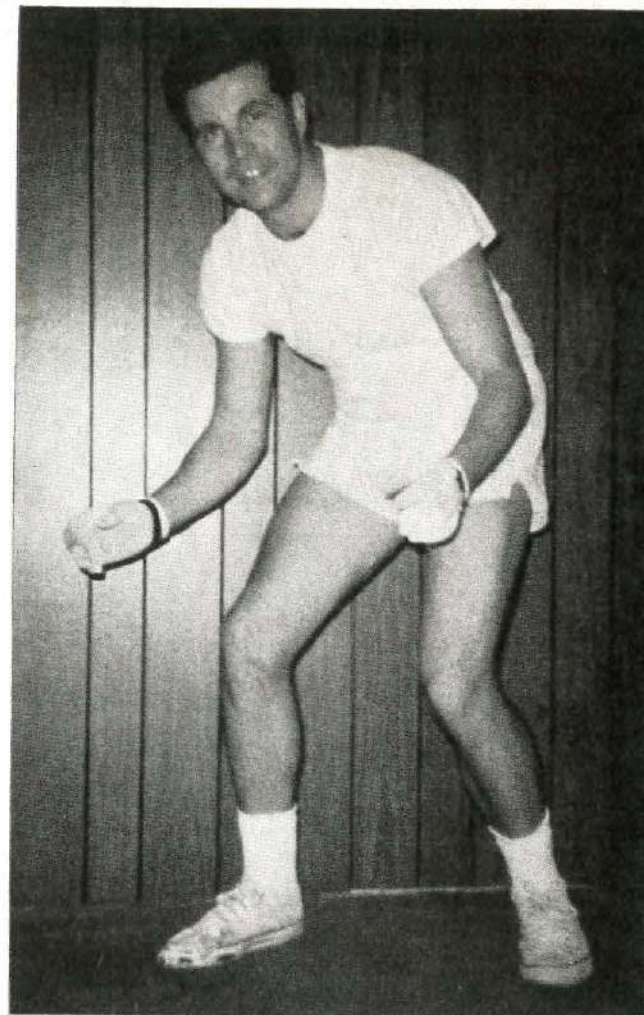
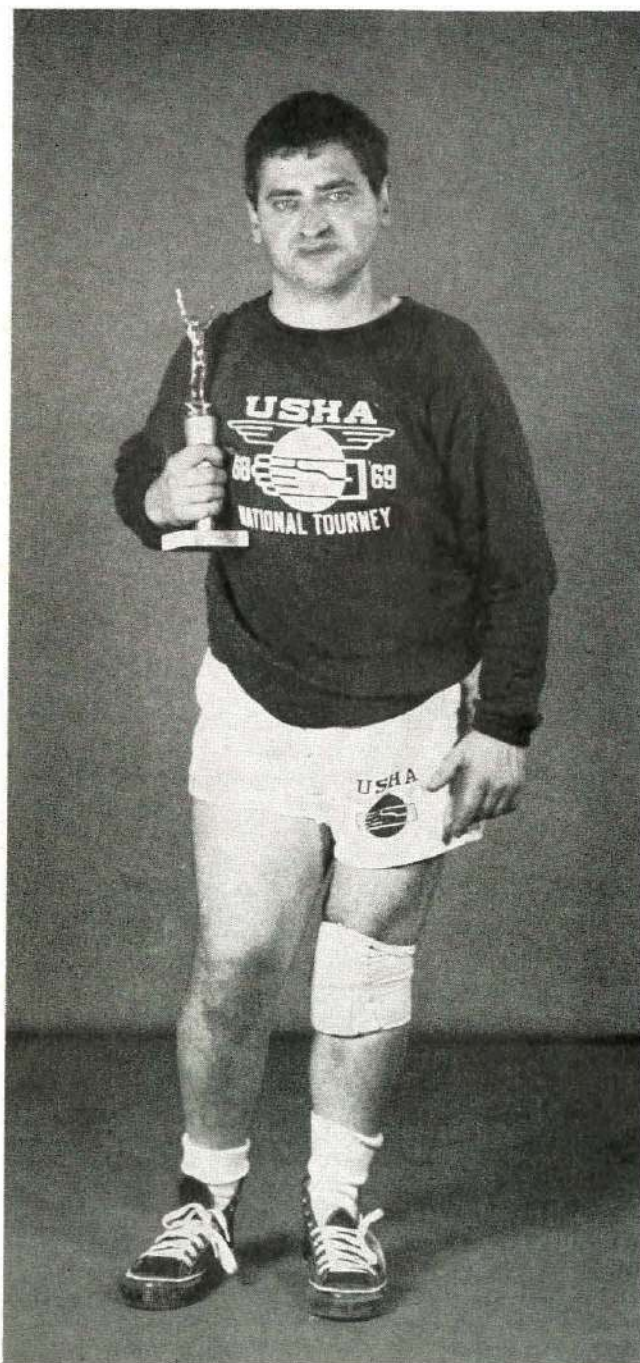
In the Masters our Castle Hill entry of George Feinstein and Steve Gallo lost in the finals to Nat Schifter and Al Goldstein in a close one. My rooting didn't help even though Carol Gallo was praying a little.

We can't give enough thanks to Irv Ehrlich and his crew for getting this one off the ground in spite of all the red tape obstacles. Irv has sent in hundreds of subscriptions for ACE . . . has to bear the brunt of complaints and is on call at all hours. As you know one man can't

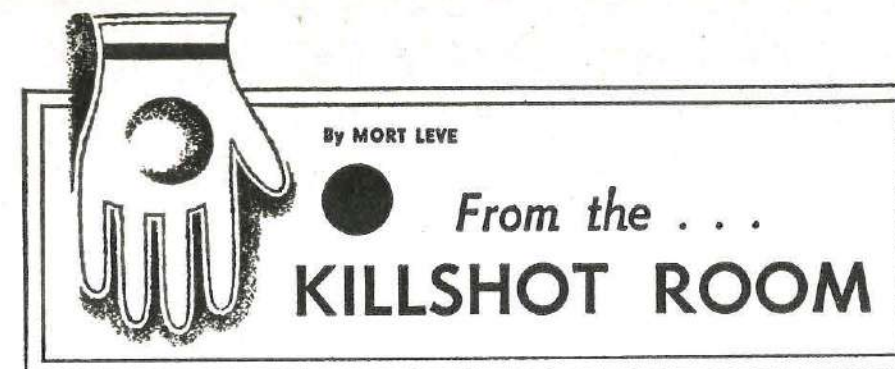
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One-Wall Newcomers . . .

(Below)—Norman Cohen, a polio victim who has found handball an excellent therapy, defeated Alvin Jachnin in a special awards game in the Men's singles. (upper right)—Roy Myers, who represents the Cavalier A.C. in Long Island, made a creditable showing. Surprise of the tournament was Tom Hopkins (lower right), who knocked out several big seeded players and won six tournament matches through the three weeks of competition, including Lou Russo Jr. Hopkins was finally defeated by Steve Sandler, defending champ, in the semi-final round. Hopkins represents the Yonkers, N.Y., YMCA.



ACE — U.S.H.A.



It's one thing to talk to handballers around the country by phone or correspond by mail, but always more pleasurable to get out into the "field" . . . meet and play the game with some of the gang.

First stop was St. Louis with a twofold mission; one, to urge the racquetball committee at the JCCA to again host the big tournament. Marlowe Phillips, who is the current grand slam Masters singles and doubles titlist, is our Missouri Valley rep. and helped in selling the classic to a mixed opinion assemblage.

One question came up from one of the recalcitrants — "What will such a tournament do for our Center? We have a maximum membership, courts are being used to the limit . . . what do we need this for?"

The St. Louis JCCA has been a stalwart supporter of USHA, hosting nations at the old Union street YMHA in 1956, then the inaugural of the suburban Shangri La center and Jack Srenco Memorial Court in 1964, and a third visit in 1968. That's three big ones, only to be equaled at the Los Angeles Athletic Club when we gather there next March 15. The three tournaments there have stimulated the game tremendously, leading to the building of five courts in the original building and then the addition of three more just a couple of years ago. The first national TV of handball was staged there in 1964 and showcased the game to millions.

All this has spread the word of the JCCA as the finest Center in the nation . . . 112 acres of family recreation perfection.

Now, racquetball needs this sort of window dressing. The first "world series" last April helped build the IRA. We can now go after TV of the second show, along with national publicity. Handball has been a big part of the St. Louis center and racquetball has progressed swiftly, affording the women and children a chance to use the courts, mainly in the daytime hours. A second racquetball championship event will further the JCCA image and assist in improving the caliber of its members' play — and as Rich Linkemer put it, appearing at the meeting as an "outsider" and chairman of the center's handball committee — "Why not use the meaning of the late President John F. Kennedy words when he said, "It's not what the country can do for you, it's what you can do for your country" . . . and, so "It's not what racquetball can do for you, it's what you can do for racquetball."

With each successive trip to St. Louis

I become increasingly impressed with the performance of Phil Smith, the health club director. I'm not speaking of his handball performance because this time I took him in three. Rather, it's his complete dedication to the center and the many things he does to further promote the court games. He's 100% USHA and is an exclusive buyer of our products.

Phil is behind the hosting of our National Juniors this coming Dec. 28-30. The JCCA will provide an excellent facility for the incoming boys. Housing and food will be set up at the nearby Benjamin Franklin motel. Phil's two boys, David and Steve, are veterans of the Juniors. Dave is now a sophomore member of the Lake Forest College handball team, and Steve, who was in his first tourney at 13 and is still in high school, is again eligible at 17.

Behind the growth of the JCCA handball picture has been our former national commissioner, Hymen Goldstein. Hymie is still vitally concerned with the game and you can be sure he'll be a most interested spectator at the Juniors. He has long been an avid supporter of the kids' program and we can remember his chaperoning of a group when we held the tournament at the Westbrooke C.C. (now YMHA) in Miami.

After dinner with the Phil Smiths and Rich Linkemers (his better half is our star femme feature writer, Bobbi), it was some needed shuteye and then a morning flight to Tulsa. Jim Gilbert, whom we had met at Birmingham, is the physical director at the new Southeast family YMCA there. Jim met me at the plane and after a visit with Neal Elliott, sports editor of the Tulsa Tribune, we proceeded to his Y for the inevitable

"game." I wouldn't report a loss, so will relate a first game trouncing (I was getting used to the glass back wall), and then two games, with an ace to the right for a 21-20 match win.

Tulsa will host the realigned Central Division Jan. 30-Feb. 1 at the Southeast Y with support coming from the handball family of both that Y and the established downtown Y where we had held the 1968 National Juniors.

Fred Keys, who was the man-in-motion at the Juniors, along with Jim Espey, Charley Jackson, will work closely with Jim Gilbert on this one.

From Tulsa the only flight out was a two-stopper by way of Oklahoma City and Albuquerque to Las Vegas. We hadn't been able to make connections with John Romero at the Sahara so stayed at the Flamingo. The Western Sporting Goods Manufacturers show was being held at the city's convention hall and it has grown national in scope. We hobnobbed with many old time acquaintances, including "Booting Ben" Agajanian, who distributes Saranac ACE gloves in Southern California.

We won't mention too much about Las Vegas because there was no handball play there and there was business to attend to in Los Angeles. Al Gracio, our floor manager par excellence, met us at the L.A. airport, and we spent 72 hours — that's a lot of hours for a couple of has-been handballers to "Odd Couple" it together. We registered in at the ol' Hollywood Roosevelt, telephoned National Commissioner Joe Shane and made plans to meet him the following day and then went to the Los Angeles A.C. On this Sunday Rod Rodriguez, club handball commissioner, was working on some remodeling and making plans to convert the two existing large (25 x 50) courts to standard in ample time for the March championships.

Rod and I had our usual "grudge" game and I blew the match after enjoying a 16-11 third game lead. Rod explained how the courts will be cut down to 20 x 40. There will be glass in the back walls and both a downstairs and balcony gallery. The original championship court, scene of the 1955 and 1959 national playoffs, will remain as the prime court. Overall we will have six courts to work with.

The unholy three of Rod, Al and I had dinner Cantonese style over a couple of Navy Groggs and this was a good sedative for night retirement.

Al and I arose early and drove to his Pacific Coast Club in Long Beach. This was my first visit to this club and I was duly impressed with the layout and genial atmosphere. After breakfast with our West Area Commissioner, Ed Kelly, another of my cross country "court

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TEAMWORK

Four divisional USHA tournaments rather than eight regionals. Why?

In spending every cent that comes into the USHA coffers we want to do so wisely. Is there any soundness in bringing players to the nationals who cannot survive more than a couple of rounds? And, this is what was happening in the eight regional format.

Now, we're tightening the reins. There's a "major league" tag on the divisionals — San Francisco, Tulsa, Charlotte and New York City. The "cream will come to the top."

Competition is the keynote of any tournament. There will be no "boat races" in these divisionals. Out West we will have a Gordie Pfeifer of Washington A.C. challenging a Stuffie Singer, Bob Bourbeau and Dave Graybill. At Tulsa, Paul Haber will not only have Bill Yambrick and Ray Neveau and Denny Hofflander . . . he'll come up against Bob Lindsay and Buzz Shumate also.

In New York the strong boys from Gotham may get a few surprises from the mid-east. And at Charlotte we may uncover more than Dr. Claude Benham.

We purposely scheduled all the divisionals Jan. 30-Feb. 1 to avoid any major invitationals. And, it is six weeks away from the nationals in Los Angeles, giving all an opportunity to make plans.

In this issue we will publish entry blanks for these four division tournaments. We have also sent letters out to key players, asking them to participate and help produce successful play.

To those facilities interested in a future divisional we can outline responsibilities: Provide court facilities, balls, trophies, hospitality room, souvenir t-shirts and an awards type banquet. USHA sends the open singles and doubles winners (not Masters) to the annual grand finale, the USHA National four-wall championships.

How can a host finance such an undertaking?

We have upped the entry fee to \$10 per event. And, in these divisionals players are restricted to one event only. Hosts can schedule open singles and doubles, Masters singles and doubles.

The hosts retains all entry fees. Income can be realized from ticket sales; all session booster type tickets and daily admission fees. The host can gain revenue from advertising, either by taking advantage of gratis space in ACE Magazine — \$300 full inside page; \$200 for half page; \$100 for a quarter page; \$50 for one eighth page; \$25 for one sixteenth page. A page of individuals at \$5 or \$10 each is another way of gaining ad income. For ads of \$50 or more this could include reserved tickets.

In our meeting in Tulsa we devised an advertising plan whereby the sponsor could get his ad in both ACE magazine and the host program booklet. For example: If one page in the host booklet goes for \$100, the advertiser would get this page plus 1/4 page in ACE.

Souvenir t-shirts are given to each entrant. Extra t-shirts can be sold and the income could very well cover the overall costs.

As an additional lure we ask the hosts to reimburse the divisional singles and doubles winners (not Masters) with their travel per diem for that specific tournament. Then, a Haber, who already has his travel and per diem covered to L.A. as the 1969 champ, would have something to shoot for in addition to the trophy.



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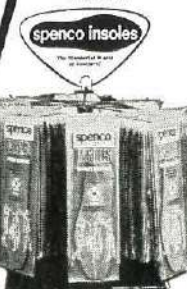
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75-Year Young Jack Harris Says Handball Spells 'Joviality'

Gather around handball players and friends and be cognizant and appreciative of one of our exceptional and colorful New York City players — Jack Harris.

This extraordinary and active athlete of 75, of whom I am proud to be writing, has never been a tournament champion, but in my observation and thoughts, and in the estimation of the present day Coney Island and Far Rockaway sector players, Jack has been the good health, the friendly and the jovial local handball champion for quite some time.

Our good will ambassador of New York's USHA tournaments has been playing and competing almost daily for at least 65 years and stresses the point that having been active in handball and other sports has molded his good health and jovial character.

Dating back 60 years to his membership in the Park View Gym, then to the 14th Street Boys Club of New York, and presently at the Coney Island courts, Jack has played and competed with a group of players who have also enjoyed

the daily games.

Jack says that wine, women and song without handball play would never have given him good health, pleasure of living and longevity. Here is a gentleman, who at 75 exudes bodily activity competition of the most stubborn quality, and contagious friendliness, attributable, as he states, to the influence that his daily handball has registered upon him.

At his age he can, and does, give excellent advice to young players — to be active mentally, to play as often as possible but in moderation, and to learn how to be sportsmanlike and friendly. In this way the player can achieve the virtues of good character, health and longevity.

As an official and referee of the National USHA One-Wall tournaments and many of Jack's colorful games, I, with Morris Levitsky, a senior official, and many of our players hope that this pleasurable association with Jack will continue for many more years.

—Ugo Bontempo

Tournament Referee's Rewarding Moments . . .

"What? Oh, no! You're blind!" Get lost!

These are some of the resounding words that ring in the ears of hardworking referees.

The successful USHA one-wall nationals recently held at the Brownsville Boys Club in Brooklyn naturally had its share of these words. Sometimes a player's lips are seen to sputter, "You idiot, etc.", but the shrewd referee makes believe he hasn't heard the stronger words and continues to work diligently. Some players apparently cannot control themselves, so they use the referee as an excuse for their own bad shots or deficiencies.

Of course, there are times when players are right. Referees can make bad calls. It is gratifying to state that this USHA tournament had a minimum number of derogatory words. Good management and excellent cooperation among the referees made the work enjoyable.

Dedication is an absolute requisite in the success of a tournament referee; otherwise he could neither enjoy nor survive in the sport. This statement is strongly applicable to the following fine group of tireless and punishment-taking referees who officiated in the nationals: Marvin Greenberg, Morris Levitsky, Ugo Bontempo, Herbert Greenberg, Murray

Collins, Norman Butler, Howard King and Tony Quintero.

Too often players do not realize that the referee is rendering them a very sacrificing service. Your referee has been getting up early, sometimes at 6 a.m., and has worked often without lunch trying to please the players. This went on for four weeks, and of course, without compensation. His only desire is for some rewarding acts or moments.

In a match a referee may make a hundred calls; so the players expect one hundred per cent on calls. But, being human, he might make 99% perfect and one bad one, and oh boy, that's it. He's then a bum . . . throw him out!

The players, of course, receive the honors of winning. The referee? Well, finally out of 500 players and much work, he encounters his rewarding moments when such outstanding players as Ruby Obert, Vic Hershkowitz, Artie Reyer, Herbie Isaacson, and Kenny Gamble — after their win or loss — come over to shake his hand and thank him for a well-called game.

This gesture of appreciation on the part of these fine athletes in this USHA tournament makes a referee feel that the chore is worth while.

—Ugo Bontempo

UNKNOWN ONE- WALLER KNOCKS OFF BIG SEEDS

Buoyed by the pseudo-high hopes of every novice, I entered the singles competition at the USHA's 1969 one-wall championships. This feeling of exuberance was certainly not attenuated by my first two easy victories on Saturday, the opening day of the tournament. I was pleased with myself and pleased with the tournament. It's not a common happening for one-wallers to play each game with a brand new ball and four competent referees! My cock-sure attitude must have been quite transparent, because Marvin Greenberg approached me and with a kindly smile informed me that my opponents would be getting a lot tougher.

My first opponent on Sunday was Bob Sparrow. In my judgment, it's players like Bob who are the mainstays of every tournament. He is a serious student of the game of handball, who has tried to develop a complete game. In our match, Bob couldn't get his two-way hook serve working and the score went 25-13. After this victory though, my super-enthusiasm had vanished because I knew that waiting to play me next was Louie Russo!

I played my best game against Louie; I had to because he is a great player. My strategy was to keep the ball out of the low play where Louie is deadly. Since he plays a great deal of four-wall, I tried to volley him deep down the lines and hoped he would be off in that aspect of the play. In a hard-fought match, the final was 25-20. I was not unaware at the time that my victory was to a large extent a result of an auto accident in which Louie and his family were involved. I know Lou was not at his best after such a harrowing experience. Luckily Lou and his wife were not seriously injured and their baby was unscratched although thrown from the front seat to the rear of the car.

Following the Russo win I played Charlie Sheldon and won a see-saw match 25-19. Then on Thursday I got up against Norman Ray, a perennial quarter-finalist and hook artist. After winning the first game 21-15, I was given the dubious "doughnut" in the second, 21-0. But I bounced back from this shock and won the third game mainly on stamina.

I finally met my master on Friday in the reigning champ, Steve Sandler, 21-4, 21-13. It was a treat to play against such a talent. His court game is fantastic.

It was a real "ball" trouncing some of the "name" one-wallers and maybe next year I'll no longer be the "where did he come from?" unknown.

Tom Hopkins Jr.

Irving 'The Mayor of The Farmer's Park'

Handball in the New York parks, is like the sun, water or anything nature offers. It is free for everyone. It is one of the few sports that can be and is enjoyed by the working man, because it demands little time and a minimum expense for equipment. There is no fee required to participate in this or other parks. One can play with regular shoes or sneakers, with or without gloves. Even if one can't afford the price of a handball or one is not available for sale, it is very easy to borrow one. Most players will gladly loan a ball to anyone who asks.

The recreational outlets are commercialized to a very large degree. Name me one sport that is not commercialized, other than handball. In these commercial sports there is money to be made. The old cliché that modern man will never do anything for society unless there is something in it for him is knocked on the head when one observes the behavior of individuals in the Farmer's Park.

There are three outstanding men at this park, of whom the "Mayor," Irving Rosenblatt, is one. They will deny themselves things that they actually need to develop young men and improve the game of handball. There may be others who are unselfish, but Morris Levitsky and Marty Cushman (The Farmer) are the others. These three will spend time and their own money, little as they may have to promote tournaments and even contribute toward tokens of appreciation, such as gloves, shirts and balls to the entries of these tournaments. These men get pleasure and satisfaction in doing those things that are so civilized and commendable. I wrote an article on "The Farmer" (Marty Cushman) so you know something about him. And now I

submit this one on The Mayor, Irving Rosenblatt.

Irving Rosenblatt is nicknamed "The Mayor Of The Farmer's Park" legitimately.

The Farmer's Park is one of the city facilities that has no supervisor or director. Despite this vacuum it has functioned efficiently and peacefully for the last 30 years, or more. There has grown up a camaraderie amongst the top notch players. Despite the free wheeling conduct of the patrons of this park, players of equal or comparable abilities attract one another.

As a result of this comradeship it was proposed and instigated to start an organization of top players to elect someone who would be a substitute for the missing playground director. There were to be no dues levied and meetings were to be held in the open once a year.

Irving Rosenblatt was elected "Mayor" about 30 years ago, when there were park lights functioning. He still performs the duties of Mayor of the park, which are flexible and voluntary. Right now he is mad as a hornet, whose nest was disturbed, because they took down the park lights. His main ambitions in life are to see the lights go up again and have his son back home from the Army.

The job as Mayor of The Farmer's Park is so deceptively easy and the honors so flimsy and whimsical that one may sneer at the whole situation as ludicrous. First, one must have time to devote to the arranging of matches every day it does not rain. Secondly, to help and devote time, without compensation, in arranging tournaments and special matches. Then when players like Vic Hershkowitz, the Obert brothers, Marty Decatur, or any of the top-ranked players visit their mecca of handball, the

Mayor must see that all their whims and caprices are satisfied. He has played host here to all the visiting brass of handball-dom. He acts as liaison man with the park department.

Rosenblatt takes great pride in his duties. They don't involve a hardship to his family. His vocation is in the building maintenance industry. His duties in this business require his attention during the evenings. There are no lights in the Park anyway. During the daylight hours Irving, The Mayor, is on the handball courts every day of the week, including Saturday, Sunday and holidays.

Handball is Irving's love and life. Irving's domestic life is oriented to this routine and he fits his duties like the fingers fit in a Saranac handball glove. Last year, after the national outdoor summer matches were completed, the promoters of this tournament were overwhelmed by the competition and attendance. They called a meeting for the election of a Mayor for the following year. There were two or three candidates for Mayor. There was regular campaigning and electioneering and there were high hopes that one of the candidates would win the tinsel honors and put new life into the flourishing sport. Believe it or not, Irving The Mayor, became the ex-Mayor. How the mighty have fallen. The handball player who won the election really was happy as a lark on his success in the election. He was willing to fulfill the mysterious duties but in a short while he vanished from the scene. He had neither the physical or mental makeup to fit in with the regulars of this park or the one on Avenue P. Irving graciously took over where the novice had left off. He lost the election yet everything is back to normal, as if it could be otherwise.

Joel Chaikin

First Annual Handball Tournament — What handball means to the children at Good Shepherd Mission 564 Hopkins Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y.

Handball seems to mean more than just a way of getting off the streets for our children. This was brought to the attention of the Director by the response we received at our Handball Tournament.

For a long time basketball has been the primary sport in the Brownsville community. However, due to the great response that we got from our handball tournament, the entries and spectators, we feel that there is a real need for more handball tournaments and supervision of players in this community.

The tournament had three referees; Ken Sealy, Angel Rivera and Phil Boyce. Rules were sanctioned by the United States Handball Association.

Doubles winners were: Torres and Marrero; Intermediates — Wilson and Graham; Seniors — McKie and Colline; Girls — Teresa Smith and Raymel Terry.

Single winners were: Adams, Graham and Boyd.

Ken Sealy

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Eisenberg Hopes for 'Firsts' In Australia

Note: Howie Eisenberg has long been a leading player in one-wall and three-wall, a power hitting all-out competitor and a real credit to the game. He recently wrote us, "I am going to be living in Sydney, Australia, which of course will mean that I won't be playing in any more tournaments. I'd like to thank you (Mort) and Bob and all the other officials whose efforts made it possible for me to "do my thing" (come in second, of course)."

Howie, on behalf of the players' Fraternity, we wish you bon voyage, good luck and good health in the land "down under" . . . please keep us posted on any handball developments. We remember his writing of the nude one-wall play on the beaches on a previous trip, so it should be very interesting handball.

* * *

By HOWIE EISENBERG

This piece could perhaps be more aptly entitled, "The Autobiography of a Loser," or, "I'm Number Two but I Don't Try Harder." No, this isn't Bill Yambrick talking and certainly not Avis. By comparing to the writer, Howie Eisenberg, these institutions of runners-up are the Yankees of '27, the Green Bay Packers of '66, or Julius Caesar (before Brutus).

It is not sheer modesty that motivates these statements. I believe the record speaks for itself in asserting my unique qualifications for the booby prize of handball.

Playing in my first national tournament at the age of 18 with Vic Hershkowitz (the 1957 one-wall nationals), I wasted little time in establishing the pattern that was to prevail throughout my handball career. Despite the handicaps of playing with the greatest player of all time and at that time national singles champion, I overcame these obstacles and managed to lose to Carl and Oscar Obert in the finals.

It was the advent of USHA national one-wall tournaments that really afforded me the opportunity to come into my own as a loser. In the space of 24 hours in 1960 I achieved the Falstaffian accomplishment of finishing second in singles and doubles. This was no mean feat, for after beating me in a rather close three-game match in singles, Oscar Obert teamed with Ruby, was injudicious enough to allow the score to be 20-20 in the third game with my partner, Joe Danilczyk serving. Faced with the spectre of victory within my grasp I admirably kept my cool, knowing that divine intervention would allow me to maintain my perfect record. This came in the form of a horrendous call by the referee after which Oscar was kind



ALWAYS THE BRIDEGROOM . . . Here's our hero Howie Eisenberg getting the perennial runnerup treatment from Steve Sandler in the USHA National One-Wall . . . a repeat performance of a year ago. Howie would like to melt down all his 'Avis' trophies into one big national singles crown.

enough to end the game and leave my record unblemished.

After that it was all downhill for a while with seconds in '62 (USHA), '63 and '64 with Ken Davidoff in that other forgotten association tournament with a second in singles to Davidoff in '65.

It was not until the Fall of 1965 that I was faced with my greatest challenge. Having beaten the Oberts it seemed there was little on the way of tarnishing my perfect record of failure. It looked like the jig was up when Artie Reyer and I took a 20-12 lead in the second game after having won the first. However, Wally Ulbrich was not one to let a record as impressive as mine fall by the wayside and proceeded to win the game and then the third to take my championship with Kenny Holmes.

1966 proved to be my greatest year of ignomy. It was a year in which I proved my versatility, losing in the finals of the "other" one-wall (to Sandler) and then the USHA 3-wall doubles (with Davidoff) to Decatur and Russo, and the USHA one-wall doubles (with Sandler) to Danilczyk and Reyer. The last accomplishment was again a tribute to my single mindedness of purpose as we managed to overcome the handicap of a 19-12 lead in the third game of the finals.

Again in '67 I added a second in the three-wall doubles (with Davidoff), losing to the Oberts, my second in one-

wall singles to Sandler. Steve and I repeated our little act in '68, and again just a month ago.

Having never been a handball "bride," I'm now getting married and moving to Sydney, Australia. There I'll be 10,000 miles away from Sandler and any further seconds. Thus, I leave to posterity my gloves, jock and record of 10 out of 10 seconds in USHA finals (not to mention five in the "other").

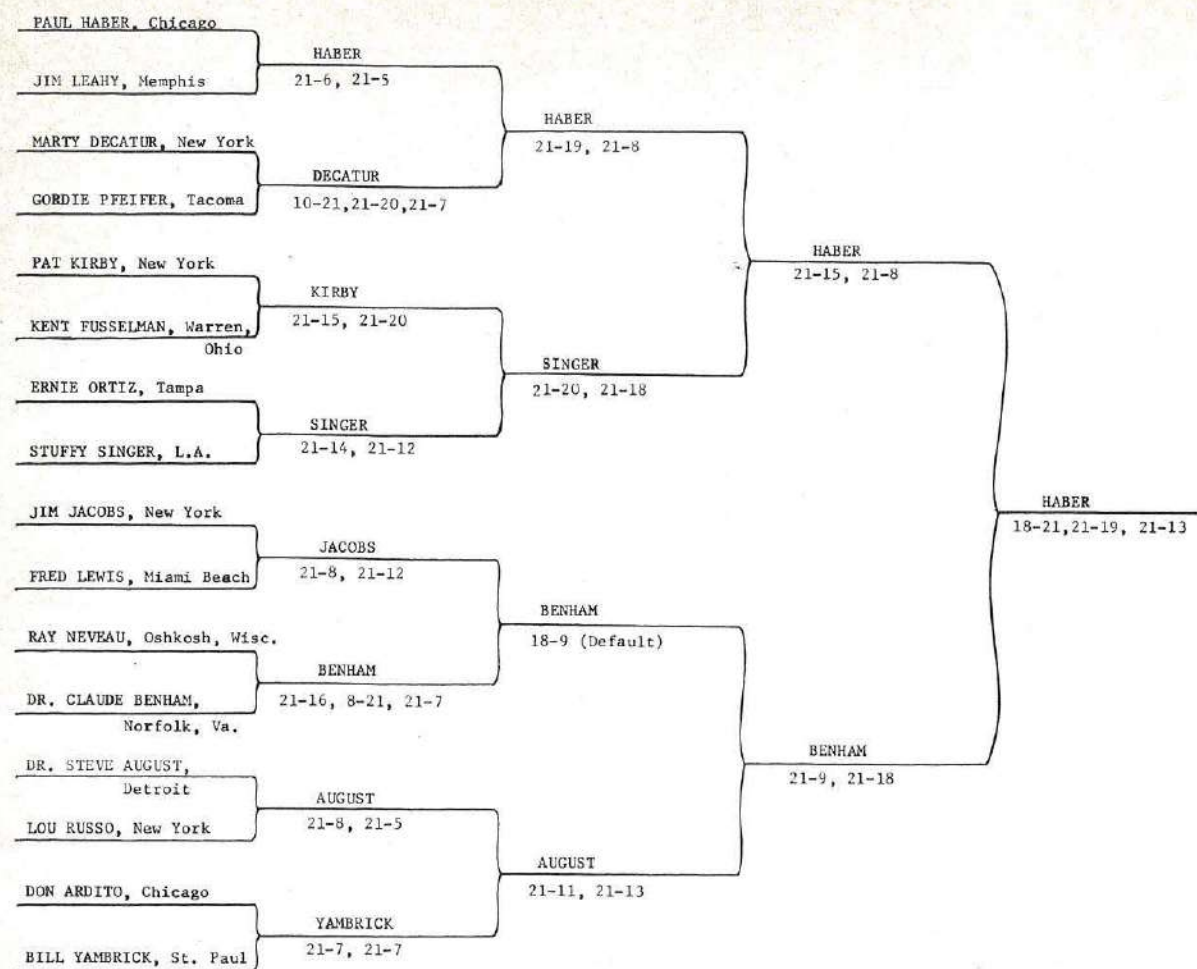
P.S. I have cheated a little bit, neglecting to mention a '62 "other" doubles win (with Davidoff) over the Oberts as well as one in the '65 doubles (with Dave Norvid) over Davidoff and Reyer.

Under the Wire . . .

Official story has not come through but in a round about way we learned that Pat Kirby had won the Dayton Open over Billy Yambrick in three games.

Once again we plead — Tournament Hosts . . . please send in a rundown story within a week or ten days after the finish of play. There's nothing as stale as a story of a tournament conducted a month ago. We don't care if it's handwritten, has misspellings, and the sentence structure is bad. Just get first and last names spelled right, scores correct, and the winners.

USHA National Invitational Singles



(BENHAM-HABER PLAY-BY-PLAY — Pages 58-60) USHA 'Tournament of Champions'

Format for the "Tournament of Champions": 16 entries, composed mainly of Southern area city and state champions. Eight eliminated in first round. Remaining eight entries augmented by eight first round losers of National Invitation "Top Sixteen".

First Round: Lou Kramberg, New York, def. Bill Schuler, Birmingham, 21-12, 21-12; Joe Salome, Atlanta, def. Byron Waldrop, Columbia, S.C., 21-16, 21-10; Ed Johnson, Birmingham, def. Don Littrell, Knoxville, 21-19, 21-17; Alan Clark, Birmingham, def. Dave Ewert, Atlanta, 21-8, 21-10; Ken Gieselmann, Memphis, def. Bill Miller, Birmingham, 21-15, 20-21, 21-14; Danny Kallman, Birmingham, def. Sol Barth, Atlanta, 21-14, 21-19; Fred Denuccio, Norfolk, def. Lee Brown, Birmingham, 21-7, 21-16; Purnell Orvig, Charleston, S.C. def. Dr. Jim Wilson, Nashville, 21-10, 9-21, 21-19.

Second Round: (First round winners plus eight

losers of first round in National Invitational). Kramberg def. Jim Leahy, Memphis State University, 21-17, 21-8; Kent Fusselman, Warren, Ohio, def. Salome, 20-21, 21-17, 21-5; Gordie Pfeifer, Tacoma, def. Johnson, 21-20, 21-12; Don Ardito, Chicago, def. Clark, 21-4, 21-13; Fred Lewis, Miami Beach, def. Gieselmann, 21-6, 20-21, 21-2; Ray Neveau, Oshkosh, Wisc., def. Kallman, 21-17, 21-14; Lou Russo, New York, def. Denuccio, 21-8, 21-9; Ernie Ortiz, Tampa, def. Orvig, 21-19, 21-2.

Quarter-finals: Fusselman def. Kramberg, 21-10, 21-12; Pfeifer def. Ardito, 21-14, 21-11; Neveau def. Lewis, 21-10, 21-16; Russo def. Ortiz, 21-12, 21-7.

Semi-finals: Fusselman won by default over Pfeifer; Russo def. Neveau, 21-6, 21-12.

Finals: Russo def. Fusselman, 21-6, 21-12.

Third place: Neveau (default).

Lake Forest Exhibition

Benham Bounces Back To Beat Haber

Dr. Claude Benham, provided more than ample substitution for Jim Jacobs in the Nov. 29 exhibition against Paul Haber at the Lake Forrest (Ill.) College glass court. The good doctor from Norfolk, Va., who came within two points of winning the first USHA National Invitational in Birmingham the week before came back strong after losing the first game in this exhibition, 21-14, and won the match, 21-12, 12-9.

The highly publicized and anticipated "showdown" between Jacobs and Haber never materialized when Jacobs had a recurrence of a pulled hamstring muscle in his second round match against Benham in Birmingham. At that time an effort was made to get a substitute from amongst one of the many rated players present. Stuffy Singer was the only one who was then available but he too had to cancel out several days later with knee miseries. As a last hour replacement, Benham was persuaded to take time away from his busy practice. He generously gave of his time, flew in late Saturday afternoon, played brilliantly in the bruising three-gamer, and then flew home at 2 a.m., truly a very busy day and returning a conqueror albeit mighty tired.

The injury jinx which prevaded this exhibition scheduling seemed about to terminate the Benham-Haber match almost at the start of the first game. With Haber ahead 5-3, Benham was hit squarely on the rim of his glasses over the right eye. He incurred a slight cut over the eyebrow and a deeper cut on the eyelid that necessitated some fast medical care and he was able to return. Fortunate also was the fact that Claude had a spare pair of glasses because the impact of the ball had broken the frame with one of the plastic lens falling out.

Benham, playing on the Lake Forest College championship court for the first time, took the first game to acclimate himself to the full glass sidewalls, but from that point on shot with a very fine average from deep court with his known right hand power. Haber's ceiling shots, for the most part, did not faze Benham and on several crucial points and handouts, was able to take the ceiling shot off the back wall corner coming around to his right and fire in kills.

Haber stayed, in the main, with his lob serve to the left. Benham would move in as far as possible to take most of them out of the air, around the walls high coming off the left side wall deep and keep Haber on defense. When Paul tried to power hop serves down the left he found most of them going short.

Benham went with the cross court serve most of the time, coming to Haber's left, and then it was a pattern of the ceiling game. Paul was not able to keep his shots low off the back wall or deep side right wall with his right, and the difference in the final two games were the telling deep court kills by Benham.

Mike Dau, Lake Forest College handball coach, practically a "basket case" worrying about the solidification of the exhibition pairing — with first Jacobs canceling out and then Singer — was tickled pink with the eventual results. "Representing Lake Forest College I am most thankful to Dr. Claude Benham for bailing us out," Dau added, "Claude gave our spectators as fine an exhibition of handball as can be seen anywhere. And, I'm sure Haber appreciates his opponent's shooting ability. It's great to pair up the national champion with a Benham and provide handball at its best."

Wes Yee and Dave Smith, two of Mike's handball team members, manning the gate, estimated the attendance at a "SRO" capacity of 250.

Afterwards, Mike's vivacious wife, Judy, was hostess to an informal gathering at the Dau's campus home.

Out-of-town visitors included Phil Smith and his wife, Gerry, from St. Louis, Phil is health club director at the JCCA there. John Fabry, "Mr. Saranac Glove" planed in from Green Bay, got in some handball play with ye editor at the Evanston Y and then watched the



LEFT TO THE CEILING . . . Paul Haber punches to the ceiling against Benham in their Lake Forest College exhibition. Benham is not reluctant to trade ceiling shots and then fire away from deep court with his right when the opportunity arises. —Photo by William Yee

Invitational Doubles . . .

Tentative plans are being made to hold the First USHA National Invitational doubles at the University of Texas—with dates to be announced probably after the 20th anniversary open nationals at Los Angeles. The first effort would involve four doubles teams, one from each sector of the nation . . . one from the hotbed in New York city, one from the Midwest, one from the West Coast, and the host Bob Lindsay-Pete Tyson (1966 national champs at Salt Lake City). Complete details will be carried in the Feb. ACE.

exhibition. Unfortunately, ye editor also tangled with Phil Smith at the Lake Forest College court and came out on the losing end, and will have to gain revenge during the National Juniors in St. Louis, Dec. 28-30.

Proceeds from the exhibition went to the college handball team fund to help defray expenses of their early December trip Eastward.

The Lake Forest College handball team composed of Mike Dau, coach; William Yee, Wes Yee, Steve Jamron, and Dave Smith, left on a 10-day Eastern trip in early December Armed with ACE magazines, the instructional handball film, and placards announcing dates for both the Central Intercollegiates and National Intercollegiates, the group will spread the court gospel.

First stop was at Notre Dame University. This college recently opened its new multi-million dollar sports arena that includes eight standard courts.

The Central Intercollegiates, scheduled for Feb. 13-15, at Lake Forest College, will cover mainly Midwestern states. Winners of A singles, B singles and doubles will get partial travel expenses to the nationals, also at Lake Forest College.

One-Wall 'Pink'

Notes: The soft pink ball is larger and lighter in weight than the Spalding ACE black ball. It is livelier and faster and has a tendency to sail. The players, after some experience, have a tendency to slice or cut every ball hit. A good B player in pink ball can defeat an A black ball player. Their serves hop just over the short line, curving in or out with the advantage always being with the server. The players can run 4 or 5 points most times up. This game is faster than black ball and the players are always chasing the ball and must have cat-like moves.

The sport is played mostly by youngsters outdoors in the city playgrounds. They play all day long in rain, snow and darkness (or with the help of a corner street light). Any visitor to the Brownsville Boys Club will invariably see youngsters, both boys and girls, outdoors playing this game. Several tournaments are held each year in this phase of handball.

In the novice pink ball tournament, Keith Williams met Al Torres in the semi-finals. This game is very fast, requiring speed afoot and quick reflexes. Williams and Torres played neck and neck to the end of the game with Keith finally winning out. Torres lost because he made too many double shorts in his great desire for aces. The final score was 31-23.

Ted Olds took Steve Leventhal in his semi-final match. Leventhal ran out of gas in this one. Score was 31-22.

The final match between Olds and Williams was an exciting battle, each player making unbelievable gets. As this match was played right after their semi-final match, it became a test of stamina. Keith apparently tired while Ted did not and Ted ran off with the match 31-16.

In the under 19-age singles, Terry Lazarus met Mitchell Straus, one of the Straus twins who play four-wall and three-wall handball and enter the big tournaments. Mitchell went ahead in the first game 19-17 and seemed confident that he would win but Terry got up and hit a few "killers" and won 21-19. Straus got down to his task in the second game and won 21-16.

Everyone thought that Straus would take the third as Terry seemed to be tiring. But after the intermission, he recuperated and ran off the game 21-11 and went to the finals.

The second semi-final match was between defending champ Mark Levine and Quinton Abrahante. Mark had a terrific service working for him, serving

deep to the left and to the side with a hook. Abrahante couldn't hit these serves back well. He's a high school player and can't take a hook. Mark ran off both games 21-2 and 21-4. Abrahante had defeated Gary Straus in the third round 31-7. Abrahante met Mitchell Straus in the play-off for third place and beat him 31-21.

On Nov. 16 Levine played Lazarus in the finals. The first game was very competitive. Both players were serving well and killing the ball when they had the opportunity. Mark took an early lead but Terry ran off the three points and won 21-19.

In the second game, Levine used his serve to great advantage hitting deep serves to his left and then shooting serves down the right line. Lazarus made weak returns and Levine put the ball away. Levine ran off this game 21-9 and remains one-wall's junior singles champ.

For the past several years one-wall handball has been given a tremendous shot in the arm with the aid of USHA and The Brownsville Boys Club. With the co-sponsorship of the New York Parks Department the "World Series of One-Wall" is conducted annually with three weeks of play both indoors and outdoors.

The final matches have always drawn upwards of 1,000 spectators. Competition takes place in Men's singles, Men's doubles, Masters doubles, Junior singles — and the fifth tournament is the Pink Ball singles. The other four events are played with the Spalding ACE but Pink Ball is played with a much softer ball, about the size of a tennis ball.

By running this special tournament many youngsters are introduced to the game of one-wall and eventually enter the other events. They can condition their hands gradually. Pink ball is not an easy game to master. There is much skill and strategy required. The ball moves fast and the serve is of prime importance.

USHA pink ball got started six years ago. Irving Ehrlich, USHA East Area One-Wall Commissioner, ran local pink ball tournaments at the Lincoln Terrace Park in Brooklyn. These tournaments were very successful. I suggested to Irving that we hold a national tournament in conjunction with the USHA national one-wall at the Brownsville Boys Club. I was told to get 40 entries at a stipulated deadline date and we could have a tournament.

With the aid of Tony Quintero, Howard King and Keith Williams we mustered 80 entries! The understanding



A STRONG SECOND . . . Artie Reyer (1) and Walt Ulbrich went right to the wire with Art Wisotsky and Lou Russo in the finals of the open national USHA one-wall doubles before losing. Artie is one of those courageous young men who has overcome a bad hip condition to become a national standout in both one-wall and three-wall. He compensates for his handicap with amazingly quick hands, anticipation and the 120% effort that is the hallmark of the upper level of performers. Ulbrich has come along way since his championships one-wall junior performances and is today one of the real hard hitters in the game. You can be sure this duo will be back next year asking for another try at the big prize.

was that the winners, year by year, would go on to the ACE blackball tournament. No pink ball winners could ever play in that same tournament.

As a result of the Novice or Pink Ball the talent for one-wall has gotten better and more youngsters are playing handball in Greater New York.

I honestly feel that the Brownsville Handball Club is doing everything that is possible to enlarge the fine sport of one-wall handball.

—Dan LeLoach
USHA Pink Ball Champion, 1965

Falknor Takes Ill. USHA Contenders

On to bigger things!

The winner of the annual Central USHA Contenders singles (formerly tabbed "novice") has invariably gone on to richer prizes in the world of handball. Such stalwarts as Phil Collins, Johnny Sloan, Walt Cryer, Phil Elbert, Denny Hofflander, Jim Leahy, Don Ardito, and Andy Upatnieks have all gone on to acquit themselves nobly in the highly competitive national scene. This, of course, includes national titles.

Our most recent recipient of undergraduate honors is Brian Falknor, who represented the host Des Plaines Northwest Suburban YMCA. Brian, now finishing up reserve Army duty at Fort Sheridan, showed an improved game in outclassing the 64-player field in the week-long grind. He culminated six rounds of action with a fine championship victory over Tony D'Andrea, Duncan YMCA, 21-10, 21-20.

Along the route to the roses Falknor eliminated two other ex-runnersup in Chuck Osterman, 111th St. YMCA, and Frank Larkin, Evanston YMCA. D'Andrea knocked out a semi finalist of last year, Walt Drabik, 111th St. YMCA.

Young Joel Swartzman of the Evanston YMCA finally lived up to some of the expectations. The hard-hitting Swartzman eliminated No. 1 Cy Abata, Duncan YMCA, in the quarterfinals before losing to Falknor in the semis. Swartzman won third place by default.

Another newcomer to the quarterfinals was Chuck Merriam of the host Y. Merriam beat Floyd Olson, still another member of the ex-runnersup club and representing his own bistro Floyd Sports Club, and then had to default to Tony D'Andrea.

As usual the hard-working Illinois Handball Association crew handled the administrative chores with aplomb. Joe Ardito, chairman, got things underway and then when he left for the Birmingham national invite, Ben Costello, Wally Knorowski, Bob Koenig and Chuck Cavell carried on.

Orlando YMCA's Tom Kelley and Paul Kata retained their State doubles title in play conducted at the St. Petersburg YMCA. They stopped Ernie Ortiz and Matty Trent, Tampa YMCA, 21-9, 21-16. Carl Feddler and Ben Burnette, Tampa Y, won third place over John Hamilton and Phil Hitchcock, St. Petersburg Y.



FOND FAREWELL . . . Chicago area handballers tossed stag "adieu" banquet at Como Inn for departing Jack Gordon and Johnny Sloan. USHA President Bob Kendler, in switch, is given plaque by the players — 'A Fellow Handball Player'. Gordon has moved to El Paso where he is certain to brighten the court scene there. Sloan hopes to find a 'home' in Honolulu. He had made a couple of trips there previously and was completely enamored with the Island life and sunshine. Ironical it was that Sloan won his first national championship—the YMCA doubles—with Gordon in 1954 at the tender age of 18.

Lindsay Singles Winner; Haber-Morlos 'Bozo' Doubles

The annual "Bozo" Franklin invitational tournament was shifted to the new YMCA courts of the Odessa, Texas, from Midland this year.

Bob Lindsay, Amarillo YMCA, power hitting ex-Texas U. intercollegiate champ, won the singles title of the annual "Bozo" Franklin invitational tournament, beating Paul Haber, representing Chicago's Leaning Tower YMCA, 21-8, 21-19. Haber had won the doubles crown the same day with Paul Morlos, defeating Pete Tyson, U. of Texas, and Jack Gordon, now of the El Paso YMCA, 9-21, 21-14, 21-6.

This year the tournament was shifted from Midland to the new YMCA courts at nearby Odessa and "key" players were permitted to participate in both singles and doubles.

Lindsay wisely stayed out of doubles and was ready for the Haber challenge, shortly after the doubles finals. In fact,

due to time limitations Haber just stayed on the court and found the "slam" attempt too grueling this time out. He had his choice of playing the singles or doubles first but chose doubles.

Lindsay had eliminated Buzz Shumate of the Dallas A.C., in the semis, in three games, the finale 21-18, while Haber stopped Dave Graybill, Phoenix YMCA, 21-13, 21-13.

Graybill and Shumate also went the singles-doubles route, and both lost in the semis.

The invite players were given the plush housing-food treatment at the Holiday Inn, and every player in the tournament was presented with a souvenir t-shirt and individual trophy. Tom Heiting of Odessa chairmanned the event.

Local TV tape was made of semi final and final round play and did much to lure a SRO gallery.

HANDBALL LETTERS

Not Quite 250

Sirs:

In re. Frank Epstein's suggested tournament for players over 250 pounds. I feel he is discriminating against us lightweights.

I weigh about 240 pounds, and the additional 10 pounds needed to qualify would be easy to gain, but hard to transport. If he'll lower the tonnage requirements I'll enter his tournament (preferably doubles).

I played one-wall handball in the 30's, and now play four-wall at the JYM & HA in Rochester, N.Y.

Daniel M. Levinson
32 Maple St.
Hornell, N.Y.

Characters!

Sirs:

Enclosed find my money order for a three year subscription to "ACE." While we find it difficult to practice handball here on the submarine Grayback we always manage to find a court and a game wherever our travels take us. We are currently in Bremerton, Washington and enjoyed the hospitality of the YMCA here.

I'm a firm believer that handball builds "characters".

Dudley Carlson
Commander, U.S. Navy
Commanding Officer
USS Grayback
LPSS 574, CPSS 574

Mr. Olympic Games...

Dear Bob:

You were very kind and thoughtful to remember the date and I thank you for your friendly birthday telegram.

I was talking with some of your friends the other night when I spoke before North Shore Lodge #937. We admired the fine work you are doing in so many different fields.

With best wishes.

Avery Brundage

Masonic M. C.

Dear Bob:

Just a word to compliment you on what a wonderful job you did the other night. The affair could not have been nicer. The social hour went over big.

Keep up the good work. We need fellows like you.

Wm. "Bud" Weisenborn

Wife's Side of It...

Dear Mr. Kendler:

Having been a handball wife for about seven years now, I have developed a deep reverence for the glove and black ball and what their "addicts" are willing to do to keep in shape for the up-coming tourney. I have long admired your organization which is indeed a unique "fraternity" to which my husband proudly belongs. Handball has given much to him and he gives much to the game. The McQueen house is the local "processing center" for matches. If a player comes to town they're usually referred to McQueen — where they know they'll find a match with someone, whether A, B, C, or novice player. He always has time for anyone interested in the game of "fives," whether novice or champ.

Quite unknown to him, I would like to sneak in a good word about the game. He has just completed his finest year in handball and we are quite proud of the half-dozen or so trophies added to the mantel in the last year. He has enjoyed seeing "champion" on the plate more times than second place. Our area, however, has been terribly lax about sending info to you, and thus articles have not appeared about any of his victories. I am worse than he is about checking through the ACE to see if you printed any Northwest news, and frankly have been disappointed that he didn't get his moment too.

So here goes a proud wife.

Ken began by winning the Oregon State tourney last year by defeating Ted Yeamans in two decisive games in the finals after only an hour's rest from a semi-finals match with well-known Bob Schoning (Pacific Northwest champ); a tough two-game match. Several local trophies have added hardware, including a particularly nice trophy presented to him at the Lilac Tourney in Spokane recently... for Good Sportsmanship. He met Gordon Pfeifer in the semi-finals, and learned a lot about Ace serves — Gordie's that is!

But his finest win was our State USHA handball championship for 1969. During the week-long, 139 man field, Ken competed without even losing a game. The opponent who scored the most points against him throughout (11 points) was Bob Schoning, who completed against him in the finals. Ken defeated him 11 and 6. As you are aware, Schoning holds more trophies than any other man in the Pacific Northwest and is a fine athlete. This was the largest tourney ever held in Oregon and some of MAC's finest players — Foster, Schrivens, Brouwer, Schoning, and Johnson competed; along with our club — Oregon Athletic — finest — John Ritchie, Dennis Schalk, Les Pratt. Now tell me that isn't noteworthy enough to make it into Ace Magazine?

Thank you for giving a wife the space to comment. As you might have guessed, I think handball is the finest pastime a man can have — it allows him to work out his frustrations (we all have them) in a healthy manner, while keeping him physically fit and away from alcohol, nicotine, and rich foods... and gives one a chance to meet some of the finest people anywhere. What more could a wife ask?

Mary McQueen
Portland, Oregon

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(408) 244 5110
PAUL MORLOS

Exclusive Member of the "Artful Dodger" Club

Add Letter Department...

Presidential Mail...

Dear Mort:

Perhaps this letter would be of interest to our fraternity of handballers. As you probably know, the President has made his Summer White House in San Clemente, California. The Orange Coast YMCA of Newport Beach is approximately a couple of good ceiling shots distance away. The President's nephew, Rick Nixon, is one of our promising high school players who is learning to shout "Hinder" with a presidential flavor. He is also a fine person.

This is great surfing country and the President was presented with a board to use in his front yard. Our handball club, The "Shooters" sent a complete handball kit with ACE ball, Saranac gloves and a few kill shots to the President making him a full pledged member of our club. We also invited him to come to the Y and participate in a game or two. Enclosed is his response.

Bill Brown
Physical Director

President Richard M. Nixon:

On behalf of the Orange Coast YMCA Handball Club, known as The Shooters, we would like to extend a welcome to you and your summer White House staff to the so called mecca of handball. Our handball club is happy to inform you that your nephew, Rick Nixon, is developing into a real fine handball player.

Handball, as you probably know, is not as time consuming as surfing and it's quite well known as an executive's game because of the obvious physical and mental benefits derived from chasing and hitting the elusive little fast ball around the court.

When the surfing is down, Mr. President, we would be honored to offer you the handball court of your choice at our Orange Coast YMCA for a friendly game with your nephew, Rick.

Please accept this handball kit with our sincere wishes for your continued success as the leader of our country and one concerned for the physical fitness of all Americans.

Bill Brown

Dear Mr. Brown:

I want to thank you for your thoughtfulness in writing to me on behalf of the members of the Orange Coast YMCA Handball Club. As you well know, I share your concern for the physical fitness of all of our citizens and I am glad to note the efforts you are taking to interest our young people in the benefits of handball. I am especially pleased to learn that my nephew, Ricky, is showing such aptitude for the game.

Since becoming President, I have had to adopt a policy of limiting participation in all organizations to an absolute minimum during my term of office and, for this reason, I must decline your kind offer of membership in the "Shooters." However, I would like to keep the card and handball kit as tokens of your generosity and good will.

With my best wishes to you and your members,

Sincerely,
Richard Nixon

To 'Mr. One-Wall'

Dear Irving (Ehrlich)

Many thanks for all the cordialities which you and your staff extended to me and the other players from our Cavalier A.C. area. I was also surprised and quite pleased to receive the Sportsmanship Award which you so generously extended to me. As usual, you are the most generous gentleman I've ever come in contact with. Please accept my sincere thanks.

I would like to relate that this year I was able to bring more players than ever before into Brooklyn for the USHA National Tournament. We entered two players in the novice division, a Masters doubles team, three players in the open singles, and three teams in the open doubles. All of my players were pleased with the treatment they received from the officials and the way that the tournament was so efficiently handled by you and your competent assistants. We are particularly proud of Roy Myers for his six wins in the open singles.

I expect an even greater representation from my area in next year's tournament because the pleasure that my players enjoyed this year will result in much word-of-mouth advertising for the tournament and the hospitality of the Brownsville, H.C.

Jim DeStefano

South America...

Dear Mr. Kendler:

Colegio Nueva Granada is a bi-national school who has built the first handball courts in Colombia. We are very proud of this and are very enthusiastic about beginning the program.

We have used your very informative booklet in planning the handball courts and expect them to be completed in about two months.

Now it is necessary that we buy some balls and handball gloves. Our high school population consists of grades 7-12 with approximately 450 students. In order to get the program off the ground would you please give me some information as to how many gloves to buy, what sizes, etc.

Joseph Castle
Director

Exhibition Success...

Dear Bob:

Many thanks for your co-sponsorship of our annual exhibition of champions. As you know, the proceeds finance our intercollegiate handball clinic/exhibition trip east. This year we will visit Notre Dame, University of Michigan, Ohio Wesleyan, University of West Virginia, Annapolis, West Point, and the Coast Guard Academy. Before the school year is completed we will have visited 14 colleges, in addition to hosting the USHA Central Intercollegiate Tournament and the USHA National Intercollegiate Tournament.

On behalf of our Athletic Director, Nick Wasylik, we express our sincere gratitude for helping us to continue in the promotion of handball as an intercollegiate varsity sport.

Michael E. Dau
Handball Coach
Lake Forest College

Bob Kendler's Birmingham Banquet Speech

Mr. Chairman, Dear Ladies, and Fellow Handball Addicts:

I have been trying to find a way to say thanks to Jim Tanner for years for his wonderful work in handball. Finally, tonight you have given me the perfect opportunity to tell you how deeply we appreciate him — not only for what he is doing in Birmingham, but for handball throughout the land. Locally, you may not realize how valuable he is to us nationally — so I am glad I could come here and tell you that we are a much better Association because Jim Tanner has made us so.

I am grateful to all of you for inviting Evie and me, but more than all else, I am thankful you have enabled me to pay off a long standing debt. Once a decade, from out of the woods, comes some quiet genius to lend a helping hand to Handball, and the latest of these Paul Bunyons is your own Jim Tanner.

I have been at this business of handball now nearly 40 years, and I honestly say I can count the great ones on one hand. True, there are hundreds of wonderful workers — good men that do a good job, like Alan Clark and Bill Schuler. I thank God for them every night in the week. But I always have a special prayer for the great ones, and believe me, Jim Tanner is a great one.

Jim — if I never get another chance to tell you how proud we are of you, or how thankful we are for your silent strength — let this be the day. Thank you Jim, and bless you from all the good men and all the great men in handball. I get so much credit for what fellows like you do, that it embarrasses me to tell people I am the head of handball.

Do you know how I first heard about Birmingham — Jack Dorsky. He was your greatest ambassador, your finest competitor and a sure national champion. We loved him.

You'll be surprised when I tell you for years we felt we should hold a national invitational tournament consisting of only the seeded players and confine open tournaments with hundreds of entries to divisional events, concluding in playoffs like football and baseball — then have a real world series — not a phony like the AAU is trying to get away with. While we were talking about it, Birmingham did it. If you think this is a marvelous tournament for you, I have news. It's a blessing for us. We needed to initiate this event somewhere, because the day is not far off when there will not be enough courts to handle our nationals, as they are presently constituted. When you realize that our nationals have as many as 87 matches a day — for 13 hours a day, with entries exceeding 500 and a working staff of 30 for eight days — you will know why we think this is the tournament of the future. You will also understand why I have a soft spot in my heart for the Birmingham Y — the Birmingham Handball Club, and for the rest of the handball committee consisting of Bill Miller, Howard Simon, A. J. Smith and Bob Reeves. Every one of these dedicated workers deserve our heartiest applause.

You know who else deserves a big bouquet? The Associated Grocers of Alabama who picked up a great big share of the cost of this tournament. Dennis Huey — thanks a million. You're the greatest!

Up in the cold North, one day we will match your initiative and maybe your warm hospitality, but I am afraid that this will be several years ahead. You see, we are planning a Court Club, with 36 practice courts and two glass courts seating 5000 spectators. The exhibition courts are being designed almost exclusively for television, and hopefully, we will then show the world that it's not baseball — not basketball — not football — but handball that this nation needs

to achieve physical fitness. Every Court Sport will be played in our Court Club — Handball, Racquetball, Paddleball — and nothing else.

All this will be aggressively promoted on TV in a court that is really planned as a television stage.

In the college sports, television has made Saturday afternoon heroes out of many a boy who has one eye on the ball and another on a big bonus. In handball television will make heroes out of boys who have both eyes on the ball, and who play the hardest game because it brings the greatest good. They'll live longer than the pros because they can play handball longer and thus keep fit longer. That's because we have tournaments for young men, for middle aged men, and for old men — if there is such a thing as an old man in handball. I am very happy that I still play in the young men's tournaments. I dread the thought of playing with those old goats like Bob Lapidus, Leon Brown, Ed Johnson and Ed Pyle.

Say, did anyone ever tell you that the Contenders tournament you held last February was talked about all over the country? You keep up your good work and handball will make Birmingham as famous as football made Green Bay. When you get fellows together like Jim Tanner and Jack Gillespie the whole South rears up.

Thanks to Jack Gillespie, Memphis will hold the 1971 nationals at Memphis State University in ten new courts — one seating some 500 spectators.

Handball is booming all over the South. There are fine facilities in Fort Lauderdale, planned additions at Flamingo Park and in the Fontainebleu Hotel in Miami Beach. Excellent new courts can be found in St. Petersburg, Orlando, Jacksonville, Atlanta and Montgomery. Even the city that honored my daughter-in-law as Miss Tennessee, and saw her in the finals of the Miss America contest in 1945, has new courts — good old Chattanooga. I only threw this in because I want you to know I have southern blood in my family — at least my two grandchildren have.

I understand you have a 16-year-old youngster that deserves mention — Brewer Kitchings. They tell me he has great potential and should be entered in our National Juniors at St. Louis next month. There is another young fellow here that would make a good showing at the Juniors, and I recommend you send him also. If it interferes with his church duties, I know he will drop the church, because handball is his real religion. You know I am talking about the ageless wonder — Rev. Walt Skutar.

I hate to talk about little "Skooter," as we affectionately call him, but I should tell you, he is a hard loser. One day he was playing doubles on the right side with Ernie Ortiz on the left side. Things were really going bad. Ernie's left missed one shot after another. Suddenly Skooter told Ernie he would play the left, but Skooter's left was even worse than Ernie's, if that is possible. When it began to look pretty hopeless, Skooter took time out, and with a straight face told Ernie—"You've got this left side so screwed up, I can't even play it."

Would you believe that 20 years ago — a half dozen idiots started this whole thing? I guess I was one of the leading idiots, but thanks to people like you, it has all worked out great. Think of it — we took on the big conglomerate, the great AAU. We didn't have a thing, with the possible exception of love and affection. That's the whole darn trouble with handball, you hate a player in the court, but you love him on the street. You don't have to draw a Dun and Bradstreet report on him, you just play him.

You see his assets in a moment, his liabilities show up soon after. He brings all his treasures into the handball court, and they are exposed for all the world to see. He can't hide a thing. He either has character, or he has nothing.

It's always been amazing to me how handball grinds out the fakers. I guess that's what happened to the AAU, in handball the AAU has always been a real faker. It didn't take our guys long to find this out. So they came to me — you know, from the sublime to the ridiculous. That's when I got religion. These kids were so sincere — they made an honest man out of me. So today, I stand before you, a convert, one who no longer cheats, blocks, or protests. I have a much better philosophy, when arguments arise, I tell the players they have the right to appeal to the highest tribunal in Handball — and confidentially, folks — that's me. Would you believe it — I have never lost a decision.

What I really started to tell you, was that this is our 20th anniversary year. We think we have made it. We have a Handball Perpetuation Trust that guarantees the future of amateur handball. We have guys like Jim Tanner, and 11 other greats on our National Board of Directors to make sure that there will be no interruption in the progressive management that has taken handball out of obscurity, and made it a national by-word.

We are going to play our Anniversary Tournament at the Los Angeles Athletic Club next March. There is a good chance we may be on coast-to-coast television. We may also be featured in Sports Illustrated if Pat Putnam and Mort Sharnik aren't killed before then. Handball could possibly go over the hump this year, and be recognized as the great character builder that it truly is.

That's what I would really like to tell you about. Sure, it's a health building, it's a therapy, it's a change of pace, it's a melting pot, it's the most integrated sport in the world — but more than all else — far more — it's a character builder.

If I were to tell you all the intimate personal experiences I have had with troubled kids, how Handball and all the righteous people connected with it, made good men out of bad boys — you wouldn't believe it. I am not a Catholic, but I couldn't admire more the noble work the good Fathers do in the confessional. That's what I do in handball, and I don't even look like a minister. But they come, they pour out their hearts, and we always find a solution.

Thank God we have friends that help all over the Country. One of them is Art Linkletter. Another is Harold Lloyd. The greatest is Frank Hathaway — president of the Los Angeles Athletic Club. And the good people of the Desert Gym from the Mormon Temple of Salt Lake — and the perfectly wonderful people at the Jewish Community Center in St. Louis, and the fabulous people at the Olympic Club of San Francisco . . . the Washington Athletic Club of Seattle . . . the Dallas Athletic Club, the University of Texas at Austin . . . our many YMCA friends throughout the United States and Canada where we hold many of our tournaments. We're going to help the Northwest Suburban YMCA of Des Plaines, Illinois, conduct the National YMCA tournament next April. The Charlotte, North Carolina YMCA will host your South divisional tourney. The West Side YMCA in New York City will host the East divisional. The Tulsa YMCA will handle the Central Divisional. And, the Memphis State University will host our 1971 nationals. They even "imported" one of our best Chicago players to start a strong handball team — Jim Leahy. Jim is here competing in this star-studded classic.

Oh, I could go on and mention many, many more. They are everywhere, and every year, more and more join this crusade to make America Fit to Fight, and stand off these bearded baboons that have created so much turmoil throughout our good land. I have carefully scanned the press, and to this day, I have not found a single handball player in-



CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, YMCA, site of 1970 South Division USHA championships. Four fine glass back-walled courts, one with glass in one side wall also, will afford outstanding facility for the cream of the Southern states with the open singles and open doubles winners earning a trip to the nationals in Los Angeles, March 15-21.

volved in the mob. I suppose that's because they are busy trying to convince Alan Clark he is not the head man in Birmingham.

I would like everyone of you to know that whatever I say about Lewis and Clark — or was it Tanner and Clark — I say about your Committee. You must be a talented group, because I found out that a great staff makes a bad president look good. So you must be terrific, because you made heroes out of a couple of Birmingham bums.

We now know that in every corner of this good land, there are more Tanners, more Clarks, and more Gillespies to do what Shane has done in the West, what Anderson did in the Northwest, what Scapis does in the Middle West, what Ardito does in Chicago, what Irv Ehrlich, Bob Davidson, Jim Jacobs, Lou Kramberg do in New York, what George Lee does in Dallas, Hymie Goldstein in St. Louis, Les Shumate in Denver, Pete Tyson and Dick Roberson in Austin, fellows like Bill Segal in Miami Beach, Jack Spiers and Harry Welch in Charlotte, Dr. Phil Cottle and Larry Lederman in Milwaukee, Sid Semel in Norfolk, Al Warren and Steve Subak in Minneapolis, Joe Hero in New Orleans, Marty Singer in Los Angeles with his Southern California handball association, Marty Judnich and Mike de la Pena in San Francisco. You know, I have always said, it is never the place, it's always the people. We really have the people. Like right here in Birmingham, could there be better people than Tanner, Clark, Schuler and company?

Now let me tell you about a couple of our own bums. You may not know either one of them. I think Mort Leve is one of the finest workers in handball, along with Joe Ardito. Mort has been our national secretary for 18 years. I'll never know why. I can't stand him, and he can't stand me. But because we all worship at the altar of handball we put up with each other under trying circumstances. Incidentally — this is the first time I failed to get my picture in the program — Mort is evidently more handsome. Joe Ardito has a special place in my heart, he carries me in the court at Community Builders and in the USHA.

Getting back to our 20th anniversary, we have some goodies for the handball world. Most important — we have reserves that guarantee perpetuity, we have income that insures progress, and most valuable of all — we have human resources that make certain handball and all its companion sports, racquetball and paddleball all have a future. The AAU's failure to develop these into self supporting sports is the result of their own lack of initiative. Handball always had initiative — all it needed was a little promotion. Well, it

will get promotion in Los Angeles next March, and what you have done here, will help our cause.

So, in our 20th year, we hope to take another giant step. Now that our administrative team is intact, we are going to tackle the world. We start with Canada. Like all the tournaments in the United States, we are giving substantial financial support to our good neighbors. From Canada, we will go to Mexico, and to other countries throughout the world. We will put our money where our mouth is, and like our knowledge, it will be freely given until that day when all the world will be united under our leadership in handball — in the Olympics.

As long as we have men like Jim Tanner at the directors table, you can be sure that our influence throughout the sports world will be a healthy one based on right thinking. I read somewhere that progress is the law of God, whose law demands of us only what we can certainly fulfill. The kind of progress we aspire to is one based on pure sportsmanship in our conduct, our thinking and our association with everyone of God's children, wherever they live in his worldwide family of handball. Because, that's what handball is, a family of friends, a fraternity. We have a fraternity that is unique in sports. What happened here is proof of the fraternity and its effectiveness. Try and name another sport that has what we have.

It's not just sportsmanship, it's not just fraternity. We have initiative as well. Look what you did here with this invitational.

Do you know, I think this is the tournament of the future? This is the new idea in tournaments, and I like that. Change, progress, initiative — that's why we are different. The AAU has never changed its amateur rule. It took us one minute to throw out the old horse-and-buggy amateur code and initiate our space-age code, playing them all together, pros and amateurs alike. Pick any partner, from any club, do anything that enriches handball, and brings out the highest and best possible play. Well, we did it, and that's why we are what we are. A progressive, free thinking, unselfish fraternity of civic minded people, dedicated to the proposition that we can substitute healthy exercise for unhealthy mischief — not only with our juniors, but our seniors as well. And friends, this is no reflection on Jim Tanner.

We have added racquetball and paddleball to our agenda and as time goes on, you will see one complimenting the other. When it is all over, I hope you die-hards will forgive me for mixing the two, but only time will reveal the wisdom of this strategy. I won't bore you with the details, but trust my judgment, and one day soon, the good will be self-evident.



ONE-WALL JUNIOR PRESENTATION . . . Ugo Bon-tempo and Norman Butler (l and r), tournament officials, present repeat winner Mark Levine and runnerup Terry Lazarus trophies in national USHA championships.



ADD 'BOZO' DOUBLES TITLE . . . Paul Morlos and Paul Haber teamed up again in the Bozo Invitational held this year at Odessa, Texas, YMCA, and took the top award. Haber tried the 'Slam' feat but found the three-day singles-doubles grind a bit too much and was beaten by Bob Lindsay, Amarillo YMCA, in the finals. Morlos is in the label printing business in San Jose and supplied us with our "See You in Los Angeles—1970" stickers. At Birmingham, Morlos made the cross-country trip to provide a personal cheerleader for his partner, extolling loud and clear in Spanish for Haber to come on strong.

So that's our course after he first 20 years. Organize the neighboring countries, and integrate the companion sports. Let us share our blessings with one and all in this wonderful world of handball.

You know, from the very beginning, I have always felt the ladies have a part in our sport. We haven't made handball players out of them, but racquetball is sure bringing out the whole family. At the nationals in St. Louis last year, I saw some good players, some good figures, and some poor losers. These were ladies, of course. Men are not like that. They never scratch each other's eyes out, or smear their opponent's lip stick. But all kidding aside, the girls play a terrific game of racquetball in many parts of the country. And mixed tournaments are getting bigger and bigger. So men, grin and bear it. The ladies are here to stay. They won't be in the locker room, but they sure must be reckoned with in the courts. The best thing I can recommend is to build more courts, stop swearing, drinking, cheating, and betting. Wear clean clothes and put on clean pants. If you are hairy chested, wear a shirt. Above all, don't lose your cool, you'll embarrass your wife in front of her friends.

You know, every woman thinks her husband is a champion, so be a champion. Remember, a good handball player makes a great racquetball player. You will have to accept the fact that women win in racquetball — and worst of all — many of them can beat their husbands.

You know, if my wife Evie wasn't a wonderful sport, I couldn't continue to devote so much time to handball and Masonry. Poor kid, she has been listening to this stuff for most of her life, and honestly, she knows more about handball than most players. She travels the length and breadth of the land with me, some nights it's handball, some nights it's the Masons, and other nights it's home building. The only way I keep peace is to throw in a good party like this once in a while.

So, from both of us, thank you for being so very kind and Southern.

CAROM SHOTS . . .

Albuquerque Handball Association running off its annual Thanksgiving Maloof Invitational as this goes pressward . . . club officers — *Don Letherer*, president; *J. Armstrong*, secretary; *Randy Jones*, treasurer. Membership fees in this association includes USHA and ACE magazine.

* * *

Waterloo, Iowa, Handball Club started last year, moving well, in word received from *Dr. Sam O. Christensen*. Club champs. *Wally Sulentic*, singles; *Sulentic and Marvin Simpson*, doubles. *Jack Rule Jr.*, former tour golfer, recently convert to the four-wall game.

VFW Post 2934 plans a recreation center in Keizer, Oregon, with six courts.

* * *

"*There's Room At The Top*" — theme of the new handball ladder at Evanston (Ill.) YMCA. Purpose — Stimulate greater competition amongst all classes of players. Player on ladder may challenge any other player, up to three above his position. Challenged player has ten days to honor it. Unless mutual agreement made forfeit unless challenge is met. Player must challenge minimum of two matches per month with maximum of six. Ladder moves — Ex. If #15 player defeats #12 player, #12 player moves down one position, and #15 player becomes #12. At least ten days must elapse before #13 player can rechallenge #12 player.

All games consist of one 40-point match. If players fail to complete match within allotted time of one hour, total points determine winner. However, the match must be played to conclusion if players are allowed to continue past court time. If players are tied at end of regulation play one point must be played to break the tie. Server will always call the score.

Rest periods — After 20 points, two minute rest. Three time outs allowed each half, not to exceed 30 seconds. Time outs not taken first half will be lost for second half play.

Court reservations: Three days in advance of match. (Regular reservations at Evanston Y can be made only after 10 a.m. day of play.)

Match will be forfeited if player is 10 or more minutes late. Awards: Ladder position for selection of team members. First two players, at conclusion of season, presenting best won and lost percentage, will be given trophies. Player who ends up #1 on ladder will also receive a trophy. A trophy to be awarded to the man who advances the farthest

from his original position on the ladder. No player shall be allowed more than one trophy. In case of tie the player with the greatest number of games played will be declared winner.

Jack Olcott is ladder club chairman; *Al Barasch* and *Tom Riley*, ladder club committeemen.

\$2.00 registration fee.

Al Drews Takes Ross Invitational

Al Drews, winner of the 1969 USHA Mid-East Regionals, added the Julius Ross Invitational title in the Oct. 30-Nov. 2 tournament held at the Cleveland Central YMCA. Drews defeated young *Randy Essel*, former USHA National Junior finalist, 21-11, 21-6, in the final round.

Drews had eliminated *Jack Weintraub*, veteran campaigner of the New York West Side YMCA, in the semis, while *Essel* upset another veteran, *Herman Pannigutti*.

Frank Pecora and *Tony Felice* won the doubles over *Cook and Trijillo*, 21-16, 21-10.

Steve Lott, National Junior winner from New York, sent in the report and said, "The tournament improved tremendously over last year's, with better caliber players, trophies, and a very successful banquet."

"*Randy Essel*, *Al Drews*, *Frank Pecora*, and the Y physical director, *Bob Vander Veer*, did a fine job of organizing and running the tournament."

Fort Worth Hosts First Tourney

The Fort Worth YMCA held its first Singles Handball Tournament on their

new air conditioned courts Oct. 3 and 6. This first house tournament had a good turn-out with 28 entries. After two days of fine play *Mark Cohn* and *Stan Baker* ended up in the finals. *Mark* won the championship 21-11, 21-18. Consolation champion was *Charles Hodge* over *Paul Peebles* 21-17, 21-12.

There will be more tournaments to come in Fort Worth, Texas. On schedule for now will be the first annual Stock Show Tournament to be held on Jan. 30-Feb. 1.

Bob Cline
Physical Director

Athletic Institute, sponsored by leading sporting goods manufacturers to promote the various sports and supply worthy films and instructional material, will produce a loop instructional film at the University of Texas, Jan. 19-23. Working with the Institute will be *Pete Tyson*, handball coach at the University; *Dick Roberson*, nationally-known player and co-author of "Beginning Handball"; and, *Paul Haber*, current national singles champion.

Quickie from the Old Hickory tournament in Nashville's YMCA . . . *Dr. Claude Benham* over *Bill Yambrick* in three . . . *Jack Pirrie* and *Lloyd Wood* took the doubles.

Stuffy Singer will appear in one of *Bill Cosbie's* TV series, probably slated for showing after the first of the year. It deals with sportsmanship in handball, where *Bill* is dominating *Stuffy* the first day and showing graciousness and the ultimate in fair play, displaying to a young feminine teacher how wrong she is in her scorn of sports. However, the next time out *Bill* is playing someone better, and is shown ranting and raving as all frustrated, losing players are prone to do.

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1969-70 Handball Tournament Calendar

DATES	EVENT & SITE	
Jan. 9-11	Oklahoma City Invite Okla. City YMCA	Dr. Ernie Wyatt, 5930 NW 39th, Okla. City, Okla.
Jan. 10-17	USHA Colo.-Wyo. Singles Denver YMCA	Les Shumate, Denver YMCA
Jan. 11-17	USHA Central Doubles Oak Park (Ill.) YMCA	Joe Ardito, USHA Hqs.
Jan. 16-18	Akron Open YMCA, Akron, O.	Don Nelson, Akron YMCA
Jan. 23-25	Fifth Annual Mardi Gras Invitational New Orleans A.C.	Joe Hero, New Orleans A.C. 222 N. Hampart St.
Jan. 24-31	USHA Colo.-Wyo. Doubles Denver YMCA	Les Shumate, Denver YMCA
Feb 6-8	Washington State Open Bremerton YMCA	Howard Whitney Bremerton YMCA
Feb. 8-14	USHA Central Singles Evanston (Ill.) YMCA	Joe Ardito, USHA Hqs.
Feb. 27-March 1	Pittsburgh Open Pittsburgh YMCA	Physical Director Pittsburgh YMCA
Feb. 12-15	24th Dallas A.C. Invite Dallas	George Lee, Dallas A.C.
April 3-5	Siouxland Invitational Sioux City, Iowa, YMCA	Merle D. Oakes Sioux City YMCA Handball Chairman
April 19-26	YMCA National Championship Northwest Suburban YMCA Des Plaines, Ill.	Bob Koenig, c/o NW Suburban YMCA 300 E. Northwest Hwy. Des Plaines, Ill.
April 24-26	Great Lakes Invitational Erie, Pa. YMCA	Bill Daisley, Erie YMCA
Feb. 14-16	Canton YMCA (Ohio) Invite	Russ Harris, Canton YMCA
Feb. 27-March 1	Virginia State Open Norfolk, Va.	W.F.M. Feber, Norfolk YMCA
May 1-3	Tall Corn Des Moines, Iowa YMCA	Physical Director, Des Moines YMCA
May 31-June 6	King County Open White Center, Seattle	Dr. Roy Velling, 9801 17th S.W. Seattle, Wash.

USHA DIVISIONAL & NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

Dec. 28-30	National Juniors St. Louis JCCA	Mort Leve, USHA Hqs.
Jan. 28-Feb. 1	EAST DIVISIONAL, West Side YMCA, New York City CENTRAL DIVISIONAL, Tulsa YMCA SOUTH DIVISIONAL, Charlotte, N.C. YMCA WEST DIVISIONAL, Olympic Club, San Francisco	
Feb. 13-15	CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE Lake Forest (Ill.) College EAST INTERCOLLEGIATE (site to be announced) SOUTH INTERCOLLEGIATE University of Tennessee Knoxville, Tenn.	Mike Dau, Lake Forest College
March 6-8	NATIONAL INTERCOLLEGIATES Lake Forest (Ill.) College	Ben Plotnicki, U. of Tenn. Knoxville, Tenn.
March 15-21	20th USHA NATIONALS Los Angeles A.C.	Mike Dau, Lake Forest College Mort Leve, USHA Hqs.

KILLSHOT ROOM...

(From page 15)

pals," Al and I went over to see the Queen Mary. The big boat is being refurbished and will be ready as a night club, hotel, and show place in about a year. Al took me in to meet Fred Rosenberg, president of Diner's Club, the organization who will be very active in the Queen Mary operation.

The afternoon handball session involved Al and Rick Guy, also of Long Beach, against Judge Shane and myself. Rick has the dubious distinction of having drawn Johnny Sloan as his first round opponent in both the nationals of 1954 and 1955.

Joe and I lucked out the first game 21-20 and then won the second going away. The ex-national Masters champ played a fine left side while I did what I could to hamper him over on the right.

There were many familiar faces around the LAAC — Marty Martinez, Hank Caballero, Bill Feivou (who now boasts of his fast-improving handball son, Jerrold), George Brotemarkle, Jack Ehrlich. Bill Doubek, formerly of our Evanston Y, is now entrenched in the area and is most happy with the climate and handball at the club . . . we didn't get a chance to renew our long-standing feud.

I went with Joe and he and his fine wife, Bess, hosted a fine dinner on the

well known La Cienca restaurant row . . . and we had a long homespun chat. Al had gone to referee the A doubles finals at the Hollywood Y between Stuffie Singer and his young partner, Dave Goldstein, against Dr. Steve August, now stationed at Fort McArthur, playing with Dr. Bob Rosen. It was a Singer-Goldstein win.

I neglected to insert that Al and I had stopped by the Hollywood Y after coming back from Long Beach and inspected the outstanding new addition, which includes a gymnasium, swanky men's club, and two courts. One of the courts has glass in the side wall. Jim Chapel, who had been physical director at the Phoenix Y, is now the head man at Hollywood.

We had talked with Marty Singer, president of the Southern California Handball Association, and made plans to meet him the next morning for breakfast at the Encino A.C. in Van Nuys.

The Encino club is far more elegant than I anticipated. It is truly an oasis in the San Fernando valley residential area and is bursting with membership. There are two real good courts with new floors, the ultimate in a weight lifting room, lounge and steam-theapeutic pools, and an outdoor heated swimming pool. Al Forman is head of the operation and doing real well.

Marty's pride and joy, Stuffie, joined us, and we had a long, interesting hand-

ball discussion.

Then, it was back to Hollywood and then to a final visit to the LAAC — a handball date and then the pre-national tournament meeting. The doubles involved Rod and Al against Ed Kelly and myself and the Leve-Kelly tandem took a beating — no excuses. I had played Al one singles game prior but the fan bothered Gracio so I won't mention the score.

Duke Llewellyn, Frank Hathaway's athletic director for all his operations, set up the meeting for us — Judge Shane, Al, Rod, Marty Singer, Ed Kelly and George Brotemarkle. We went through a prepared outline of responsibilities of both the LAAC and USHA, discussed schedule with an anticipated record entry . . . housing at the nearby Holiday Inn or Biltmore . . . hospitality at its very best in a room Rod selected in the club . . . and the need to add one more day to the tournament schedule. So, it's now officially March 15-21.

The meeting broke up about 9:30 p.m., and I headed for the airport with Rod to catch a post-midnight flight to Chicago.

This was a whirlwind trip but very worthwhile. It proved to me the value of getting out and meeting with our valued handball volunteers personally. There's just so much that can be accomplished by phone and mail. The heartwarming aspect is the great support the men give our Association.

SOUTHERN TRIP

DATELINE BIRMINGHAM — (Special) — Another whirlwind trip for Mort the Sport wound up at this city that has become a mecca for big tournament action.

Started off with a meeting at the Charlotte, N.C., YMCA. This is a splendid facility with four fine courts — three with glass in the back wall, and the fourth with glass in both back wall and one side wall.

Grand vet promoter of the game in both Charlotte and at his winter habitat in Fort Lauderdale is Jack Spiers. Jack was gracious enough to meet me at the plane, take me to the Y where a match had been arranged with young comer, Dick Gehron. I couldn't get 21 in any of the three games and sensed an earlier exhibition showing there by Paul Haber. My opponent was using that lob serve to the left and plenty of controlled ceiling shots.

A dinner meeting was held at the Y and all "bases" covered on the South Division tournament, set for Jan. 30-Feb. 1. Charlotte has a rich background in handball and I had the opportunity to meet two of the former greats — Eddie Sloan and Morris Gamble.

Physical Director Harry Welsh is all for handball promotions and will coordinate with the members' committee. Bob Gore will chairman the event and have a good, solid working crew.

After the dinner meeting Jack and I visited Jack Putt's restaurant. Every Monday night during the season Jack, who

is a scout for the Kansas City Chiefs, shows a film of the NFL game of the week. It has met with a fine reception.

It was off to Miami the next day to spend a two-day hiatus with my sons, Bob and Chuck, at the University of Miami. While there, I of course, got in some handball with Birmingham native, Manny Dorksy, now in the midst of wheeling and dealing in Florida. Manny had been sidelined for months but I lured him out of retirement. It was all doubles and it isn't easy to get used to the outdoor court with its concrete floor, sunshine and partial ceiling. As always, it was a pleasure to renew friendships with such leaders of the game as Al Warren, Barney Goldstein, Joe Brotman, Jack Lewis, Myer Sirott, Ralph Kaufman, Roy Gelber . . . was out there too early to see many of the others.

Manny and I went over to the Fountainbleu to talk to the construction engineer about the four-wall outdoor court that will go on the roof of a giant garage being built . . . on this roof will also be three tennis courts and a platform tennis setup. The engineer, Harry Zaret, showed me the plans . . . luckily, the court construction has not started yet. They had plans from some archaic architect book — 23x46 . . . no ceiling and with a flooring that was to serve tennis also . . . a spongy material because these hotel visitors like a slowed up tennis game . . . but for handball it would ruin the bounce. We got things all straightened out and they'll

(to page 52)

Minneapolis Suburb Plans Swank Handball-Racquetball Club



Six-court Layout Will Open Next Spring . . . Pilot Operation

Let it be known that the way to nobility of mind and body shall be found in the exercise of the royal sports at the Court of Kings.

All ye whosoever pursueth the sweet flavours of health and happiness, cast thy awareness upon The Kings Court Handball and Paddleball Club. There, ye may find sport to renew the body's vigor and to refresh the mind.

So that all may play, membership shall be limited and court times scheduled by reservation. For ye of fiercer blood, there

shall be meets with other members and clubs, and ye shall gain glory in the annals of The Kings Court. Yet, such meets shall not disturb ye of quieter mein who seek sport for recreation alone. And even for ye who come newly to the royal games, there shall be tutoring available from masters and play with members of equal skill.

And so shall it be that The Kings Court presents a path to health and happiness for all ye who would join in the royal sports of handball and paddleball.

Slated for Feb. 1 opening is The Kings Court, located in the Minneapolis-St. Paul suburb of Edina. The development of this novel handball and racquetball club will be available on several types of memberships and to transient players on an hourly charge basis.

Six regulation handball/racquetball courts will provide excellent court availability to the club's controlled membership.

Included in the facility will be a lounge area, locker room with lockers, showers and a sauna bath.

The building will be completely air conditioned and will be open seven days a week.

Lessons will be available to newcomers to the games.

A regular membership entitles the

member to full utilization of the club's facilities. This fee is \$42.50 per year plus hourly rates as follows: Singles —\$5 per hour (\$2.50 per person); Doubles —\$6 per hour (\$1.50 per person).

Junior membership is available to prospective members 18 years of age and under. Junior members may make reservations any time except between 11 a.m. and 9 p.m. weekends, Sept. 15 through May 15. The Junior membership fee is \$15 per year plus regular per hour charges.

Summer membership is available primarily for college students away from home during the academic year. This plan offers the club's facilities during the summer months and holiday vacations. The summer membership fee is \$15 per year plus regular per hour charges.

All members are welcome to bring

guests. Hourly guest charges are \$1.50 per hour in excess of the regular per hour charges.

Before Feb. 1, 1970, Charter regular and full play memberships are available at reduced rates of \$35 and \$200 respectively.

The Kings Court will be located at 7001 Cahill Rd., Edina, Minn. 55435.

This first operation might be termed a "pilot" venture. In a letter received from J. W. Schell, president, he states, "Incidentally, our plans for the future, assuming (1) profitable operation of this first facility and (2) availability of money, include the establishment of one and perhaps two more within the Twin City area. If then, the two assumptions still remain valid we would hope to look to other geographical markets."

CENTRAL USHA INTERCOLLEGIATES — FEB. 13-15

Site: Lake Forest College, Illinois. Approx. 33 miles north of Chicago's Loop.

Entry Eligibility: Current (1970) USHA members. Can secure membership when submitting entry or at site of tournament.

\$2 for 1970; \$5 for 1970-72. Includes subscription to ACE. Must be full-time undergraduate student.

Entry Fees: None.

Events: A singles, B singles, doubles. Team consists of four players. Points: 2 points for each A singles win, 3 points for final round win; 1 point for each B singles win; 2 points for final round win. Doubles—2 points for each win if on round robin basis. If on straight elimination: 2 points for each match win, 3 points for final round win. Team trophy plus individual awards. Player can enter individually with points not counting toward team award. Trophies to first four places in each event.

States: North and South Dakota, Kansas, Nebraska, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin, Missouri.

Mail entries to: Mike Dau, Athletic Dept., Lake Forest College, Ill. 60045

Please enter me in () A singles () B singles () doubles

Name _____ School _____
(Please print)

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Partner's Name _____

Driscoll Wins Cincinnati Singles

Mike Driscoll, reigning Columbus champ, won the 5th Annual Cincinnati Queen City tournament in a surprising finish from Dr. Walter Stone. The Cincinnati psychiatrist appeared to have the tournament clinched with an easy 21-11 win in the first game of the finals and a 16-8 lead in the second match. At that juncture Dr. Stone slipped on a wet spot and pulled a hamstring. The loss of mobility lead to a 21-19 victory for Driscoll and a third game victory by default.

The road to the finals in the 3-day, 32 entry tourney was not easy for either of the finalists. Driscoll won a three game match from Pat Healey in the quarter-finals and then beat Frank Harlor, the Indianapolis judge in the semi-finals. Stone struggled with an upset win over the top-seeded Vern Roberts 5-21, 21-19, 21-10. In the other semifinal match it appeared that Vern tired after his easy first game win.

It appears that youngsters are on the move in the Queen city area as three players under 20 gained valuable tournament experience and some surprising wins. Vern Roberts Jr. beat Ron Hendrickson, Central Y's class A doubles champ, 21-17, 21-14, in a first round match before losing to Driscoll in the second round. Vern Jr. will be one of the top contenders for the under 17 Junior tourney in St. Louis. John Froehlich surprised Harlor with a first game 21-19 win before bowling in a three-game first round match. Chuck Bohl, a left hander with speed and an almost absent right, lost in three games to Vern Sr. in a second round match. The latter two newcomers both only 19 years old will add considerable strength to the local handball scene.

John Sherman, chairman of the tournament not only did a yeoman service providing hospitality and refreshments, but also assumed the major task of providing officials for all the matches.

SIGN UP A HANDBALL BUDDY!

☐ \$2 for 1970; ☐ \$5 for 1970-72

Name _____

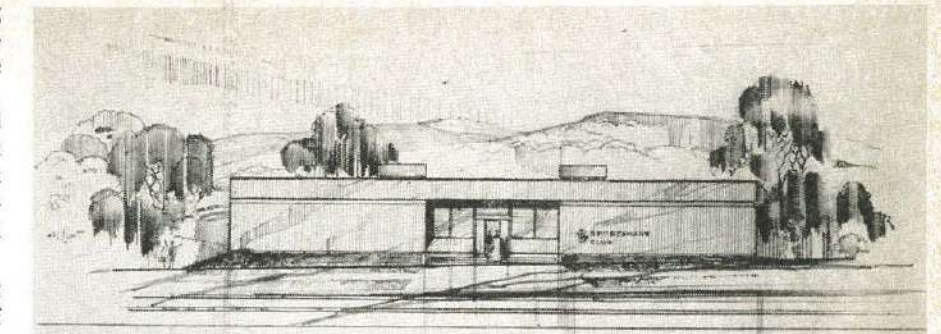
Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Send check or money order to: USHA,
4101 Dempster St., Skokie, Ill. 60076

New Jersey Club Opening



ROBERT LECKIE

ARTIST'S SKETCH . . . Sportsman's Club in Northern New Jersey, now under full construction, will include two standard courts.

Membership will be on an annual dues basis, plus court fees, and present plans call for a house limited to about 200 members.

Leckie, the author of two dozen books and many more short stories, articles and TV plays, says the idea for the club was born more of frustration than inspiration.

"I was driving down Route 46 to the Montclair Y to play handball one day last winter. There'd been an accident and traffic was jammed up. By the time I got to the Y, all the courts were taken. So I thought, 'Why not build my own court?' From there, it was just a step to the idea of building the club."

Running a recreation center doesn't mean that the Mountain Lakes author will stop writing. He has a novel, *Ordained*, the story of a priest during the Depression and World War II, now scheduled for publication by Doubleday. In March, Harper & Row will publish his *Warfare*, a study of war and its causes. Meanwhile, he is writing the last few chapters of *American and Catholic*, the history of the Catholic Church in America to be brought out late next year by Doubleday. After that, he will begin work on two more books for Doubleday: a biography of General Douglas MacArthur and a sequel to *Ordained*.

"The club will fit into my writing schedule fine," Leckie said. "I can do a lot of my work right there. It'll also give me the kind of distraction that I need. After nearly 13 years writing five hours a day, seven days a week, I'm a little weary. So maybe I'll give the literary life a little rest and try to develop a decent kill shot."

Barring unforeseen delays, he said, The Sportsman's Club should open its doors sometime before Christmas.



'GRAND SLAM' DOUBLES FOR RUSSO . . . Lou Russo climaxes 1969 national tournament season with sweep of doubles . . . one-wall with Joel Wisotsky. Previously Lou had won the four-wall with Lou Kramberg and the three-wall with Marty Decatur. Pictured (l to r)—Referee Chief Marvin Greenberg, Wisotsky, Russo, and Morris Levitsky, head of the Brownsville Handball Club and another of the hard-working referees.

BIRMINGHAM INVITE

TOURNAMENT NOTES: Lou Kramberg was the only original entrant in the Tournament of Champions to win a match against the eight "imports" who came out of the first round losers' bracket of the National Invitational. Lou eliminated Jim Leahy, the young Chicagoan, who is now enrolled at Memphis State University and will anchor the beginnings of a strong handball team there when their battery of courts become available next year.

Paul Morlos planed in from San Jose to "Ole" his buddy Paul Haber on to victory . . . interested observers also were Jack Spiers and Harry Welsh of Charlotte, N.C. . . . they will be guiding the hosting of the South divisional next Jan. 30-Feb. 1. Southeast Commissioner Sid Semel will be our official representative there . . . and he had the opportunity to meet with the Charlotte bunch after leaving Birmingham.

Dr. Al August surprised his son, Dr. Steve, came in from Detroit to watch him play some of his best tournament ball to date . . . Marty Singer, president of the Southern California Handball Association, was another Dad waiting in the wings. He was joined by Stuffy's wife, Sunny, as a cheering section.

Evie and Bob Kendler warmed to the Southern hospitality, and Bob was featured speaker at the Saturday night awards banquet . . . Dr. Phil Cottle, Al Richman, and Milt Kleinberg comprised the Milwaukee fandom.

Terry Muck of St. Paul had to cancel out because of mononucleosis but will be back on the courts soon. Bob Lindsay and Buzz Shumate, the Texas shooters, were unable to participate because of business commitments.

Izzy Mankofsky, the Cecil B. DeMille

of handball and vet of the consolations, was busy shooting stills and films . . . he'll have the films previewed by all those challengers who are trying to wrest the crown from Haber.

Before the tournament Haber picked the winners round by round and missed up only on Jacobs. He had Jim going to the finals, where Paul would win out, "Evil Triumphs Again" would be the theme . . . but Dr. Claude Benham was the able alternative.

Lou Russo came in, fresh from his one-wall doubles victory with partner, Joel Wisotsky. After a first round loss in the Invitational, Lou bounced back strong to take the I. of C. bracket.

HABER DOESN'T AGREE . . .

Stuffy Singer made the remark on tape during the final round match of Haber vs. Benham that Paul's all out effort to retrieve two or three times during a volley would penalize him in three or four points of ensuing play. Jim Jacobs has also written on this, stating that you leave part of your "guts" when you go scurrying after the ball more than once in a volley and in the end hurt yourself. Haber disagrees. "I will try every time for those rough ones and if I can win the volley with digging and persistence it will pay off psychologically. My opponent becomes discouraged when he feels he has passed me or gotten me on defense and then loses out. I feel a tournament player should have the stamina to give out with this extra effort. Also, as Benham was trying to move me around in the second game he had to move also and was using a lot of energy in trying those pass shots. If my opponent thinks he can run me from side to side he will find his arm will tire faster than my stomach muscles."

Vet Referee Suggests One-Wall Rule Changes

By MORRIS LEVITSKY
President, Brownsville Handball Club

Most of the rules of one-wall — the clauses, and the phrases, come from four-wall. But, the one-wall games differs in one aspect and that is the stationery block.

In our game a call by the referee of hinder on a man who gets hit with the ball is an out or a point, as the case may be. This has proved to be a good rule in our game and has helped us. There are those who will argue against any rule if it suits their purpose.

The point I am making is that a player who commits a "block" (hinder) should be penalized. Too often a man having a short or long against him will get his service without any "faults" against him. The most important asset of a one-waller is his service.

It is a wonderful feeling for a player to get another serve opportunity. In a tournament match the referee calls all the hinders; he can't wait to see what will happen, and the answer is to penalize the offender.

After watching hundreds of matches I feel that a rule such as:

1. A block committed by a server or his partner in doubles should be a short ball against him when is to serve after that volley or series of play.

2. If a man already serving with fault against him commits a block he will still retain that fault at the conclusion of the play.

3. If a serving team or player (in singles) has a fault and the opposition causes a block the fault will then be nullified.

A player who has to serve with a fault against him will think twice before making those slight little moves.

I am not advocating the discontinuance of the avoidable or intentional hinder. That is still a point or hand out, as the case may be.

A one-wall referee must make his calls fast and can't wait to see what will develop later. There must be a penalty for every type of hinder or block whether offensive or defensive. It may appear to be unjust at the beginning. Example: A player moving out of the way to avoid getting hit by a ball will be penalized by this rule.

Go over these rules several times to understand them. The consensus of opinion of top one-wallers is very much for them — "all the way." Some players will say to the referees, "Don't call too many blocks." Referees are not machines, the rules will serve their purpose.

Upstate New York College Handball Booming

Ex-Brooklyn Player Lends Experience to Instruct Neophytes

On the campus of the State University College at New Paltz, New York, just 90 miles from "Broadway," the game of handball has found roots. The college is located between the Shawangunk Mountains (beginning of the Catskill Mountain Range) and the Hudson River, centered in the picturesque Mid-Hudson valley. We have an enrollment of 4500 undergraduate students, 1500 graduate students and approximately 400 faculty and administration. Many of our people are from New York City, Westchester, Long Island, and New Jersey, which could explain the tremendous interest in handball.

We have in Elting Gymnasium four, four-wall handball courts. The program in physical education occupies the facilities during most of the day with various activities including handball, squash racquets, recreational games, public racquets, etc. However, at early afternoon the faculty and students make their way to the gymnasium for recreation and physical fitness. Handball is a favored activity and is played far into the evening hours with a fantastic amount of enthusiasm. In our intramural sports program we offer competition to those skilled players and I must admit the talent is quite outstanding.

Handball interest is not only restricted to students and faculty at the college. The word has spread to the surrounding area and many high school coaches and

friends visit us often to play. To mention one or two, we have John "Chick" Meehan, former member of the Syracuse Nats of the National Basketball Association, who is now Director of Physical Education, Varsity Football and Basketball coach at Rondout Valley Central High School, Vince DeAngelis, Director of Physical Education at Wallkill Central High School, is a regular in our program. But the really top talent, a real plus in our program is Irv Polatsek.

Irv, a prison psychologist at Wallkill Prison, New York, now resides in New Paltz. He is at the college courts regularly to play, instruct and be a part of the very great game he he has played for many years.

Irv, as many of you will recall, grew up in Brooklyn and played much of his handball at the JCC and the Central YMCA. He later moved to Cleveland where he continued his playing at the YMCA. His pedigree includes Ohio Class B doubles champion, winner of many Class A and Class B singles and doubles tournaments both on the state and local levels. In 1964 the Cleveland Y sponsored him to the USHA National tournament held in St. Louis. The competition included more than 64 players and Irv was successful up to the second round. He was defeated by Lance Zepp, Buffalo, who was later defeated by Jim Jacobs. Lance was considered to be the most outstanding challenger in the tournament

as he defeated a tough Jim Jacobs one game.

Two years ago we invited Jim Jacobs to the college for a clinic. Jim has reigned as one of the greats in singles and doubles play for many years. He has been most successful in four wall and three wall competitions. Jim has played mostly in the California and also at the 92nd street YMHA in New York City. While Jim put on a great clinic for us, the highlight of the afternoon was a game between Jim and Ken Smolack, former student at State University College at New Paltz. This put the icing on a fine day of handball for all of us. Ken, by the way has since played in the quarter-finals of three wall tournament play, representing Castle Hill from the Bronx.

You can note that State University at New Paltz is doing its share to encourage handball for fitness and recreation and for just plain fun. It will continue to grow as we will be building a new Physical Education facility in support of our present program. You can be sure that handball courts will be one of our prime considerations. If you ever happen to be in our neighborhood and would like to see us in action, I cordially extend all of you an invitation.

ARNOLD L. LENT

Physical Education Dept.

USHA LIFETIME MEMBERS

Contributing to the

USHA HANDBALL PERPETUATION FUND

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DON BARRINGTON, Cincinnati

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JOE VASQUEZ, Ghana, West Africa

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and son, JOHN G. FILSINGER, Town of

Tonawanda, N. Y.

MARTY SINGER, Studio City, Calif.

STEVE VASQUEZ, Ghana, West Africa

"General" George Lee's 24th Annual Invitational handball tournament is set for Feb. 13-15 at the Dallas Athletic Club. "The oldest and best in the country" is the tab headlining this banner event.

Consolation bracket is conducted at the Dallas Downtown YMCA.

Added — Eighth annual Masters tournament — eight teams. In the open singles and doubles rooms are furnished gratis. No reservations are accepted for families or friends. No meals furnished free. Each participant will be issued a guest card and will be charged for all meals (exception — brunch on Friday morning and party Saturday night). All other expenses must be paid for by players.

No rooms available for Masters players. Saturday night party is free to all. Play will start Thursday 5:00 p.m. and finish Saturday afternoon in the Masters with trophies to winners and runners-up.

Buzz Shumate, Dallas A.C., will be defending champion. Stuffy Singer, Los Angeles, was 1969 runner-up. Doubles — Pete Tyson-Dick Roberson, Austin; runnersup — Alvin Grant-John Schoellkopf, Dallas A.C.

For further information and entry blanks: George E. Lee, Athletic Director, Dallas Athletic Club, St. Paul at Elm, Dallas, Texas 75201.



SINGLES ACTION AT JCC . . . New courts in operation at Seattle JCC, with championship court affording downstairs viewing with glass in back wall. Pictured here are two of the local buffs in an informal match. This adds to the fast-growing interest in the game in the Northwest area (l to r) Robert Miller and Larry Crevin.

The Max LeBid Handball courts were dedicated at the beautiful Jewish Community Center of Seattle, Washington, last June. Two handball courts were dedicated in memory of Max LeBid, once an avid handball player, by his family.

Participating in the dedication were top players from all over the Greater Seattle Area. Playing the first game in the new Handball Courts were Robert Miller, chairman of the Jewish Community Center's Physical Education Committee and Larry Crevin, grandson of

Max LeBid.

The First Annual Handball tournament, sponsored by the Jewish Community Center was held the first week of September. Class C and B tournaments were held. It was a huge success with trophies being awarded to Mort Bly, Class C First Place; Ted Lightly, Class C Second Place, and Stan Albert, Class B First Place. Tournament Chairman and instructor for the Center is Jim Douglass.

Stan Albert

April 19-26 . . .

Schedule YMCA Nationals First Time In Chicago Area

For the first time in handball history the YMCA National Championships will be played in Chicago. The tournament is expected to be the biggest ever held by the YMCA, with the largest number of players ever competing for titles in singles, doubles, and Master's doubles.

Hosting the gala tourney will be the Northwest Suburban YMCA in Des Plaines, largest non-residential Y in the world. Fast becoming the center of tournament activities in the Chicago area, the Northwest Suburban Y, with the help of many local handballers, plans a week of excitement and hospitality. Ex-

ecutive Director Chuck McClellan is expanding his ultra-modern facilities to eight courts, offering the finest championship accommodations.

Most of the current national titleholders will be in Chicago, Heartland of Handball, during the week of April 19-26. An official entry form for the YMCA Nationals will appear in the February issue of ACE. Look for it. The mutual cooperation of the USHA and the YMCA is helping make the sport of Handball bigger and better than ever.

Jim Brosnan

OBSERVATION TOWER

(From page 13)

do this alone and Irv has the efficient crew — such stalwarts as head referee, Morris Levitsky . . . Marvin Greenberg, Mickey Blechman . . . No one referees more games than Ugo Bontempo.

We hope the N.Y. Parks Dept. sees fit to put this tournament back on its former schedule next year.

Pauline and I will be leaving for Florida as this issue gets to you. I hope to get to St. Louis for the National Juniors and then on the L.A. for the big one, where I will meet my old buddy, Jerry Marshall and Bernice, with Dave Siewert and Mary. I may fly back with Dave in his private plane to San Francisco to visit a while in the Bay area . . . maybe get some games at the Olympic Club with my old friend, Mike de la Pena, coach there.

Happy Holidays!

DR. GARY ROHRER WINS ST. PAUL A.C. INVITATIONAL

Results of the St. Paul Athletic Club Invitational Tournament held Nov. 17-22. 1st place: Dr. Gary Rohrer defeated Paul Schulz 21-10, 21-18. 3rd place: George Lund defeated Bob Hurd 16-21, 21-14, 21-1. Consolation: Larry Klein defeated Frank Bachman 21-6, 21-4.

The talk of the tournament was the emergence of lanky Bob Hurd, Minneapolis YMCA, as he broke the seed by defeating highly-regarded Rollie Weigman and Wayne Stewart in two game matches. Bob surprised the top seeds with his great placement and pin point accuracy on his kill shots. In the semi-finals Bob met No. 1 seed Schulz and gave a fine display of offensive handball, but Paul's strong serve and greater agility gave him the win in two games.

In the other semi-final match Rohrer and Lund, both of the St. Paul Athletic Club met in a torrid shooting match with Gary coming out on top, 21-20 and 21-19.

Doubles partners Schulz and Rohrer met in the finals with left-handed Gary winning the first game 21-10 as he maintained center court position and fly killed with both hands. In the second game with leading 20-8 Paul came to life making a fantastic get to gain the service. He then put on a sustained rally, playing brilliant ball before finally losing 21-18.

In the game for third place Hurd won the first game 21-16, but finally succumbed to the fire power of Lund 21-14 and 21-11.

In the consolation finals young Klein defeated former University of Minnesota football player, Bachman, 21-6 and 21-4.

Thanks go to Gene Richards, Neal Nordlund, Mark Dahlberg, Jack Hickman, Ron Adams and Paul Turner for their fine refereeing during the tournament.

Recently ten clubs in the St. Paul-Minneapolis area met to form the Twin City Handball Association. There has long been a need for an advisory body to help promote handball in this area.

The Association will coordinate tournaments by advanced scheduling of all area tournaments. The Association will also administer the Twin City Handball League. This league is set up on a ten week schedule. Each club is represented by A and B singles and doubles teams. Four two-game matches are played with a club receiving a point for each game won and a point for the highest point total of each two game set. The club with the highest point total for the night wins

the match. This system eliminates the extra time needed for three game sets and insures an all out effort by the participants.

Another area in which the Association will be active is the development of youth handball. Presently there is an annual high school tournament during Easter vacation, administered by Billy Yambrick. Former winners of this tournament include Terry Muck and Paul Schulz. We hope to expand in this area through clinics and the development of a high school handball league.

The Association also expects to devote some time to the development of referees through clinics and interpretation of rules discussions.

The officers of the Twin City Handball Association for 1969-70 are: President — Jack Hickman, St. Paul YMCA; Vice President — Ron Adams, St. Paul Athletic Club; Secretary — Bill Trentor, Minneapolis Decathlon Club; Treasurer — Frank Rolfes, Minneapolis YMCA.

The Twin City Handball Association endorses the beliefs of the USHA and ACE magazine. We would like to be a part of the "handball fraternity." We hope to become regular contributors to ACE.

Tournaments to be held in the near future include: Twin City Master Singles, Jan. 12-17; Winter Carnival Doubles, Feb. 2-8; and North Central Singles and Doubles in March or April. We are presently involved in the St. Paul Athletic Club Invitational Singles which unfortunately conflicts with the Birmingham tournament. Without Billy Yambrick and Terry Muck we have over 50 entries and a very strong field with such players as Paul Schulz, Gary Rohrer, Wayne Stewart and Bob Pinski.

Jack Hickman

In a story from Cape Kennedy, Fla., that appeared in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, there is an accompanying picture of Astronauts John W. Young and Eugene Cernan wearing the M. K. Anderson eye guards . . . "Keep Fit With Handball".

All Roads Lead to L.A. —

Now is the time to make your plans for the big 20th Anniversary USHA National Championships at the Los Angeles Athletic Club, March 15-21. "Something for Everyone" is the theme, and as always bring-the-wife. Competition will be in open singles, open doubles, Masters singles and Masters doubles. Losers of first round open singles can play in the consolation singles. (See entry blank this issue).

Albuquerque . . .

The Second Annual Maloof Invitational tournament was a highly successful tournament with 78 entrants, held at the University of New Mexico Nov. 29-30.

Number 1 seeded Cordy Garcia, Albuquerque, was upset by No. 4 seeded Lee Wretling, Denver. Also in the Singles A Class, Renalto Almonte, Juarez, Mexico, defeated Wretling in the finals for the championship in three games, 21-11, 19-21, 21-14. Cordy Garcia captured third place by defeating No. 3 seeded Larry Wood, Denver, 21-9, 21-20.

The following are other results of the tournament: Singles B — (1) John Falk of Denver over (2) John Hellard of El Paso 21-16, 21-11; (3) Dave Coulic over Jay Armstrong, both of Albuquerque 21-19, 18-21, 21-18.

Doubles A — Lee Wretling and Larry Wood, Denver over Paul Lattin and Colonel Collins, Albuquerque, 21-11, 21-15.

Doubles B — John Hellard and Dave Rodriguez, El Paso, over John Falk and Bill Hardy, Denver 21-17, 21-16.

In the Masters tourney the finals saw Manny Smith, Albuquerque, meet Nick Martinez, a new resident of Albuquerque. Nick won the first game 21-20 and Manny came back strongly 21-6 in the second game. Nick was forced to forfeit the third game as a result of injuries.

All in all it was a great tournament and we are looking forward to running the same tournament next year.

D. J. Letherer

Hoosiers Host Tourney Jan. 23-25

Indiana University is to host an open handball tournament for Indiana handball players in both class A and B, singles and doubles, and a Masters division for players 45 and over. Dates — Jan. 23-25, 1970.

For entry blanks write to: Harold R. Rudolph, executive director, Indiana University YMCA, Room 35, Indiana Union Bldg., Bloomington, Ind 47401.

Gene Moll

Kendler M.C.'s Grand Master Testimonial

They are still talking about it! The Reception and Testimonial Dinner for the incoming Illinois Grand Master of the Grand Lodge was an occasion that few will ever forget. 1,000 people came to honor the man who will lead the Fraternity for the next two years. Many were turned away from the Sheraton Ballroom on Saturday, Oct. 11 because it was impossible to seat all the well-wishers. Every Masonic organization was represented and no less than 16 officers of the four Scottish Rite Bodies paid their respects. The York Rite Bodies also had a large delegation along with the Shrine and the Illinois Masonic Medical Center. Even the DeMolay and the Women's Auxiliary Board were in attendance.

Not a single detail was overlooked to make this both the social and fraternal event of the season, and the ladies just loved it! Only a fashion editor could describe the beautiful gowns (and I'm no fashion editor). The food was superb, and the gifts to the Grand Master were outstanding. All in all, everyone came away completely satisfied from the youngest entered apprentice, who stood in the far corner of the balcony, to the Most Worshipful Grand Master, who stood on the podium, as proud as proud can be, alongside a happy, admiring and wonderful wife.

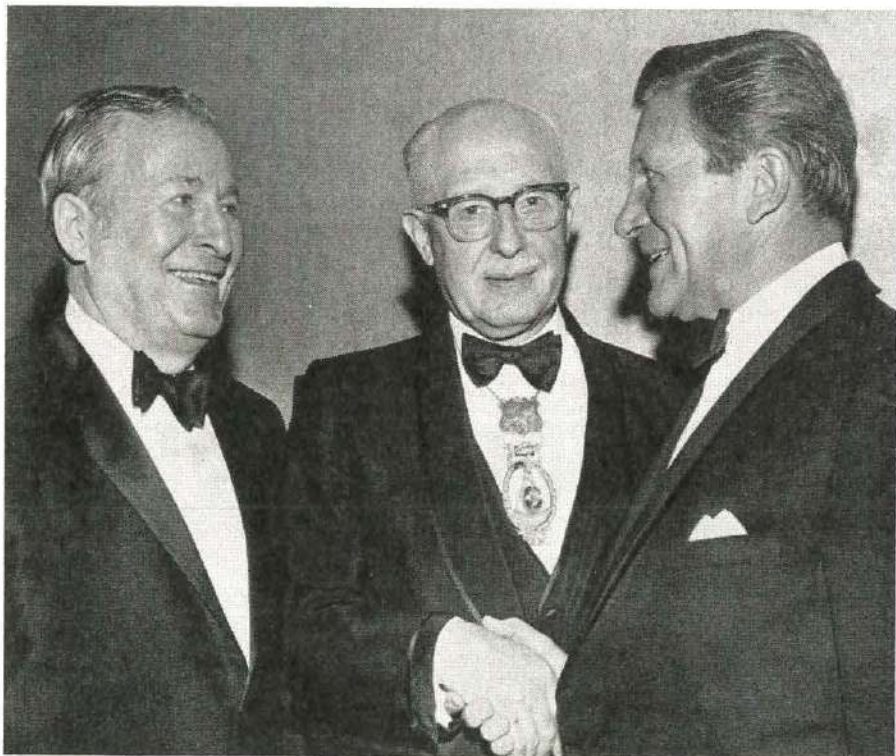
Bro. Lang's talk was most enlightening and informative. It traced the history of the Lodge through many generations and pointed out the great men in history who built our structure. He put particular emphasis on the founding of our country and the great influence our Masonic forefathers had in the birth of our Nation. He closed his remarks with the admonition that our Masonic example can play a great part in restoring order in our nation's cities, and that it was the duty of the Brethren to come to the front now as they did during the Revolutionary War.

Bro. Kerner's speech wove together his great judicial thinking; his history-making report and the democracy of Masonry. He made many revealing comments on the state of the city, and the great moral force the Masonic Lodge can exert in behalf of law and order. He spoke out on justice in the light of recent disorders, and the need for more meaningful communication with every element of civil disobedience. It was his conviction that the Masonic Order had within its own Tenets, the rules for Law and Order for both the oppressed and the free. As always, the audience gave him a tremendous ovation as they did Brother Lang.

The M.C. (some guy named Ken-



GALA MASONIC RECEPTION . . . (above)—Evie and Bob Kendler warmly greet ex-Illinois Governor Otto Kerner, now a federal judge and long active in Masonic leadership. Bro. Kerner was featured speaker of the dinner in honor of Bro. Clinton H. Lang. (below)—Bro. Lang is congratulated by Bro. Kerner, honoring the incoming Grand Master of the Grand Lodge in Illinois. Capacity crowd of 1,000 enjoyed the festive evening.



dler), had a few good stories for a change. The best thing he did was to get off the podium as fast as possible.

He is still trying to convince everyone he picked out the Grand Master's gifts. Anyone who knows his wife, knows better.

IRA OFFICIALS

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

National Commissioner

LARRY LEDERMAN
JCC—1400 N. Prospect, Milwaukee, Wisc. 53103

*National Executive Coordinator
and Mid-East Area Commissioner*

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Midwest Area Commissioner

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Southeast Area Commissioner

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South Area Commissioner

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JCC—3600 Dutchman Lane, Louisville, Ky. 40205

Southwest Area Commissioner

BUBBA LEVY
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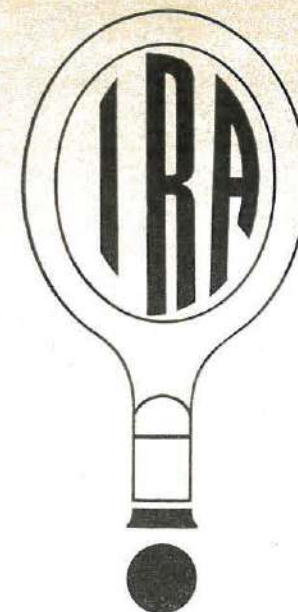
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807 1st Nat'l Bank Bldg., Wichita, Kansas 67202



NOT A DANCE CLASS . . . Gerard Lapierre, our official IRA ambassador of good will, has been conducting clinics as he travels extensively in his sales work. He finds it doubly enjoyable when he finds the femme fatales playing the game, and he's happy to import to them his lore of the four-wall racquet pursuit. Plans call for inclusion of a women's bracket in the 1970 second international championships, scheduled for the St. Louis JCCA, April 15-19.

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RICHMOND VA.: Had only half a step in the YMCA Physical Directors office, when Bill Bolton demanded to know where our gear was and to suit up immediately; they needed a fourth for doubles. Before you could count to one hundred and fifty-one and one half, I was in the court with Tim Miller, Bill Ferrell and Bill Buckman in three hard and fast games of doubles. We appreciated the workout the boys gave us.

WASHINGTON D. C.: The scenery has changed since our last trip to the Capitol city and it is due to the new Jewish Community Center in Rockville, Maryland. While making a few business calls in the area, we passed by it and decided to stop and investigate the situation. We talked to Herb Resnick, physical director, and his assistant Gregg Kline, about our association. Pleasantly surprised at the interest in racquetball and we definitely feel that here is where the strength lies. After playing a few games with Herb, a couple of handballers were interested enough to find out what our game is all about. Surprisingly so, they put out 110% and have enough interest to obtain a racquet and develop their skills.

UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE: Jack Chelucci of New Castle has amassed a formidable team that will be touring the Eastern area this coming year. They already have commitments with Wilkes Barre and Williamsport, Pa. The team consists of Dave Nelson, athletic director of the University; Jim Flynn, assistant football coach; Denis Raihall, Ken Welch and John Chelucci. We wish them luck in their coming matches. If anyone in the area wishes to challenge the group, drop me a line and we will pass the info along.

PHILADELPHIA: The big court at the Center City YMCA is still catering to the play of the racquetballers. Albic Morgan, assistant physical director, introduced us to Chuck Dougherty who is the strongest of the players in the area. At one time, Chuck played handball but his accomplishments were limited. He switched to racquetball and has been able to achieve much satisfaction in his game.

WILKES BARRE, PA.: Ken Young, physical director of the YMCA, gave us a cook's tour of the facility and indicated the interest in our game is increasing all the time. The three courts they have are kept busy throughout the year.

WILLIAMSPORT, PA.: Always enjoy myself when I spend the weekend here. Doraance Frymire, our renowned district commissioner, and Bob Lenhart have always managed to round up the troops for a

Saturday play at the YMCA. After the physical part is over and everyone is relaxed, we have a bull session in which we try to bring everyone up to date on the latest.

ROCHESTER, N. Y.: The YMCA with its three courts is a stronghold for paddleball (wood racquet). However, we managed to get together with Norm Franks, the local champion in the area, and play the gut game. Norm also runs in every long distant meet in the east, including the Boston Marathon. Other than not having an ounce of flab, he could become a darn good racquetballer and would be able to keep up with the best—at least as far as stamina that is.

BUFFALO, N. Y.: Got together with Don DelBello and played several games at the downtown YMCA, in the glass court. Don is most optimistic at the amount of interest in our game and the association in the area. Oh yes — the glass is holding up fine.

AKRON, OHIO: Always manage to stop in at the YMCA downtown and go a few games with Don Nelson, physical director. Don is an old racquetballer from his earlier days in Cleveland. The Y here has six courts with two of them glass. Unfortunately, our game takes a backseat only because of the disinterest of the members.

CLEVELAND, OHIO: I have mentioned this area in a limited way and I must apologize to the racquetballers from the northern part of Ohio. This is where I learned the game back in '64 and have played with most of the players. It is an area unequalled as far as court facilities. The central Y with 4 courts; the Jewish Community Center with 4 courts; two private clubs (Executive East and West) with 4 courts each; 3 other Y's in the area with 2 courts each. Making a total of 22 courts in which both handball and racquetball are being played without discrimination. The strength of the game in the area was represented by 12 players in St. Louis last April and, I personally feel that there should have been at least a dozen more. We hope to be able to report something of a unique nature in a later issue of the activities of the racquetballers in the area.

MINNEAPOLIS: The St. Anthony Commercial Club on Central, S.E., has three courts where handball and wood paddleball are played. The club claims many renowned athletes: Vern Gagne, Jerry Reichow, Jerry Melnychuk and the McNamara brothers. On my visit to the twin cities, I always get together with

Bob McNamara and Jerry Melnychuk who are always ready to switch to the gut racquet and challenge yours truly.

The Decathlon Athletic Club: located across from Metropolitan Stadium and has many unique features. It has motel accommodations for the guests of its members and also a complete dining facility. The health club has a complete gym, swimming pool, squash courts and three handball courts. The courts are in excellent condition with the walls consisting of a double layer of concrete. Paul Bunyon and the Jolly Green Giant could play a game of handball with a five-pound shot and never put a dent in those walls.

Jewish Community Center of Greater Minneapolis: The center located on Cedar Lake road is a modern facility less than a year old with four standard courts. We held our first clinic here and had an enjoyable time. The interest was high and the group went all out to show their interest. My thanks to all and especially to Lou Goldman, physical director, and his assistants, Bill Balden.

ROCHESTER, MINN.: Chuck Hazama, physical director of the YMCA and our own IRA rules chairman, always goes all out to make our visit a pleasant one. The interest was high and many of the members took the opportunity to try the various racquets we had with us. The members are proud of the two new courts making a total of four. They were recently finished and built by the physical labor of the members themselves, reducing the cost by one half. Ralph Hall, recipient of the Man of the Year award, was the person most instrumental in the success of this project. Our congratulations to Ralph and the entire membership for this achievement through dedication. Anyone who wants to build courts with limited finance should take a trip up to Rochester — yes sir! Dedication — that's what it is all about.

DAVENPORT, IOWA: The family YMCA is a modern facility with four standard courts. Our thanks to John Brooks, physical director, for a fine job in getting his membership to attend our clinic. My thanks to the membership for a fine time during and after the clinic. First time we talked to a group of the opposite sex about racquetball and did a first class job of stumbling about.

MANSFIELD, OHIO: The YMCA has four courts where handball and racquetball are played on equal basis. Frank Meadows, physical director, is an avid enthusiast of our game and we thank him and the local group for an enjoyable time.

R is for racquetball



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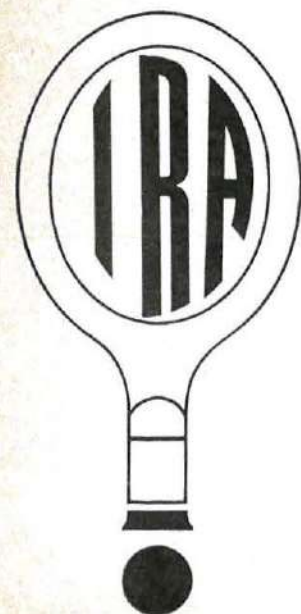
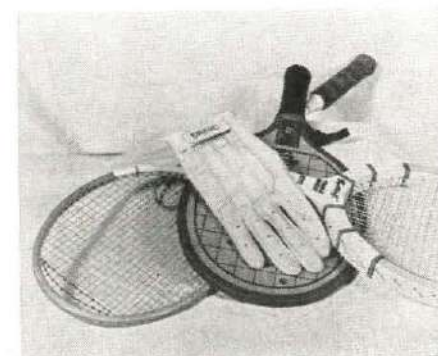
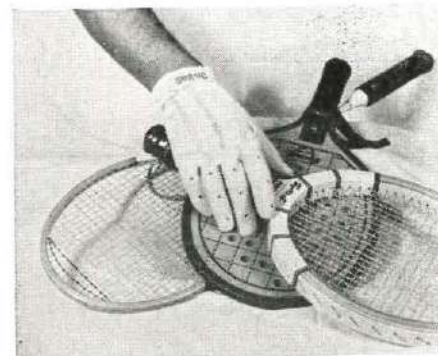
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Instructional . . .

Bill Schultz of Madison YMCA Offers Racquetball Tips

Note: Bill Schultz is General Secretary of the Madison, Wisc. YMCA, and winner of the 1962 National Open paddleball and the 1968 National Open racquetball titles.

To learn to play this game of racquetball, you must **WORK AT IT**. **PRACTICE** is the key to success. Too many people begin the game by "trying" to play the game immediately without a practice session or proper instruction. Many begin playing without knowing the rules, or even how to hold the racquet correctly or the proper way to hit the ball. **THIS IS WRONG!**

When beginning the game, you should go into the court **ALONE** and just practice "**HITTING THE BALL**." Learn to hit the ball accurately and deliberately. You should try for the front wall shots (lobs and kills). Learn how to take a ball off the back wall. Attempt to hit the ball slow at first and gradually work up to being able to "**REALLY SMACK THE BALL HARD**."

You can play simple games by yourself with the racquet and ball. For example: How many times can you hit the ball to the front wall with the ball only bouncing once, hitting the ball to the front wall with no bounce, etc.

The player should attempt to develop a smooth, easy swing, with flexible wrist action.

Don't start playing the game until you have thoroughly studied the rules and regulations of the game. Understand the dangers. Know what you are trying to do. Think out every shot and every play from the very beginning.

The beginner must learn the proper stance and how to bring the total body into each shot, shifting his weight properly as he makes contact with the ball.

Practice the fundamentals of:

- Always being on your toes
- Pivoting before moving toward a ball

- Hitting the ball with a relaxed swing
- Not crowding the ball
- Waiting until the ball drops to knee level before going for the kill shot
- Getting set for the shot and not try for a shot when off balance
- Keeping eye on the ball at all times

REMEMBER — the expert player does not **CHASE THE BALL** around a court, but goes to the point where he knows the ball will end up.

Ability is developed by practice and as time goes on, the new techniques will come easy.

AND — REMEMBER — you can learn by watching the better players. Watch them and **SEE WHAT THEY DO**. See how they maneuver their opponents out of position; when they are set up for a kill shot; how they always get set before they hit the ball.

YES — and play these better players whenever you have an opportunity to do so. The better players will coach you on your mistakes, but will also take quick advantages of your **WEAKNESSES**. Watch for it and correct these weaknesses.

Never miss the opportunity of teaching what you have learned to a newer player than yourself. By teaching, you will learn. Also, play the beginners. This is for the reason that you will be able to perfect certain shots which you are now afraid to attempt in better competition.

Early in your learning experiences, you will begin developing a game that is suited to your strength, coordination, speed, and ability. Don't copy another's style. Develop your own style of play based on your strength.

HOUSTON Y'S AUSTIN 'SPACE CITY OPEN' CHAMP

Houston Downtown YMCA hosted the First Annual "Space City Open" Racquetball singles tournament, Nov. 14-16. Play was held in three divisions — A, B and Masters. A total of 40 players participated in the tournament — from all over Texas along with entries from St. Louis and Dayton, Ohio.

Jim Austin, associate physical director of the host Y and 1969 Texas State titlist, defeated Bubba Levy of the Houston JCC, 21-11, 11-21, 21-16. This was

a replay of the State championship match. Third place was won by Toby Ohrt, Victoria, 1969 YMCA State champion.

B singles was won by Alan St. John, Austin, 21-12, 21-15. Third place went to Paul Ruggins, Houston Downtown YMCA.

In the Masters singles, Joe Zelson, St. Louis JCCA, completely dominated the play. He defeated Aaron Pasternak, Houston JCC, 21-7, 21-13.

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

Alley Shot — A ball which follows the side wall; sometimes called a lane shot or wall shot.

Ace — A service which a receiver cannot return.

Back Court — That area which is in the back of the short line.

Crotch Ball — A ball which hits the joint of any two playing surfaces (wall and floor—two walls—etc.).

Dead Ball — A ball is dead when a hinder or fault is called and no play can be made or a ball hits the opponent.

Fault — An illegal serve, other than a short, which involves a penalty (such as stepping on the serving line or hitting a ceiling or side wall before hitting the front wall, etc.).

Feint — A motion used for the purpose of getting the opponent out of position.

Front Court — The area that is in front of the short line.

Hinder — An interference in the flight of the ball or the obstruction of an opponent's swing at the ball.

Inning — A round of play; both sides have served the ball until they are put out.

Kill — This is where a ball is returned to the front wall in such a manner that it rebounds close enough to the floor that it cannot be returned.

Lob — A type of shot that goes high in the air.

Pass Shot — A shot that passes the opponent and does not come off the back wall to permit the opponent a chance at the ball.

Rally — A series of plays from service until the play ends and results in a point, side out, or dead ball.

Screen Ball — A ball hit in such a manner that prevents the opponent from seeing the ball for the return.

Service — To start the play, the ball is hit to the receiver.

Service Box — In doubles, the server's partner stands within the service zone and must have his back against the wall.

Service Lines — A line that is five feet in front of the short line and parallel to the short line.

Service Zone — That area between the service line and short line.

Short — A ball that is hit on the service and does not reach the short line or is hit on the service hard enough to go to the back wall without touching the floor first.

Short Line — This is the line mid-way between the front and back walls.

Side Out — When a service is lost. "Use the correct terminology and you will feel more like the expert player."

Racquetball Letters...

Dear Gerry: (Lapierre)

Our many thanks for conducting the racquetball clinic last Wednesday evening. All of our guys are buzzing about your play, which was impressive. I certainly enjoyed playing doubles with you.

I would be interested in helping promote the game and would volunteer my services if I can be of help. Let me know if I can be of help in the near future.

We are hopeful that all our fellows will join IRA. The game has a lot of potential within the YMCA, but needs pushing from physical directors. I would like to see a study made on damage to the courts through racquetball usage. I don't feel that courts are damaged by racquetball play and needs to be stated. I know this is the main reason it hasn't been played on a larger scale.

Franklin N. Meadows
Physical Director YMCA
Mansfield, Ohio

Note: I myself, had a most enjoyable time holding the clinic. I appreciated the interest your membership showed and it was gratifying to watch the enthusiasm of the fellows in their effort to develop their game. I have to agree with you that the game must be promoted from within. I have strong opinions about those who use the excuse that our racquets will damage the courts — it is only an excuse to prohibit the game. There is always an isolated case where

a person may maliciously take his racquet and strike the wall in anger. However, with proper policing, it would happen only once.

I don't believe that anyone does justice to their membership in prohibiting racquetball to be played on an equal basis with handball. Many of the members who are not able to adapt to handball could certainly find a measurable amount of success in our game.

The most important factor would be that these people could participate in an activity which would not only give them self satisfaction, but moreover, improve their physical condition. This should be the only consideration when adopting policies in regards to the use of the facilities.

Other than isolated cases, it is the general membership fund that supports the whole and not a select group. Therefore, why should not all participate in the use of the entire facility rather than be limited. The one point they fail to see is that the more demand there is for the use of courts, the better the chances are for the building of additional courts.

Fortunately, the majority I am happy to say, are making an honest effort in introducing racquetball and it is encouraging. As a physical director of a YMCA you will be doing your best to promote the cause from within and we are grateful for your efforts.

Gerry Lapierre

Lapierre Conducts Clinics...Discusses Racquet Selection

By GERRARD LAPIERRE

The racquetball clinics which we have held have been interesting, and hopefully, beneficial to those in attendance. Our aim is not to impress the gallery with our play, but to stress the fundamentals of the game. The writer will attempt to list these in this issue and the succeeding ones. We also solicit the help of the readers to comment on our viewpoints and if we do nothing but start an avalanche of criticism, it nevertheless will benefit the majority. The first important aspect in our game is the racquet. It would be, if you will excuse the pun, no game without it. They are available in all different weights, sizes and types. It is recommended that the beginner should start with an inexpensive one.

The most important factor in the racquet is to be sure that it feels comfortable in one's hand. It goes without saying that it must have a thong and should be placed about the wrist so that there will be no chance of the racquet to fly out of the hand and becoming a dangerous missile. The point is to make sure that the racquet is comfortable when you grip it, giving the maximum control at all times. If when swinging, there is a feeling of awkwardness, something is

wrong and corrective steps should be taken.

I have seen many modifications of racquets and all were made to obtain a better grip. Some have flattened the sides of the handle on the same plane with the face, making it rectangular in shape. A few have gone one step further by putting grooves so the fingers would lie in them. Others have put adhesive tape to grip the handle more securely. I have sanded my handle down several times until I was satisfied. One added a weight in the handle so it would be heavier and, at the same time made it possible to attach the strap at the end. Others have added rows of adhesive tape around the frame to increase the weight.

When you have achieved the desired effect, the next step is to concentrate on the skill of play. Then you may wish to go to a more expensive racquet and a lighter type — this will improve your game by at least 10%.

Caution: If your hand perspires wear some type of glove that will prevent the handle from slipping in your hand or other means to eliminate this condition.

The racquets range from wood, to steel, to aluminum. Some have recently been put on the market and some glowing

endorsements given on steel and aluminum. We do know of some trouble existing relative to the string breakage on the metal ones. I have been experimenting with a few types and it will be a while before any concrete results are available.

OBSERVATION AND COMMENTS: The metal type of racquet is the most talked about subject and I feel that a lot of players are being mislead. One person stated (with documented proof) that one racquet manufacturer indicated the metal racquet was outlawed by the association — in this case, it is obvious that the manufacturer has none available and/or that they were referring to another association. Another individual bought one with metal strings from a distributor who claimed that this was the only way the racquet was manufactured.

I would like to caution the membership that before purchasing the metal types, they should go to a source that is knowledgeable in our game and also, who manufactures metal racquets. One manufacturer of metal types does not string his racquets and it is left to the local distributor for stringing. These metal racquets are expensive and the cost could increase considerable if you are not familiar with all the factors involved.

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RACQUETBALL ROOM

By MORT LEVE

Sportcraft will include both steel and aluminum racquets as part of the line of official IRA equipment in 1970. Sample racquets have been tested by leading players and have been given a rousing voice of approval. The steel sample had a larger than "legal" head frame but the aluminum ones were within the rules—light, allowing for real good whip action.

We noted in a recent issue of TENNIS that there is now a molded magnesium racquet. The frame retails for \$50. "Each racquet is x-rayed for possible flaws by the same people who test metals for America's space program." We'll have to look into this.

It's going to take more time to get "Racquetball" as the popular name for our game. Many still refer to the "gut" four-wall court game as paddleball. We try to explain that paddleball refers to the wood paddle game and this was the underlying reason for the changeover at our first international meeting at St. Louis last April.

Also, we want to emphasize the "racquet" spelling both for the game—racquetball, and the use of the racquet . . . rather than racketball and racket.

ACE Handball & Racquetball is listed in Coaches' Guide, a booklet that gives information and ideas in books, magazines, equipment and supplies for coaches, teachers, athletic directors, players and spectators. Creative Sports Books, P.O. Box 2244, Hollywood, Calif. 90028.

Divisional and sectional IRA tournaments are beginning to take shape leading up to the second international IRA championships, again slated for the St. Louis JCCA, April 15-19. Bruce Hendin, who is now physical director at the JCCA, has promised his full cooperation, and has been in full touch with the headquarters office.

The New Britain, Conn. YMCA will host an Eastern division tournament, March 13-15. Interested players can contact James LeBlanc, 50 High St., New Britain, Conn. 06050, for tournament de-

tails, housing, etc.

Dr. Bud Muchleisen, current international singles champ, will head up a West Division tournament, as he did last year, at the Kona Kai Club in San Diego. Official dates will be announced in the next ACE along with entry blanks on the divisionals and internationals.

NOTES: Everyone around Chicago is clamoring for a Sportcraft aluminum racquet after trying and inspecting a sample model sent here. Ken Edelson, of the Bergenfield, N.J. Sportcraft office, promises full delivery in early '70 along with other new wood models.

And, the official Seamless IRA ball is meeting with overall approval. Their full page ad in this issue gives information on securing a supply.

North Suburban YMCA in Northbrook has a round-robin racquetball tourney in full swing. Sonny Marcus, one of the regulars at the Evanston YMCA, is also a member in Northbrook and a "ringer" in this competition. Asst. Physical Director Duncan Moore promises to give Sonny some needed competition.

Fargo, N.D., YMCA, will be the site for the National Paddleball tournament (wood game, not to be confused with the racquets). Feb. 19-22.

We're toying with the idea of adding a women's division in the IRA internationals in St. Louis. There's a strong group of gals playing the game there.

Lapierre Visits Tulsa-Dallas-Houston

TULSA: The Southeast YMCA, a new family center, has opened its doors to our fellow racquetballers. Jim Gilbert, physical director, related how this was accomplished and I feel it bears repeating to the IRA membership.

When the Y opened a little over a year ago many of its members had formerly been at the downtown Central YMCA. The feature for court players are four excellent, temperature controlled, standard courts. Since many who had "migrated" were racquetballers, permission was given for the use of one court. After a period of time the courts were inspected and all were in the same excellent condition. Then all courts were opened to racquetball players and the interest has not only increased amongst the men but for women and youngsters as well.

During our visit we renewed our acquaintance with Dr. Roy Fielding, who is looking forward to our next international championships in St. Louis next April. My appreciation to everyone for their interest and especially to Jim Gilbert for his efforts on our behalf.

DALLAS: The picture has changed in Big D since my last visit. A year ago the game was primarily played at the Oak Cliff Y. Unfortunately the courts were ruined in a fire, forcing the players to move to the Downtown YMCA. Bob Neal, physical director, stated that the interest quickly developed amongst his own membership, sufficiently enough to hold an open tournament in which players from Houston, Waco, Fort Worth, Wichita Falls, Corpus Christi, and Stillwater (Okla.) participated.

The winner of the Class A, Myron "The Cat" Roderick, is from Stillwater. He is an avid player and I take full responsibility in calling him The Cat since I had an opportunity to play him on my last trip through Oklahoma. He will make his presence known at the next big one.

Interest has also reached the Dallas Athletic Club. In talking with George Lee, athletic director and well-known handball promoter, he stated that many of his members are playing racquetball. Dallas has really changed and it is encouraging to see this interest developing.

HOUSTON: Arrived in time for the Space City Open. We witnessed quite a few excellent matches with players coming from Austin, Victoria, Galveston and St. Louis. Jim Austin and Bubba Levy, our district and area commissioners respectively, did a fine job of hosting this tournament. Our congratulations to the winners and all who participated.

Interest in racquetball is definitely on the upswing throughout the State.

CANADIAN HANDBALL ASSOCIATION OFFICIALS

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14605 - 123 Ave., Edmonton 42, Alberta

Vancouver, B. C.

The fall handball season is off and running, and Bill Morrow, the new handball chairman, has surrounded himself with a very active group. The prime duty at present is to organize the various committees for the Canadian Championships to be held here in Vancouver, March 5-7.

The 1970 edition of the Canadian Nationals looks like the greatest ever, and Vancouver looks forward to a large number of entries from south of the border as the west coast is very close, and also, we have enjoyed entries in the past from Salt Lake City where they have some fine players.

The area tournaments should kick off just after the new year with such outstanding events as the Northwest Championships in Portland, Oregon, the B.C. Closed Championships. All of the foregoing mentioned events, of course, are scheduled so they do not conflict in any way with the Canadian or U.S. nationals.

New court construction is coming along quite well as the Arbutus Club in Vancouver should have at least two new championship courts ready by Feb. 1970. Also, the University of B.C. should have courts under construction in the very near future.

The Canadian Handball Association now has an even closer tie with the U.S. Handball Association, and both of these organizations have only one goal in mind, and that is better facilities, better players, and more of both to help keep up with the staggering growth of our great sport. Both of these organizations have excellent men heading them up, with Bob Kendler the USHA president — and Bruce Collins leading the Canadian Association. Between these two, handball will certainly take on new stature in the world of amateur sport in America and Olympic countries as well.

It looks like a great year for handball in 1970, so be sure and introduce a friend to this fine game. We are looking forward to seeing you all at the nationals here in Vancouver, and we'll return the visit in Los Angeles.

Bill Surphlis

CANADIAN NATIONALS

MARCH 5-7, 1970

VANCOUVER, B. C.

Entry Blanks — Bill Surphlis,

1275 Burrard St.

Vancouver 1, B.C., Canada

Canada . . .

British Columbia Racquetball Association to better develop and promote the game throughout the province. There are approximately 300 racquetball players in greater Vancouver playing at: MARC, CAC, Central YMCA, JCC, Arbutus Club, and New Westminster YMCA. \$3 fee includes membership-subscription in USHA-ACE and eligibility to play in provincial and open tournaments.

Plans are underway for a B.C. championship, instructional clinics, and inter-club tournament. Officers: Bob Challenger, MARC, president; Ron Hughes, VAC, vice president; Gary Hanko, MARC, secretary-treasurer; Hall Brodie, YMCA, director; Dr. Peter Grant-ham, MARC, director; Wally Craig, VAC, director; Rae Ross, VAC, director.

U. of Delaware . . .

University of Delaware racquetball team won two matches, one with the Williamsport, Pa., YMCA, and the other with the Wilkes Barre, Pa., YMCA.

Against Williamsport there were six singles and three doubles matches scheduled. Results:

Singles — Denny Rainhall, Jack Chelucci, Ken Walsh, Galen Finch and John Chelucci were winners. In doubles — Jack Chelucci-Ken Welsh and John Chelucci-Mike Walker were winners.

Against Wilkes Barre Rainhall, Jack and John Chelucci, Ken Walsh and Galen Finch won singles matches . . . Rainhall-Finch and Jack Chelucci-Welsh won doubles.

A Delaware State tournament was held over the Thanksgiving vacation.

Ontario Headlines . . .

The Annual Toronto YMHA Handball dinner was held Nov. 17 at the Yorkdale Plaza. Honored guest was Jack "Yank" Richmond.

Yank has been involved with handball as a player and on various committees for many years. He plays at Valentine's A.C. and still has a strong game.

Dave Rotish was the master of Ceremonies and the head table included Ron Sibbald, Bill Allen, M. P. Walter Deacon, Al Moses and Ed Seadhouse. The city trophies were given out. A Singles — first place to Pat Kirby, second to Barrie Leech. The late Cecil Finkler's son, Barry, did the honors. A doubles went to Stan Garden and Pat Kirby, runnersup were Mickey Unroth and Harry Tepperman.

The city B singles trophy will be named for Willie Bernstein. Willie's brother-in-law, Morris Zimmerman presented the winner and runner-up. First place — Joe Dryer; second — Bernie Krill.

City D doubles winners were Stan Bargman and Carl Mann. Ed Seadhouse did the honors. A delicious buffet and lots of refreshments rounded out a good evening.

Harold McClean

The start of the local tournaments has rolled around with the beginning of West End Y doubles. As per usual this tournament attracts a lot of interest.

This year Joe Cardarelli and Dave Wasson met Bill Sherwood and Cam McBeth in the finals.

Joe playing, steady on the left and Dave pounding the ball from the right side, trounced Sherwood and McBeth 21-13 and 21-9. The first game Cam and Bill looked like real contenders up to the tenth point and then the roof fell in. A great win for Joe and Dave. Keep up the good work, see you in the A Tournament. Referee for the finals was former chairman, Stan Bargman.

To reach the finals Sherwood and McBeth downed George Turner and John Kondar 21-8, 21-19. The bottom half Cardarelli and Wasson entertained Ed Chort and Peter Dellio to the tune of 21-12, 21-18. George Turner, our new Club handball chairman has done an able job with the committee and ran the tournament like clock work. Congratulations fellows!

Harold McClean

The first Golden Horseshoe Handball tournament held at Hamilton Ontario, November 15-16, was a little disappointing as far as entries were concerned.

Those who did attend certainly enjoyed the Hamilton hospitality. Apart from the attractive trophies the winners received such gifts as a club bag, cuff links, jewel box and wallets.

George Patsios, Hamilton Y Physical Director, along with the handball committee conducted a fine tournament.

Sixteen single players and eight double teams competed over the weekend.

Runtes was playing very strong and covers the court quickly. Al did not lose a game — defeating B. Grant, Huron Park, Stan Kray, Toronto, and H. Wright, Hamilton.

Barrie put out Reg Barnes, Broadview, in two, was extended the distance by Bob Thoms, Broadview, 21-14, 17-21, 13-21 and had a tough one with C. Wyles, Buffalo, 21-20, 21-15. Runtes not only played well in the tournament but was also involved in running the tournament. Congratulations Al on a fine effort.

The doubles — Ray Reno and Harold McClean, Toronto, defeated Bernie Pritchard and Bill Allen, also Toronto, 21-10, 17-21, 21-12.

In the second game Bernie got hot and started to control the game with placed shots and roll outs. Bill was equally steady from the right. Pritchard was kept out of the play in the finale as much as possible. Reno with his uncanny kills from anywhere and strong support from Harold dominated the third game 21-12. In the semis Pritchard and Allen defeated Jack Peleck and Stanley McDougal, 21-10, 21-13. Ray and Harold eliminated Ralph Lerue and Carl Manna, 21-3, 21-16.

The Golden Horseshoe Tournament will be an annual affair the second week of November and hopes are high for a bigger and better tournament. They have three nice courts and the Y facilities are of the best.

Harold McClean

Sask Open Set at Regina March 19-21

The Saskatchewan Open will be held in Regina Mar. 19-21. The boys from the West are looking for a first class entry and ready to go with some of the best facilities in Canada.

Stan Fisher

The Toronto Handball Association held a meeting September 24, 1969, at West End Y to elect a Committee for 1969. Representatives from Y.M.H.A., Eastview and West End attended.

Those elected were Bill Allen, chairman; Stan Kray, treasurer; Mike Jennings, secretary.

* * *

It is with regret that I mention the untimely passing of Willie Bernstein, who was chairman of the Toronto Handball Association last year. Those of us who knew Willie will miss the strong competitive spirit he possessed.

City B doubles finals held at YMHA Nov 15 and was won by Stan Fromstein and Mike Jennings, the host Y. Stan and Mike defeated Jack Kwinter and Seymour Weinstein, also of the YMHA, 21-13, 21-19. Fromstein, one of the youngest players, teamed with steady Mike on the right side to grind out a win over perennials Jack and Seymour. Jennings and Fromstein were extended the distance in the semi finals by M. Bedder and H. Cohen, 21-18, 17-21, 21-11.

P. Gregerson and A. Williams, Eastview, scared Kwinter and Weinstein, before going down, 21-19, 21-20. Congratulations Mike and Stan, with Mike calling the shot from the beginning of the tournament.

Harold McClean

Edmonton . . .

Edmonton leads the way in Western Canada Handball Youth movement. Ken Shearer, physical director of the Edmonton Y, is most enthusiastic about these young players and feels that Edmonton has a breeding camp through their youth movement for future champs.

In order to promote instruction of young players, particularly in Alberta, visits to Calgary and Lethbridge with a group of the boys to demonstrate just what can really be done with this age level are planned.

The Edmonton Handball Association will be hosting this year's Western Canadian Handball Championships. Dates for the tournament will be April 2, 3 and 4, 1970, with play in Singles, Doubles, and Masters Doubles.

You may recall that the 1968 Canadian Nationals were held in "Klondike City" and for those who attended, we again guarantee a 'first class show.'

Ken Shearer

NEW COURT LISTINGS

CALIFORNIA — *Beale Air Force Base*. Two standard courts in Northern area of State. Located at base gymnasium. Both handball and racquetball are played. Physical Director — Sgt. Jones, Ext. 2583.

Van Nuys — Mid-Valley YMCA. Two standard courts. 6901 Lennox ave. Physical director — Bud Cosby. Tel. No. 989 3800. Handball Club Director — Bill Hunter. Tel. No. 989 3800.

Hollywood — Six standard courts, including one with glass side wall at YMCA. 1553 N. Hudson. Physical director — Jim Chapel. Tel. No. 467 4161. Handball Club director — Joe Orlando. Tel. No. TH 6-0629.

Oceanside — Gym & Health Club. One excellent all concrete court, 20x42x18 (high). 225 Brooks. Physical director — Bob Janis. Tel. No. 722-8117.

Riverside — Four standard courts at YMCA. 4020 Jefferson ave. Physical director — Tex Fuls. Tel. No. 687 6363. Handball Club director — George Shull. Tel. No. 783 1587 (Colton).

San Pedro — Two standard courts at YMCA. 301 S. Bandini. Physical director — Benard Swanson. Tel. No. 832 4211. Handball Club director — Stan Benson. Tel. No. 832 4211.

FLORIDA — *Florida State University*. 12 3-wall outdoor courts, two standard four-wall courts with partial ceilings. Located at Tallahassee. Physical director — Ed Cubbon. Tel. no. 599 2640. For match call: Arlen Zander. Tel. no. 576 4435 (home); 599 3296 (office).

GEORGIA — *Atlanta*. One standard court at Tower Health Club, 600 W. Peachtree st., N.W. Physical director — George Schisler. Tel. no. 875 7521.

ILLINOIS — *Rockford*. YMCA, 200 Y Blvd. 3 standard courts. Play both handball and racquetball. Physical director — Carl Galligos. Tel. no. 965 7751.

IOWA — *Dubuque*. Loras College. Four standard courts. Intramural director — Al Schramm. Tel. no. 588 7209.

Iowa City. University of Iowa. 15 courts, 10 standard, at fieldhouse. Physical director — Dr. Donald Cassidy. Tel. no. 353 4651. Handball Club director — John Crites. Tel. no. 353 4484.

Waterloo. West Waterloo high school. One standard one wall court, one three wall court. YMCA — two standard four-wall courts for both handball and racquetball. Contact — Robert Siddens, athletic director, West high school.

KENTUCKY — *Lexington*. University of Kentucky. Four 18x36 courts. Handball Club director — Sanford S. Miller. Tel. no. 254 0234.

MARYLAND — *Rockville*. JCC of Greater Washington (D.C.). Three standard courts. 6125 Montrose rd. Physical director — Herb Resnick. Tel. no. 881 0100. Handball Club director — Dr. Lawrence Weiss. Tel. no. 929 1535.

Towson. Two standard courts for both handball and racquetball at YMCA. 600 W. Chesapeake ave. Physical director — Jim LaCalle. Tel. no. 823 8870. Handball Club director — Barry Palmer. Tel. no. 823 9970.

MICHIGAN — *Flint*. YMCA. Six standard courts. 411 E. Third st. Physical director — Richard Hill. Tel. no. 239 9481.

Midland. Community Center. Nine standard courts. One for handball only, others for both — four new in 1969. 2001 George st. Primarily available to county residents. Physical director — Roger Markell. Tel. no. 835 7197.

MINNESOTA — *Edina*. The Kings Court Handball & Paddleball Club. Opening about Feb. 1, 1970. Six standard courts. 7001 Cahill rd. Physical director — Ken Rosland. Tel. no. 941 2357. Handball Club director — Larry Johnson.

Tel. no. 941 2054.

NEVADA — *Reno*. YMCA. Three standard courts. 1300 Foster dr. Physical director — Denis E. Skog. Tel. no. 329 1311.

NEW YORK — *Brooklyn*. Eastern District YMCA. 179 Marcy ave. Two courts 20x38 with 12' high ceilings. Both handball and paddleball (wood). Physical director — Vincent N. Gattullo. Tel. no. ST 2-8300.

NORTH CAROLINA — *Cherry Point Marine Air Base*. Have-lock. Handball Club director — Paul Wienbarger. Tel. no. 447 3867.

Greenville. East Carolina University. Two standard courts. Physical director — Coach Stasovich. Tel. no. 758 6448.

Wilmington. YMCA. Market st. Two standard courts. Physical director — Jack Morris. Tel. no. 762 3357.

NORTH DAKOTA — *Fargo*. Fargo-Moorhead YMCA. 400 1st ave. S., Fargo. Six standard courts. Physical director — Glenn Gress. Tel. no. 232 8801.

Grand Forks. YMCA. Two standard courts for Jan. 1970. Box 1317. Physical director — Phillip Yagla. Tel. no. 772 5513.

Air Force Base. Two undersized courts, 14 miles west of Grand Forks. Physical director — Sgt. Richard Equinoa. Tel. no. 594 6455.

University of North Dakota — Grand Forks. Field house with three undersized courts. Physical director — L. R. Marti. Tel. no. 777 2234.

OHIO — *Findlay*. YMCA. Two standard courts with two new courts under construction. 300 E. Lincoln st. Physical director — Dick Roth. Tel. no. 422 4424. Handball Club director — Mike Winch. Tel. no. 422 4424.

Piqua. YMCA. Two standard courts. Corner High and Downing sts. Physical director — Jack McCord. Tel. no. 773 4305.

PENNSYLVANIA — *Butler*. YMCA. Two standard courts. North Washington st. Physical director — Sonny Jobson. Tel. no. 287 4733. Handball Club director — Roy Potter. Tel. no. 285 3800.

Harrisburg. Central YMCA. Three standard courts. Front & North sts. Physical director — Ken Ettline. Tel. no. 234 6221. Handball Club director — Wayne Howell. Tel. no. 774 0624.

Philadelphia. Athletic Club. Six courts, three standard, three large. Broad & Vine sts. Physical director — Frank Novak. Tel. no. LO 4 0574.

TENNESSEE — *Memphis*. Chickasaw Country Club. (in construction, finish date, March 1970). Three standard courts. JCC — two courts. Memphis Athletic Club, two courts, with two more in construction in 1970. Memphis State University. Nine to be finished by Dec., 1970, including glass championship court.

TEXAS — *Abilene*. YMCA. Two standard courts. 3250 State st. Physical director — Paul Fike. Tel. no. 677 8144.

Big Spring. YMCA. Two standard courts. 801 Owens st. Physical director — Eddie Trice. Tel. no. 267 8234. Handball Club director — Tito Arencibia. Tel. no. 263 7661.

Fort Worth. YMCA. Two standard, two 19x35. 512 Lamar st. Physical director — Bob Cline. Tel. no. 332 3281.

Texas Christian University. (Fort Worth). Two courts, 18½x31½. Physical director — Mr. Prouse. Tel. no. WA 6-2461 Ext. 300.

Lake Jackson. Two courts 24x44. 5 Oak Drive. Recreation Center director — Les Witcher. Tel. no. 297 4533.

McAllen. Elks Club. Also Griffin & Brand Co. One standard court each. Contacts (Elks) — Craig Morton. Office Tel. no. MU 6-5171. (Griffin & Brand) — Othal Brand. Office Tel. no. 2-2457.

VERMONT — *University of Vermont (Burlington)*. Eight standard courts. Physical director — Charles Christensen.

(to page 60)

SOUTHERN TRIP

(From page 31)

go for the 20x40 with a partial ceiling. Our special Florida rep., Dorsky, will keep a close watch.

The Flamingo gang is now assured that two more four-wall courts will be added to the two there now . . . this, after more than ten years of requests and frustrations.

And, they tell me that outdoor four-wall courts are in the plans at the University of Miami . . . they still haven't been able to get a proposed Northwest Miami YMCA off the drawing boards. And, the YMHA (once the private Westbrook C.C.) in Southwest Miami, has little handball play and sporadic racquetball on its two standard four-wall outdoor courts.

Had a 7:15 a.m. departure time from Miami for Birmingham but my plane never got off . . . had to change and finally left three hours later by way of Atlanta.

And, the grand weekend climax of our first National Invitational. I was thrilled and grateful to the Birmingham hosts for dedicating this classic to me . . . as a "working stiff" I never feel it justified in getting such an honor, but when it does come it is indeed appreciated. Mort the Sport thanks Dr. Jim Tanner & associates from the heart.

The National Invitational has proved itself 100% successful, and fills a gap of USHA sanctioned high level play in the first half of the season. Dr. Steve August wrote in later from California that he enjoyed the tournament thoroughly but felt it should be scheduled later in the season when the players are in better shape. Well, Dr. Steve, we can't crowd it in on the open nationals and divisional events and coming as it did in late November gives the players ample time to ready themselves. We usually figure that the official four-wall season commences after Labor Day . . . and a majority of the better tournament players compete

the year around.

Now, we look for a hosting of a National Invitational Doubles along with Masters doubles. You can be sure a doubles competition run on its own merits with no singles will provide the strongest field and best test of all time.

It isn't often that I turn down an article submitted to ACE, but I got one from the East that was written by a reporter who did not attend the tournament but received his information second hand by telephone from one of the participants. It tossed "cold water" on the Haber win by saying all his top competitors were suffering or came up with assorted injuries, ranging from sore feet to pulled muscles . . . and inferred that only through Haber's ability to remain sound physically does he win such a tournament. This is pure tommyrot. Tournament play does involve both skill and stamina and we can't take away from the known Paul Haber two-handed skills plus his ability to thrive on the rigors of such competitions. He beat both Marty Decatur and Stuffy Singer in the same day — two games each. And, despite a hot shooting Dr. Claude Benham in the finale, he came back with his strongest game in the third and deciding one to win going away.

In 1969 Nationals Haber has asserted himself three times against the best fields, leaving no doubts as to who is No. 1 in the handball world (two USHA plus the Canadian Nationals). And, remember please, there's one helluva difference between exhibitions and tournaments. The true test comes in a national USHA singles event, and as President Richard Nixon would say, "Make no mistake about that!"

And with that off my chest I say to one and all — Happy Holidays and a Healthy, Handballing (and Racquetball) in 1970.



CHICAGO'S RAINBOW BEACH STANDOUT . . . Open doubles provided an abundance of real talent with Paul Haber and Denny Hofflander outdistancing the field in the three-wall action. Pictured—kneeling (l to r)—Haber, Rich Drabik, Hofflander. Standing (l to r)—Jack McDonald, Andy Upatnieks, Johnny Sloan, Tom Smith, Joe Tackash.

Sioux City Invite Carded for April 3-5

The Sioux City, Iowa YMCA Handball Club has set April 3-5, 1970 for the 13th Siouxland Invitational Handball Tournament. Mark Your Calendar. Plan NOW to participate in one of the 16 man singles tournaments in the Midwest.

The Sioux City YMCA Handball Club, selection committee, must use its best judgment in determining whom they feel are the best 16 entries. Courts are regulation size.

Former Champions are: 1958, Dick Langdon, Minneapolis; 1959, Paul Nissen, Cedar Rapids; 1960, John Gregory, Omaha; 1961, Jim Madden, Omaha; 1962, Bob Brown, Sioux Falls; 1963, Bill Yambrick, St. Paul; 1964, Bill Yambrick, St. Paul; 1965, Bill Yambrick, St. Paul; 1966, Gary Rohrer, St. Paul; 1967, Paul Schulz, St. Paul; 1968, Terry Muck, St. Paul; 1969, Gary Rohrer, St. Paul.

Merle Oakes, Chairman
Handball Committee
Sioux Falls, Iowa 51101

McQueen Over Stramiello in Oregon A.C. 'Classic'

Seventy-nine players, representing clubs from Oregon and Washington, took part in the second annual Oregon Athletic Club's "Autumn Classic," Nov. 17-23.

The tournament presented several new wrinkles to handball, including free baby-sitting, free food and beverages all week and a wrap-up awards banquet featuring champagne and chicken. Photos were taken of each player. Each winner was presented champagne and called upon to serve — they proved they could, all week long.

A new division, Oregon Singles, was played this year with entries limited to Oregon residents only. Bob Vanderpool from the Jewish Community Center upset number one seeded Bert Petersen (Oregon Athletic Club) with a devastating hop on the serve, to capture a well-deserved first place. Scores were 21-17 and 21-17. Meanwhile, Jerry Hunt, Portland Fire Dept., outlasted Howard Fenton (JCC) for third place 19-21, 21-16 and 21-10. On the consolation side of the ledger, Lloyd Vanderpool (JCC), 16-year-old son of the first place winner, pulled off a surprise win over Don Livingston (OAC) 21-10 and 21-20. This is Lloyd's first trophy and he promises to be tough in the future. The semi-finals in this Division created two rough and tough matches as Vanderpool earned his finals berth over Hunt, 21-19 and 21-17. Petersen edged Fenton 7-21, 21-20 and 21-20 as he came back from a 7

point deficit in the second game.

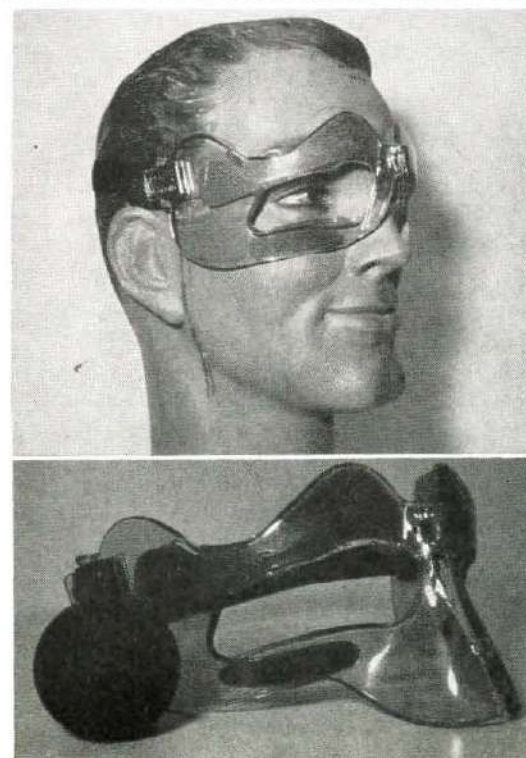
In the Master's Doubles, Howard Soumie and Wes Knapp (Portland Police Athletics Assn.) out-foxed Al Lippman and Bill Inglesby of the Multnomah Athletic Club with a come-from-behind victory, 15-21, 21-13 and 21-20. Third place was won by Don (Hinder) Losli and Jack Lynde (OAC) as they defeated Fred Simmons and Paul Hedman (unattached) in a thrilling three-game marathon 21-10, 18-21 and 21-6. Bill Simon and Joe Mastrandrea (JCC) rolled over Jay Cardoza and Ed Fitzsimmons (OAC) after a slow start, 12-21, 21-4 and 21-4, to take consolation honors.

The Open Doubles was blasted wide open by a sharpshooting pair from the Multnomah Athletic Club, John Foster and Jack Scrivens. They defeated Roy Bray and Vic Desimini (Portland Fire Dept.) for top spot. Third place was captured by Chuck Bell (Tourney Chairman) and Jerry Lyons (OAC) as they slipped by Jim Harmon and Gary Gritman (PFD) 21-17, 21-15. Kent Remington and Bill Redfield from University of Oregon Medical School, overpowered Aronen and Roberts (U of O Medical School) for the consolation trophy 21-17 and 21-15.

Open Singles started off with a bang as Jim O'Rourke, one of four players from the Spokane Elks Club upset third seeded Dick Brouwer (MAC) in the

opening round 20-21, 21-15, 21-20. The semi-finals brought together Les Pratt (PFD) and Ken McQueen (OAC) last years second place winner; as well as Tony Stramiello (Astoria YMCA), the defending Champ and No. 1 seed versus John Ritchie (OAC) McQueen overcame Pratt late in the match 16-21, 21-10 and 21-17, with deadly kills to the corners, while Stramiello side-stepped Ritchie 21-20 and 21-20. In the final, McQueen put it all together and triumphed 21-18, 21-20. The match ended with both players prone and the crowd loved it. Ron Hull (Spokane Elks) defeated Gene Hughes (Portland State Univ.) by running him into leg cramps and a 21-6, 21-12 consolation win. The third place trophy was captured by Ritchie over Pratt in a match where Pratt ran into a side wall and was unconscious for several minutes. The score was 21-19 and 21-6. The great hustle and courage of Les Pratt, coupled with his unfailing honesty throughout the meet, earned him the Sportsmanship Award, over runnerup Bill Beckwith (OAC) and Jerry Hunt (PFD).

One man unable to play because of a bad lung, which collapsed in mid-game three months prior, put in countless hours of help and a special note of thanks to John Van Daam for his contributions. Club Manager, Skip Roggenbuhl, and his staff, assisted by the OAC handball wives and a strong group of lady paddleballers enabled the meet to roll along mostly. The hard-working tourney committee was composed by Chuck Bell, Jerry Lyons, Dennis Schalk, Ken McQueen and, with thanks. Bert L. Petersen



NEW SAFTIGUARD

Completely form fitting and comfortable. Any blow to the SAFTIGUARD is distributed into the resilient pads and over a large area of the face, therefore minimizing any discomfort from the hit. Improve your game and get the jump on those who are afraid to "look back."

LIGHTWEIGHT with MAXIMUM VISIBILITY and COMPLETE PROTECTION. A clasp has been designed for easy adjustment of head band. A moisture-absorbing pad minimizes discomfort or visibility limitation PLUS action as a cushion from a blow. Unit may be folded for easy carrying.

Suggested retail price — \$3.95. Available Immediately!

Neward Die and Manufacturing Co., Inc.
2066 W. 11th St., Upland, Calif. 91786

Eastern Players Have Chip On Their Shoulders

"It's a crime," the man in the well-worn T-shirt and cracked handball gloves said to his three friends in the locker room of a YMCA in metropolitan New York. "Why we would be favored to win the national championship this year if we were to win the East Division tournament against that caliber of competition."

"I agree, it would be anti-climatic to even go to the nationals after winning against some of the teams who will be in that tournament," a second player said. "If he and I ever won that one, we wouldn't even play you for two for beers any more," he said looking at two friends lounging in the Y health club easy chairs.

Proposals to give airplane tickets to the National tournament each year to more than just the winners of the Eastern Regional or East Divisional Tournaments have been made by several handball players from that section of the country.

As the first player explained it, "This is the most populated area of the country, and yet we are treated like the other areas. For instance, the Southeast Region which is now the South Division, might have as many people within its area as all of New York State."

"New York State is just part of our division, yet it contains a population equal or more than the entire South Division."

It was further pointed out by the player that in the East Division that the nation's best players are predominantly from New York. Yet, the nationals are never held there because of a lack of facilities.

"This indicates to me that the New York or East Division players are in more need of transportation costs to the Nationals. They are never the hosts of the events, so they always have to pay great amounts of money for transportation costs to get there."

"Jimmy Jacobs, Marty Decatur, Pat Kirby, Lou Russo and Lou Kramberg, all nationally-ranked players are the nucleus of the 92nd St. YMHA team in New York. The Obert Brothers, Oscar, Carl and Ruby, all play for the New York Athletic Club," his partner said.

"You won't find eight better players in any other city or division," he said, "so this has to count for something. And, if you don't buy these eight, there's Vic Hershkowitz in Brooklyn and Tommy Ciasulli of Orange, N.J., who was third in the national singles last year," one

of their doubles opponents said.

"In addition, we've got some of the brightest young prospects in the country here with Steve Lott, Wesley Yee and the Straus twins, all National Junior champions."

Then you can add some other greats like George Maier and Billy Gluck, former three-wall master's doubles champions; Fred Lewis who is from New York and attends college in Florida where he's the best and is national inter-collegiate champ; and some regional players like the Munsch Brothers, Jack Walsh, Jack Weintraub and Sam Costa, who can play with anyone," the fourth player added.

"I don't think we'd even be overstating our case if we wrote to the USHA asking them to consider this," one of them said.

"Yeah, let's do that," they all chimed in.

Just then they were interrupted by a dripping wet handballer who had entered the locker room. "Court 2 is free if you guys are looking for a game."

Suddenly the room was void of locker room lawyers and the more subdued steam-room addicts could talk to each other without shouting to each other.

Tomczak Tops 59-player Field in Rochester,

By BILL KENNEDY

Indefatigable Len Tomczak, Erie, Pa. YMCA led his team to the 10th Annual Vic Hollander-Bill Horrod Tournament championship in the Rochester, N.Y. Central YMCA on Oct. 24-25. Tomczak's successful defense of his singles crown gave the Erie team seven points, enough for the team title.

Tomczak defeated five opponents to top a field of 59 in singles, while Al Runtel and Harold McClean, Downtown YMCA of Toronto, Canada, successfully defended their doubles championship with victories in three matches.

Enroute to the finals, Tomczak eliminated Joe Early, Albany YMCA, 21-14, 21-17, in the second round; Ted Smith, Rochester JY, 21-5, 21-7, in the third round; and Steve Lott, West Side (N.Y.) YMCA, 21-12, 21-14, in the quarter-finals. Lott, was the 1968 19-and-under Junior National Champion.

In the semi-finals Randy Essel, Cleveland YMCA, succumbed to Tomczak 21-17, 21-3, setting the stage for a title match with Kent Fusselman, Warren, Ohio YMCA.

Fusselman, who finished in the Top Eight in the 1969 USHA National singles tourney in Austin, Tex., used a high lob serve to Tomczak's left to win the first game 21-7. Tomczak fought back to capture the second contest 21-18, and in a grueling rubber game Tomczak outlasted his younger opponent, winning again 21-18.

Fusselman had been extended a little further than Tomczak in the matches leading to the finals. After disposing of Dave Pasternak, host YMCA, 21-9, 21-10, in the second round, Fusselman defeated Bob Harbatkin, West Side, 21-4, 21-18 in the third round. Gary Sauer, Downtown Buffalo YMCA, was eliminated 21-1, 21-3, in the quarterfinals before Fusselman was pressed to three games by his Warren teammate, George Fenton. Fenton won the first semi-final game 21-20 and forced Fusselman to go 21-15, 21-16 before earning a shot at the championship.

Fenton was the third place winner with a default over Essel.

Runtel and McClean swept through the doubles field without a loss in three matches. They hammered Michael Meltzer and Jack Goldstein, West End Y, Ontario, 21-3, 21-11 in the quarterfinals and then defeated Mike Bobby and

Ralph Albertson, host YMCA, 21-5, 21-16, in the semis. The Irish duo of Brendan O'Boyle and Jim Fitzpatrick, Yonkers (N.Y.) YMCA were the champs' victims in the finals, as the Runtel-McClean tandem won 21-18, 21-5.

O'Boyle and Fitzpatrick had conquered Herb Mitzner and Bob Orozco, Central Y, 21-14, 21-5 in the quarter-finals and then edged Yonkers teammates Tom Ryan and Joe Cryan, 21-14, 20-21, 21-15, in the semi-finals.

While it was the 10th tournament held in the name of two of Rochester's outstanding handball players, it was the

first under USHA sanction.

Rochester, which is rapidly becoming the East's most enthusiastic handball city, had the Central Y send out questionnaires quizzing players on their ideas for improvements in the operation for the Hollander-Horrod tournament.

In addition, Billy Yambrick, three times the USHA National singles runner-up, put on an exhibition in mid-November at both the Central and JY. The Rochester Handball Association and Bob Orozco, physical director of the Central Y, are most responsible for the handball boom in that city.

Eastern Players Ready For Our Challenge?

A new idea in national USHA tournament format has come up as a result of allegations from the East that all the power is in that sector. This would be a TEAM DIVISION event comprised of two singles players, two doubles teams, and a Masters doubles team from each division. Points would be scored as follows: No. 1 singles—2 points for each win. No. 2 singles—1 point for each win. No. 1 doubles—2 points for each win. No. 2 doubles—1 point for each win. Masters doubles—1 point for each win. All competition would be on a round robin basis—meaning each player would compete three times in three days.

Just roughly lining up proposed teams:

EAST

#1 doubles—Jacobs-Decatur
#2 doubles—Kramberg-Russo, or Oberts
#1 singles—Kirby . . . Decatur
#2 singles—Russo
Masters doubles—Hershkowitz-Gluck . . . Maier . . . Ciasulli

WEST

#1 doubles—Sandland-Matt Kelly

#2 doubles—Pfeifer-Mike Kelly . . .
Harold Price . . . Bourbeau
#1 singles—Singer
#2 singles—Dr. Steve August . . . Dave Graybill
Masters doubles—Brady-Weisman . . . Boisseree-Feivou
CENTRAL

#1 doubles—Tyson-Lindsay
#2 doubles—Neveau-Fein . . . Shumate-Muck
#1 singles—Haber
#2 singles—Yambrick
Masters doubles—Schneider-Dr. Stan London . . .
Lewis-Goldstein . . . Grant
SOUTH

#1 doubles—Miller-Lackey
#2 doubles—??
#1 singles—Benham
#2 singles—Lewis . . . Ortiz
Masters doubles—Kaufman, Hanft, Denuccio

Places on the team through results of the various division tournaments Jan. 30-Feb. 1. Anyone interested in sponsoring such an event??? Proposed dates—mid-April, late April or early May, 1970.

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As we wind up the 1969 calendar year many of our members may be eligible for the exclusive USHA 365 Club. This involves playing 365 games of handball this year, having this certified by your physical director or whoever is in

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Grand Forks Handball Club Takes North Dakota Award

Handball is alive and well in the Northern Plains, thank you, and the newly organized Grand Forks, N.D., Handball Club has the trophy to prove it.

The far North slammers trounced down-state rival Fargo, N.D., 28 games to 8 games in September to take home their first trophy and unofficially, at least for the time being, claim the championship of the Red River Valley of the North.

The round robin event was the first between the state's two largest cities in a number of years, and marked the beginning of increased handball interest in the area that will lead to several more tournaments and international competition.

The September match was hosted by the Fargo YMCA, with Dick Sisler, executive director, and Glenn Gress, physical director, ably handling the arrangements. Dave Rubin of Grand Forks was overall tourney director while Bill Westphal, Grand Forks YMCA youth director, represented the Grand Forks Y.

Each city fielded six doubles teams. Each doubles team played each of the six opposing city's teams one 21-point game for a total of 36 matches. Four of the Grand Forks teams were undefeated. The fewest points, 48, were allowed by Grand Forks' No. 1 team, Rubin and Thomas J. Clifford, both of the University of North Dakota.

In all, the Forks teams gave up just 431 points in the 36 matches, while Fargo yielded 667.

Five of the Grand Forks players were from the university (U), three from the Grand Forks Air Base (AFB) and five from the YMCA (Y), thus giving the team a fairly even mix of the three handball groups in the city.

The other Grand Forks teams, and their affiliations, were Dick Dahl (Y) and Tom Divine (Y); Harold Pederson (U) and Bob Evenson (Y); Bill Burwell (Y), Westphal (Y) and Chuck Boley (U); Rich Equinoa (AFB) and Jay Myser (U); and Nat Bethers and John Rundles, both AFB.

The Fargo teams were Earl Lee and Mel Heim, Chuck Berry and John Hamilton, Dale Hertz and Tim Vavrosky, Harold Hoff and Ray Archigo, Dennis Hanson and Dave Powers, and Norm Weber and John Coste.

In addition to a rematch with Fargo sometime in January, the Grand Forks club is operating a mini-league in the city between the university, the Y and the Air Base, and is planning tournaments such as a home-and-home match with Winnipeg, Canada; a Red River Valley Open that would include North Dakota, Minnesota and Manitoba (Canada); and the Grand Forks Air Force Base Open. The Forks-men also hope to

give their Northern brethren some good games in the Manitoba Open.

An ambitious schedule, but one that the Grand Forks group feels will only begin to meet the surging interest and renewed activity of handball enthusiasts in the North country.

The newly organized Grand Forks, N.D., Handball Club won its second match in late November when they edged the Manitoba Handball Association 288-268 in a day-long tourney held at the University of Winnipeg courts, Manitoba, Canada.

Ten North Dakotans tangled with the 14 Northerners in 17 doubles games, with the Grand Forks hard-handers winning nine of the matches. The Grand Forks team had to win four out of its last five matches to pull out the win.

Following the games the Manitoba group hosted a reception for the Grand Forks players and their wives at the downtown Sheraton-Carlton Hotel. The reception included the showing of the movie, "Play Handball," featuring Jimmy Jacobs and Stuffie Singer, and narrated by Art Linkletter.

The Grand Forks club plans to host the Canadians to a similar one-day tourney in Grand Forks in late January.

The Grand Forks team consisted of Dr. Walter Wasdahl, Dale Vetter, Neil Reuter, Ken Brandt, Bill Dlouhy, Bob Jenkles, Rich Equinoa, John Rundles, Nate Bethers and Chuck Boley.

The Manitoba group: Oddie Harras, Ted Barkwell, Norm Duncan, Dick Archer, Jim Sisler, Larry Wold, Ted Gowan, Mel Wilson, Wayne Matheson, Walt Paley, Jim Woods, Dave Dolan, John Anderson and Jerry Thornhill.

In September, the Grand Forks group won its first tourney as an organization when it topped down-state rival Fargo, N.D.

—Jack McDonald



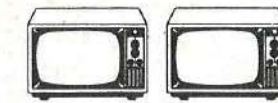
NORTH COUNTRY HANDBALL CHAMPS . . . The Grand Forks, N.D., Handball Club won a day-long round robin match with rival Fargo, N.D., to claim the championship of the Red River Valley of the North. Front row, (l-r)—Bill Westphal, Bill Burwell, Chuck Boley, Rich Equinoa and Nat Bethers. Back row (l-r)—John Rundles, Bob Evenson, Dave Rubin, Thomas Clifford, Harold Pederson and Jay Myser. Missing: Dick Dahl and Tom Devine.

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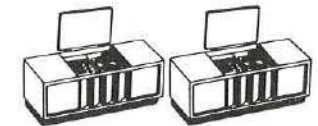
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Play-by-Play of Nat'l Invitational Benham-Haber Finals

FIRST GAME—

Benham 21, Haber 18—Referee—Bill Yambrick.

Haber scored twice on right hand kills, Benham came back with one, then put Haber out.

Benham counted an ace with a serve to the right. 2-2. Benham then stood at the left side wall and served to the left, got a weak return but couldn't put in the kill, Haber then shot a kill into the right corner with his right to put him out.

2-2. Haber with a lob serve down the left and ended a short rally with a right hand pass down the left for 3-2. Haber tried to sneak an overhand serve down the right with Benham moving in but it was short. Cross court serve, exchange of ceiling shots, long volley, and rally ends with a Haber right hand kill in right corner, 4-2. Power serve to left, return to ceiling, ended in hinder. Another power serve to left, short, and followed with lob to the right . . . ceiling volley. Two good digs by Haber but Benham finally got the third shot in, straight right hand kill to front wall right.

2-4. Serve to right hits crotch for an ace, 3-4. Another to the right, comes off the side wall low and Haber kills.

4-3. Hop serve to left, return hits Haber. Another hinder on Haber shot that came up and was shadowed. Power serve to left, return right deep court, Haber to ceiling . . . Benham shoots into the left corner with his right to put him out.

3-4. Cross court serve to Haber's left, up to ceiling to Benham's right in deep court. Another long volley. Haber shot high off back wall with his left and Benham pounced on it for a right hand kill. 4-4. Benham goes out as he misses with his right after a short volley.

4-4. Lob Haber serve to right. Rally ends with hinder. Too hard to handle for Paul on ceiling to his right, and Benham follows with an ace serve to right for 5-4. Haber misses with a ceiling shot, 6-4. Kill by Benham with his right into right corner, followed by an ace to right for 8-4. Kill by Benham off ceiling shot, not bottom board but low enough with Haber lagging back, 9-4. Straight right hand kill by Benham, pushing score to 10-4. Time out Haber.

10-4. Side out on Haber pass to Benham's left. 4-10. 5-10 on ace to left. Lob serve to the left, around the walls . . . Benham passes Haber on the right and takes over the serve. 10-5. Benham standing at left side wall, serves to left behind himself, long volley ensues. Haber shoots off Benham ceiling shot to his left, Benham digs it brilliantly and fires in kill for 11-5. Serve to left, hinder call. There had been some controversy over the type of serve Benham uses at times—standing close to the left side wall and then serving hard down the left wall. Once, when Chicago's Don Ardito had played Benham and lost, Claude said to Don, "Gee, you played real well . . ." And, Don replied, "I might have done better if I could have followed that serve down the left you use." And, Benham came back with, "Well, I once played Marty Decatur and he killed me with that serve so I started using it". And, there's Pete Tyson who discovered his intense dislike for the serve after losing to Scattle's Bud Simpson. Obviously, a referee has to determine whether or not this is a screen serve and be strong in making his calls accordingly.

11-5. Serve down the right, good return, then Benham misses with his right. 5-11. Short on attempted hop to left . . . Cross court on 2nd, up to ceiling . . . Benham digs, then Haber kills with that patented left hand right wall, front wall kill from short line. 6-11. Again short with the power serve, then cross court to Benham's left. Haber shoots too high and ball is kept in play. Paul finally runs Benham

and passes on his left for 7-11. 8-11 on Haber right hand kill. Serve to right, and makes it 9-11 on deep court right hand straight kill. Time out Benham.

9-11. Down the left. Benham shoots and misses with his right, 10-11. Again serve to the left, up to ceiling . . . back wall shot for Haber, hits Benham. Still 10-11. Haber shoots down the middle, Benham's return off back wall hits him. Again to left on serve . . . exchange of ceiling shots. Back wall shot for Haber, too high, comes to Benham's left, up to ceiling. Volley ends with pass to Haber's right.

11-10. Cross court serve by Benham. Haber kills off back wall with right. 10-11. Haber can't score as he is handcuffed by hard Benham shot. 11-10. Serving from left, Benham goes right for short. Haber tries to shoot from behind Claude, ball comes up and Benham drills it into left corner with his right hand. 12-10. Contact with Benham moving to right to take deep, high ball. Serves again. Behind him to left. Slider down right too hard for Benham to handle, 10-12.

10-12. Lob serve to left by Haber. Up to ceiling by Benham. Haber goes to ceiling left but ball comes around to Benham's right and he has the opportunity as he had often in this match to shoot. Finally volley ends as Claude passes Paul down the right.

12-10. Serve down right. Hinder. Cross court to right. Long volley. Finally Haber gets feather touch ceiling shot to left that is too hard for Benham to handle. 10-12. Serve to left, ceiling return. Haber tries to shoot into right front wall and misses. 12-10. Benham serves to left, gets weak return, shoots to right but Haber is blocked and hinder is called. Serve down the right. Benham shoots into right corner with his right and Haber can't dig it. 13-10. 14-10 as Haber errs on Benham's serve to his right. Now serve to left. Benham shoots from three-quarter court with his right and misses. Time out Haber.

10-14. Pass to Benham's right makes it 11-14. Benham gets a fat one off the back wall and flattens it. 14-11. Haber gets it right back after a lengthy volley and shoots in a left hand kill—right wall, front wall. 11-14. Change of gloves. Haber's ceiling shot to the left corner is too tough for Benham to return, 12-14. A pass to Benham's left makes it 13-14. A tricky carom off the deep right wall glass is tough for Haber to handle and his right hand return is short.

14-13. Benham serves to right, ceiling return, and volley ends with Haber left hand kill from short line into front left wall. 13-14. Benham shoots to right front wall from deep court and gets serve back. 14-13. It's been a grueling first game thus far. Change of shirts, change of gloves, both men working hard. Each wants this first game for the obvious eventual winning of match and psychological edge. Paul tries to shoot with his right off serve and misses. 15-13. Serve to left, Benham errs with left hand fist for handout. 13-15. Haber goes to cross court after shorting, Benham moves in and takes it with his right and volley ends as ball goes into gallery. Benham errs off Haber's serve to left—could possibly be termed an ace, 14-15. A Benham pass to the right after Haber missed up on two backwall fat ones and the handout.

15-14. A pass to the right by Benham for 16-14. Benham shoots to the left, Haber moves in the misses with his left and it is 17-14. Time out Benham. 17-14. Benham has a shot and misses, slipping on a wet spot as he was positioning himself.

14-17. Straight kill with his right by Haber and the count is 15-17. 105 different ways of gaining time outs . . . No. 27—wet spots on floor so time is taken to wipe it up.

15-17. Benham misses with his right twice and score is knotted at 17-17. Shot for Haber with ball coming off right wall on ineffectual ceiling shot but he misses. Serve to right is short . . . cross court, Haber with his right around the walls, volley ensues . . . 18-17 on Benham deep court right hand kill. This is the stage of the game where the points come hard. Haber regains serve on driving pass with his right and then takes time out. 17-18. Ties it up with that beautiful left hand into right corner. 18-18. Right corner kill with his right by Benham. Crucial deep court right hand kill by Benham for 19-18 on a strictly go-for-broke. Straight front wall kill with his right by Benham for 20-18. Long volley. Haber has setup off weak return and he kills with his left. 18-20. Short serve. Cross court . . . fat shot off backwall for Haber but shoots it high, and Benham "softs" it in with his left to regain serve.

20-18. Another "wetness" time out. Benham almost catches the left wall crotch on his serve, gets a weak return, goes on offense and puts a driving right hand shot for game point.

SECOND GAME—

Haber 21, Benham 19.

Benham scores first on a fly right hand kill into the left corner, 1-0. Then Claude hits into floor. 0-1. Benham drives right hand shot along right wall that Haber can't cope with. 1-0. 2-0 on ace to the left. Then Benham again slips on setup off weak service return and misses. 0-2.

We skip to 5-3 Haber as camera positions are adjusted. Haber had counted on several right hand setups and two Benham right hand shooting errors.

5-3. Haber serving . . . lob to left. Haber attempts that right corner shot with his left and misses. 3-5. Shadow ball on first serve. Two coming. Right wall, front wall pass by Claude with Haber at the right. 4-5. Haber misses as he comes in fast for right hand shot, 5-5. Paul passes Benham to left and regains serve. Lob serve to the left, Benham moves in, gives weak return and Haber kills, front wall, right wall with his right, 6-5. Haber errs with his right. 5-6. Long volley. Benham takes difficult ceiling to his left, just manages to flip one in with his right with Haber hanging back and it's a handout.

6-5. Quick handout on pass off serve, then 6-6 on right hand kill. 7-6 Benham, after regaining serve, adds one as Haber misses with his left. Setup off back wall for Haber and he straight kills with his right. 6-7. Paul ends the volley with a right hand kill from the short line, 7-7. Nice recovery by Haber during volley but Benham takes advantage of weak return and kills straight into front wall with his right.

7-7. Benham serves to the left, has a shot off weak return and passes Haber to the right. 8-7. Again to the left, remains on offensive, shoots kill from three-quarter court with his trusty right with Haber deep. 9-7. Ace to the right for 10-7. Time out Haber.

10-7. Benham with the serve down the left behind him, then misses with his right. 7-10. Serve to left. Both shooting too high until Haber slides one down the right for 8-10. Haber asks for change of gloves, denied by referee. Haber's return of ceiling shot gave Benham an opening and he passes down the right to take over serve. 10-8. Benham in center of court, goes to the left, and then gets brilliant kill from deep court, 11-8. Again to center and gets an ace to the left, 12-8. Serve down the right. Setup for Haber off the back wall but shot too high and resultant hinder. As Benham was moving in during volley he took eye off the ball and it hit him on top of the head for a handout.

8-12. Short serve. Cross court on second to Benham's right . . . Benham tries shot from deep court with his right and misses, 9-12. Cross court to Benham's left, and then Haber misses with his right and each are giving opening. 12-9. Ball out of play after long volley. Ace—just over the short line

to right wall crotch, 13-9. This time Haber moves in takes it off right side wall and flattens it. 9-13. Serve to Benham's right and Claude promptly kills it. 13-9. Right with serve again, Benham gets setup but ball comes up from right corner and Haber bottom boards it with his right. 9-13. Fly shot by Haber with his right passes Benham for 10-13. Shadow serve by Haber. Serve to left. Another long volley with Haber finally shooting off right side wall deep and missing. Benham takes time out.

13-10. *Stuffy Singer*: "Basically, I think what is happening in this game is Claude Benham is not being flustered by Paul's consistent ceiling game and that he is making a good percentage of his shots when the opportunities arise. And, Paul, rather than saying to himself, let's make some shots, he's appearing to be more concerned with trying to make Benham make errors." Benham serving, down the left, and then errs on a right hand shot. 10-13. Straight right hand Haber kill for 11-13. First serve short. Another Haber tally on a right hand kill after maneuvering Benham around with ceiling and around the wall shots. 12-13. Haber put out on Benham right hand kill into right corner.

13-12. Serve to the right. Haber shooting better with his right, gets weak return and gets serve back. 12-13. Benham shoots straight into front wall off ceiling shot that did not go deep. 13-12. Again a turnover as Benham misses with his right. 12-13. Benham gets it back as he shoots down the right for a pass. 13-12. Haber digs and regains serve. 12-13. Benham tries to scoop one and calls a two-bouncer on himself. 13-13. Haber passes Benham on the left, 14-13. Goes to 15-13 on right hand kill off right side wall. Benham time out.

15-13. Benham moves in on lob serve to his left, brings ball around, and then misses on shot opportunity with his right. 16-13. Short serve. Lob to his left and then followup Haber ceiling shot to left is too hard for Benham to handle. 17-13. Lob to left on Haber serve, goes around the walls as Benham anticipated a kill attempt and caught him moving in and shot to deep court couldn't be handled. 18-13. 19-13 on a right hand pass to the left. Long volley ends in hinder. Benham misses off back wall, 20-13. Benham gets serve back with kill to left.

13-20. Benham kills with his right into right corner, 14-20. 15-20 on pass to Haber's left. Serve behind himself to left, 16-20, on nice left corner kill. Again with the left serve . . . kill with half speed in right corner, 17-20. Serve to right is short . . . cross court to Haber's left. Hinder call. Benham takes last time out.

17-20. Serve down to right, tough return. Too hard for Benham to handle on ceiling to left.

20-17. Short serve. Regains serve, moving in on lob to left and pounds left fist shot past Haber down the right wall. 17-20. Serve down the right. Haber left hand kill attempt in right corner misses, 18-20.

18-20. Benham is making those "non percentage" deep court shots. Haber has a shot with his right and misses, 19-20. Very crucial. Serves to right. Deep court kill by Haber with his right from behind Benham.

20-19. Short serve on power to left. Cross court. Benham misses with his right off a ceiling return and it's a game apiece, 21-19.

THIRD GAME—

Haber 21, Benham 13.

Haber starts serve, put out by straight Benham right hand kill. Then Claude kills with his right in right corner, 1-0. Benham errs on right hand fly shot. 0-1. Serves from center court. 1-1 as Benham floors one with his right. Short serve . . . Left hand shot into right corner by Haber for 2-1. 3-1 after exchange of ceiling shots, Benham misses with right on ceiling down left. Lob to left . . . Haber is running Benham. Benham kills in right corner with his right.

1-3. Center court position for Benham's serve . . . goes to right. Haber drills one in with his right, 3-1. Ceiling left, Benham's return doesn't reach front wall, 4-1. Too hard to handle. 1-4 as right corner shot by Benham is unreturnable.

1-4. Serve to right. Slider down left passes Benham and serve goes back to Haber. 4-1. Pass to Benham's left again, 5-1. 6-1 as Benham sets one up and Haber flattens it with his right. Haber has his best lead of the day. Left hand to right corner by Haber misses, 1-6.

1-6. Benham goes back to left wall to serve, down the left, and shoots to right corner with his right off Haber return for 2-6. Again to the left. Benham had several scoring opportunities, with Paul making fine gets, and then puts him out with a straight kill. 6-2. That was a hard, grueling rally. *Singer: They just got involved in a long rally in which Paul Haber made a number of extremely fantastic gets. However, it was smart play on the part of Benham to pass up possible point ending shots to keep Paul running. In passing up those shots, since he was serving, all he loses by losing the volley is the serve. And, he might gain five or six points as the match goes along . . . with Haber also going to the floor a couple of times. This is where Haber injected, after hearing the tape, "Keep thinking that way, Stuffy."*

6-2. Benham takes lob serve to left out of air, then Haber misses with his right. 2-6. Serve to the left. Hinder as ball hits Benham. Cross court to Haber's left. Haber "creams one" from back court with his right and puts Benham out. 6-2. Benham shoots off back wall and kills with his right. 2-6. Benham serving from center court position. Short serve. Cross court serve. Benham moves in quickly but off balance and misses with his right. 6-2. Overhand lob to left. Exchange of ceiling. Benham just misses with right and it's 7-2. Exchange of ceiling shots again. Pass by Benham to Haber's left. 2-7. Cross court to Haber's right, ceiling left return. Paul went into the left wall with his shoulder trying to retrieve tantalizing lob shot into front left side with Benham's left . . . this was the same type of collision that put Haber out of play in his exhibition a couple of years ago at the Los Angeles Athletic Club with Jim Jacobs. However, this time he shakes off the injury and resumes play.

3-7. Serve to right, coming around to Haber's left. Nice get by Haber. Setup for Paul and he kills with his right. 7-3. Haber kills again with his right from deep court. 8-3. Slider down left wall that Haber can't handle. 3-8. Serve to right. Benham kills in left corner with his right, for 4-8. Keeps serving to right. Another nice kill by Benham with right in left corner for 5-8, then Haber regains serve with another of those fine left hand kills in right corner.

8-5. Serve to left (lob), Benham out of air, then Benham misses with his right. 9-5. Then Haber misses with his right. 5-9. Serve to left, Benham kills in left corner with his right, 6-9. Right corner kill by Haber with his left. 9-6. Benham misses with his right, 10-6. Lob to left serve. Setup for Benham off back wall and puts in straight kill.

6-10. Benham kills with right corner with right, 7-10. Another Benham right hand kill for 8-10. Haber comes back

passes Claude to left, catching him going to right. 10-7. 11-7 on a ceiling shot too hard to handle. 12-8 on Benham right hand error. 13-8 on Haber left hand kill. Lob to right on second serve . . . then Haber kills off ceiling with his left. In this match Paul had many opportunities for such shots but the left side wall glass seemed to bother him and he would not get the proper leverage to put that ball in low with his left with that big "circle swing."

14-8. 15-8 on straight right hand kill by Haber and he seems to be in complete command at this juncture. Serve to the left . . . 16-8 on ceiling to deep left court, too hard for Benham to handle with his left. Hinder call after long volley. 17-8 after long volley, Haber takes ball off back with left and kills straight.

17-8. Pass to left by Benham and he regains serve. 8-17. 9-17 as Haber misses off serve, but gets it back on Benham right hand error. 17-9. 18-9 on pass to Benham's right. Handout as Benham shoots to right with Haber back. 9-18. Weak return off serve and Benham shoots into right corner with his right, 10-18. Too hard for Benham to handle off ceiling to his left. 18-10. Straight right hand kill by Benham again with Haber back and 10-18. Kill by Haber from deep court with his right, 18-10. 19-10 as Haber takes ceiling shot with his left and kills. 20-10 on ball that hugs left side wall and too hard to handle. Haber gets several shots and then seemingly puts one in but ball hit Benham on the way in (just flicked his pants).

Benham gets serve back on Haber right hand error, then makes it 11-20 on another deep court right hand kill. 12-20 on pass down the right. Haber gets serve back as he kills with his right on ball that came off right side wall, mid-court. 20-12. Benham regains serve on desperate left hand flip that just reaches front wall. 12-20. Serves to left for ace, 13-20. Short serve. Pass to left by Haber after long volley with Benham going right.

20-13. Serve to left, volley of ceiling shots . . . Haber gets his setup and kills with his right.

Courtside after match. Paul Haber, representing the Leaning Tower YMCA in Chicago. "Paul, good show . . . how do you feel right now . . . ?" Paul: (breathing hard)—"Oh, a little tired, but you can't help that after three hard games with Claude. "He gave you a real hard match, perhaps one of the toughest you've ever had in your tournament play". Paul: "I'd say that Claude and Pat Kirby are the two biggest shooters I've played against in the last few years. At that point, buddy Paul Morlos came out on the court, singing, the Peggy Lee hit song—"Let's bring out the booze and have a ball . . ."

"Claude, we're proud of the showing you made. It's your finest performance to date and it could have gone the other way." Claude: Thank you very much. It certainly was a privilege to play in this tournament and I want to thank the Birmingham people for inviting me down here. "You did a lot to make this tournament a success, believe me."

And, so wraps up the first National USHA Invitational singles championship from Birmingham, Alabama, on this 23rd day of November, 1969.

standard courts. Physical director — Mickey McGuire, Tel. no. 739 6135.

Fond Du Lac. YMCA. Two standard courts. 90 W. 2nd st. Physical director — John Coggins. Tel. no. 921 3330.

Janesville. YMCA. Two new standard. Two others 19x39. 54 S. Franklin. Physical director — Walt Goodrich. Tel. no. 754 6654.

Kenosha. Youth Foundation. 720 59th Pl. Two standard courts. Physical director — James Grove. Tel. no. 654 2104.

Wausau. Woodson YMCA. Two standard courts. 707 Third st. Physical director — Marv Zimmeman. Tel. no. 845 2177.

Texas Grade School Initiates Handball

Handball has become popular in the Seguin, Texas grammar schools.

David Gregory, a handball buff, introduced the game in 1966 at the Mary B. Erskine Elementary School. It was initiated by marking off three one-wall courts to determine the interest. "After giving a brief description of the game, and a demonstration, and letting the boys have a try, there was no stopping them from playing," Gregory relates. "The boys used tennis balls at first and later the school purchased the practice handball for their use."

The interest of the students has been overwhelming. This year there were a total of 74 boys playing in grades four, five and six.

Lack of courts is the immediate problem and brought on the organization of a club to set up ladder tournaments. The challenge and court assignments are taken care of by the officers of the club and each grade has its own president and vice president who serve on the rules committee for tournament play.

In April a tournament seeds the top four players on each grade ladder and the matches are played during physical education class and at noon. A match consists of 21 points and ribbons are awarded to first, second and third places. As a special feature an all-school championship is conducted.

Reading material on handball is provided, including ACE magazine, our Championship Handball booklet, and can be checked out the same as library books.

"One of the big questions asked is what makes handball go over so big with kids. The answer? It is the only game that they can play and have a one-to-one challenge. Most sports are group and team activities. A fourth grader can play a sixth grader and compete very well whereas the age and size factor would prohibit them from playing together in other sports," is Gregory's final report.

NOTE: Present facilities for four-wall handball are still in the planning stages. A new Boys Club, not yet completed, will have one regulation court. Texas Lutheran College plans four standard courts in their new physical education facility, to be built in two years.

Crescent City Health Spa, 524 Metairie Rd., Metairie, La., plans to add handball courts to its operation . . . owned and operated by Wynn and Marty Martin.

Washington A.C.'s Fies Takes Seafair Tourney Over Lenhardt

The 19th annual Seafair tournament was highlighted this year by a stunning display of power by Mike Fies, Washington Athletic Club. In the finals he completely overpowered the clever and tour wise Joe Lenhardt, San Jose, Calif., YMCA, 21-8, 21-16; 3rd place was captured by hustling Lea McMillan, Tacoma Elks. Dick Brouwer of Portland was forced to forfeit to McMillan due to a back injury. Singles consolations was won by Mike Martin, University of Washington, over Marnett Glickfield, also U. of W., 21-3, 21-17.

Doubles play was highlighted by the appearance of two-time defending singles Champion Gordon Pfeifer with Max Soriano, owner of the Seattle Pilots baseball club. Pfeifer was playing despite a painful injury to his rib cage suffered a few weeks before at Tacoma. Pfeifer and Soriano won a hand-fought match in two games from Bob Bunch and Gerry McInroe, Seattle YMCA, 21-12, 21-14. Pfeifer and Soriano were representing the Washington Athletic Club in the tournament. 3rd place doubles belonged to Dick Aquiree and Bud Simpson, who defeated Al Bostrom and Howard Whitney, Seattle YMCA. Scores were: 14-21, 21-12, 21-8.

Simpson was another of the walking wounded of the tournament. He suffered from an injury to the fingers on his right hand, received in a little fracas with a lawn mower. Simpson didn't win

that one. Consolations doubles honors went to Ron Bean and John Hackett of the Seattle Y, who defeated John Johanson and McLaughlin, University of Washington, 21-4 and 21-17.

Last year's champions were: singles — Gordon Pfeifer, Tacoma Elks, and doubles — Bob Bunch and Bud Simpson, Washington Athletic Club.

Outstanding jobs were done by many people connected with the tournament. Special thanks and recognition go to Marc Oughton, Vancouver, B.C., John Bowen, Washington Athletic Club, and Don Lintot, refereeing. Ted and Melba Ford, Kay Gee and Jan Sennott, Pearl Bostrom and Irma Bunch, Hospitality room. Jim Douglass, referee chairman; Bob Strang, scheduling chairman; Bob Gee, publicity chairman. An outstanding job of putting together a smooth-running tournament was done by the overall chairman, Bud Sennott.

80 men from all over the western United States were here — California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho Montana and British Columbia. There were 17 doubles teams and 46 singles entrants. Games were played to the wee small hours of the morning. One evening the last match ended at 12:45 a.m. Everyone had a good time and the spectators saw exciting and very interesting handball. Next year should be bigger and better than ever.

National Paddleball Feb. 19-22

Rod Grambeau, Ann Arbor, Mich., president of the National Paddleball Association (wood game), announces the 9th Annual national championships are scheduled for the Fargo-Moorhead, N. Dak., YMCA, Feb. 19-22.

Competition will be held in open singles, open doubles and Masters doubles. Defending champions and top seeds: Open singles: Charles Brumfield, San Diego, champion; Dr. Bud Muchleisen, San Diego, No. 2; Paul Lawrence, Ann Arbor, No. 3; Craig Finger, Ann Arbor, No. 4. Open doubles: Brumfield-Muehleisen, champions; Bob and Bernie McNamara, Minneapolis, No. 2; Carl Loveday and Dr. Charles Hanna, San Diego, No. 3; Jerry Helgeson and B. Graves, St. Cloud, Minn., No. 4. Masters doubles: Harold Kronenberg and Bill Pire, Eau Claire, Wisc., Champions; Carl Loveday and Al Chamberlain, San Diego, No. 2.

Officers of the Association: Rod Grambeau, president; Dr. Bud Muchleisen, vice president; John Reinhart, Green Bay, secretary; Bill Pire, treasurer. Board of Directors: John Bauman, Dayton; Jerry Helgeson; Andrew Kozak, Knoxville; Earl Lee, Moorhead, Minn.; Carl Loveday; Bob McNamara; Dale Riker, Flint, Mich.; Dan Stieber, Waterloo, Ia.

For further tournament details and entry blanks: Charles Bailly, chairman, c/o Fargo-Moorhead YMCA, Fargo, N. Dak.

NEW COURT LISTINGS . . .

(From page 51)

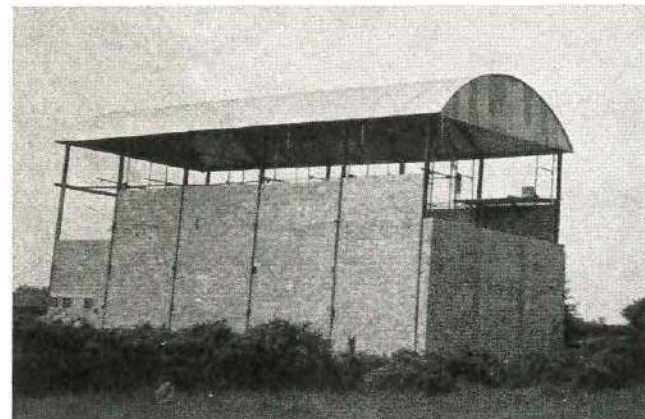
Randolph. Community Center. One standard court. Physical director — Bert Moffatt. Office Phone no. 728 5433. Home 728 3331.

WASHINGTON — Tacoma. Fire Dept. Hqs. One standard court. S. 9th & Fawcett. Physical Director — Walk Guske. Tel. no. LE 7 4577.

WISCONSIN — Appleton YMCA. 218 E. Lawrence. Four

Handball in Ireland

Big Courts — 30 x 60 No Ceiling Shots Allowed



NEW COURT . . . Cappagh . . .

Note: This is the "meat" of a letter sent by Tom J. Martin of LaGrange, Ill., to Mossie Hennessy of the Cappagh Handball Club, Cappagh, Asketon, County Limerick, Ireland. A new court was recently dedicated there.

After seeing your picture in the Souvenir Booklet, my wife, Eileen, and I realized that we had had the pleasure of meeting you in the spectators' gallery at Bally McElligott, County Kerry, during the handball tournament this August. You will recall that we sat next to you at the match and we had numerous questions concerning the handball rules and other fine points of the game that you were able to answer for us and thus contributed to our further enjoyment of the play.

This was the first time that we had ever seen the handball game and I was amazed to see that only the bare hands are used to hit this ball, which resembles an oversized golf ball.

You may recall that you suggested that I may be able to obtain one of these handballs—"alley crackers" I believe is the local reference—at Buttevant, County Cork. My brother-in-law and I drove over to Buttevant and we located the harness maker that held the Alley Cracker monopoly and we talked him into selling us two of these goat-skinned covered balls, which represented half of his total finished stock. We tried one of the alley crackers in the court at Hospital Town and I kept the other for a souvenir as the handball game will be a thing of the past when the ball supply is cut off.

The Buttevant harness maker that makes these balls told us that the Limerick Tanning Factory that furnished the

goat skin had burned down and he had the only supply of properly tanned goat skin and when it was exhausted there would be no more handballs. It was good that you directed us to the only original source of the alley cracker.

When I show the goat skin covered handball to the players here they cannot believe that you Irish Buckos use this type handball without the protection of handball gloves. Even after seeing the Bally McElligott Tournament, I still don't believe it. I suspect that Bally McElligott is not actually a real place but only exists in my imagination in the same manner as does Brigadoon, which only comes to life for one day every 100 years, and we just happened to be in the County Kerry on the right day.

Eileen and I did not have an opportunity to say good-bye to you, Mr. Hennessy, due to the hectic manner in which the Bally McElligott Tournament ended. The Senior handball doubles match, you will recall, ended in a disaster and disappointment for the Mayo Team of Walsh and Kirby who were ahead 3 games to 2 in the best 4 out of 7 match and were enjoying a commanding lead over the Limerick Team in the 6th game when Walsh slipped attempting an heroic back court save and broke his leg.

My wife Eileen, who is a Dublin Trained Nurse, unhesitatingly answered the call to duty and immediately left the stands and squeezed through the half door leading into the court to lend assistance with the immobilizing of Walsh's limb. It was marvelous the way the needed materials for the splinting operation were quickly improvised. First the wooden sticks brought in by Tom O'Connor, the tour-

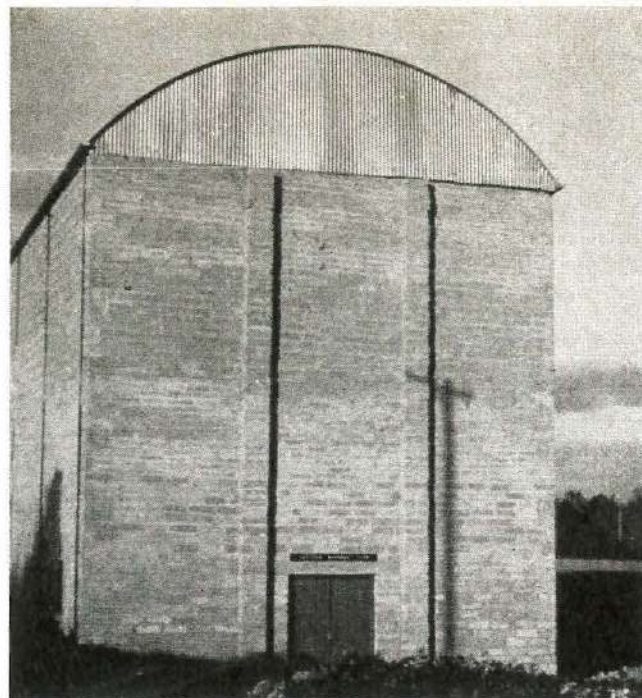
nament chairman, then the ankle wrappings from one of the players feet were donated to the cause and all held together on the broken limb with some rubber insulating tape from an unknown source. After Walsh's limb was immobilized, it was necessary to pass the patient out through the 3-foot square door which further complicated the situation. Fortunately many strong hands cooperated to float Walsh smoothly through the small opening and on to the hospital at Tralee.

It was heartbreaking to lose the match. The next time I lose a match I can console myself with the thought that I did not break a leg in the bargain.

I was born in Cook County, Illinois — not Cork County, Ireland. You know, that county that Mayor Daley runs. My wife is from a farm near Bulgaden, Kilmallock, County Limerick and is the daughter of the late great Michael O'Brien who was a weight thrower in the early years of this century. He was known as the "Giant of Bulgaden." Eileen and I visited the home farm in 1960, 1964 and 1969 where her mother and brothers are living. It was Eileen's brothers Michael and Denis who first directed us to the unique castle handball court at Cappagh in 1964 as they knew that I had an interest in the game.

I play handball when I am there but it takes a few weeks to become accustomed to the larger Irish courts. As mentioned, I have played in Hospital Town and the City of Limerick, St. Munchins Court, and also in Charleville, Cork.

In touring the Irish countryside we come across many handball courts and if no players are around, I just go into the court and throw the ball about to try it for size and Eileen will take my



picture. With all the historic and scenic sites in Ireland, our friends here no doubt think that I am a bit daft to return with only pictures of Ireland's handball alleys. As a minor authority on the subject, I will say that the Castle Court of Cappagh is one of the most unusual, especially the sloping side wall.

At the handball committee meeting of the local "Y" the other evening, Fred Ballintine, the chairman had a copy of the ACE Handball Magazine 1969 Directory, for which he was soliciting sponsors, advertisements and subscriptions. Fred graciously donated his copy of the magazine to me after I told him about your Cappagh handball court and how you mentioned in your letter how interested your members would be in handball information of this type. I am sure that you will enjoy the ACE Directory. Also, I will subscribe to the ACE magazine for your club. In spite of the fact that it is about handball players you are unacquainted with, there will be an occasional story that will be of interest to handball players in general.

We subscribe to the Limerick Leader and it was in this paper that I learned about your new handball court in Cappagh. It was also in the Leader that I read that interesting account of the career of the late and great handballer J. J. Bowles of Limerick. I wrote to the Leader asking if they could furnish additional details of the unusual match played between J. J. Bowles and a Mr. Kelly of Brooklyn, in which all serves during the match had to be into the left court and Mr. Kelly was left-handed. When I have all the facts of the story I may submit it to the ACE Magazine for possible publication.

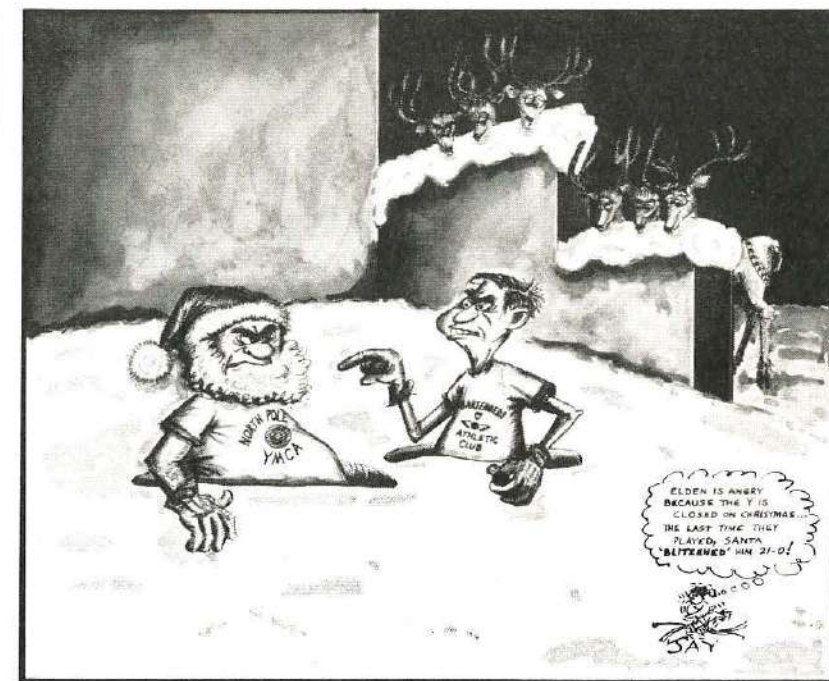
When the time comes that you are no longer able to get your alley cracker handball you may want to try the U. S. ball. Our ball, like your soft handball is also rubber but slightly smaller and harder. Give the word and I will send over a few for experimentation.

On the back cover of the ACE 1969 Yearbook there is a copy of the talk that Bob Kendler gave to young handball players in Lake Forest, Illinois, and I would like to call your attention to a part of his message that I think is profound:

"Always remember that Handball is not a business, it is a recreation. And recreation is intended to the mind as whetting is to the scythe, to sharpen the edge of it, which otherwise would grow dull and blunt. He, therefore, that spends his whole time in recreation is ever whetting, never mowing; his grass may grow and his steed starve. As contrarily, he that always toils and never recreates, is ever mowing, never whetting; laboring much to little purpose; for what good is a scythe without an edge."

Elden Speermint

by Jim (JAY) Joelson



"The best two out of three pays for the ball . . . fats!"

Lindsay Wins Amarillo Invitational

The fourth annual Golden Spread Invitational was held at the Amarillo YMCA the first weekend of October and was a tremendous success. A turnout of 45 players from three states added to the glamour of this annual affair.

Class A was dominated by Bob Lindsay as he took on Cordy Garcia in the finals and won 21-15, 21-9. Garcia is the current New Mexico State champ

and showed plenty of promise as he beat a fine athlete in the semi-finals, Tom Heiting. He then played very well against Lindsay in the finals. Lindsay teamed with Bob Sumpter of Midland to down Heiting and Ed Gardner of Midland in the doubles finals 21-10, 21-7.

Class B had a very strong field this year with 28 entries. Chuck Allen from Albuquerque was the winner as he took out Dwayne McMinn of Amarillo in the semi's and then beat Jay Armstrong from Albuquerque in the finals 21-13, 21-7.

Class B doubles was won by Tito Arenciba and "Slick" Moran from Big Springs over Wayne Barfield and Keith LaFon from Amarillo. The winners took out McMinn and Ray Russell in the semi's in three very tough games.

A good old fashion Texas Barbeque was enjoyed Saturday night by some 50 players and wives. The handball stories that were told by Lindsay and Bill Pyle were the highlight of the evening.

Dwayne McMinn

Nevertheless, through handball, you can build a good life and a good business. Many before you have done it. Let the tenets of our Fraternity serve as your guide. Keep handball in its proper proportion. Make recreation a servant to your business, lest you become a slave to your recreation."

That is certainly true and it surprises me really coming from Bob Kendler who is a city boy, whereas the above has the flavor and wisdom of the Irish countryside.

These words of Mr. Kendler would make up into a most appropriate plaque to hang on the wall of the new Handball Alley in Cappagh, or for that matter at any handball court.

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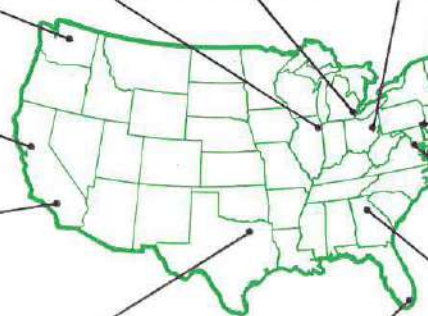
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SPALDING
ace

Pat Putnam Owes Us This Letter...

Dear Bob:

Journalism is sometimes a yellow business. You don't write about what *you* like to read . . . you write what the scandal mongers like to read. You sell magazines that way. We work on the premise that more people are curious about evil than good. If I had written all the nice things you told me about Paul, the story might never have been published. Handball would never be heard of. You may not agree, but I think I did you a lot of good.

Did you notice that wherever Paul plays now the gallery is full? That people are talking about handball now like they never did before? Want to know something Bob? The image you have created for Handball is so great that a thousand Pauls will never pull it down. On the contrary, my stories may just build it up. Namath certainly didn't do football any harm.

I am not trying to justify my stories but Haber was not your first Paul. You had a Banuet in 1929. Confidentially, you could tell us about a half a dozen more but you won't. That's the way it should be. Your job is to stand porter at the door of Handball. My job is to tell you the story that builds circulation. This is not always the righteous thing to do, especially when I see so many wonderful kids in your tournaments. But what the hell — I have to make a living and our magazine must show a profit.

At another time and under different circumstances, I would rather have written about the heritage in handball. Like Marty Singer, father of the great Stuffy — eating his heart out watching his son lose, although he played near perfect handball. Or Dr. August, playing every shot with his son, who went down to defeat after crushing the remarkable Lou Russo, three-wall champion par excellence. Or Decatur's Dad, who would follow his son Marty to the end of the earth for handball. Or gentle Joe — father of Don Ardito, the Sloans, the Upatnieks, the Leahys and many other Y kids. Wherever his son Don plays . . . there is Joe — seeing himself in an earlier day. I could have made a heart-breaking story out of Billy Yambrick's only comment after he missed the championship by a hair in Austin. "Well, I guess I'll have to call Dad . . . and tell him

I lost . . . again." The one word, 'again,' brought a tear to every eye in the locker room . . . and complete silence.

Maybe I don't know anything about Handball. Seems to me I miss the meat and potatoes. One generation follows another into this game as in no other sport. Long after their tournament days are over, there are fathers in the galleries, wilder than they were in the court. Must be some kind of incurable disease. Funny part of it — the kids all play just like their fathers. Take Paul for example. Some of his shots are so spectacular, they defy belief. I understand his father, Sam, was the master of the trick shot artists . . . a truly great player and national champion.

At Birmingham, I could have done something nice on every one of the sixteen seeded players at the first National Invitational. I could have done a piece on Jim Tanner, who was the unsung hero of the whole show. At Austin I could have told why Texas has the greatest football teams with its many handball courts to train in and its world famous glass enclosed court seating nearly 2,000 spectators. Oh Bob — I see so much good in handball, so many great fathers, so many fine facilities, I could write on and on and never tell the whole story. The agony and the ecstasy of the heroic Dr. Claude Benham in the Birmingham finals would be a story by itself.

You know Bob, all journalists are, by virtue of their handicraft, alarmists; this is their way of making themselves interesting. I don't deny that any man who will look into his heart and honestly write what he sees there, will find plenty of readers. I can confess this to you because you keep insisting that the only power of evil is to destroy itself.

So forgive me for painting you all with the same brush. We both know that no thing . . . nothing will retard the giant strides that right thinking has brought to your association. Remember, a story should, to please, at least seem true, be apropos, well told, concise and new; and whensoever it deviates from these rules, the wise will sleep, and leave applause to fools.

Your sports story teller

Pat

UNITED STATES HANDBALL ASSOCIATION
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