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RACQUETBALL TODAY



Mike Yellen

Women's Nationals set for Chicago

CHICAGO — Officials of Prime Time Promotions, Inc. and the Women's Professional Racquetball Association recently announced that the first national championship tournament for the women's professional racquetball tour will be held June 18-22, 1980, at Killshot, Ltd. in west suburban Bloomingdale, Illinois.

"Not only do we want the Women's Nationals to be the top event of the year," Dan M. Seton, commissioner of the Women's Professional Racquetball Association, said upon signing the tournament contract with Prime Time Promotions, "but we want this year's event to be the first step in making women's racquetball a major sport.

"Although at this early date specific organizational details are still in the process of being worked out," said Gary Danno, president of Prime Time Promotions, "we plan to make the 1980 WPRA Women's Nationals as attractive, exciting and competitive to as many women players as possible."

FEATURING top-flight competition in professional and a variety of amateur di-

visions, a minimum of \$10,000 in prize money and numerous other gifts, the first WPRA Women's Nationals is expected to attract some 600 pro and amateur entrants from across the country. This will make the Women's Nationals the largest women's tournament ever held.

The tournament also will feature a variety of special events that promise to separate the Women's Nationals from other state and local tournament events.

Celebrity guest appearances, special fashion shows and live entertainment are just three kinds of special events being planned for the Women's Nationals.

Special events are being organized and coordinated by Lee Graziano, Prime Time Promotions vice-president and current president of the Chicago Chapter of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences.

"WE WANT TO balance the fierce competition with a relaxing party environment," he said.

Another special event is the rematch of the man-against-woman, hands-against-

(Continued on Page 9)

Yellen Tops in Boston

Hogan Wins in King Classic, See P. 5

Mike Yellen has been "on the verge" for some time, and he's finally done it . . . he won the seventh NRC Pro Stop of the season, held in Boston the weekend of April 13th, and he not only beat No. 1 player Marty Hogan in the Finals 21-16, 21-11, but he also beat No. 2 Dave Peck in the Semis (11-5 in the tie breaker).

Yellen almost pulled off the big win at the Sixth Stop in California, when he went down to Hogan in the Semis, losing by one point in the tie breaker, but this is the first time he's managed to beat Hogan.

Mike Yellen, sponsored by Ektelon, though only 19-years-old has a long list of credits previous to this tournament. In addition to being consistently ranked high on the NRC tour the past two years, Mike won the 1979 El Paso Pro/Am, the 1978 Montreal Pro/Am and the 1978 Perrier Open, and has been a finalist and semifinalist in many other tournaments.

TO GET TO THE Finals, Yellen had to get by Dave Peck in the Semis, and before that Don Thomas, Lindsay Myers, and Beaver Wickem. Hogan was obviously struggling this tournament as he had to go three games to beat Bledsoe in the Semis, and three games to beat Charlie Brumfield in the Quarters.

In the other quarterfinals, it was Davey Bledsoe over Doug Cohen (making his second quarters in a row after beating highly-ranked Jerry Hilecher in the 16s in two straight games), and Dave Peck handled Steve Strandemo easily.

In other matches worthy of mention, young Mike Levine continued his success by beating David Fleetwood in the 32s by

scores of 21-10, 21-7, and Bruce Christensen, a young hard-hitter from New Hampshire, not only qualified, but he beat Larry Meyers in the 32s, and took No. 2 seeded Dave Peck to a tie breaker in the 16s.

The qualifiers were John Barrett (Tempe), Ross Harvey (San Diego), George Vierra (Mass.), Paul Martino (Conn.), Beaver Wickem (Oceanside, Cal.), Mike McDonough (South Boston), Bruce Christensen (Nashua, N.H.) and Gary Berberet (Buena Park, Cal.).

DAN BERTOLUCCI, Executive Director of the NRC, reffed that final match between Hogan and Yellen, and Dan summarized the match as follows: "Marty just plain got beat. He wasn't playing great, and he skipped in a lot of forehand shots. Yellen not only outplayed him, he out-thought him."

This season, Hogan has lost to Don Thomas, Davey Bledsoe, and now, Mike Yellen, and he's had to win a lot of tie breakers to win his victories. At this time, Marty Hogan is still unquestionably the No. 1 ranked player, but the performances of Peck and Yellen have been impressive.

It's also exciting to see Charlie Brumfield's mane consistently among the top finishers, and the "kids" are really starting to break through recently; most notably Doug Cohen and Mike Levine, but also Egerman, Hawkins, Beaver Wickem, Christensen and Bobby Bolan. All this points to a very exciting Nationals in Las Vegas in June, and a continuing, successful and action packed NRC tour, sponsored by Leach and Seamco.

Lite ISRA State Singles Preview

By AL SHETZER

The ISRA is proud to have Lite Beer sponsor its 1980 Singles Championships. As anyone knows who attended the ISRA Doubles Championships, also sponsored by Lite Beer, their sponsorship adds greatly to the fun and excitement, as well as the hospitality and awards. The tournament will be held at The Glass Court, with some preliminary matches held at other Metro Club facilities. Since this tournament is traditionally one of the biggest amateur events in the country, featuring some of the finest amateur talent, I think it is worthy of review. For what it's worth, here are my predictions:

MEN'S OPEN: 1979 champ John Lynch has got to be a strong favorite (2-1) to repeat, but Dennis McDowell (3-1) and Bob

Deuster (6-1) would not be considered "upset winners" if they should happen to win. (Charlie Rish, if he chooses to make one of his rare singles appearances, would also have to be ranked high.)

At 8 to 1, Jim Scheyer, Ric Dern, Gary Whitaker and Steve Sulli. Dern could be the sleeper — he's the hardest hitter, and after a layoff he seems to be in pretty good shape and has a shot if he doesn't let the fans, the referee, or his opponent bother him too much.

At 10-1 we have Illinois' tough youngsters, Jack Newman (who's been coming on very strong of late), Dave Negrete, and John Slazas. Jeff Siegal and Sean Moskwa, along with people like Andy Witt and Tom Golueke are the longshots.

WOMAN'S OPEN: Glenda Young has

(Continued on Page 17)

We Get Letters . . .

We Stand Corrected

Dear Editor:

I'd like to set the record straight on the Jerry Hilecher - Dave Peck final match in San Francisco, site of the NRC Catalina Classic, co-sponsored by Leach and Seamco. The story in your April issue alludes to the match as "a slugfest." I feel I had the best seat in the house, as I was the referee. Though this was an intense match, no punches were thrown. The blow on the head the writer refers to was from a ball, not a racquet. Both players earned technicals in this highly competitive and entertaining final.

Sincerely,
Dan Bertolucci, Director
National Racquetball Club

In our April cover story of Dave Peck winning the Catalina Classic what should have been printed as "pushing" appeared instead as "punching." To keep the record straight we were surprised also to see

the misplaced word. All those involved in the sport of racquetball know Dave Peck's reputation as a gentleman and fine sportsman.

Dear Triple-S:

Just a note to congratulate you on your fine running of the 1980 Illinois State Doubles. You always seemed to be on time; you had people "trouble-shooting" the refereeing and stopped a lot of problems from becoming big ones; the hospitality was great, and the trophies were as nice as any I've ever seen (I wish I had won one). Having just moved here from another state, I think I can appreciate more than most Illinoisians just how lucky we are to have such well-run tournaments . . . you wouldn't believe how disorganized they are in most other areas of the county! Keep up the good work and let me know if I can be of help at future tournaments.

Sincerely,
Janice Baringer



Top Chicago handballer, and sometime racquetball player Vern Roberts (pictured above) won the USHA's Pro Stop in Austin, Texas, the weekend of March 23rd, beating John Sabo of New Jersey in a tough three-game final (11-6 in the tie breaker).

To get into the finals, Vern had to go to a tie breaker with fellow Chicagoan Dennis Hofflander in the Semis. Dennis has obviously made a fine comeback after an operation on his Achilles tendon.

Chicago has had a history of great handball, and we're proud to see it continue in the form of these two fine players.

Sportsman of the Month

In an effort to encourage and reward good sportsmanship, RACQUETBALL TODAY is pleased to announce a new feature: Sportsman of the Month. Each month we will feature a person selected for his/her high sportsmanship demonstrated in and around the racquetball court. The winner will be selected from letters sent in by readers. If you know of someone deserving of recognition for demonstrating good sportsmanship, send us a note about it (a picture, if available, would also be good).

To the Editor:

I reached the quarter finals of the Tinley Park Invitational and I was playing

against Ken Kwasegroch in the tie breaker. It was such a grueling game that I had already used up all my time-outs and was ahead 9 to 7 when I developed a cramp in my right leg. I could hardly continue playing because of exhaustion and my leg cramp. I was ready to forfeit the game. Ken had one time-out left. Instead of taking advantage of the situation he called a time-out for my sake.

For this reason, Ken Kwasegroch has my vote and respect for Sportsperson of the Month.

Ric Robles
Tinley Park, Ill.

Welcome, U. S. A.!

RACQUETBALL TODAY is pleased to announce that as of this issue, our paper will begin appearing in racquetball clubs all over the country. To those of you new to us, RACQUETBALL TODAY began as strictly an Illinois publication, then spread to encompass the entire Midwest. We have decided it's time to "come out of the closet" and move into larger offices, increase our staff, and distribute nationwide.

Our paper will focus on events and information that will be of national interest, with various sections that focus on "local" news. As we are already set up in the Midwest for local coverage, we ask those of you in other parts of the country to bear with us until we get set up to adequately cover and report major events in your area. In the meantime, WE ARE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE in all areas of the country interested and qualified to report on

events in your area, and to work with our parent company, Triple-S (S/S/S) Promotions in running major racquetball tournaments and events throughout the country.

For your reference, as of this issue, we are distributing only to major markets and facilities in each state, but as of September, 1980, with your help and support, we intend to be in virtually every club in the country, making RACQUETBALL TODAY the most widely read and distributed racquetball publication in the world. We owe this growth and success to the loyalty and support of many people and companies in the industry, and particularly to those companies which advertise with us and sponsor S/S/S tournaments, and to them we wish to express our heartfelt appreciation.

Sincerely,
Tom, Al, Phil & Jan

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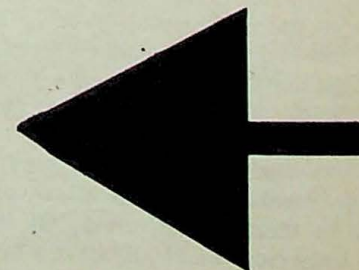
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USRA 1980 Central Regionals

The Wirkus Circus Showcases Fine Racquetball

By PHIL SIMBORG

The USRA's 1980 Central Regionals, hosted by the Illinois State Racquetball Association, and run by Triple-S Promotions, displayed some of the finest-played racquetball that can be found anywhere (outside of a Pro Stop).

MEN'S OPEN: The Men's Open was truly the "Wirkus Circus" as Jim and Joe Wirkus not only took the Doubles, but met each other shortly thereafter for the Singles Championship. The Wisconsin brothers may look like twins, but Joe is almost 10 years older than his 21-year-old brother, Jim. Joe was the top amateur in the U.S. in 1976 and recently won the Wisconsin State Singles Championships where he beat none other than Jim in the finals

In the Doubles, Jim and Joe got to the Finals without ever being pressed, as did their opponents, Dennis McDowell and Steve Butler. The Wisconsin boys let up in the second game, and Butler came up with some great shots, and the Wirkuses found themselves in a tie breaker. Since the first two games were pretty close (17 & 18), we all settled down for a tough, close tie breaker. Less than three minutes later it was over as the brothers rolled out nearly every single shot and won 11-0.

In the Open consolations, it was Dave Milazzo in Singles, and Schneider-Verhaege in Doubles. Dennis McDowell continued his winning streak over Bob Deuster, winning the coin flip for Third place handily

round robin, and it was no surprise that Stacy Fletcher and her partner, Irene Ackerman won. The nationally-ranked team did not lose a match, but they were pressed to a tie breaker by Illinois State Doubles Champs, Glenda Young and Sue Prisching, who took second place.

VETERAN OPEN: This relatively new division has taken off like wildfire all over the country and features some of the best racquetball you can see anywhere. These 30-plus players have the knowledge and experience needed to play a really great mental game, and are still young enough to play full-speed, power racquetball throughout a long tournament.

On the bottom side of the bracket, after watching Ron DeMunter take Jeff Siegel in the Open, we were not surprised to see him make it to the Finals, however, it was no easy road as he had to beat Herb Grigg in the Semis by a score of 11-10 in the tie breaker. On the other side of the bracket, we all saw no reason why No. 1 seed, Harvi Miller shouldn't make it to the finals: nobody particularly great to stand in his way except for an unknown call-in entry from Michigan, Joe Schmidt. However, when Joe walked in the door, he turned out to be Gil Schmidt, easily one of the finest veteran players in the country! But somebody forgot to tell Harvi he was supposed to lose, and Harvi played one of the best matches of his life, and had one of the biggest wins of his life, beating Gil 19 and 19. The rest of the tournament was an anticlimax for Harvi, as he had nothing left for his doubles match and "went in the tank" (according to his partner, Al Shetzer), and almost tanked his finals with DeMunter as he had to take him in the tie breaker of a great match. Paul Rogers won the consolation.

I was his opponent). "The Force" went on to take care of Bill Harper in the Finals, winning 13 and 19. Finals referee, Bill Feigen, who has seen a few Seniors matches in his day, stated that "Marshall's play in the Finals was absolutely devastating."

In the Senior Doubles, Gary Saretsky had to find a replacement for his partner at the last minute and called "the doctor" — Dr. J, that is, Jordan Tilden. They made it into finals after squeaking by a tough Wisconsin team in the Semis, Bill Harper and Ed Kronenberg, 11-10 in the tie breaker. On the other side of the bracket, my partner cancelled, too, at the



Joe and Jim Wirkus meet once again, this time the brothers go at each other in the Men's Open Final.

(11-10 in the tie breaker). Jim was ranked as high as 18 on the NRC pro tour last year and has held a slight edge on his brother in head-to-head competition recently.

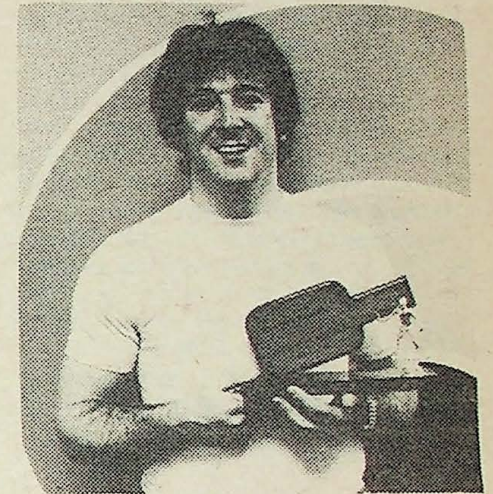
To get to the finals, Jim Wirkus had very little difficulty, beating Bob Deuster in the Semis, and before that, Ron DeMunter (a tough player from Byron Center, Michigan who beat Jeff Siegel handily), Sean Moskwa, and Brian Kravitz — all two-game matches. On the other side of the bracket, things were not so easy for Joe, as he had to go to tie breakers to beat Dennie McDowell in the Semis (11-8), Steve Sulli in the Quarters (11-4), and was almost beaten in the 16's by Jack Newman in an 11-10 tie breaker (16-year-old Jack will probably remember his technical in that tie breaker that was awarded by a highly efficient referee with good ears).

By the time the Finals came around, at the end of a long, tough tournament, most of us thought it would be anti-climatical, as the brothers had already won the Doubles and had taken care of McDowell and Deuster, but we were in for a real surprise . . . the brothers played that final match the way they played every single match of the entire tournament — fiercely competitive, giving every point everything they have, never giving up, and in a spirit of sportsmanship and fair play that made us Illinoisians jealous that we could not claim them as our own. All three games were close and could have gone either way, but the younger brother, Jim, prevailed and won 19-21, 21-17, 11-6. (Having recently been married, I guess Jim wanted that free trip to the Nationals more than Joe.)

WOMEN'S OPEN: The Singles was exciting from the word "go," thanks to a very poor job of seeding that had the No. 1 player in Michigan playing the No. 1 player in Illinois in the first round! (There was some equally bad seeding in the Men's Seniors and Veteran Open. The tournament was seeded by ISRA President, Al Shetzer, and he did have a very good excuse; in Al's words: "I screwed up.") But the best player wins regardless of the seeding, and that's what happened in the Women's Open, as 16-year-old Stacy Fletcher, of Warren, Michigan, took on all comers (see feature article on Stacy elsewhere in this paper). Michigan's pride met Illinois' best, Glenda Young in the first round, and to be honest, neither one of the ladies were too excited about meeting each other so soon. Stacy told me she was very nervous about playing someone as well-known and as good as Glenda, and the nervousness showed in the first game, as Glenda won 21-15. But from that game on, it was all Stacy. She won the next two games 21-7, 11-1, and was never pushed to a tie breaker again. She went on to beat Sue Prisching, Pam Prina, and finally, Sue Carow in the Finals.

The get to the Finals, Sue had to get by a hard-hitting Nancy Kronenfeld, 11-5 in the tie breaker, and was nearly beaten by a real "comer," Barb Allweiss (11-8 tie breaker). Another match worthy of mention was Nancy Kronenfeld's excellent three-game victory over 16-year-old Cheryl Mathiew. Cheryl was up visiting our region from St. Louis, is one of the better Juniors in the country, and proved her ability here by beating No. 2 seed Judy Sawicki in the first round.

The Women's Open Doubles was a



Harvi Miller captures a "big win."

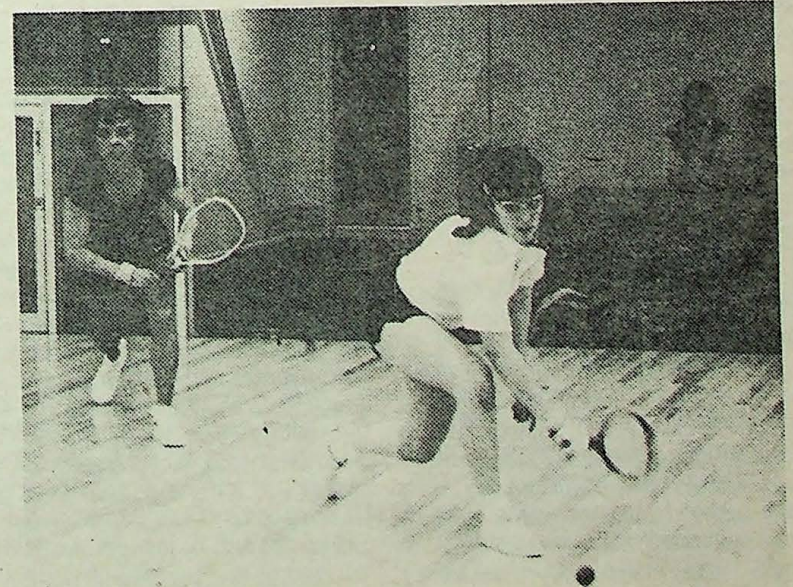
last minute (Bud Levenberg lost his guts on the way over), and to counter-act "Dr. S" and "Dr. J," I picked up "Crazy Ed" Heath, the "South Suburban Assassin" and we made it to the finals after a tough Semifinal match with another Wisconsin team, John Vandrisse and Ed Koch.

In the Final match, "Crazy Ed" and I obviously had some communication problems: I never heard him call for a single shot, but I did hear him say "I want a new partner" on several occasions. The two doctors got a few lucky breaks and a couple of freak bounces, and came away with a lucky win (21-14, 21-6).

The Wisconsin team of Frank Neu and Ed Hultz won Doubles consolation, and Jerry Cudar won Senior Singles consolation.

MEN'S MASTERS: Here the "seeding committee" finally did it's job, as the Finals was a battle between No. 1 seed, Saul Sandoval, and No. 2 seed, Dick Porter, and the No. 1 seed prevailed in three

(Continued on Page 15)



Veteran player Sue Carow (left) fights a losing battle with her Finals opponent, Stacy Fletcher, in the USRA Regionals.



Natural Light and S/S/S Team Up to Put the NFL Players on the Courts

CHICAGO, ILL. — Conrad Dobler, Jim Osborne and Preston Dennard may never meet on the football field, but they may participate in the superbowl of NFLPA racquetball. These three players are joined by 81 football pros who will meet in competition play this summer in the Natural Light/NFLPA racquetball series.

The Natural Light/NFLPA series, which features pros exchanging jerseys for T-shirts and footballs for racquets, comes to Chicago May 2-4.

Chicago is the site of the third tournament where three-man teams from major league football clubs compete for a purse of \$10,000 put up by Natural Light beer.

FIVE REGIONAL tournaments were scheduled to accommodate members of 28 teams in competition play that leads to the finals in St. Louis, June 13-15.

The three-day NFLPA tournament will be held in conjunction with an amateur

tournament at the Glass Courts in Lombard, Ill. For entry information see the form in this issue of **RACQUETBALL TODAY**.

Representing the Bears at the NFLPA meet, and vying for the title of regional champs, will be Revie Sorey, Gary Campbell and Jim Osborne.

Representing the Cincinnati Bengals will be safety Marvin Cobb, placekicker Chris Bahr and wide receiver Billy Brooks.

THE GREEN BAY Packers will be on the courts with center Larry McCarren, defensive back Johnnie Gray and defensive end Mike Butler.

The Minnesota Vikings lineup includes tight end Stu Voight; linebacker Matt Blair and wide receiver Robert Steele.

Players for the Detroit Lions will be running back Dexter Bussey, linebacker Ed O'Neil and kicker Benny Ricardo.

The Cleveland Browns will have offensive tackle Doug Dieken, safety Thom Darden and guard Robert Jackson on the courts.

THE PROS WILL be warming up at the Downtown Court Club, 441 North Wabash, Friday afternoon when they demonstrate that they can handle a racquet as well as a football. Beginning on Saturday, May 3, at approximately 10 a.m., they will begin tournament play at the Glass Court Club in Lombard, Ill. The top two players will be determined at the finals scheduled for Sunday. These two pros will advance to the Natural Light/NFLPA Finals in St. Louis where they will be pitted against winning players from other regional playoffs.

At stake in St. Louis will be a purse of \$18,000 and the championship title.

Following the Chicago tournament is a May 16-18 match in Boston, Mass., where

three-man teams from the Baltimore Colts, Boston Pirates, Buffalo Bills, New York Giants, Philadelphia Eagles and Pittsburgh Steelers will meet at Randy Vataha's courts in Braintree.

The last regional playoff will be held in Los Angeles, Calif., where members of the Los Angeles Rams, Oakland Raiders, San Diego Chargers, San Francisco 49ers and Seattle Seahawks will take to the courts.

The two tournaments which have already been decided are the Miami, Fla., meet where representatives of the Atlanta Falcons, Miami Dolphins, New Orleans Saints, New York Jets, Tampa Bay Buccaneers and Washington Redskins battled it out. The Dallas playoff saw some stiff competition from players of the Dallas Cowboys, Denver Broncos, Houston Oilers, Kansas City Chiefs and St. Louis Cardinals.

All events are open to the public.

Making Hogan and Z-Ball Common Household Topics

One of the best tests for measuring a sport's impact on society is the familiarity of everyday folk with the game and its jargon. Ask most any passerby about dunk shots, roundtrippers or long bombs and you'll probably receive a mini-lecture on basketball, baseball and football. Long accustomed to playing the sports or viewing the action on television individuals have come to accept them as part of American culture. The same goes for tennis, its aces and volleys, and golf of the bogies and birdies.

Try some of racquetball's jargon and substance on John or Joan Q. Public however, and you're bound to come up way short in the recognition market. Not only can few everyday citizens name three professional racquetball players, they'd be harder put to elaborate on a Z-ball, kill or pinch shot.

This lack of awareness on the part of the non-playing public is one of the more serious long-range problems affecting racquetball. While on one hand some 11 million individuals do compete and are aware of the game's nature, the vast majority of the country's 200 million residents remain in the nearly-dark.

MUCH OF the blame for this dearth of information can be attributed to the mass media and the commercial sponsors that pay its bills. Nary a day goes by without a consumer turning on the television or flipping through a magazine and finding some mention of racquetball. The problem is that virtually each and every one of these commercial advertisements seek to make hay off the game's glamour, while slighting play itself.

These visual blandishments present a unified, somewhat untruthful image of racquetball today. Unless of course only physically attractive young men and women wearing the latest in court fashion are allowed to play. By homing in on the visual appeal of rivulets of sprayed-on-sweat ad agencies seek to hawk their clients wares. Wares which run the gamut

from foot spray to fragrances, and from hand lotion to beer.

While this glamour approach undoubtedly sells the products to a host of viewers it also undeniably sells the game short. Judged strictly on its own merits racquetball is an exciting, fast-paced game capable of being competitively played by individuals of varying skill levels.

Yet, by largely refusing to push some of these advertisement-earned dollars into the promotion of the sport, racquetball is getting the short end of the financial stick. Through the pursuit of merchandising the game in order to hype commercial products, ad agencies are literally touting the game's look, while slighting the game. Players at every level of the sport from the rankest beginner to professionals should speak out in protest of this one-sided selling of racquetball.

ANY INDIVIDUALS seriously interested in remedying the problem should address a letter to the public relations departments of the sponsoring companies involved. Included within the envelop should be a message urging the company to support a tournament or clinic at either the amateur or professional level. The suggestion could also be made to purchase commercial time for professional tournaments to be televised in the future.

Owing to recent developments in the video field racquetball tourneys will soon be televised competently on a regional or national basis. One of the present stumbling blocks is a lack of diversified sponsor commitment to the notion. A curious sort of Catch-22 is showing signs of emergence, with many firms wanting to advertise but unsure the telecasts will sell. Therefore, corporate reasoning dictates caution in the form of a wait and see stance before doling out the dough.

What results is the annoying situation wherein companies will put in money only after others have done so and found it profitable. Since consumer numbers are often the key to these deliberations, the expressed wishes of some 11 million play-

ers could only help prod the process along.

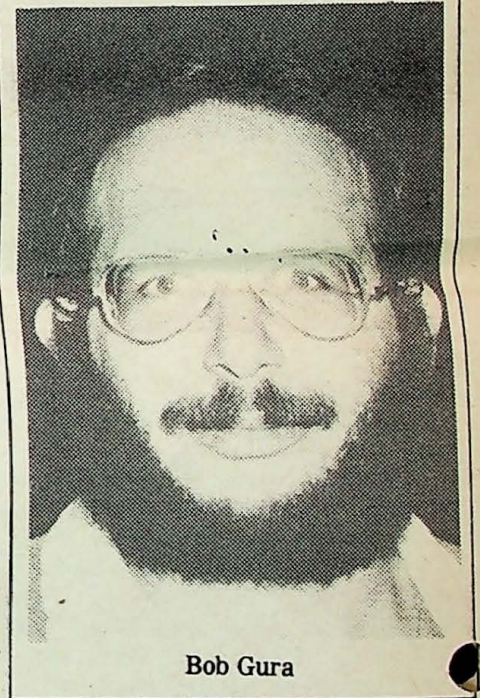
Then again there exists another school of racquetballers with different thoughts on the subject. These individuals (and they are sizeable in number) could be said to adhere to the "thanks for the crumb" theory of media exposure. This rationale rests on the concept that since the sport is only a decade old (the first national tourney was held in St. Louis in 1969) any media coverage is a blessing. Consequently, any racquetball ad hawking a foot spray functions as a boon to the game's recognition factor.

ALL RACQUETBALL players or spectators who purchase goods in the general marketplace should do their best to resist this line of reasoning. As a sport of the media age, racquetball can quickly increase its numbers and interest through a fair showcasing of its wares. This can only be accomplished by a sharing of the staged glamour with the skills apparent in actual competition.

Given a fair blend of merchandising and competition or clinic-oriented promotion racquetball and its sponsors can grow together.

Handled properly millions of fans may soon come to recognize the face of racquetball champ Marty Hogan (or some future star) on an advertisement for beer, foot spray or whatever. Such an arrangement would add to the coffers of the star,

Court Talk



Bob Gura

the company and the sport each helps promote. The same would be true for the distaff set with leading ladies adding their video-recognizable names to various products.

As visionary as this prospectus may seem the reality may not be far removed from the present. Thanks to technological progress television will soon be able to produce first rate coverage of the speed and strategy that is racquetball. With the actual coverage of these events less than a year away according to informed sources, the time is now to send out those letters. Who knows, with the right buildup it may not be too long before everyone can discourse on Marty Hogan and the Z-ball.

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the original frozen pizza.
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● PSYCHING

By MARILYN STERLING



If you play on a challenge ladder, or in a league, or tournaments, there's going to come a day when you're going to have to play a person that you know, and really don't like. In all areas of competition you'll find your cheaters, poor sports, egomaniacs, swearers, screamers, crybabies and creeps.

The problem is often twofold. Not only is the encounter no fun, often we allow these people to distract us so much, that we are unable to play our normal game. And is there anything worse than losing to a creep that you know you should beat?

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

These people make us angry! And, al-

||| 'Take That, You Creep! . . .' Or, Playing the Person That Angers You

though anger is a normal and natural response to mistreatment or frustration, we don't usually allow ourselves to express this anger. We've learned to suppress it; keep it to ourselves, so that we don't hurt or displease anybody. Anger is not the problem. It's OK to be angry. **Inhibiting** this anger is what's hurting us. Anytime we suppress our anger we do ourselves harm. When bottled up inside, the energy escapes by manifesting itself physically in the form of headaches, stomach aches and tension, or in the development of self defeating patterns of behavior such as loss of enthusiasm, poor concentration and the development of negative feelings, to name a few. Some people are so overwhelmed by the prospect of these disagreeable encounters, that they just quit rather than face them.

WHAT TO DO?

I have a good friend, Dr. Jack E. Van Liew, a Gestalt therapist, who suggested a great exercise. It's called the "Hot Seat." It's a twofold experience also. First off, you'll be able to constructively drain off all that steam that's tapped inside so that you will be able to function more normally on the court. Second, you will probably find out more about yourself. The exercise taps your subconscious feelings. Ideas and emotions surface that you'll be able to examine later, if you wish.

It's a simple exercise. Find a quiet place where you can be alone. Now, either get two chairs or two pillows, large enough to sit on, and place them so that

they are facing each other. Sit down on one with the other directly in front of you. Visualize your opponent sitting across from you. Just start talking to him. Tell him how you feel; how he irritates you. Tell him off. Scream at him, call him a few names. Punch him, get up and kick him around if it would make you feel better.

Of course these are things you would never allow yourself to do to a real person, but the actions feel good, and when nobody is getting hurt it's fine. Don't let yourself be put off by the idea of acting in this way. In this instance, far from being a sign of mental instability, it is a healthy, intelligent demonstration of "self care."

CHANGE places and "become" your opponent. Speak to "you" (now the other chair or pillow) as you think he would answer or defend himself. Let him express his fears and desires. Keep switching back and forth until you are emotionally "finished."

Don't be surprised if other emotions come tumbling out. Don't hold them back! Often we've suppressed some "big issues." This may be the first time you've

allowed yourself any emotional outlet. Once the energy starts flowing it sometimes bursts the dam. Let it! It's the best thing you can do for yourself. You'll be amazed at how relieved you feel afterward.

You see, all of our emotions are energy. And when you contain your emotions; keep them all inside, it takes a great physical effort on your part to keep them there, to keep them quiet, to keep them from getting out. This effort is robbing you of energy that you could use for something else, something more creative or fun.

It's a great exercise. It unlocks the energy that you've got all tied up in dealing with this opponent.

Our "opponent" is probably used to playing a serious, no nonsense game with no "love lost" in it's duration. He sure is going to wonder what you are laughing at when all of a sudden you get a flashback of your previous "encounter." It's got to be worth a couple of points . . . as a matter of fact, it's got to be worth a heck of a lot! And in case you are wondering, it works off the court too.

Hogan Wins King Classic in California

By RALPH MOIL

The sixth NRC Pro Stop of the year was held the weekend of March 30 at the King's Racquetball Court in Westminster, California sponsored by Leach Industries and Seamco Sporting Goods.

The finals was a classic matchup of the top two seeds, Marty Hogan and Dave Peck, with Hogan taking the \$4,500 1st place prize money 21-20, 8-21, 11-0. The most exciting match of the tournament, though, was Hogan's semifinal against a consistently improving Mike Yellen. Hogan lost the first game 21-19, and took the second 21-10, but in the tie breaker Yellen jumped off to a big lead and was winning 8-2! Hogan came on strong to win it 11-10! The other semifinal match featured Peck against a tough and rejuvenated Charlie Brumfield, and that too, went to a tie breaker with Peck winning 15-21, 21-17, 11-5.

In the quarters, it was Hogan over Koltun, Yellen over young Doug Cohen from St. Louis who is really breaking into the big time in a big way; Brumfield over Dave Fleetwood easily; and Peck had to go three with Craig McCoy to win 21-7, 17-21, 11-1.

IN THE 16's, it was Hogan over Serot (who not only had to qualify to make this tournament but defeated Mark Morrow in the first round); Koltun over Scott Hawkins in three; Yellen over Jeff Bowman (Bowman also had to qualify and came on strong to defeat Lindsay Myers in the first round); Fleetwood in a big win over Hilecher; Brumfield in a tough, three-game victory over Don Thomas; McCoy completely dominated Strandemo; and Peck handled Zuckerman easily.

The qualifiers for this tournament were none other than Steve Keeley, Steve Serot, Jim Harper (San Diego), Bruce Christensen (San Diego), John Egerman (Boise), Kirk Williams (San Diego), Jeff Bowman (San Diego) and Scott Hawkins (Santa Clara).



Hogan's still No. 1

Hogan admits to no "easy ride" this tournament, as he had to go three games in the very first round against Dan Factor to win 21-18, 20-21, 11-4. Other matches in the first round worthy of note are Scott Hawkins upset of Rich Wagner in three and Mike Levine's big upset over Larry Meyers in two straight.

This tournament is the fourth time Peck and Hogan have met, and Hogan's won them all. In Hogan's own words, "I earned my money this time, which I don't like to have to do. I'd rather have them just hand it over, but with guys like Yellen and Peck to play that's not about to happen."

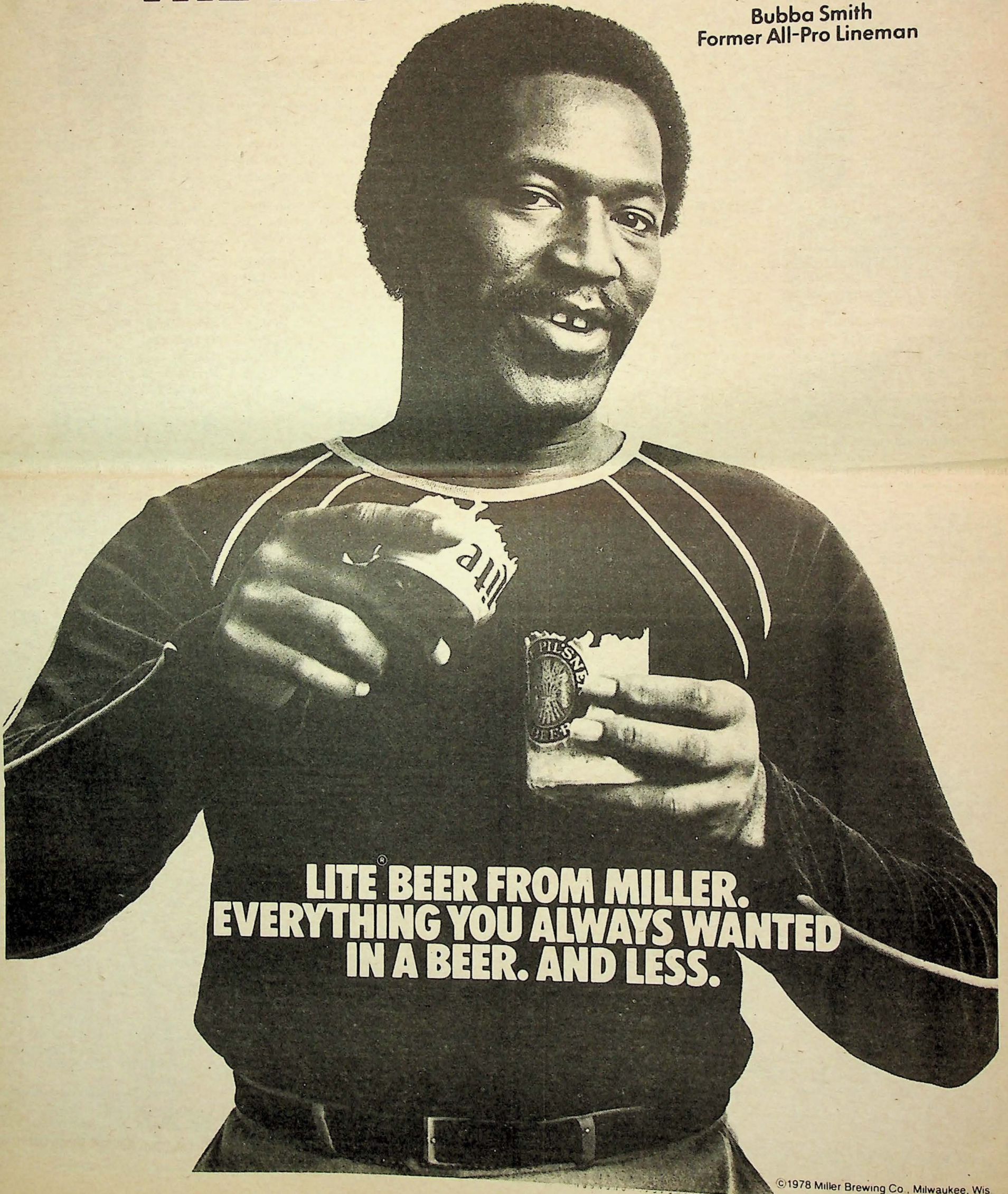
Though Hogan continues to clearly hold the No. 1 ranking in the sport, he still has to win a lot of tie breakers, not to mention 11-10 wins like the one against Yellen, and that adds to the tremendous excitement of watching a Hogan match.

THE FUN • DAMENTALS OF RACQUETBALL by R.W. JANOUSEK

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TOURNAMENT NEWS



Stretching out is Women's A winner Michelle Busacca.

Memphis St. College Champ

The second annual USRA Intercollegiate was held at the University of Illinois in Champaign March 28-30, and both the men and women's teams of Memphis State were winners in the event that had 36 universities competing from all over the country. Thanks to a total of \$10,000 worth of scholarship money provided by Seamco/Leach, \$1,000 in scholarships were distributed to the winning men's and women's teams, the men's and women's singles first and second place, and to the top men's and women's doubles players.

The Men's Singles was won by Keith Dunlap (U. of Houston). Keith had to beat Dave Negrete in the quarters, Dan Ferris in the semis, and Larry Fox of Michigan State in the finals. The score of the finals was 16-21, 21-18, 11-7. Fox beat Scott Chaeffer (Memphis State) in the semis.

In the Women's Open, Michelle Busacca (UCLA) had to go three games to beat Barb Faulkenberry (USAF) in the finals, 12-21, 21-12, 11-2. Michelle was also taken to a tiebreaker in the semis by Elena Mildenerger (Canisius U.), and Barb beat Sharon Fanning (Memphis St.) in the semis.

IN THE MEN'S Doubles, it was Tom Gora and Dan Cohen (Memphis St.) in the

finals over John Hayenga and Ray Bock (St. Cloud State) in a tiebreaker, 21-14, 13-21, 11-6. In the Women's Doubles, first place went to Kim Brader and Ann Merrieles of SIU over Candi Gavin and Linda Lavene of Memphis State.

No. 2 Men's Singles was won by Barry Allen (U. of I.) over Jack Whitacker (Oklahoma). No. 2 Women's Singles was won by Janine Toman (U. of I.) over Renee Tramel (Memphis St.).

The tournament was hosted by the Illini Racquetball Club, under the fine directorship of Don Webb. Bob Keenan, Executive Director of the USRA was on hand to supervise the action and handle a lot of the reffing duties. The USRA wishes to extend a special thanks to racquetball pro Rita Hoff, and Illinois' Diane Gabrisko, who came down for the weekend to referee the tougher matches.

The entire tournament ran quite smoothly thanks to the efforts of all the volunteers, the fine refereeing, and a lot of work by the Illini Racquetball Club, who treated all the players to a full sit-down turkey dinner Saturday night at The Towne Club in Champaign. In just its second year, this event has proven to be a major intercollegiate event and is expected to be even bigger next year.

Silver Lake April Fool Winners

The success of the tourney at Silver Lake in Orland Park, Illinois, might best be measured by the response of the players at the conclusion of the tournament. The question most often raised was



Silver Lake winners and survivors of the Men's C division. (Left to right), First Place, Scott Wessel; Third Place, Mike Luchetti.

"when is the next Silver Lake tournament?"

Racquetball is still a growing sport as witnessed by the Men's Beginner division, 56 participants in all. The ladies also made a good showing with 25 entrants in their Beginner division.

The Men's Advanced division ended in a hard hitting shootout between Bruce Scholtens and Don Cipriani, with Cipriani coming out the victor. He is a two time winner at Silver Lake, also winning First Place in the previous November tournament.

RESULTS
THIRD ANNUAL APRIL FOOLS OPEN
SILVER LAKE
MEN'S A: Don Cipriani
MEN'S B: Ron Chmielecki
MEN'S C: Scott Wessel
WOMEN'S B: Marcia Lellos
WOMEN'S C: Yvonne Melant

'World's Largest' Winds Up

By LEN ZIEHM

Youth was not meant to be served in the championship matches of the Sun-Times/Wendy's/Wilson Racquetball Shootout. Two of the Chicago area's top Junior players, 17-year-old John Slazas of Park Ridge, and 14-year-old Tina Heath of Olympia Fields, lost in the advanced division title matches at the Glass Court April 20th. The winners were 27-year-old Tom Golueke and 19-year-old Barb Allweiss in this month-long tournament which began with 1300 entrants competing at 15 racquetball clubs around the Chicago area, and ending up with a total of just eight winners.

The winners, and many of the losers received an array of terrific prizes, but in addition the champions won the right to compete against Wilson's two top pros, Davey Bledsoe and Shannon Wright, with the ultimate prize of a 1980 Chevrolet.

All final matches went two straight games with the exception of the Women's Intermediate, where University of Chicago grad student Marilyn Listvan defeated Carol Flynn 17-21, 21-14, 11-5. Other division winners were James Cooke, Men's Intermediate; Ed Lorenz, Men's Novice; Oscar Gomez, Men's "I've-Never-Played-Before;" Carol Johnson, Women's Novice; and Rea Kulick in the Women's Never-Played-Before.

(The "beat-the-pro" event took place at



Tom Golueke, Shootout winner (Photo by D. Gabrisko)

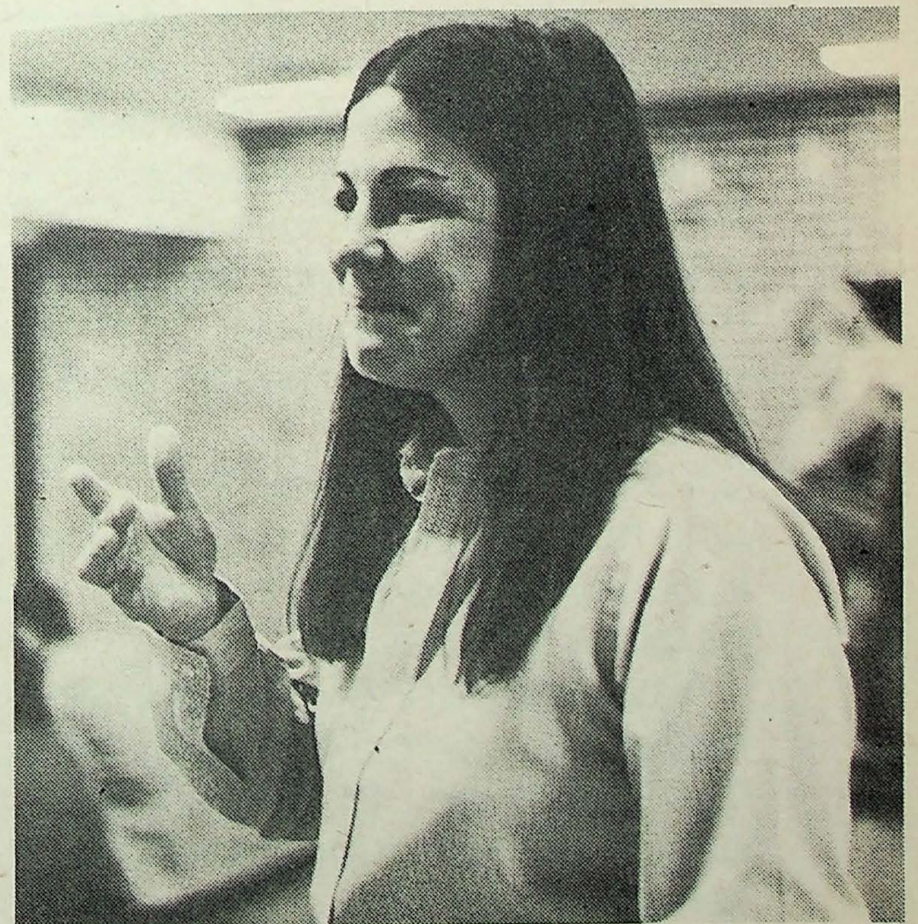
the Glass Court April 25th, to late for the results to make this edition of RACQUETBALL TODAY)

Ektelon/Perrier Pro/Am

Ektelon/Perrier is wrapping up their 19-city amateur tour, and it is one of the most successful and exciting events in the history of the sport. Amateur winners from each of the 19 cities are being flown to the finals May 8-11 at Rocky's Racquet World in North Hollywood, California, and will compete there for 8-day Club Med trips and other grand prizes. Some of the area winners who will be competing include Bob Deuster, Jim Wirkus, John Amatulli and Larry Fox in the

Men's Open; Ron Johnson and Charlie Garfinkel in the Seniors; Stacey Fletcher, Barb Allweiss and Bonnie Stoll in the Women's Open; and in the Men's Doubles, Moskwa and Gibellina from Chicago, the Wirkus brothers from Wisconsin, Gil Schmidt and Jankovich from Detroit, and other fine players.

As is, that competition isn't paramount enough, Ektelon/Perrier will also be holding a \$40,000 Pro tournament at the (Continued on Page 17)



Rita Hoff takes a break between matches when she and Diane Gabrisko helped Bob Keenan referee the Collegiates.

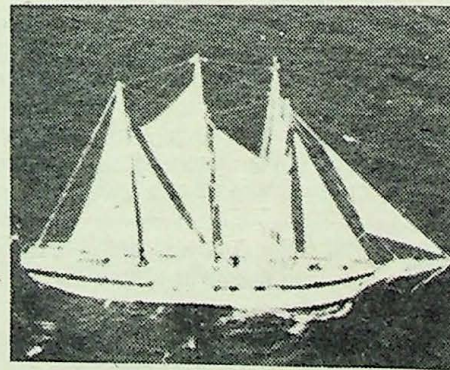
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Strategy

By JEAN SAUSER

Editor's Note: Jean Sauser, the sixth ranked women's racquetball pro, and photographer Arthur Shay, are the co-authors of "Racquetball Strategy," a book devoted to those racquetball players who are absolutely determined to get better and better. With permission of the author and publisher, RACQUETBALL TODAY will reprint portions of that book.

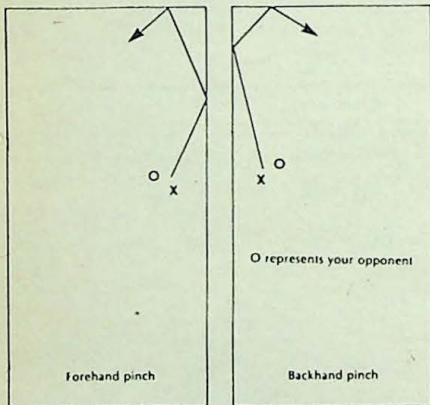
Situation:
Playing a player who covers most of the court with his forehand

Strategy: Play his backhand.

Start the game by serving balls down the wall to his backhand side. This makes it impossible for him to use his forehand for the return. If he does try to use his forehand to return the serve, he will jam himself on the backhand side wall and give you a weak return or none at all.

During the game keep most of your shots down the line on your opponent's backhand side wall. Down-the-line ceiling shots to the backhand, combined with down-the-line kills and pass shots will force him into errors or make him use his weaker backhand. Keep the ball moving up and down the backhand side wall and you'll win.

Situation:
Your opponent crowds you during the volley



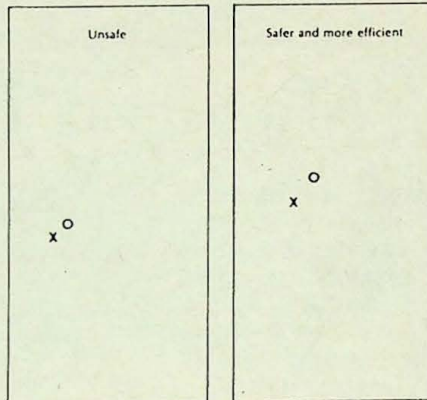
Diagrams 1 and 2. A pinch is a good alternative to an attempted cross court pass.

Strategy: Call hinders and pinch.

For safety's sake, hold up your racquet before striking the ball and call a hinder when you're being crowded. This is perfectly legal and may make the point to your opponent that he is in your way and creating a dangerous situation. The referee should honor your call and warn your opponent against crowding.

For those situations where your opponent is still crowding you slightly, but not enough to cause a legal hinder, turn the tables on him. Use a low pinch to the near side wall. This will earn you a quick point at best and at least get the ball to the opposite side of the court as easily as an impaired cross court pass would have done, had he not been blocking you. The pinch is a better alternative, and worth learning and practicing. It is one of racquetball's best but least-used shots.

Situation:
You crowd your opponent during the volley



Diagrams 3 and 4. Don't crowd your opponent.

Strategy: Play safe or change your position.

There are gray areas in racquetball as in any sport. Crowding your opponent as a stratagem is one of these areas. It can be dangerous, especially when you are even with your opponent on the court and you are definitely hindering him. Three possibilities present themselves. One, your opponent will hit you with his follow-through, possibly injuring you. Two, the opponent will hold up his swing in which case a hinder takes place and the point is simply replayed. The third and most detrimental to you is that the referee can call an avoidable hinder on you, awarding the point to your opponent. You lose in all three situations.

So if you are getting a lot of hinder calls, or worse, getting hit with your opponent's racquet during his follow-through, give him more room to swing by moving up more or taking a slight step to the side. This way you can safely face his side of the court and the ball in anticipation of your next shot.

Generally, playing "clean" is much more rewarding and safer than skirting the gray areas.

Double Exhibition Match at Killshot

Prime Time Promotions will hold a double exhibition at Killshot, Ltd. in Bloomingdale, Illinois, on Friday, May 9, at 7:30 p.m.

Vern Roberts, Jr., fourth-ranked USHA handball pro, will play a 31-point exhibition game against Clyde Senter, a top racquetball pro.

In a second pairing, AARA Illinois State Doubles Champions Steve Sulli and Bob Deuster will play a \$300 winner-take-all racquetball match against ISRA State Doubles Champions John Lynch and Jim Scheyer.

Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at Killshot, Ltd. Interested persons may phone (312) 893-9575 for further information.

Women Prepare for Nationals

(Continued from Page 1)

racquet exhibition competition between Jennifer Harding and Vern Roberts, Jr.

Earlier this year, Harding, the seventh-ranked WPRA touring racquetball pro, defeated Roberts, the fourth-ranked USHA men's handball pro, 11-7 in a tie breaker in a special exhibition match.

"Vern said he was too easy on Jennifer during their first exhibition match," Danno said. "This time we're going to learn if Jennifer's victory was a fluke."

ALSO ON THE competitive side, a special outdoor three-wall category will be

said, "but York Furriers of Elmhurst has provided special mink-encased gift certificates for both the professional and amateur winners."

AS FOR FACILITIES, this is what Seaton had to say:

"Killshot, Ltd. is a beautiful and spacious modern club with 15 indoor and two outdoor courts.

"It is centrally located in the Chicago market, which itself is the centrally located racquetball hotbed in the country.

"We think Killshot, Ltd. is an excellent location choice for the first WPRA Women's Nationals."

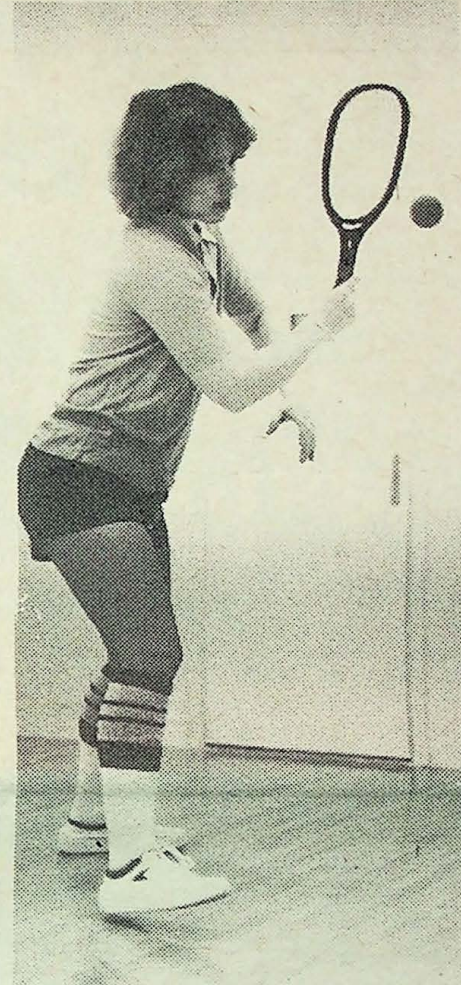
HOUSING FOR non-Chicago, out-of-state players is being handled by Tournament Director Sue Sulli and her staff.

"We are trying to keep the cost of this tournament to players as low as possible," Sulli said. "Hopefully this will encourage more players to enter.

"We have arranged special low-price deals with three nearby inns and we are in the process of getting the members and friends of Killshot to pen their homes to tournament players and provide local transportation to and from the club.

"We hope our efforts not only help keep players' costs down but also give the tournament a special personal touch," Sulli concluded.

ENTRY FEES (See Page 14 for entry blanks) for the first Women's Professional Racquetball Association National Championship tournament will be \$40 for the pro category, \$40 for the amateur doubles category and \$25 for the amateur singles categories. Entries must be received by Killshot, Ltd. no later than June 6, 1980.



Glenda Young

open to interested competitors.

"This will be the first time women will be able to compete in a tournament in this category," Danno said.

Prime Time Promotions additionally is planning special racquetball clinics before the Women's Nationals and a banquet after the tournament.

"Not only will we present the prize money and specially-designed plaques to first and second place winners in both the professional and amateur categories," Danno



Jennifer Harding



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RACQUETBALL TODAY

1980

Tournament Schedule

Illinois Tournaments

May 2, 3 & 4, 1980
Natural Light/NFL Players Association
Site: The Glass Court
Contact: S/S/S Promotions
312-371-2555

May 9, 10 & 11, 1980
Women's Spring Championships
Site: Supreme Court, Rockford
Contact: Holly Bona
815-332-9422

May 15, 16, 17 & 18, 1980
Lite ISRA State Singles
Site: The Glass Court and others
Contact: S/S/S Promotions
312-371-2555

June 5, 6 & 7, 1980
Second Annual DuPage Open
Site: Naperville Courts
Contact: Bob Szczecinski
312-961-1535

June 13, 14 & 15, 1980
Illinois State Junior Championships
Singles and Doubles
Site: Schaumburg Court House
Contact: 312-882-4636

June 19, 20, 21 & 22, 1980
Women's National Racquetball Championships
Professional & Amateur Events
Site: Killshot, Ltd.
Contact: Sue Sulli
312-893-9575

July 17, 18, 19 & 20, 1980
USRA Junior Regionals
Sponsored by: Seamco/Leach
Site: To be announced
Contact: USRA 312-673-4000

July 25, 26 & 27, 1980
5th Annual Women's Open
Site: Northbrook Court House
Contact: Jim VerHaeghe
312-498-3626

August 11-16, 1980
USRA Junior Nationals
Sponsored by: Seamco/Leach
Site: To be announced
Contact: USRA 312-673-4000

August 22, 23 & 24, 1980
S & S Insurance Agency Open
Site: To be announced
Contact: S/S/S Promotions
312-371-2555

Michigan Tournaments

May 1, 2 & 3, 1980
Three Days In May
Racquets West
Grandville, Michigan
616-531-5220

May 9, 10 & 11, 1980
State Doubles Championship
Davison Racquet Club
Davison, Michigan
313-653-9602

May 14, 15 & 16, 1980
Grand Rapids City Championship
Racquets West
Grandville, Michigan
616-531-5220

May, June, 1980
Second Annual Round Robin
Racquetball Tournament
Site: Imperial Court Club
Ann Arbor, Michigan
Contact: Doug Sheperdigian
313-665-6333

May 17 & 18: Open & A
May 31 & June 1: B
June 7 & 8: C
June 14 & 15: Jr., Sr. & Masters
June 28 & 29: Novice

June 20, 21 & 22, 1980
Junior State Singles Championship
Franklin Racquet Club
Southfield, Michigan
313-352-8000

June 20, 21 & 22, 1980
March of Dimes First Annual
Racquetball Classic
Site: Deer Lake Racquet
and Country Club
Clarkston, Michigan
Contact: 313-625-8686
313-851-8000

September 5, 6, & 7, 1980
Ektelon/Natural Light Pro/Am
Davison Racquet Club
Davison, Michigan
Contact: Tyrone Minto
313-653-9602

* Denotes MRA or USRA Sanctioned Tournaments. To add tournaments or to get up to date information, contact Jim Easterling - 313-352-8004.

Wisconsin Tournaments

May 8, 9 & 10, 1980
Wisconsin State USRA Doubles
Site: Downtown Athletic Club
Milwaukee
Contact: Joe Wirkus
608-274-5080

June 6, 7, & 8, 1980
State Line Open
Site: Racquetball Club of Kenosha
Contact: Jim Verhein
414-694-8922

May 16, 17 & 18, 1980
Mary Kay Women's Racquetball Open
Site: The Supreme Court
Janesville, Wisconsin
Contact: Will Mulvaney or Maryl Meise
608-756-3737

RACQUETBALL TODAY now has a Wisconsin representative and is interested in expanding coverage in the state. To list tournaments, provide results, place ads and for general information, please contact: Geoffrey E. Peters, 426 Three Mile Road, No. C3, Racine, Wisconsin 53402. Phone 414-639-4719 evenings.

ELSEWHERE

June 1-7, 1980
Leach/Seamco Championships
Site: Las Vegas, Nevada
Contact: NRC/USRA
312-673-4000

August 15, 16 & 17, 1980
11th Annual Masters
Invitational Doubles
Site: Supreme Court
555 Odana Road
Madison, Wisconsin
Contact: Joe Wirkus
608-274-5080



Chantel Dennis says that reading RACQUETBALL TODAY "is an intellectually stimulating and thought-provoking experience."

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WISCONSIN NEWS

Ektelon/Perrier Stop

By GEOFF PETERS

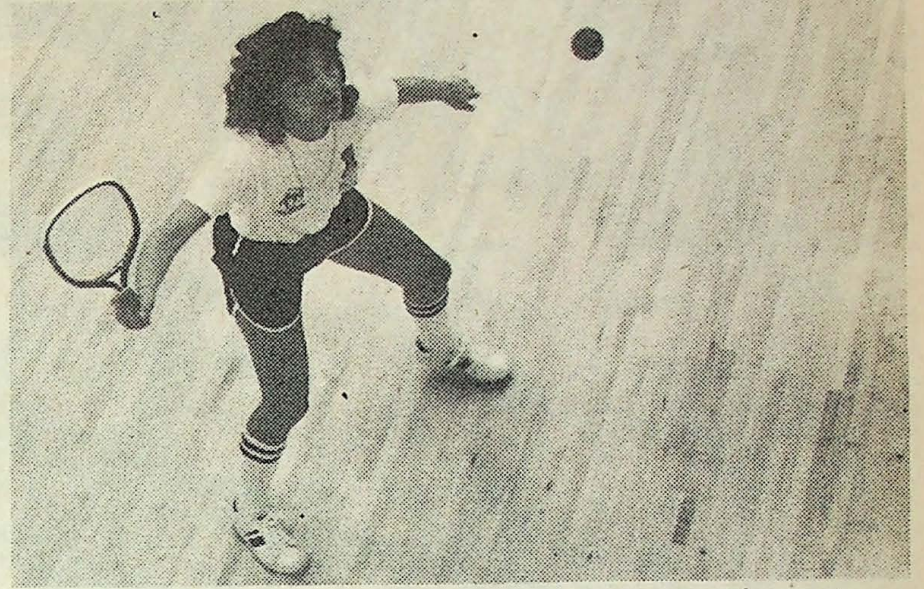
The Wisconsin stop of the 1980 Ektelon/Perrier Championships was held April 11-13 by the Brookfield Racquetball Club in Waukesha, Wisconsin. Tournament Directors Mary Peters and John Bergman, along with Jill Ersbo, Linda Karps and Ektelon representatives Joe Salaja and Tom Theis, did a fine job of accommodating the over 200 entrants.

The caliber of play was excellent as Joe and Jim Wirkus met in the Men's Open Finals and Jim duplicated his tie breaker victory of the previous week's USRA Regionals by taking this one 11-6. Sheryl Krause dominated the Women's bracket as she never had to face a tie breaker en route to a Finals showdown with top-seeded Sue Carow (the National Seniors Women's Champion). Krause had little trouble with Carow in the finals as she controlled the court and consistently killed both her backhand and forehand. Carow's normal scrambling

game was negated as Sheryl rarely left the ball high enough to retrieve.

The Wirkus brothers continued to dominate area doubles play as they were extended to a tie breaker only once by Illinois State Singles Champion John Lynch and his partner, Jim Scheyer. In the other half of the draw, Galen Johnson and Tom Handlen surprised second seeded Dennis McDowell and Steve Sulli as they effectively kept Dennis out of the flow of the game. In the finals, the Wirkuses played nearly flawless ball as they controlled the tempo from the outset and forced the ball to the right side of the court whenever possible.

Craig Steichen journeyed up from St. Charles, Illinois to play the Iron Man role at this tournament as he won both the Novice and C titles. Craig had to play 11 matches during the week-end (and several games of beer basketball) before claiming his hardware. The big question is: what will he do with two digital clock radios?



Sally Dearborn keeps her eye on the ball as she captures the Women's B championship of the Ektelon/Perrier tournament held in Waukesha, Wisconsin. (Photo by Don Factor)

Tournament News

Bridgkort Open

By GARI TATE

One hundred fifty players competed in the Third Annual Bridgkort Open on February 29, March 1 and 2, at the Bridgkort Racquet and Swim Club in Neenah, Wisconsin. Gari Tate, the host pro, defeated Wausau's Pete Kerswill 21-12, 21-12 to capture the Men's Open title. Tate had edged Galen Johnson of Green Bay 18-21, 21-2, 11-10 in the Semis. Kerswill annihilated everyone who stepped in the court with him en route to the finals. The blistering speed of his shots left his opponents flat-footed.

The Finals was another story, however, as Tate controlled the flow of the match and exploited nearly every mistake Kerswill made.

RESULTS

MEN'S OPEN

Finals: Tate d. Kerswill, 21-12, 21-12.
Semis: Tate d. Johnson; Kerswill d. Hubert.

MEN'S B

Finals: Engelhardt d. Lamers, 21-13, 21-17.
Semis: Lamers d. Waldron; Engelhardt d. Kuchenberg.

MEN'S SENIORS

Finals: Dersden d. Compton, 21-3, 7-21, 11-9.
Semis: Dersden d. Koch; Compton d. Ward.

WOMEN'S OPEN

(Double Elimination)
Finals: Sheryl Kraus d. Lorrie Munzenberger, 21-1, 21-11.

WOMEN'S B

Finals: Roskopf d. Redman, 21-9, 19-21, 11-7.
Semis: Redman d. Reinwald; Roskopf d. Newcomb.

Wisconsin State Singles

Results from the Wisconsin State Singles Tourney held at The Racquetball Club in West Allis on January 25, 26 and 27. The manager of the facility is Keith Nygren and the Head pro is Pat Schmidt. Tournament Director was USRA State Chairman (and Open Singles winner) Joe Wirkus.

MEN'S OPEN

Finals: Joe Wirkus d. Jim Wirkus, 21-9, 20-21, 11-10.
Semis: Joe Wirkus d. Bruce Thompson, 21-8, 21-12; Jim Wirkus d. Brian Parrot, 21-6, 21-12.

MEN'S B

Finals: Todd Taylor d. Dan Skalecki.
Semis: Taylor d. Randy Hyack, 21-12, 21-14; Skalecki d. Jim Luzar, 14-21, 21-11, 11-4.

MEN'S SENIORS

Finals: Dan Klyve-Wood d. Jon Dirksen.
Semis: Klyve-Wood d. Jim Compton, 21-19, 21-17; Dirksen d. Dan Trost, 21-15, 21-9.

MEN'S MASTERS

Finals: Jim White d. Joe Carini, 20-21, 21-15, 11-4.
Semis: White d. Mike MacKedon, 21-6, 21-14; Carini d. Joe Bechard, 13-21, 21-9, 11-0.

MEN'S GOLDEN MASTERS

Finals: Dick Kalal d. Chet Howard, 21-19, 21-1.
Semis: Kalal d. Don Diamond, 21-1, 21-2; Howard d. Hank Krause, 21-8, 21-3.

WOMEN'S OPEN

Finals: Sheryl Krause d. Julie Jacobson, 21-13, 21-16.
Semis: Krause d. Nola Ward, 21-0, 21-12; Jacobson d. Laura Sidello, 18-21, 21-14, 11-10.

WOMEN'S B

Finals: Laura Merkel d. Joan Schallern, 21-12, 21-10.
Semis: Merkel d. Claire Palmer, 21-20, 21-11; Schallern d. Diana Gagliano, 21-8, 21-17.

WOMEN'S SENIORS

Finals: Nola Ward d. Ann Heckel, 21-3, 21-8.
Semis: Ward d. Sue Joy-Sobota, 21-5, 21-4; Heckel d. Vicki Emmerson, 10-21, 21-6, 11-7.

MICHIGAN CLUB GUIDE

SPORTS ILLUSTRATED COURT CLUB No. 1: 2111 Golfside Road, Ypsilanti, MI. (313) 434-2111. 10 courts, Nautilus fitness center, free nursery, saunas, lounge, racquetball instruction, pro shop and much more!

SPORTS ILLUSTRATED COURT CLUB No.2: G-3237 Beecher Road, Flint, MI. (313) 733-3000. 10 regulation courts (1 glass), 2 saunas, co-ed whirlpool, fully-equipped pro shop, leagues, lessons and parties. Aerobic Dance classes. Group discounts available. Manager: Bruce Gouin. Program director: Terry Graham.

SPORTS ILLUSTRATED COURT CLUB No. 21: G-5219 W. Pierson Road, Flushing, MI. (313) 733-7730. 15 regulation courts, Swedish sauna, whirlpool, free attended nursery from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Universal fitness center with jogging area. Pro shop. Located 1 mile west of I-75 on Pierson Road.

SPORTS ILLUSTRATED COURT CLUB No. 12: 42140 Van Dyke, Sterling Heights, MI. (313) 254-1012. 8 regulation courts, 2 saunas, 2 whirlpools, 1 badminton court. Special women's programs, free nursery, men's and women's traveling leagues. Aerobic dance classes. 2 professional instructors (APRO). Manager: Kathleen Zale. Program director: Debbie Fultz.

SPORTS ILLUSTRATED COURT CLUB No.7: 2717 Schust Road, Saginaw, MI. (517) 790-0150. 15 regulation courts, Swedish sauna, whirlpool, free nursery from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday, Universal fitness center with jogging area, and pro shop.

IMPERIAL COURT CLUB: 2200 Green Road, Ann Arbor, Mich. (313) 665-6333. Eight regulation courts, one glass back wall. Universal exercise equipment, sauna, free nursery, aerobic fitness classes. Racquetball Pro: Doug Sheperdigian.



Jameson Irish Whiskey Open

Racquetballers were lured into play at the Jameson Irish St. Pat's Open by the promise of celebration and a first place prize of \$250 for both the Men's and Women's Open title. The event, held March 14, 15 and 16, at the Brookfield Racquet Club in Waukesha, brought out 250 participants.

A special thanks goes out to tournament directors, Brad Nelson and Jill Ersbo, and tournament official, Paul Ernst.

RESULTS

MEN'S OPEN

1st: Jim Wirkus (Waukesha); 2nd: Dieter Schmidt (Milwaukee); 3rd: Andy Gutierrez (Milw.)

MEN'S B
1st: Dino Piscione (Menom. Falls); 2nd: Ray Carney (West Allis); 3rd: Gary Bender (Oconomowoc)

MEN'S C
1st: Mark Hackbarth (Kenosha); 2nd: Jim Moreland (Greenfield); 3rd: Elliot Papermaster (Waukesha)

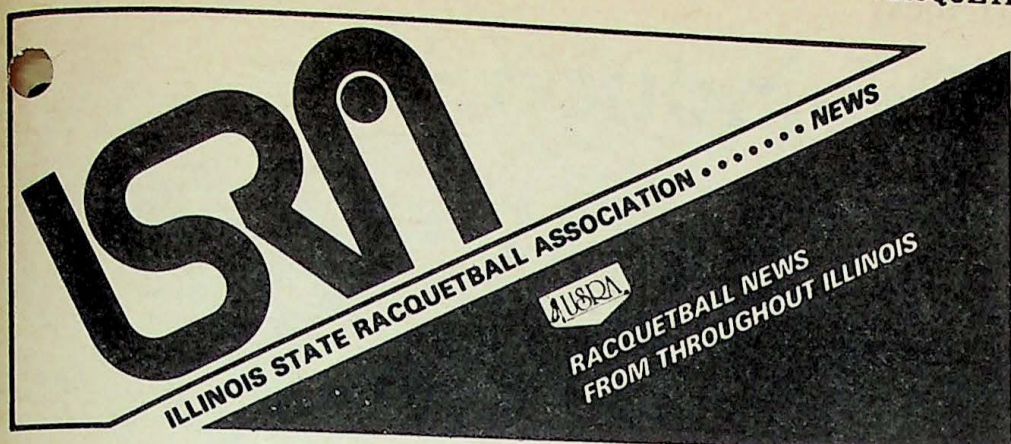
MEN'S NOVICE
1st: Joe Vitale (Detroit); 2nd: Brian Kroebel (Waukesha); 3rd: Tim Posanski (Milw.)

WOMEN'S OPEN
1st: Pat Schmidt (Milw.); 2nd: Laura Sidello (Milw.); 3rd: Gina Waldron (Milw.)

WOMEN'S B
1st: Claire Palmer (Milw.); 2nd: Denise Carney (West Allis); 3rd: Ro Grzek (Waukesha)

WOMEN'S C
1st: Kathy Schmidt (Fond du Lac); 2nd: Charlotte Stieftrator (Green Bay); 3rd: Milissa Reimer (Milw.)

WOMEN'S NOVICE
1st: Bonnie Krueger (Hartland); 2nd: Karen Folger (Milw.); 3rd: Jan Herbst (Waukesha)



Time-Out Rule Revised

By PHIL SIMBORG

Since the USRA instituted its new rule to require the player to call a timeout before the ref calls the score, I had written three letters to the USRA and two articles in this paper explaining why I, and many others, believed the new rule to be unnecessary, unfair, and cumbersome.

FINALLY, in a recent meeting with Dan Bertolucci, Executive Director of NRC, Dan admitted that he was tired of hearing from me about this (and some other rules and policies), and agreed to

make the change. The Pro players have already been notified that they will be allowed to call a timeout anytime the "ball is not in play," and we're sure the amateur players will be as delighted to hear the news as the pros were.

WHAT A RELIEF!

As to the implementation of the current rules, check with your local state affiliate Referee's committee to see which rule interpretation is currently in effect, though it is the normal procedure to follow the most current USRA rules.

Juniors to Have Their Own Championships

In the past, the Illinois State Juniors Championships were held in conjunction with the State Singles Championships, but this year we have decided to run a separate tournament for the Juniors, which will be held at the Schaumburg Court House the weekend of June 13 through 15. The following divisions will be offered: boys and girls 17 and under, 15 and under, 13 and under, and 11 and under; boys and girls doubles 17 and under, and 13 under.

The reason for holding a separate tournament for the Juniors were as follows:

1) It was felt that by combining the Juniors with the regular divisions, the Juniors tended to be somewhat ignored, not receiving the careful attention, top refereeing, and recognition these young people deserved.

2) MANY OF the juniors in this state are of such a high caliber of skill that they can readily compete on an equal basis with the better adult players, and it was felt that these Juniors should have an opportunity to compete at both events separately, to give them a better shot at winning in the Open divisions. Just to name a few, players like Jack Newman, Sean Moskwa, John Slazas, Karen Pace and Tina Heath have all proven their ability to compete in the higher divisions of play in previous tournaments this year.

3) Because of the funds available to the Juniors from the ISRA treasury, along with funds that we hope to see provided by private companies, we felt that by holding a separate tournament

we may well be able to provide extra benefits to the Juniors in the form of reduced entry fee, better prizes for winning, and possibly some funds to help provide transportation for the winner to the Junior Regionals and Junior Nationals, which will be in July

and August respectively.

In addition to running a full, regular tournament for the Juniors, the ISRA will provide a special referees clinic which will concentrate not only on the rules of the game, but on how to act on the court in a manner that is in

keeping with the high standards of sportsmanship required by the ISRA, along with tips on how to use the rules.

For additional information on this tournament, consult the tournament entry form in this paper.

Official Entry

Dates • May 15, 16, 17, & 18

Lite Beer

Illinois State Racquetball Association 1980 State Singles



The Glass Court
830 S. Roosevelt
Lombard, IL 60148

ENTRY DEADLINE: All entry blanks and corresponding entry fees must be in the possession of tournament director by Friday, May 9, 1980.

ENTRY FEE: \$20 per entry.

OFFICIAL BALL: Seamco 600 (blue).

RULES OF SANCTION PLAY: All current ISRA USRA rules will govern play. No player having accepted \$1000 or more in prize money on NRC Pro Tour within last 12 months may enter.

ELIGIBILITY: All participants must be current ISRA USRA members and live in Illinois. Membership applications will be available for an additional \$12.

AWARDS: Trophies to first four places in all events, and 1st place consolation.

PAYMENT: Make checks payable to S/S/S PROMOTIONS, P.O. Box D, Posen, IL 60469

STARTING TIMES: Entrants will be notified by postcard. (If you do not receive a post card by Wednesday, May 14, call the club 312-629-3390).

CONSOLATION: All Divisions—First-round losers must sign up.

LIMITATIONS ON ENTRANTS: Open: All eligible. **A:** Have not been a winner in A or Open. **B:** Have not been a finalist once, or semi-finalist twice in B. **C:** Have not been a finalist once, or semi-finalist twice in C. **D:** Have not been a finalist once or semi-finalist twice in D.

*Other Metro Clubs may be used depending upon the size of the draw. Al Shetzer, Phil Simborg, Tom Street—Your tournament directors.

Please Enter Me In: Men

Women

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Open Singles | <input type="checkbox"/> Super Golden Master Singles (60 +) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran Open (30 +) | <input type="checkbox"/> B |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Singles (35 +) | <input type="checkbox"/> C |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran Senior Singles (40 +) | <input type="checkbox"/> D |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Master Singles (45 +) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sr. B |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran Master Singles (50 +) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sr. C |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golden Master Singles (55 +) | <input type="checkbox"/> Master B |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A | <input type="checkbox"/> Master C |

*12 entries necessary for each division. Entries will automatically be moved up to the next division if less than 12 enter.

WAIVER

I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, agents and administrator, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the ISRA, its affiliated clubs, and their respective agents, representatives, successors and assigners for any and all injuries which may be suffered by me in connection with my participation.

SHIRT SIZE: _____ Small _____ Medium _____ Large _____ X-Large

Name _____ Please Print

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

USRA Membership card Exp. Date _____

Business phone _____ Home phone _____

Date _____

Signature _____

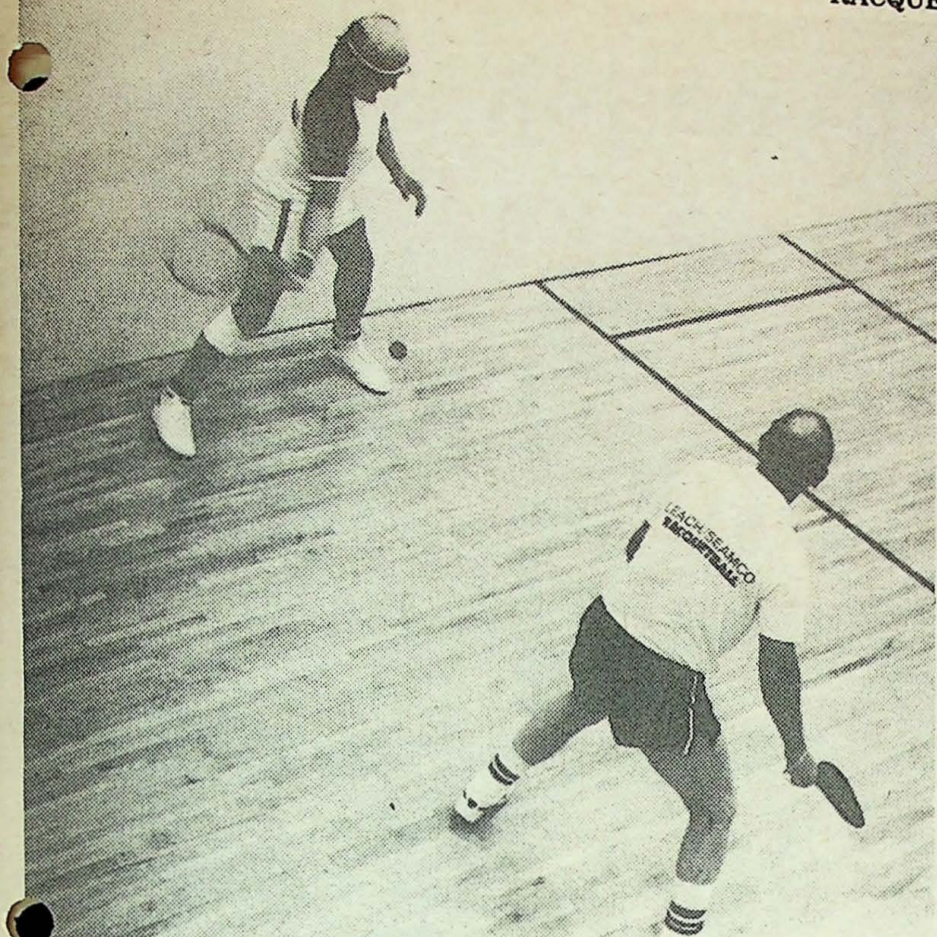
Mail to S/S/S Promotions, P.O. Box D, Posen, IL 60469 (312) 371-6555

Referee

Committee News

Bill Precht has been appointed to the co-chairmanship of the ISRA Referees Committee. Bill will work with John R. Greene in continuing the fine work of the committee which has distinguished itself as the finest committee of its kind anywhere, and is pointed to by the USRA (United States Racquetball Association) as an example for others around the country.

The committee, which currently has about 50 members, holds referees clinics free of charge for groups of five or more, tests and qualifies referees for tournaments, provides refs for the tougher matches at sanctioned tournaments, and supervises the refereeing at all sanctioned tournaments. Further, the committee experiments with, discusses, and recommends new rules, many of which have been adopted by the USRA and ISRA. To become a member of the committee, individuals must pass a written test as well as prove their ability refereeing, and are asked to give as much time as they have available, when convenient, at the sanctioned tournaments. For more information contact John Greene or Bill Precht, or call the ISRA at (312) 439-3030.



The Golden Masters, Dr. David Matthews (left) and Mr. Harold Kronenberg, duel it out at the USRA Regionals. (Photo by Bill Precht)

1980 Central Regionals

(Continued from Page 3)

tough games. To get to the Finals, Saul had to beat Jim Harper 11-9 in the tie breaker of the Semis, and Dick has a rough three-game match with Dan Day. Dorsey Boulton won the consolation.

The Masters Doubles was a round robin with Tony Yucevicus and Chuck Martarano going all the way without dropping single game. The team of Don Berk and Howard Lipshultz took second.

GOLDEN MASTERS: In the words of the finals referee, John Greene: "These players are absolutely fantastic! I can't believe how many great kill and pass shots they made." These 55-plus players play as smart and as hard as any division, and for excitement and entertainment, this division is, in many ways, more interesting to watch than many of the others: The winner was Dr. David Matthews of Champaign in a three-game match that went to an 11-8 tie breaker against Harold Kronenberg. Corbin Stanelle won the consolation.

MEN'S B: There were 30 men in this division, but Barry Allen breezed to victory without dropping a single game. His toughest match was in the Finals against Frank Split, and that was 21-14, 21-17. Splitt beat George Silva in the Semis, and Allan took Jerry Belcaster. Brian Kravitz won the consolation.

WOMEN'S B: The scenario here was just like the Men's B, as Janine Toman of Western Springs, Ill. breezed to victory without dropping a game. Second place was Pat Harsoe. Janine beat Pat Miller in the Semis, an Pat Harsoe beat bouncy Bobbie LaMarre in the Semis. Peg Cronin won the consolation.

MEN'S C: Scott Martin from Urbana, Ill. went all the way here, but it was no easy road to victory in this 48-man multi-state competition. Scott was taken to a tie breaker in the Quarters by John Mueller (Schaumburg, Ill.); he eeked out a two-game win in the Semis against Dave Nowak (Dubuque, Iowa); and he beat Jeff Bennett (Rantoul, Ill.) in the Finals 21-15, 18-21, 11-7. Jeff beat Doug Wood (Jenison, Mich.) in the Semis, Kevin Ballerd in the Quarters, and even had to go to a tie

breaker against Mike Oester in the first round. Craig Steichen won the consolation.

TOURNAMENT NOTES:

Though I was extremely impressed with the quality of play in this tournament, I was even more impressed by the sportsmanship exhibited by all. We had tremendous cooperation and understanding from nearly everyone. I think we only had to replace one referee the entire tournament, and there were very few technicals awarded throughout (I only got to award two myself, way below my average!). In particular, the four top Men's players who I expect to set an example, are four of the finest sportsmen, and most honest people on the court today: Jim and Joe Wirkus, Dennie McDowell and Bob Deuster. The top Women's players, too, set a wonderful example for the rest of us: Glenda Young, Stacy Fletcher and Nancy Kronenfeld; and even Sue Carow had nothing but compliments for her opponent after losing in the Finals. All this in spite of some "shuffling" because of players playing in two divisions; in spite of some truly poor seeding; and in spite of the fact that many of the matches were extremely close and could have easily been decided by one or two bad calls. Thank you, players, for your help and support during our tournaments; it's a pleasure for us to bring you these tournaments!



Saul Sandoval (left) defeats Jim Harper in the Masters Semis.

Golden Master Wins 6th

By JOHN GREENE

I had the distinct pleasure of reffing the Finals of the Men's Golden Masters Championships, at the USRA's Regionals (held at Killshot), between David Matthews (59), and Harold Kronenberg (56). Dr. Matthews, from Champaign, Illinois, and Mr. Kronenberg, of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, played a marvelous match, with Dr. Matthews eventually winning 11-8 in the tie breaker.

These guys are foolers! Between the rallies, I was tempted to yell: "Nurse! Start the transfusions!" as they slowly retrieved the ball, breathing deeply, and agonizingly getting ready for the next serve.

But, during the rally! Holy Cow!! Hard

drive serves, quick to get seemingly impossible passes, long rallies, pinch shots that dribble out (and, had ME drooling!), roll out kills . . . I was impressed; as was the large, enthusiastic gallery.

Dr. Matthews is employed in the Physical Education department at the University of Illinois. And, has played racquetball for 10 years. Before that, he was into paddleball for about 20 years. This was his sixth Regionals championship win! Previously, he has taken a second place and a fourth in the Nationals.

Mr. Kronenberg had ducked into the shower before I could visit with him. I am sure we will continue to see more of both gentlemen at up coming tournaments. We wish them well.

ILLINOIS CLUB GUIDE

CONTINENTAL CLUB: 1701 Golf Road, Rolling Meadows, Ill. 981-7777. Ten racquetball/handball courts, two squash courts, indoor swimming pool and whirlpool, indoor running track. Nautilus equipment, basketball, volleyball, Judo, Karate, golf driving. Separate Paramount equipment workout rooms for men and women. Carpeted locker rooms for men and women with sauna, steam, sun rooms. Color TV in lounges, towels & toiletries, massages. Free attended nursery, pro shop, group and private lessons available. Open 7 days a week. This club is built in conjunction with restaurants, Deli, shops and three twelve story office towers. Individual and Corporate memberships available; Charter membership available until June 1; call Debbie Engle, Director of Membership, 312-981-7777. General Manager: Norb Duba.

THE RIGHT CLUB: 2330 N. Hammond Drive, Schaumburg, Ill. 397-3300. 8 racquetball courts featuring 4 new glass backwall courts, complete Nautilus-aerobics fitness center with supervised programs and exercise classes; 5 tennis courts featuring indirect lighting providing the highest ceiling in Chicago; cocktail lounge with viewing gallery; attended nursery, whirlpools, saunas, traveling teams, instructional and advanced leagues, sanctioned tournaments, match arranging, social events and parties.

RIVIERA 400 HEALTH CLUB: 400 East Randolph (Lake Shore Drive), Chicago. Climate controlled racquetball/handball courts, non-glare lighting and gallery viewing. NO COURT FEES. Landmark geodesic dome, swimming pool and whirlpool. Double tier sundeck with attended jukebar and private cabanas-chaise lounges available. Separate men and women's health clubs carpeted and attended. Saunas, steam room (men's), Roman Spa whirlpool (women's), Universal gym, weightlifting, sunrooms. Professional massage and facial (appointment). Towels, soaps, and toiletries-complimentary. Pro Shop, lessons, programs, laundry service. Executive Health Fitness Program, fitness classes, T.V. lounge. For individual or corporate memberships to this plush Spa call (312) 527-2525. Director: Gale Landers.

PRO RACQUETBALL AND FITNESS CENTER: 1055 Lake Avenue, Woodstock, IL. (815) 338-8222. 8 climate controlled

racquetball/handball courts. Fully carpeted locker rooms including saunas and whirlpools. Nautilus fitness center for extensive exercise programs. Spacious lounge with championship court viewing. A place for everyone to see.

SUPREME COURT: One Virginia Road, Crystal Lake, IL. (815) 455-3330. 10 air-conditioned racquetball courts, saunas, whirlpools, carpeted locker rooms, attended nursery, fully equipped pro shop. Manager/Pro: John Isaacson.

OAK LAWN RACQUET CLUB: 10444 South Central Avenue, Oak Lawn, IL. 499-3626. 5 racquetball/handball courts, 8 tennis courts, saunas, whirlpools, exercise room, carpeted locker rooms, attended nursery, T.V. lounge.

KILLSHOT, LTD: 321 Edgewater Drive, Bloomingdale, IL. 893-9575. 15 climate controlled racquetball/handball courts, fully carpeted locker rooms, large co-ed whirlpool, separate saunas, and massage rooms, extensive exercise room, fully equipped pro shop, attended nursery, spacious lounge with viewing gallery Horseshoe-shaped bar with 2 way fireplace. Private and group lessons. General Manager/Head Pro: Don Jenkins. Manager/Pro: Sue Sulli.

CHARLIE CLUB: 2701 Black Road, Joliet, IL. (815) 729-4503. Open 24 hours, 7 days. Restaurant and Disco (open to the public). 8 racquetball/handball courts, 2 indoor tennis courts with special "Sport Sod". Fully equipped men's and women's exercise rooms with Nautilus, Universal and Paramount equipment. Indoor swimming pool and jogging track, one kilometer outdoor parcours, locker rooms include saunas, steam rooms, massage, showers, and private Swedish massage. Supervised nursery. Members over 18 years. Corporate memberships available.

SILVER LAKE COUNTRY CLUB: 147th Street and 82nd Avenue, Orland Park, IL. 349-6947. 9 racquetball/handball courts (1 glass walled court for viewing), saunas, free attended nursery, exercise rooms, full length lockers, extensive bar and lounge. Private and group lessons available.

FOREST VIEW RACQUET CLUB: 800 East Falcon Drive, Arlington Heights, IL. 640-2574. 8 air-conditioned racquetball/handball courts, 6 indoor tennis courts, 6 outdoor tennis courts. Separate saunas and whirlpools, men's and women's locker rooms, attended nursery. Manager/head pro: Jeff Wilke. Racquetball pros: Georgia Maskalunas, Scott Thurber.

TINLEY PARK RACQUETBALL CLUB: 17500 Duvan Drive, Tinley Park, IL. 532-7900. Open 7 days, 6 a.m. to 12 a.m. 15 regulation racquetball/handball courts with unique use of glass for uninterrupted playing and viewing. Luxurious health facilities including saunas, steam bath, whirlpools, Universal exercise areas. Free attended nursery. Pro shop, racquet rental, complete lessons program. Temperature controlled for comfortable year-round play. Home of the plush Prime Time Lounge. Managed by Five Stars International Enterprises, Inc.

TAM RACQUETBALL AND TENNIS CLUB: 7686 N. Caldwell, Niles, IL. 967-1400. Year round air-conditioned facilities. Includes 5 racquetball/handball courts and 8 tennis courts with award winning lighting. Free attended nursery, deluxe locker rooms with separate whirlpools and saunas, pro shop, member lounge and kitchen. Racquetball Pro: Howard Sandler. Head Tennis Pro: Rod Schroeder. Pro staff includes: Stewart Flaink, Jeff Rothstein, Tim Buturac, Sarah Dutton.

HOMWOOD-FLOSSMOOR RACQUET CLUB: 2940 W. 183rd St., Homewood, IL. 799-1323. Four racquetball courts, 8 tennis courts, separate whirlpools, saunas, exercise room, supervised instructional exercise program daily, attended nursery 4-4:30 Mon. thru Fri. Facility Manager: Duane Elliott.

THE RACQUET HOUSES

1. O'HARE RACQUET HOUSE: 951 East Touhy Ave., Des Plaines, IL. 296-6144. Club Pro: Shirley Scheithe.
2. THORNDALE RACQUET HOUSE: 1220 Mark St., Bensenville, IL. 595-2020. Club Pro: Colleen Shields.
3. HILLSIDE RACQUET HOUSE: 4401 W. Roosevelt Road, Hillside, IL. 449-2255. Club Pro: Crystal Durdil

4. HARLEM IRVING RACQUET HOUSE: 4203 North Harlem, Norridge, IL. 457-2040. Club Pro: Sam Rizzio.

5. ELMHURST RACQUET HOUSE: 233 West Grand Avenue, Bensenville, IL. 595-5060. Club Pro: Rose Magliano.

All clubs have racquetball/handball on 8 regulation courts. Carpeted locker rooms, saunas, whirlpools, steamrooms, exercise facilities, free attended nursery, pro shop, racquet rental, group and private lessons, instructional and non-instructional leagues. Open 7 days a week. Director of all club operations: Carol Armstrong. Program Director/Public Relations: Mary Lou Burny

SPAULDING RACQUETBALL CLUBS:

1. 2699 Skokie Valley Road, Highland Park, Ill. 60035, 433-600.
2. 2175 Commercial Avenue, Northbrook, Ill. 60062, 498-9890.
3. 220 West North Avenue, Chicago, Ill. 60610, 943-2266.

All clubs have 12 air-conditioned racquetball/handball courts, carpeted locker rooms, saunas, whirlpools, free attended nursery, pro shop, racquet rentals, group and private lessons, leagues, programs and parties. Open 7 days a week.

TREBORSHIRE HEALTH & RACQUET CLUB: 195th Street and Glenwood Road, Glenwood, Ill. 60425. 754-8400. Four racquetball, 7 tennis regulation courts. Whirlpool, sauna, complete bar and health facilities under construction. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. NO GUEST FEES OR MEMBERSHIP FEES THROUGH SEPTEMBER, 1980. LOWEST COURT RATES IN THE AREA. Charter memberships now available. Tennis and Racquetball Pros. Tom Karras and Frank Johnson, your new owner/manager/racquetball pros.

CHALET SPORTS CORE: 8300 South Wolf Road, Willow Springs, IL. 248-4030. Conveniently located 1 mile from the Tri-State and Stevenson expressways. 22 racquetball/handball courts, indoor swimming pool, indoor running track, exercise room, saunas, whirlpools, steamroom, sunroom, free attended nursery, pro shop, cocktail lounge and disco.



Introducing two beautiful new ways to go Natural.

Now you can enjoy the smooth, clean taste of Natural light beer in our classic new bottle or handsome new can.

All you have to do is just say...Natural.



The Referee's Chair

By JOHN R. GREENE

PRACTICE REFFING?

Charlene Kirschenbaum is entering her third year of racquetball. During her first year she took lessons; played virtually every day; played in leagues and ladders; and, practiced, practiced, practiced. In her second year, she only changed her routine by adding tournaments to her schedule. It took a while, but she is now one of the better C players — and will probably move into the B's by next summer.

Karen Weinstock's interest in racquetball parallels Charlene's. Karen wouldn't compete every day, but she did go to the Skokie Court House just to practice specific shots: ceiling shots, backhands, drive serves, etc. Karen waited longer to enter tournament competition than did Charlene, but the wait proved correct; she came in third in her first tournament and won her second. Also, a better C, Karen should be moving up soon.

Both women took lessons from pro Jack Shryer. He instilled in them the need to constantly practice. To heck with pick-up games, just to win. Practice the fundamentals — over and over. As you can tell from the above, they both profited from his directions.

BUT, IN preparing for their tournament entries, did they practice refereeing? No, not really. They are not unusual in that, however. The vast majority (99 per cent) of people entering their first tournament haven't the faintest idea of what to do about reffing. They have no inkling of the rules — and yet, want them "interpreted" properly for their matches.

But, come time for them to ref, they panic, pleading: "But, but, but . . . I've never reffed before! I can't do it!" We've even had people forfeit, just so they won't have to referee!

Perhaps Charlene said it best: "Reffing is the agony of victory!" Well stated, Char. Refereeing isn't easy; yet it need not be hard — if you will just make the attempt to learn the rules; read the ISRA's Referee's Guide; and, **practice reffing**, too.

PRACTICE REFFING? Yep. When you have some extra time at the club, tell some of the players that you are entering tournaments; and, that you need practice reffing, and would they mind if you reffed their match. Some will tell you to drop dead. Others, however, will welcome the idea.

Ref as many games as you possibly can. Call 'em tough! Don't take the attitude that, well, gee, this is just a fun game for them, and a practice game for me. By making them stick to the correct interpretation of the rules, you are making yourself a better referee; and them better players (for knowing just what the rules really are). That's the reason for practicing anything, isn't it — getting better?

Feel free to discuss the individual calls with your guinea pigs (either during the match, or after). It'll be a learning experience, believe me; you will learn to pick up foot faults, two bounces, skips, crotch shots, screens, hinders, etc., — and, call them.

Consider this: when you compete in a tournament, you want the best ref you can get, right? You don't want to lose any points, just because your ref was an ignorant. Conversely, the people you will ref don't want a dummy, either. You owe it to them, to yourself, and racquetball in general, to be the best referee you can possibly be!

Go out and practice your reffing. It'll be good for you; put hair on your chest.

John's Pizza cost him the match

Jerry Newburger was winning his semifinal match on Saturday at the Regionals when he heard the announcement that the pizza was being served. "From that moment on, all I could think about was that delicious John's Pizza. I lost the next 14 points in a row and the match." Mr. Newburger plans to bring ear and nose plugs to the next S/S/S tournament and suggests others do the same.

Lite/ISRA State Singles Championships

(Continued from Page 1)

dominated this division in Illinois the past two years, and I expect her to win (1 to 2 odds in her favor) even though studying podiatry has cut into her playing time.

The remaining women vying for the second spot are Sue Carow, Pam Prina, Judy Sawicki, Nancy Kronenfeld, Barb Larrain, Colleen Shields, Sue Prisching and Barb Allweiss. Prina's probably the best of the lot (8-1) with the rest at about 10-1.

The women, too, have some fine younger players, most notably Karen Paice (who seems to prefer tennis at this time but could become one of the finest women

IT'S DIFFICULT to tell very far in advance who will still be eligible for the A divisions, but that's also a good one to watch, as the caliber of play is quite high, and we might well see some excellent Veteran Open and Seniors players choose to play in this division instead of the age-group categories.

All the semifinal and final matches will be at The Glass Court in Lombard, and we'll be putting the best matches on the three major spectator courts. . . admission is free. The entry deadline is May 9th, but some late entries are taken by phone (371-2555) as the draws allow. This tournament continues to be the consistently biggest and most important amateur event in Illinois (except for this year's Sun-Times Shootout which drew 1300). It is also one of the most carefully and well-run tournaments. The ISRA takes extra pains with the seeding, scheduling, and refereeing control, and this year we are pleased to have the combined talents of Triple-S Promotions and The Metro Club to insure a good deal of highly skilled, trained, courteous staff to handle the event. Hope to see you there.



Bob Troyer
National Veteran Masters Champ

players in the country some day); Betsy Koza, who is certainly a legitimate potential "star" in this field of fine players, and 14-year-old Tina Heath who still, of course, lacks the maturity and confidence, but has all the physical tools to be a winner.

Other divisions that will offer much excitement are the Men's Veteran Open (30 and over). Harvi Miller proved at the Regionals that he is the main pick here, though Herb Grigg, Bill Donnelley and others could get hot. The Men's Seniors continues to be one of the most exciting and high-level divisions, with Marshall Waldo (2-1) my pick as a favorite. Jim Clemmons (3-1) doesn't play in many tournaments, but he's the best athlete of the bunch and never tires, and in a big tournament like this one, that's a major factor. Shelly Clar (4-1) has had his ups and downs, sometimes beating everyone, then losing to Ron Paul, Ron Johnson, Don Cipriani (and others). Scott Berry (6-1) is the defending champ, but he just hasn't shown much lately. With the new split in the bracket (Veteran Seniors) we could see Clar, Berry and others moving up to meet the likes of Ron Johnson, Bill Williamson and Don Cipriani in that division, and that might leave some room in the Seniors for my associate Phil Simborg to step in and do some damage (at 50-1 he could get lucky).

Perennial Masters' champ Bob Troyer could be pushed for the first time in a long time this year. He's still the odds-on 2 to 3 favorite. He's the current Veteran Masters National Champ and he's got more shots and control than any player in the country with the possible exception of Bud Muelheisen. At 4-1, Bob's doubles partner, Ed Lammersfeld could upset Bob if he gets hot, but there's also Saul Sandoval (6-1), Jim Harper (8-1) and Dick Porter (8-1)

Down with Hogan

By TOM GROBMISI

Down with Hogan!
That's my slogan.
He can't beat me —
Can't defeat me.
No siree sir,
He can't win;
(I'll never get
In the court with him).

Ektelon-Perrier

(Continued from Page 7)

same time, featuring virtually all the top men and women pros in the country. For that event 16 men and 16 women have been invited. First place winners in both the men's and women's division will receive \$7,000 in prizes while second place winners, again in both categories, will receive \$3,100.

As of this writing, it is unclear as to whether or not Hogan will be attending, though he has been invited, but most of the other top pros will be there including Peck, Hilecher, Yellen, Bledsoe and others. Women players include Shannon Wright and Heather McKay, along with Rita Hoff, Greer, Adams, Harding, Lee, Sauser, Steding and others.

Since the women have been cancelled from the NRC tour, this may be one of the few times to see both the men and women together at a pro stop. Be sure to read the June issue of RACQUETBALL TODAY for complete coverage of this event.

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Marty Hogan Places Third in Superstars

Marty Hogan, professional racquetball's top-ranked player, placed third in the recent World Superstars competition in Freeport, Grand Bahamas, March 18-20.

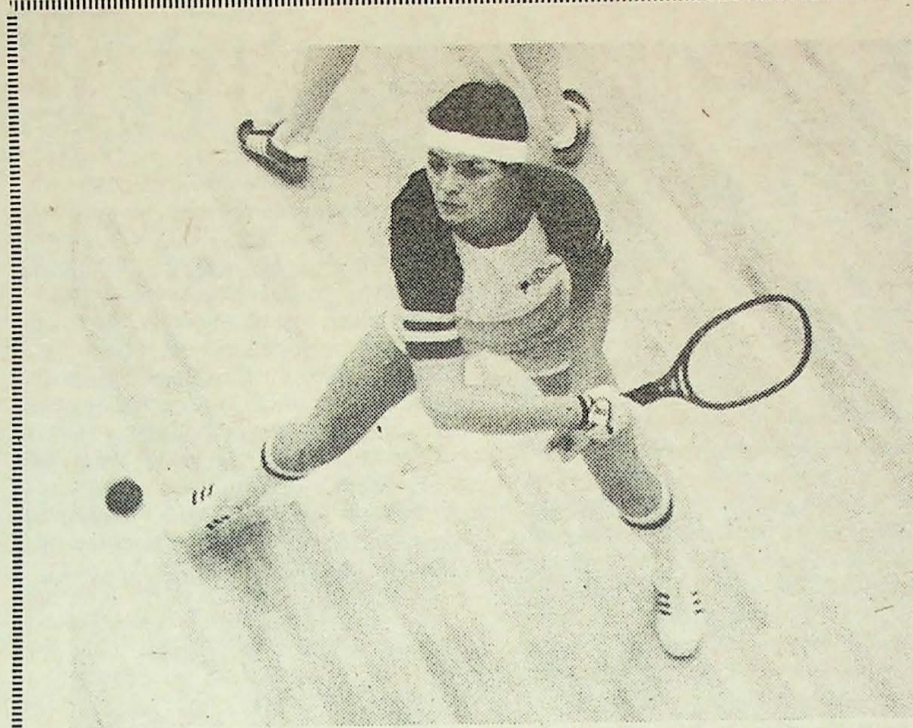
Hogan, 22, of San Diego, placed fifth in the U.S. Superstars event at the same site in February. That showing earned him an invitation to compete against the top athletes from around the world in March.

At the World Superstars, his third-place finish led the U.S. team which included February's winner, Heisman Trophy winner Charles White of USC, tight end Russ Francis of the New England Patriots and quarterback Joe Theismann of the Washington Redskins.

HOGAN WON the tennis event, took thirds in rowing, swimming, soccer kick and the obstacle course, and a fourth in the 100-yard dash for a total of 26 points.

Canadian soccer player Brian Budd won the competition for the third straight year. He won or finished second in every event and totaled 51 points. British Olympic hurdler Brian Sherwood placed second with 34 points.

Hogan passed up the \$15,000 Catalina Racquetball Classic West in San Francisco, the fifth stop on the National Racquetball Club Pro-Am tour, to compete in the World Superstars.



Don Factor, freelance photographer from Racine, Wisconsin, captures the intensity of the racquetball player, as she takes a set-up off the back wall.

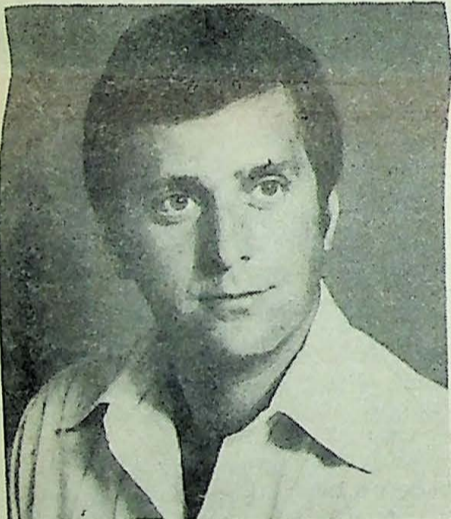
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to RACQUETBALL TODAY, can of balls and more. Photos must be black and white and submitted to us before June 1, 1980.

RACQUETBALL TODAY reserves the right to keep and print all entries. Judging will be done by the professional photographic staff. All decisions final.

Seek Sharper Pro/Am Division to Encourage Amateurs



By PHIL SIMBORG

At every NRC Pro/Am, there is, of course, an amateur division run by the USRA, and anyone who's ever attended a Pro Stop knows that the amateur divisions can be every bit as exciting as the pros, as some of the top players from all over the country compete in those divisions.

I have been discussing the problem of separation of amateur from pro with NRC Director Dan Bertolucci, and Dan tells me that next year they will probably implement the plan that I recommended: any player who qualifies for the pro division during the previous five Pro Stops would be ineligible for the amateur division at those Pro Stops. As for the distinction of amateur and pro for other tournaments, the individual tournament directors or state associations must make that determination. In Illinois, the ISRA considers a player who has won in excess of \$1000 on the NRC tour during the previous 12

months to be ineligible to play as an amateur. I personally think the rule should apply to total monies won, as there are now places other than the NRC where a player can win prize money for playing racquetball, and I think you'll see a change there shortly.

Until there are changes, however, the Open divisions at the Pro Stops continue to be a battle of "borderline" pros who are young enough and strong enough to enter both the pro-qualifying and the Open. As is often the case, young Mike Levine and Gregg Peck continue to star in this division, and in the King's Classic, it was Levine over Peck in the Finals. In the Women's, it was Kippi Bishop over Laura Martino, and in the Seniors, "Dr. Bud" Muelheisen defeated Bill Schmidtke.

At the Playoff Racquet Club in Beverly, Mass., at the NRC's seventh stop, George Vierra beat Beaver Wickham in the Fi-

nals, 18-21, 21-18, 11-6; in the Women's Open, it was Bonnie Stoll over Janet Simon in two, and in the Seniors it was Jimbo Daly over Dave Cahill in two.

With the \$6,000 ex-women's prize money allocated to the awards for the Open divi-

sions, these wins are hard-fought and no small accomplishment for these fine "amateur" players. We're glad to see the NRC/USRA encourage the amateurs, and happy to hear of their decision to make reforms in the rules.

Tinley Park leads South Suburban Standings

SOUTH SUBURBAN RACQUETBALL LEAGUE STANDINGS APRIL 15, 1980		
Tinley Park Racquetball Club	Men 288 Women 278 Handball 188 752	
Evergreen Bath & Tennis Club	Men 266 Women 280 Handball 144 690	
Silver Lake Racquet Club	Men 272 Women 190 Handball 116 578	
Omni 41 Racquet Club	Men 323 Women 119 Handball 136 578	
Palos Racquetball Club	Men 353 Women 160 Handball 82 595	
Challenge Courts	Men 240 Women 159 Handball 136 535	
Sports Illustrated Court Club	Men 250 Women 202 Handball 54 506	
Olympian Court Club	Women 336	

I'm known as the thinker of racquetball. I like to think. I think a lot. Do you like to think?
Charlie Brumfield

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Entry Deadline:	5/10	5/10	5/24	5/31	6/7	6/21

Entry Fee: \$23.00 (No entries will be accepted without payment.)

Tournament Structure: Each division will be divided into groups of eight (8) players. All eight contestants will then play each other. And finally the top two placed players in each group will play-off in a single elimination final. MRA standings will be used to see that the groups within each division are well balanced.

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Rules: USRA rules and regulations apply. Each match consists of one game to 31 points. Total points determine the winner of each bracket, so each point you score counts. Players will officiate their own matches except in extreme cases. EYEGUARDS ARE MANDATORY

Awards: 1st, 2nd, 3rd in each division of nine players or more. If eight or less, trophies go to 1st and 2nd place winners.

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Tournament

Director: Douglas Sheperdigian (313) 665-6333

Hospitality: Juice, coffee, donuts, fruit, munchies.

DIVISIONS: (MINIMUM OF 8 ENTRIES PER DIVISION)

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B _____	B _____	15 & under _____
C _____	C _____	
Nov. _____	Nov. _____	GIRLS OPEN
Srs. _____	Srs. _____	17 & under _____
Mast. _____	Mast. _____	15 & under _____

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Will You Do Anything to Win?

By PHIL SIMBORG

How bad do you want to win? If you answered, "real bad," good! I like that. That means you're really a tough competitor. I like to think I'm one, too. Being a tough competitor means you're willing to sacrifice to be a winner. You're willing to spend the necessary time and effort preparing for the competition, and when you find yourself in a match, you give it everything you've got. You pull out all the stops! Win!

But is that really true? Are you willing to do **everything** you can to be a winner? Don't say "yes" too fast . . . are you willing to cheat? Of course not. Why not? The answer is that you do not want to cheat to win because the victory would be bittersweet; it wouldn't bring you the pleasure that an honest victory brings. And unless you have a serious character disorder, you should find winning by cheating far less satisfying than losing honestly.

Now we've established what seems like a very simple premise, but one that I believe is quite profound if you think about it: you really aren't willing to do anything it takes to win — you have limitations. For one thing, you're not willing to cheat to win. Good. Now, if you have a normal conscience, and I must assume you do, you would also not be willing to intentionally hurt your opponent physically in order to win. You would not purposefully or carelessly hurt your opponent with the racquet or ball, or shoot him with a gun, just to get a win. **OF COURSE NOT!** Winning that way would not feel good. So now we have two things we would not do in order to win. So far, so good. Simple. Even, obvious. But lets take things a step further.

WHAT ABOUT "psyching out" your opponent? What about doing or saying things in the hopes that you can "screw up" your opponent's head so that he will not perform up to his capabilities? Does this fall into the same category as cheating? Let me be more specific: you're playing in a big match and you know your opponent is tough, in fact, you know that you might lose. Aha! But you get an idea! You can get him mad, scared, self-con-

scious, or otherwise distracted, he may not play well. So right off the bat, you accuse him of being a cheater. You call him a cheater right to his face and hope he gets upset. Every time he makes a good shot or a great "get" you insist he got it on a double-bounce and call him "dirty cheater" and complain to the referee. Maybe he'll start playing a little tentatively. And if it doesn't work, if he ignores you and continues to keep hitting great shots, you threaten to "beat him up" if he doesn't stop cheating. Well, it works, and you win the match.

Well? Tell me. How do you feel? Was it a good victory? Are you proud of your accomplishment? Do you think the above example is far-fetched? I saw a veteran player (we'll call him Mr. X) do **exactly** what I described at the Regionals this year. You see, Mr. X's opponent had recently been coming on very strong, and Mr. X was obviously worried about the outcome of the match, so he decided to "take out some insurance." He immediately went after his young opponent to see if he could "do a number" on his head. I don't know if that's why Mr. X won, you never know for sure, but I wonder how much he enjoyed winning that match. Perhaps some day I'll ask him.

Well, let's get back to the point: is psyching out your opponent a valid weapon in your arsenal to win? The psyche does not have to take so severe a form as Mr. X employed . . . it could be nothing more than making sure your opponent knows you beat "Big Jim" last week, or that you are the current "blankety-blankety State Champion;" or it could be in the form of seemingly harmless little comments intended to take his mind off the game. (One of my coaches told me to always grin when my opponent blows an easy shot.) Some players, when it gets close and their opponent misses a shot, always say "choke" just to get the other guy thinking about choking. I'm going to stop asking questions and tell you what I think.

The answer is YES! You can do things, within very close limits, that do fall into the category of psyching-out your opponent, and yes, after you win you can still feel plenty damn good about that victory.

But when you win that way, **YOU'LL NEVER KNOW** if you won because you got into his head, or because you were the better player.

UNTIL YOU'VE won a really tough, close match, against someone you really wanted to beat bad, **without cheating, without psyching, without trickery or deception or gimmicks of any kind**, you'll never know how good an athlete you really are; and bunky, you don't know how really good it feels to win a match until you've won one that way! I **KNOW!** I know, because I never won a match that way myself until recently.

You see, I grew up under the influence of a fiercely competitive older brother who, for some reason, would rather win mentally than any other way. Though he would never dream of pulling anything like Mr. X did, his tactics were far more subtle and equally as effective. He was even careful to do his psyching in a joking way, in the spirit of good fun, so that he would never come off as a "bad guy,"

only a kidder. But the intent and the effect are the same.

It wasn't until I played my brother recently that I fully realized my attitude on this subject. He was working especially hard to try to out-psyche me, and I just decided I was not going to play his game. You see, I figured I could out-psyche him by showing him that he could not only not get to me, but that I wasn't even going to try to get to him! And it was the most delicious, satisfying win I had ever experienced! For the first time in my life I knew I had beaten him strictly because I was the better athlete. That feeling was too good to give up, and I've tried to continue being that way in all my competitions since.

Try it yourself. Add psyching to your list next to violence and cheating, and see if you don't enjoy the game more, win or lose. Oh, I forgot to tell you: when you do resort to "underhanded" means and you happen to lose, it's one of the worst feelings in the world. You can't get any lower.

Stacey Fletcher: She's Young But She Won

By BOB SCHMENDRICK

Remember this name, Stacy Fletcher for you are sure to hear more about her. She is a rising young star in racquetball and already she is giving the seasoned players a game long to remember. Take her wiz kid performance at the 1980 Central Regionals. The 16-year-old Stacy won the Women's Open division with wins over the likes of Glenda Young and Sue Carow, two veteran pros, and with her regular doubles partner, Irene Ackerman, she won the Women's Open Doubles. Her victory at the regionals, in her own words, is her "biggest win" in her young career.

The current Michigan State Women's Singles Champion from Warren, Michigan, has been playing racquetball for three years and is sponsored by AMF Head. That sponsorship has paid off, as she has gotten help from Head's premier




player, Steve Strandemo. At the Strandemo Camp in July, 1979, Stacy learned a lot about the game, but Steve particularly showed her how and when to cut the ball off in front court. In spite of her all around abilities, Stacy feels the best part of her game is her serve, and her opponent in the finals, Sue Carow, attests to that. In Sue's words, "I've played with the best in the world, and I've never seen a better serve than Stacy's; her serves were incredible . . . no, ungettable!"

The high school sophomore plays basketball from August through December, and during that time plays almost no racquetball, but she makes up for it the rest of the year by spending plenty of hours alone in the court working on her shots. Stacy plays at the Warren Tennis Club, and with her first coach, Jim Fontella, she holds Juniors Clinics in the area to help others improve their game. Just recently, Stacy has begun working with veteran expert player and coach, Gil Schmidt, and he has helped her game tremendously. Stacy gets plenty of practice in the court playing against her older brother, Dan, who she usually beats, but because of Dan's hard-hitting style, it gives her a good workout.

Stacy recently qualified for the WPRA pro stop in New York, and hopes to make it to as many future pro tourneys as possible. She believes she can learn a great deal from playing with, and watching the pros. Stacy particularly likes to watch Lynne Adams play.

A charming, intelligent, personable and friendly person, Stacy is a pleasure to be around on or off the court. After watching her play at the regionals, I'm convinced we'll be hearing a lot more about Stacy in the years to come . . . she's clearly one of the great pro prospects of the future.



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