

Eye Injuries: Always Serious
The 1980 AARA Intercollegiate Championships

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Official Publication of the American Amateur Racquetball Association
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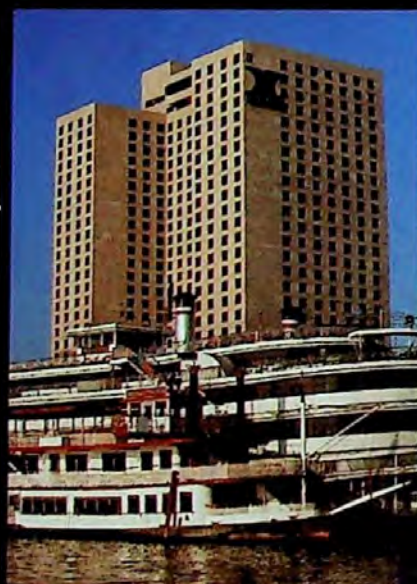
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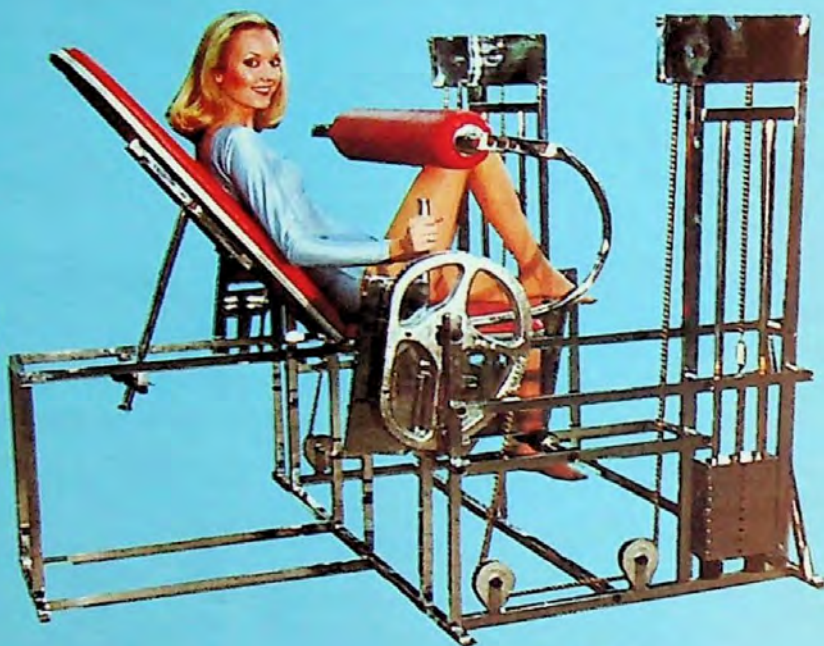

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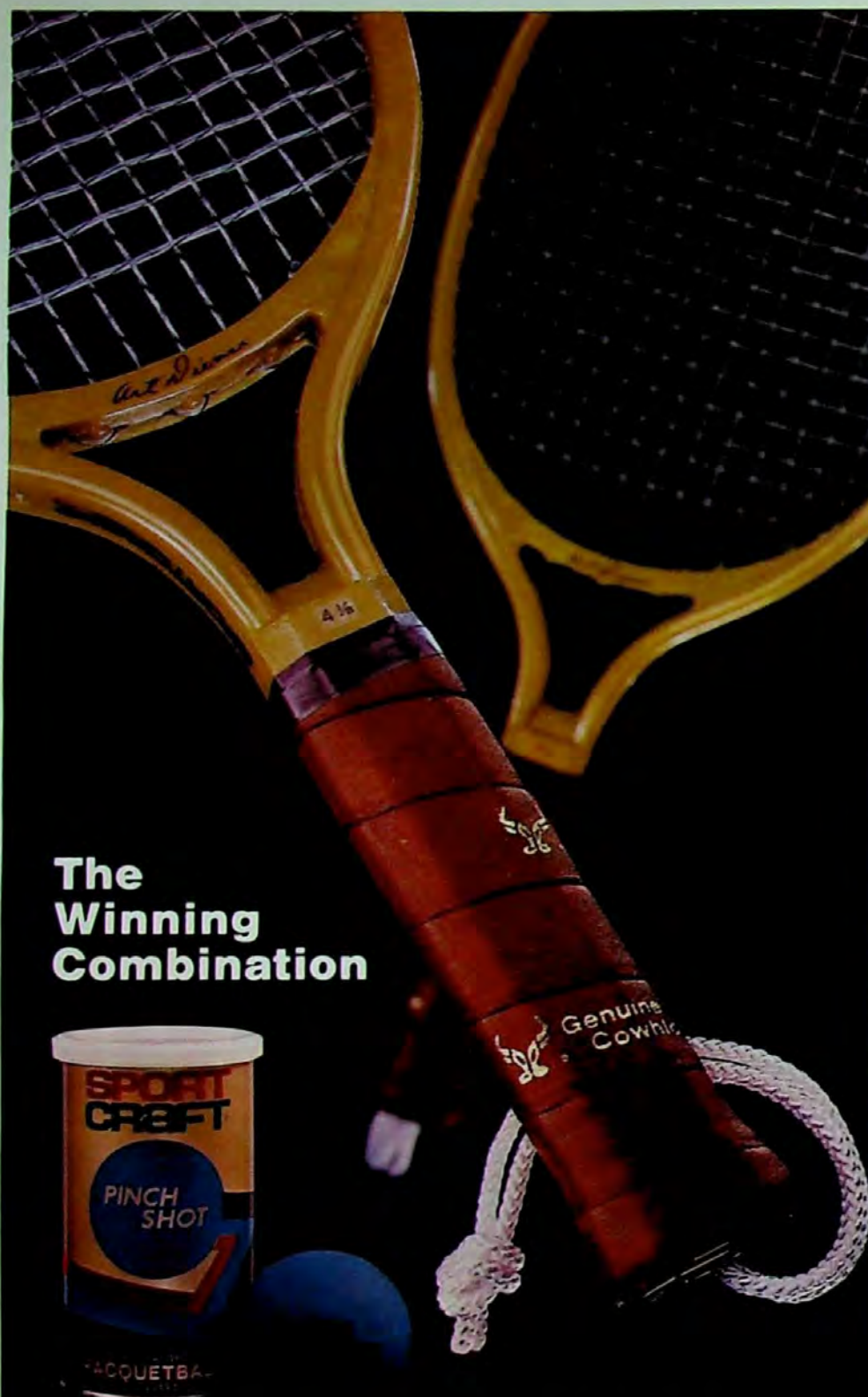
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COVER: Photo by Larry Kuzniewski

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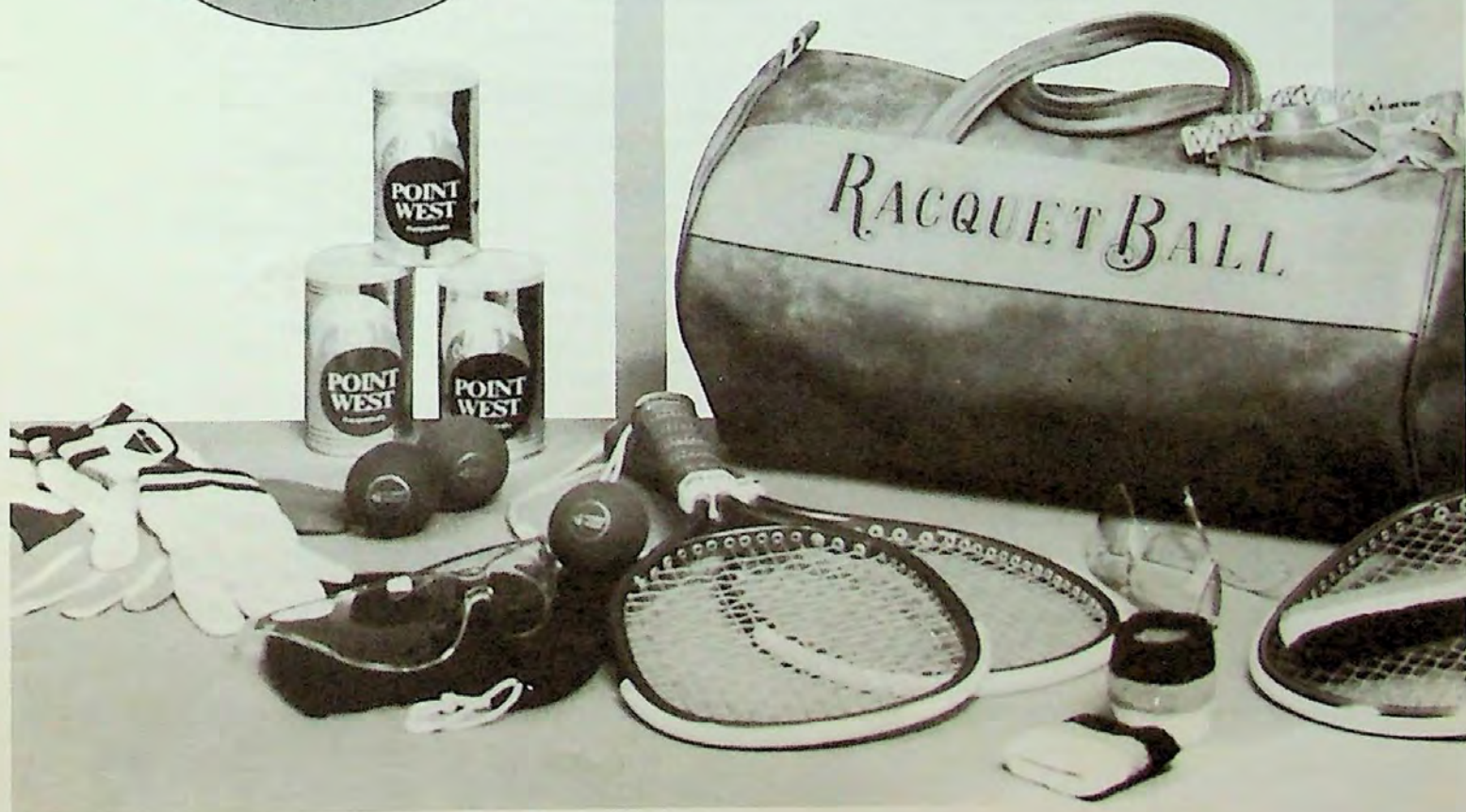
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NEW DIRECTIONS

Dear Members,

With the conclusion of the AARA Nationals in Coral Gables, an era in the history of the players' association was brought to a close.

Two years ago, at the 1978 Nationals in Denver, the then IRA was completely reorganized on the national level. We went back to basics with the sole determination of bringing the association back into the hands of the players—out of the hands of the manufacturers and special interest groups. It's been a long hard road to travel, but with the advent of the open ball policy, monthly magazine, strong grass roots support, numerous volunteers who believe in the players governing themselves, charter membership in the International Federation, strong juniors program and many other accomplishments, the AARA has truly arrived as the national governing body of racquetball in the United States.

Much of the credit for the survival and success of these endeavors must be given to outgoing president Bob Folsom. During Bob's two year term of office, the AARA has come from a non-entity to the forefront in amateur racquetball. Anyone who has studied our past history knows what an incredible feat this has been. Bob has been a man of his time and his guidance and direction will be sorely missed in the years to come.

Regards,

Luke St. Onge
Executive Director

RECEIVING LINE

Letters To The Editor

Recently you assisted me in locating a certain article published in *Racquetball* magazine. Based on a description of the article, you searched for, found, copied and sent to me the correct article – even though original information I submitted was incorrect.

Not knowing you were doing this, I was, therefore, extremely surprised to receive your warm letter and a copy of the article. Such effort and thoughtfulness are highly unusual, and I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks.

Kathleen Koons
Glen Mills, Pennsylvania



The recent Eighth United States Army Racquetball Clinic was conducted in Korea during the period April 8-16, with Dr. Bud Muehleisen, from your associa-

tion, as an instructor.

We are always pleased to have an outstanding sports-oriented individual from the United States to conduct clinics for our troops stationed in the Republic of Korea. Dr. Muehleisen's professional teaching, demonstrations, and latest techniques in the art of racquetball playing greatly benefitted those students attending the course, thereby enhancing the Army Sports and Athletic Training Program provided for members of this command.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the American Amateur Racquetball Association and to inform you of the visit of Dr. Muehleisen to Korea. His tour reflected much credit upon himself as a teacher and "Ambassador of Good Will."

Dudley L. Fry, Jr.
Colonel, Infantry
Commander
Republic of Korea



As an avid racquetball player and high school teacher, it was only a matter of time before I interested my students in the game. Since then, it has become ap-

parent that our next step is to start a racquetball team.

As their sponsor and coach, I have not been able to find much information specifically for racquetball teams on the secondary school level. I was hoping that through your publication, readers, organizations or advertisers might lend their expertise. Any help would be deeply appreciated. From all sources questioned, it appears that I may be starting the first secondary level racquetball team.

Fred A. Schwartz
Lincoln High School
Yonkers, New York

[As our cover story this month indicates, junior racquetball is certainly on the rise across the country. Racquetball recommends contacting Junior National Commissioner of the AARA, Ed Martin, (listed on the State Directors page) for information on junior programs.]

Racquetball welcomes correspondence from its readers. Letters are subject to editing for clarity and length.

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SHORT LINES



Dave Peck

Camping Update

If you're still a kid at heart and you miss the carefree days of summer vacation, perhaps you'd like to spend a week at camp this summer. Racquetball camp, that is. It may not be the way you remember — mosquitoes and toasted marshmallows around a campfire — but you'll learn a lot more at a racquetball camp than how to make a lanyard. Racquetball camps are meant for folks who are serious about improving their racquetball skills, as well as having fun.

If you haven't selected a camp already (see *Racquetball*, April, 1980), two camps you might want to consider are those being offered by racquetball pros Steve Strandemo and Dave Peck.

Strandemo's camps will be held in seven different cities — Los Angeles, San Francisco, Atlanta, Chicago, Cleveland, Philadelphia and Boston — for five days in each location. The dates are July 9 through August 24. Sessions begin on Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. and end Sundays at 5:00 p.m. Open to players of all skill levels, the \$300 tuition includes: forty hours of instruction (including court costs and all lectures); video tape equipment (available at all times); films of 1979 and 1980 pro matches; exhibition matches; teaching guides and other handouts; an instructional poster; a camp shirt, pair of shorts, and eyeguards; and two cocktail parties.

There will be a minimum of 12 courts available at each site, as well as all of the club amenities. Also, double occupancy hotel accommodations are available near each camp site with room rates ranging from \$18 to \$35 per person, per night. For further details, call 714-268-8707 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Pacific Time; or write P.O. Box 26683, San Diego, Calif., 92126.

Dave Peck's summer camps will be held at All Sport Fitness and Racquetball Club in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., this year. Peck is being billed as "the premier instructor" for both the Junior Camp

(August 3-9) and the Adult Racquetball Weekend camp (August 1-3).

The camps' staff of eight will include Peck's brother, Gregg, who's among the country's top five "Open" amateurs, at the tender age of 16. Junior campers will also have a chance to work with Connecticut pro Bonnie Stoll, and top East coast amateurs Victor Niederhoffer and Ruben Gonzales. Both programs will offer intensive instruction and call for active participation. Video tape analysis will be used to aid individual development, and explanation and demonstration of Nautilus training equipment will be incorporated at each session as well.

All Sport general manager, Mike Arteaga, emphasizes that the fee (\$278 for juniors, \$195 for adults) includes everything — tuition, court time, a T-shirt, lodging in a Marist College residence hall (just across from All Sport), and all meals, which will be prepared by the club chef. Campers will also have use of Marist College's new McCann Recreation Center and Fieldhouse, which offers an Olympic-size pool.

Juniors must be at an intermediate or advanced skill level; adults must have some racquetball experience. Openings are limited, and registration closes July 21. For further information, contact Shaileen Kopec at 914-471-9774.

And Yet Another

Jim Winterton will have two racquetball camps in Western New York the weekends of June 20-22nd, and June 27th-29th. The first camp will be held in Rochester, New York at the Winton Racquetball Club, 23 Goodway Drive, Rochester, N.Y. 14623. The June 27-29 camp will be held at Four Wall Court Club in Buffalo, New York at 580 Cayuga Road, Buffalo, New York 14225. The camps are cosponsored by Ektelon and Squincher beverage. The staff is headed by Jim Winterton, Coach of several outstanding players such as Mike Levine, the number one player in the East. Mike Levine, Leo Marsocci, the 1979 Northeast USRA singles champion, Donna Meger, the New York State women's champ and Laverne Dickinson, a top ranked New York State racquetballer, will round out an experienced staff.

Hang Ten Steps Into Racquetball

Last month the new Hang Ten line of racquetball equipment was made available for national distribution. After signing a licensing agreement with Empire Industries, doing business as Hang

Ten Racquetball USA, the company stepped right into manufacturing and distributing racquetball racquets and related equipment, nationwide.

The company has initially introduced four racquets. One is made of graphite, one of aluminum, and two of nylon/glass filled composites. According to Hang Ten, the racquets are designed for the pro, the novice and the female player. Suggested retail price range is \$20 to \$50.

For more information about Hang Ten's foot-first movement into racquetball, contact Cory Richards, at Hang Ten International; 714-233-7451.

A Visible Difference

According to the American Optometric Association (AOA), following a racquetball with your eyes may be more difficult than you think. Apparently it takes more than normal 20/20 vision. In a new publication, *Gaining the Extra Edge in Sports Through Vision*, the AOA says there are six vision skills, in addition to 20/20 eyesight, needed by pro, amateur and recreational athletes alike.

What is more, according to the AOA, all of these skills can be improved, often with vision training exercises done at home or in the doctor of optometry's office. Even an outstanding athlete, the association says, may further develop innate potential by maximizing vision skills. For example, the association cites a study in which one college baseball player's batting average improved from .200 to .300 after vision training. Just think what it could do for a racquetball player, who must track balls traveling at speeds over 100 mph.

The vision skills needed for all sports, according to the AOA, are: 20/20 eyesight; dynamic visual acuity—the ability to see sharply and clearly while an object or player is in motion; peripheral vision—the ability to see "out of the corner of the eye;" depth perception—the ability to quickly and accurately judge distance and speed of the objects and persons encountered on the field of play; vision pursuit—the ability to use the eyes to follow a moving object smoothly and easily; visualization—the ability to picture something in the mind while the eyes are seeing and concentrating on something else; and visual concentration.

To obtain a free copy of *Gaining the Extra Edge in Sports Through Vision* send a self-addressed, stamped, business-size envelope to Communications Division R5, American Optometric Association, 243 N. Lindbergh Blvd., St. Louis, Mo., 63141. ■

INDUSTRY NEWS



The Heat's On

Temperature's on the rise, summer's in full swing and most racquetballers are courting a little outdoor recreation. Often such increased activity leads to additional aches and pains. And nothing's better for sore muscles than a little heat — not necessarily from the sun.

Northern Electric Company, a division of Sunbeam Corporation, has a new lightweight device called the Moist Heat Band, which they say "puts the heat where it hurts." The Moist Heat Band is a wrap-around electric heating band which fits around most parts of the body (arms, legs, shoulders and back), and is secured with Velcro fasteners and loops. It can be adjusted for moist or dry heat and features three heat settings, a night light indicator control, a removable, washable burgundy-colored cover and a sponge for moist heat application, according to Northern.

For more information about the Moist Heat Band, contact: Northern Electric Co., 5224 N. Kedzie Ave., Chicago, Ill., 60625; or call 312-267-5100.



G. T. Cozad, Jr.

Shapleigh Mather

Moving Up

Charles A. Spaulding, president of Spaulding Racquetball Clubs, Inc.,

recently announced the promotions of G. T. Cozad, Jr., and Shapleigh Mather to vice presidents for the company.

Both Cozad and Mather have been with Spaulding for six years and both have moved up through the ranks serving as club managers and area supervisors. Spaulding Racquetball Clubs, with national headquarters at 200 Enchanted Parkway, St. Louis, Mo., currently operate 23 clubs in nine cities.



Pace Yourself

With the energy crises at hand, everyone is looking for ways to make things more efficient. Now there's a device that, according to the manufacturer, can even help you jog more efficiently. That's right — jog.

It's called the Posey Pacesetter, and it helps you set the pace at which you jog by sounding a beep tone, adjustable from 100 to 240 beeps per minute. Apparent-

ly, just a touch of the built-in dial sets the beeps to an individual jogger's pace. The Posey Pacesetter is worn around the wrist like a watch and runs on a battery which lasts up to 1,000 hours. The manufacturer says it "helps increase stamina and is a must for developing a winning strategy," for competitive runners.

The complete price, including battery is \$39.95. Available from John Posey Company, 2485 Mohawk Street, Pasadena, Calif., 91107. Orders may be called toll free at 800-423-4292.



Foot Notes

In the good old days, just about the only priority for choosing a pair of athletic socks to wear was that they be clean. Nowadays, though, one is bombarded with all sorts of decisions to make — from color and thickness to a variety of styles. Wigwam Mills, Inc. of Wisconsin, hasn't made those choices any easier.

Wigwam has just introduced a new "ladies racquet and running sock." Constructed of 85 per cent Hi-Bulk Orlon Acrylic and 15 per cent Nylon, the Terri-Cuff is a ladies' stretch ankle which features an extra heavy turn down terry cuff. According to Wigwam Mills, the terry cuff construction "provides additional ankle support and comfort with a snug fit to help prevent slippage and chafing." The Terri-Cuff is available in solid white or a variety of two-color stripe combinations. For more information, contact: Wigwam Mills, Inc., Sheboygan, Wisc., 53081. ■

Descriptions of new products are as according to information provided by the manufacturer; products have not been tested by Racquetball magazine.

PRO PAGE



Dave Peck (left) defeated Jerry Hilecher in the Men's Pro finals.

Ektelon/Perrier Championships

Dave Peck successfully put an end to his recent losing streak at the Ektelon/Perrier National finals, held May 8-11 at Rocky's Racquet World in North Hollywood, Calif.

Peck came to the \$40,000 championships like a cowboy without his gun. The 23-year-old Texan had recently lost a semifinal tiebreaker to Mike Yellen in Boston. And prior to that, Peck had lost in the quarterfinals in an Atlanta, Ga., tournament. "Something," he said, "I hadn't done since the beginning of last year." That was the year Peck received the National Racquetball Club's "Rookie of the Year" award.

It was clear to all who witnessed the Ektelon/Perrier tournament, Peck is no longer a rookie. And when the dust settled after the final shoot-out between Peck and Jerry Hilecher, the Texan was

still standing. Grinning his boyish grin, Peck readily accepted the \$7,000 first place check.

To say Peck dominated the \$40,000 tournament is like saying the desert is dry. On the way to the finals, Peck managed to bypass Gary Stephens (15-8, 15-4), Doug Cohen (15-4, 15-9) and fourth-rated Steve Strandemo (15-3, 15-9) to reach the finals berth, where he took Hilecher (15-3, 15-8). Peck only allowed 48 points in eight games.

"That's about as well as I've seen Peck play," sighed Hilecher, who made his way to the finals by unexpectedly upsetting Mike Yellen in the semifinals, 15-9, 15-3. "I would have had to play perfect rollout ball to beat him. He took advantage of every opportunity."

Meanwhile, Peck mused about his decision to enter the tournament he'd just won. "I almost passed up this tournament," he said, "but I started playing bet-

ter in practice, so I decided to see what would happen. What won it for me was my concentration. That's as intense as I've ever been."

He had good reason to be intense in his concentration. The \$40,000 purse was the year's richest to date. And, for the first time in racquetball history, the tournament was filmed for national television syndication—to be distributed to 26 of the nation's top markets.

Other participants in the Men's Pro division were David Fleetwood, Larry Meyers, Mark Morrow, Jerry Zuckerman and Jeff Bowman.

Women's Finals

Shannon Wright found herself battling a somewhat unfamiliar face in the Women's Pro finals. It was that of Heather McKay. Wright had bumped off Elaine Lee, Marci Greer (in three games) and Lynn Adams on her way to this final



Shannon Wright (left) defeated Heather McKay in the Women's Pro finals.

match. Meanwhile McKay, ranked fourth, had managed to backhand past Hope Weisbach, Janell Marriott and in an upset, top-ranked Sarah Green (15-7, 12-15, 15-7, in the semis).

McKay started out strong in the finals, taking the first game 10-15. But Wright came back with her power and front wall-sidewall pinch to earn 15-7, 15-9 victories in the second and third games. Wright's perseverance against the fiery McKay earned her \$7,000 in first place prize money.

After it was all over, Wright consented to having been a little nervous at the outset. "Not ever having played Heather before, I was a little worried," she admitted. "But as the game wore on, I got more and more confidence in what I was doing. She hit some good shots, I just hit some better."

In addition to the professional finals, some 100 of the country's top amateurs participated in the Ektelon/Perrier event.

WPRA Announces Nationals

Officials of the Women's Professional Racquetball Association and Prime Time Promotions, Inc., recently announced that the first national championship tournament for the women's professional racquetball tour will be held June 19-22, at Killshot, Ltd., in west suburban Bloomington, Ill.

"Although specific organizational details are still in the process of being worked out at this time," 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. Both participants and spectators will have plenty of fun."

Featuring top-flight competition in professional and a variety of amateur divisions, 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 event the largest all-woman racquetball tournament ever held.

Among special competitive events will be an outdoor, three-wall category. Open to interested competitors, this will be a first for the women's tournament. Prime Time Promotions is also planning special racquetball clinics before the Women's Nationals and a banquet after the tournament.

Entry fees 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 category.

Entry forms may be obtained by writing or phoning Ms. Sue Sulli, tournament director, Killshot, Ltd., 321 Edgewater Drive, Bloomington, Illinois 60108; 312-893-9575. ■

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Steve Strandemo

Steve Strandemo

Starting Young

Racquetball's Promising Juniors

By Nancy K. Crowell

IN TENNIS IT BEGAN WITH 14-YEAR-OLD Tracy Austin, the youngest player to make a hit at the U.S. Open. In racquetball it's a growing phenomenon - the players are getting younger, better and better. Witness, for example, four-year-old *Ronnie Barassi*, on the cover this month. He's not just a model, he actually plays the game. He's pretty good, too. In fact, we expect to see a lot of him in years to come, as he's already begun his tournament career with his brief appearance in last year's Nationals.

As for racquetball's other rising stars, they simply abound. And when we decided to take a look at those future champions, we were swamped with recommendations. How did we ever decide who to portray on these pages as promising juniors? Frankly, it wasn't easy. Even the junior regional directors couldn't make up their minds. It seems they each felt their region had more promising juniors than any other.

Well, we finally decided upon 15 of those future Marty Hogans and Shannon Wrights. It's just a sampling of the talent that's out there, but a well-distributed sampling we believe. Herewith, then, are a few of racquetball's promising juniors.



Peter Bluestone

On Mother's Day, 15-year-old *Peter Bluestone* of Rochester, N.Y., likes to take his mom to court. A racquetball court, that is. You see, Peter's mom is the one who first showed him the game, and thereby planted the seed for an ever-growing interest.

From the ages of 10 to 14, Bluestone liked to divide his time between racquetball, basketball, soccer and baseball. And when he reached the eighth grade he managed to obtain sponsorship from Ektelon, and win the state 15-and-under championship. Not bad, for a part-time interest.

Last summer all that changed. Bluestone now concentrates solely on racquetball, under the direction of coach Jim Winterton. As part of his more serious interest in racquetball, Bluestone began a weight-training program in addition to his regular practice sessions. It apparently helped, as he made it to the semifinals in last year's Regionals. As a ninth grader, Bluestone became an "Open" player and began covering the ground it takes to get to the Nationals. What does he say about these accomplishments? One suspects it's a simple, "Thanks, Mom."



Tracy Daly

Tracy Daly likes to dance. This 13-year-old from Quincy, Mass., does a pretty good job of it, too. At least she does on the racquetball court — she dances right past her opponents all the time. Daly's other hobby, gymnastics, hasn't hurt her racquetball any either. She's rolled and tumbled her way to many a victory.

Among Daly's credits are Northeast Regional Championship victories in both 1978 and 1979; runner-up for the Massachusetts State Championship in 1979; winner of the Massachusetts State Championship in 1980; and Women '80 Junior Champion.

As a seventh grader, Daly divides her time between studies, gymnastics, softball and bettering her racquetball game. Daly's racquetball skills have shown rapid improvement over the past two years, and if she continues, we'll certainly be hearing of her again.



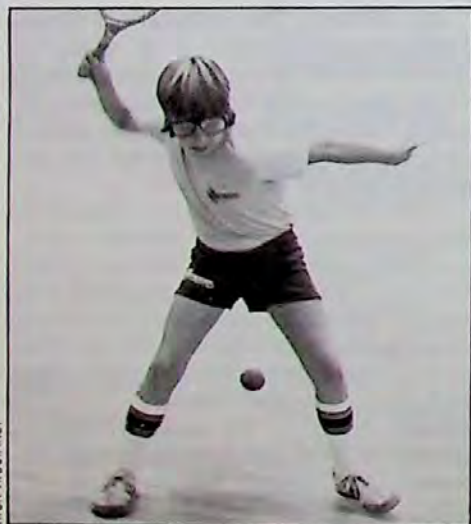
Sergio Gonzalez

Sergio Gonzalez likes to take things one step at a time. That's one reason this junior player from Miami, Fla., isn't really thinking past the AARA National Juniors tournament this summer. He wants to win the 17-and-under division, and after that, well, he'll see.

Besides an exhibition victory over pro Mike Yellen, Gonzalez has won the 17-and-under Juniors titles in the state of Florida for the past two years. This past May, Gonzalez and doubles partner Mike Fatolitus represented the region in the Ektelon/Perrier National Championships, after a qualifying victory over the top doubles team in the area.

A seasonal tournament performer, Gonzalez has placed third in the state AARA Open Singles Tournament, and last January he finished runner-up in the pro tour event in Coral Gables.

So, Gonzalez has quite a resume of racquetball accomplishments. Yet, he's cautious in committing himself to plans for the future. He hints that he might think of turning pro, if his present development continues to be positive. "I still have a long way to go, but I feel certain of greater accomplishments as a racquetball player," says a quietly confident Gonzalez. "It's because of my Father's support and the good competition in Florida that I've been able to progress rapidly." Modest as he is, Gonzalez has overlooked one other factor in his development — talent.



RICK RICCIARDI

Ed Blaess

Since the age of five, *Ed Blaess* has been fascinated by the game of racquetball. Not one to stand by and watch others have all the fun, Blaess has trained steadily towards his goal as national

10-and-under champion, which he hopes to realize this summer. It's no wonder, since this young Floridian has the expert guidance and coaching of his father, Fred Blaess, a respected player in his own right.

Ed has won numerous 13-and-under tournaments in the Miami area, and has received much publicity in local and area newspapers for being such an accomplished player at only 10 years of age. Not lacking for ambition, the younger Blaess sets his goals high. "When I get older, I would like to win the state, the Regional and National Amateur Championships," he says. And, as if that weren't enough to keep him busy, he adds, "Then, I want to be a pro." What ever happened to the days when 10-year-olds wanted to grow up to be firemen?

Whether or not Blaess reaches his goals, he'll have plenty to keep him busy in the years to come. His other interests, besides racquetball, include movies, roller skating, scuba diving, basketball and swimming.

Oh yes, he has a nickname — "Bump." Perhaps it's because he continues to bump people out of winning?



Doug Jones

When *Doug Jones* isn't running around in circles or pacing up and down a gym floor, he finds time to play racquetball. The young Kansas native is fleetfooted on the cinder track as well as good on the backboards of the basketball court. After hours and between seasons he takes his natural athletic abilities to the racquetball court.

For a part-time racquetball enthusiast, Jones does well. Last year he was runner-up in the AARA Kansas State Championships, 13-and-under division. This year he won the same tournament, in both the 15-and-under and "C" divisions. In the USRA Kansas State Championships he finished second to Scott Perry, in the 15-and 17-year-old combined division.

Jones' style as a runner is smooth. This quality shows up on the racquetball court as well. Combined with smart shot selection, it equals the style of a winner.



Trina Rasmussen

Trina Rasmussen is another shooting star out of the northwest. As such, this

15-year-old from Medford, Ore., has caught the eye of those watching the racquetball horizon.

Although she loves basketball and softball, Rasmussen's real success has been in racquetball. She's accustomed to success, as she maintains a high "A" average in school and plans to be her own boss some day. She's already boss on the racquetball court, much to the dismay of her opponents. Climbing the racquetball ladder quickly, Rasmussen's moved up this year from a "C" level to an "A" level tournament player. Along the way she's bypassed players in the Northern California Junior Championships and the United Airlines Women's Open. And she's not ready to quit.

The secret to Rasmussen's racquetball success is patience. She never misses an opportunity to capitalize on an opponent's mistakes. In fact, she waits for those mistakes and then plays her smooth control game. Her other strong points are her serve, court sense and defensive play. She's a set-type shooter who plays the percentages. And to all appearances, the percentages are in her favor.



Jack Newman

At 16 years of age, *Jack Newman*, who hails from the Chicago, Ill. area, has the record of a veteran racquetballer. Newman's won over 40 tournaments to date, including the AARA Illinois State Championship, 15-and-under; the USRA Illinois State Championship, 15-and-under; and, most recently, the AARA Midwest Regionals, in the Men's Open division. With a little help, of course, he also managed to take the first place position in the Midwest Regional Open Doubles Championship.

At present, Newman attends high school and works as a racquetball teaching pro in his spare time. He comes from a regular racquetball family, as his father, mother and sister all

play also. Newman, though, is the star player in the family.

Opponents believe he's one of the best "Open" players in the Midwest. And, when it comes to a shoot-out against him, most are aware that they may just become another notch on his victory belt.



Beth Latini

Like most 15-year-olds, *Beth Latini* of King of Prussia, Penn., uses her summer vacation to play. But in Latini's case it's racquetball she plays — every day. It's because she wants to realize her full racquetball potential, maybe turn pro some day.

In addition to playing, Latini manages to include running in her daily training schedule. She has good reason to keep up the training, as this year she was the Women's "A" champ in the Newton, Penn., "Life and Breath" tournament, as well as second place, 14-and-under, in the Northeast Regional and Women's "B" champ in the Women's Professional Racquetball Association (WPRO) Long Island tournament. Obviously, there's a lot of potential there to be realized.

Other interests of Latini's include a variety of subjects ranging from law to marine biology. She also plays varsity softball for her school, Archbishop Carroll, and basketball for her church youth group.

Still, racquetball is her first love. And when it comes to tournaments, her opponents should beware — this girl's playing for keeps.



Gerry Price

When 15-year-old *Gerry Price* of Castro Valley, Calif., isn't busy playing racquetball, he's usually out chasing birdies — the kind that don't chirp. They're called shuttlecocks, and Price sees a lot of them as the number one singles player on the Castro Valley High School badminton team. In fact, badminton is just about the only thing Price finds time for anymore, besides racquetball of course.

Price discovered racquetball in 1977 and since then he's accumulated more than a few victories. To wit: in 1979 he won the California Regionals in Roseville, and subsequently went to the Nationals, where he came out number four. He lost in the finals in two open tournaments that year — the Slazenger Open and the Quail Lakes open. This year he won first place, 15-and-under, in the Northern California Junior Championships; first place, 15-and-under, in the AARA California State Championships; first place in the Kangaroo Courts Open; first place in the Easter Seals Classic.

He also plays doubles — with another West Coast star, Shawn Fitzpatrick. In the Ormsby House Open this year they placed first in the Pro Doubles division. They also took first in that division in the Fairfield Court Club tournament this year. And, in the Ektelon/Perrier Championships, Open Doubles, they made it to the finals, where they lost to the National Doubles Champions in a tiebreaker, 10-11.

Price rather likes the game of racquetball, and he plans to make it his career in some capacity. Looks like his career is bound for success.



Scott Perry

Scott Perry of Hutchinson, Kan., never considered himself a dark horse. It's too bad his opponents in this year's AARA Kansas State Championships did. If they'd known just how good a racquetballer Perry is, and just how much he likes to win, they might have taken more notice. But as it happened, Perry took everyone by surprise when he knocked off the number one seed and blissfully breezed his way to the "Open" championship, virtually untouched by the other players.

Because he thinks winning is fun, Perry manages to practice racquetball three to four hours every day. After all, as the saying goes, practice makes perfect. Perfection is probably a reasonable goal for Perry, since even before he became so serious a racquetballer he placed first in last year's AARA Kansas State Championships, 17-and-under and first in the 1979 USRA Kansas State Championships, 15-and-under. Then again, perhaps last year's victories merely whetted his appetite for more. At any rate, Perry's worth watching. After all, everyone knows how growing boys are — their appetites are never satisfied.



David Simonette

Much to the chagrin of his older and larger opponents, 11-year-old *David Simonette*, who's just under four and a half feet tall, knows very well how to play control and go for the percentages. In fact, the Baltimore, Md., wonder kid now plays in both Men's "A" and "B" divisions in tournaments — just for the experience.

It must be some experience for his opponents too, as this young dynamo uses everything he's got to advance in these divisions. It doesn't hurt that he practices every day for two hours, plus trains by jumping rope, running or riding a bike for an additional hour. Indeed, it's probably helped him obtain his titles as Maryland State 10-and-under champ and Maryland State 13-and-under champ. He's also managed to come in second place, 14-and-under, in the AARA Northeast Regional, this past year.

Simonette's goals are reasonable, he's just aiming to play Marty Hogan competitively. At the rate he's going, it may be sooner than Hogan would like to think.



Jessica Rubin

Jessica Rubin has taken quite a liking to the sport of racquetball. And it's no wonder, the game's been good to her. This 14-year-old who hails from Rochester, N.Y., was first introduced to racquetball a year and a half ago. And although she already played softball, soccer, basketball and volleyball, Rubin and racquetball became fast friends. It's not likely they'll be parting ways any time soon, either.

Rubin is coached by Jim Winterton, who describes her as a "positive model" for other members of his juniors program at the Winton Racquetball Club in Rochester. Positive indeed. In her first year of playing, Rubin became the New York State Champion and placed second in the Northeastern region. She's consistently been number one in all New York State Junior competition, and currently plays at "B" level in tournaments throughout the state. Now that's a positive model we could all use.



Cliff Swain

Cliff Swain is an eighth grader from Braintree, Mass. One might not suspect, at first glance, that there was anything particularly different about

this 13-year-old. But there is a difference between Swain and most eighth graders — he has mastered the game of racquetball.

It's taken him about a year and a half to get where he is today, but now Swain can rattle off such victories as the 1980 Massachusetts State Championship, the 1980 Pepsi Open Championship and the 1980 Coca-Cola/WJAR Championship, with no hesitation at all. And that's why he's added those wins to his list of racquetball accomplishments — he doesn't hesitate. Since he first discovered the game, Swain has steadily improved. He hasn't hesitated to compete, and it's definitely paid off.

You might say Swain has begun the new decade on a winning streak. Chances are, he'll end it that way too.



Delanie Comer

At 10-years-old, it's hard to believe Delanie Comer of Redding, Calif., has played as much racquetball as she has. Yet in her brief year and a half racquetball career, she's managed to stack up an impressive list of victories. In the 10-and-under category in 1979 she won the California State Championships, the Western Regionals and came in second in the Nationals. This year she won the Northern California State Championships and the California State Championships in her division.

Comer is now looking to broaden her horizons a little, mainly by entering 13-and-under, 15-and-under and a few of the Women's divisions. She's looking for more experience, which will supplement her three or four practice sessions each week. She also takes lessons from her coach, Ed Martin, and another accomplished junior — Mona Mook.

This year Comer is looking towards the Western Regionals and the Nationals, where she'll test her skills. And, just to keep in shape for next year, she's planning to attend a Junior Racquetball Camp in Redding this August. It will probably come as no surprise, but Comer says she enjoys playing racquetball and someday would like to turn pro. Not an unlikely prospect, if she continues at this rate.



Mark Henshaw

There are a few lucky people in the world who can pick up a tune just by listening. They have no musical training, can't read musical notes, and yet they can produce the quality sounds of a virtuoso. It's called playing by ear. Mark Henshaw is such a person, but the music he plays is racquetball.

Since this 15-year-old from Boise, Idaho, discovered he was in tune with the rhythms of racquetball, he's abandoned both football and basketball. And since racquetball is now his main sport, he spends every spare minute perfecting his game. Well, almost — he still manages to maintain a 3.6 grade average (on a 4.0 scale), in spite of the three to four hours he spends on the court every day.

Not only is Henshaw intelligent in the classroom, he has good court sense as well. In fact, he's risen from a "C" level tournament player to a solid "Open" player in just one year. In a recent AARA regional tournament in Cheney, Wash., he made it to the quarterfinals. Not bad for a ninth grader. Looks like his workouts are starting to pay off.

Among Henshaw's many assets is versatility. He's shown the ability to play a slow control game as well as a fast serve and shoot game. His strong points include his serve, serve return (a rollout if his opponent makes a mistake), shot placement and shot selection. Apparently, he's a natural at shot selection. In fact, about the only things he has left to work on are strength, stamina and desire. As he's recently begun a weight program it's likely the first two are covered. As for the latter, let's just say we won't be surprised to see a virtuoso performance from this young racquetballer in the near future. ■

EKTELON/AARA JUNIOR NATIONALS

July 10-13, 1980

ENTRY FEE:

\$15.00 Singles

\$10.00 each for Doubles

Make all checks payable to AARA Junior Nationals and mail to: Kangaroo Kourts IV
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OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT BALL:

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For first four places in each division and consolation. Regional winners will be seeded in the Junior Nationals

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EYE PROTECTION IS NECESSARY TO PLAY IN ANY EVENT

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The Shasta Inn, 2180 Hilltop Drive, Redding, CA 96001, 916-241-8200.

Indicate "Junior National Racquetball" when making reservations to receive discounted rates

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RACQUETBALL

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Allentown In-House (1)
Allentown Racquetball Club
601 Union St.
Allentown, PA 18101
John Brinson
215-821-1300

JUNE
Georgia State
Championship (2)
Early June, contact Jim
Cullen for details
404-256-2120

JUNE 6-8
Easter Seals Tournament (3)
State College
Racquet Club
State College, PA 16801
Ron Marasco
814-237-5108

JUNE 6-8
Space Coast Open (2)
Imperial Courts
1525 West Nasa Blvd.
Melbourne, FL 32901
Scott Nelson
305-725-5120

JUNE 13-15
Cancer Society
Tournament (3)
The Backwall
Racquetball Club
Altoona, PA 16601
Beth Haller
814-946-1668

**South Carolina State
Championship (2)**
Charleston Racquet
Nautilus Center
Charleston, SC
Jerry Rogers
803-571-1020

JUNE 20-22
1st Annual Summer Sizzler
Shoot Out (3)
21st Point Racquetball
721 Boardman-Poland Rd.
Youngstown, OH 44512
Gary Walters
216-758-2334

**Midwest Junior
Regionals (5)**
The Supreme Court West
3725 West 13th Street
Wichita, KS 67203
Dewane Grimes
316-945-8331

Alabama State Doubles (2)
Racquetball of Mobile
661 Azalea Road
Mobile, AL 36609
Jim Hawkins
205-666-5016

**Southeast Junior
Regionals (5)**
The Courtrooms
750 W. Sunrise Boulevard
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311
Terry Fancher
305-764-8700

**Western Junior
Regionals (5)**
Casa De Courts
2183 Benita Drive
Rancho Cordova, CA 94670
Jeff Hetherington
916-635-7354

**Northwest Junior
Regionals (5)**
The Court House
7211 Colonial Way
Boise, Idaho 83709
Gene Gibbs
208-377-0040

**Eastern Junior
Regionals (5)**
The Playoff
Racquetball/Handball Club
288 Wood Road
Braintree, MA 02184
Jim Daly
617-848-8080

**Southwest Junior
Regionals (5)**
Flagstaff Athletic Club
P.O. Box 1483
1200 W. Hwy. 66
Flagstaff, AZ 86002
Jim Garretson/Jack Nolan
602-779-4593

Central Junior Regionals (5)
Lehmann Courts
2700 No. Lehmann Court
Chicago, IL
Ray Mitchell
312-745-9400

**Racquetball Northeast
Grand Prix (3)**
Racquetball
Tournament Director
Rich Derby
200 VFW Parkway (Rear)
Dedham, MA 02026
617-828-7632

**New Jersey State
Championships (2)**
King George Racquet and
Health Club
17 King George Rd.
Greenbrook, NJ 08812
Frank Pescatore/Pete
Talbot
201-356-6900
Annapolis Court Club
Maryland State Singles
Contact Tom Whipple
for details

JUNE 27-29
Seaboard Summer Classic (3)
Point Set Racquetball Club
Bay Shore, NY
Al Seitelman
516-288-1448

**Midwest Junior
Regionals (5)**
Branmar Racquetball Club
Branmar Plaza
Wilmington, DE 19810
D.C. Lantz
302-658-1036

JULY
9th Connecticut Open (3)
Site to be announced
Tournament Director:
Phil Panarella
203-229-0526

JULY 4-6
Firecracker Open (3)
Court House One
47 Hartford Turnpike
Vernon, CT 06066
Ron Mirek
203-649-0597

Firecracker Open (3)
Kings Courts
Erie, PA 16509
Bob Oliver
814-868-9626

JULY 10-13
AARA National Juniors
Singles and Doubles
Kangaroo Courts IV
1988 Park Marina Dr.
Redding, CA 96001
Ed Martin
916-221-4405

JULY 16-19
1980 Klondike
Canadian Open
Edmonton, Alberta
Canada
Fred Small
403-423-9469 or
403-467-6465

JULY 18-20
Racquetball Northeast
Grand Prix (3)
Worcester Court Club
Tournament Director:
Dave Forsberg
Gold Star Blvd.
Worcester, MA
617-852-8209

**Yogi Berra/Lite Beer
Grand Prix (3)**
Yogi Berra's Hall of Fame
333 Gothic Plaza
RT. 46 West
Fairfield, NJ 07006
Pete Talbot
201-227-4000

JULY 25-27
Arizona State
Championships (2)
Arizona Athletic Club
Jack Nolan
602-839-0036

AUGUST 22-24
Racquetball Northeast
Grand Prix (3)
Playoff-Braintree
Tournament Director:
Jim Daly
288 Wood Road
Braintree, MA
617-848-8080

**Ocean City Outdoor Courts
Maryland Outdoor
Championships**
Contact Tom Whipple for
details

SEPTEMBER 11-14
Best of the East (3)
Racquetball
168 Franklin
Walwick, NJ 07463
Nick Elie
201-447-6565

SEPTEMBER 26-28
Yogi Berra/Lite Beer
Grand Prix (3)
Yogi Berra's Hall of Fame
333 Gothic Plaza
RT 46 West
Fairfield, NJ 07006
Pete Talbot
201-227-4000

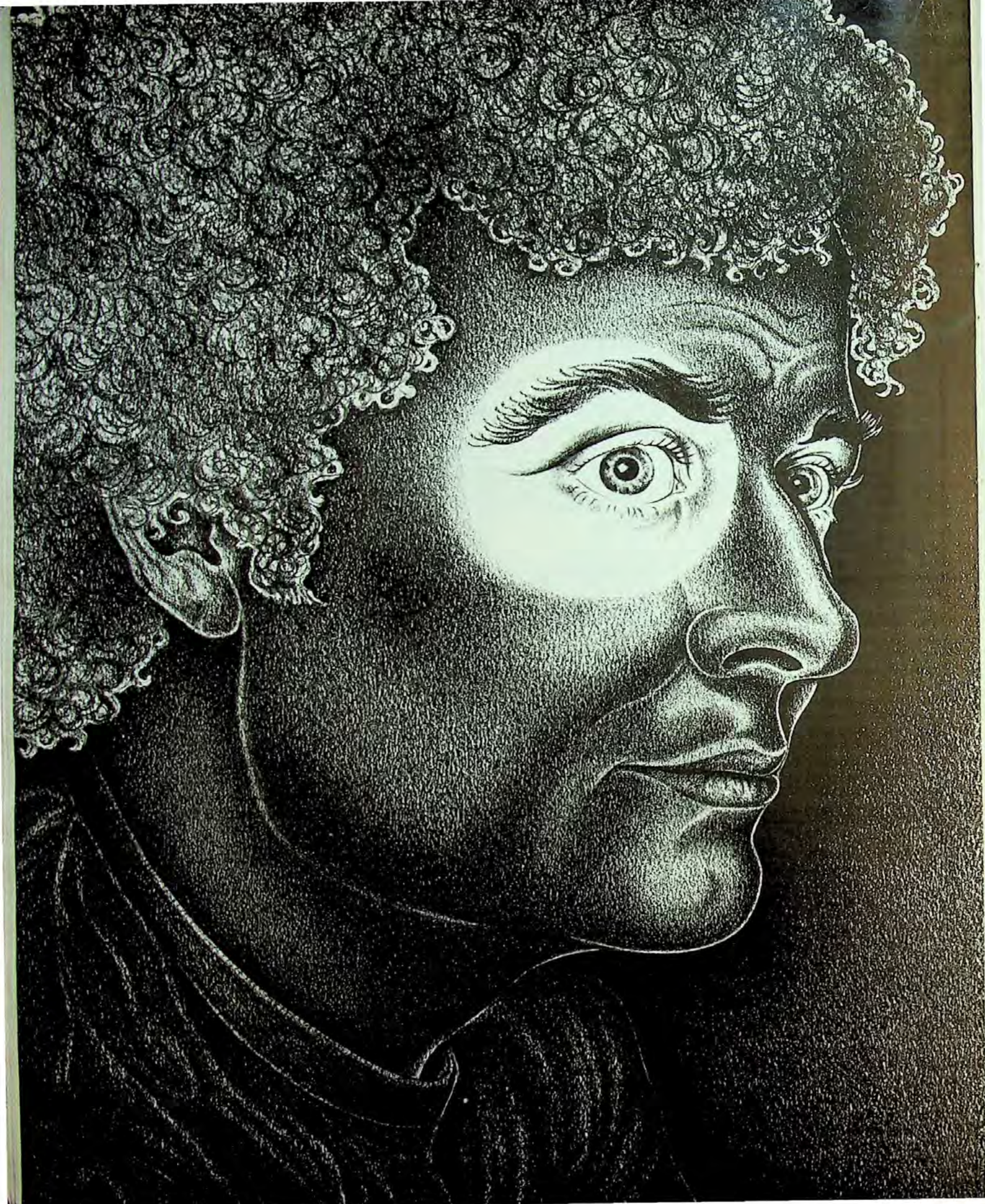
OCTOBER 31-NOVEMBER 2
Florida State Doubles (2)
Site To Be Announced
Fred White 305-753-4053
Van Dubolsky 904-372-2120

NOVEMBER 14-16
Yogi Berra/Lite Beer
Grand Prix (3)
Yogi Berra's Hall of Fame
333 Gothic Plaza
RT 46 West
Fairfield, NJ 07006
Pete Talbot
201-227-4000

**AARA sanctioned
tournaments in bold**
(1)-1st level tournament
(2)-2nd level tournament
(3)-3rd level tournament
(4)-4th level tournament
(5)-5th level tournament
(6)-6th level tournament

**State championships not
listed were not available by
press time; please contact
your local state director for
details see page 35**

CALENDAR



EYE INJURIES

Always Serious



OUR DAYS FLAT ON HIS BACK IN A HOSPITAL bed. Unable to move, unable to see. That was all it took for Luke St. Onge, executive director of the AARA, to realize he would never again take the risk of playing racquetball without eyeguards.

"I was hit smack on the bridge of my nose," recalls St. Onge, "and within minutes I began to hemorrhage. By the time I got to the hospital, and I drove myself, my right eye was closed." Fortunately, St. Onge was one of the lucky ones — he can still see.

But with that injury, St. Onge became another statistic in the growing numbers of eye injuries due to racquet sports. In fact, according to the Lexington Eye Association at Amerson Hospital in Concord, Mass., there were roughly 8,000 eye injuries in all racquet sports, including tennis and badminton, for the year of 1978.

Figures for 1979, when fully compiled, should be higher, according to Dr. Paul F. Vinger, an ophthalmologist with the hospital. "The accident curve has paralleled the growing popularity of these sports," he said. Even a modest increase could bring the figure close to a staggering 10,000 eye injuries.

Eye injuries in racquetball result primarily from contact with the ball and the racquet. There are other reasons, too, such as running into walls, being in poor condition, overexertion, tiredness, freak hits, mishits, law of averages, carelessness, over-aggressiveness and a lack of safety.

As any player with a modicum of court experience can tell you, a racquetball in play rarely, if ever, maintains its perfectly round shape. The impact of the racquet, combined with power, top or bottom spin, and the number of surfaces it hits after impact contorts the ball into unbelievable configurations. At times, the ball may even resemble a saucer careening through space, until it contacts something, bites into its surface, flattens out, tears, rips and rockets off in another direction. When flecks of dirt become imbedded in the ball, the soft rubber orb turns into a portentous weapon with the characteristics of sandpaper, which can easily shred the tender flesh of the human eye.

With the statistics of eye injuries so frequently published and made available to courts and players throughout the land, coupled with the high degree of eye injury potential always present on any court, you would think players who do not wear eyeguards would be a rarity. Wrong, and the statistics bear this out.

"I can't see the ball when I wear eyeguards," is an oft-quoted excuse for not wearing eye protection. These players are convinced that they suffer major vertical and peripheral vision loss when they wear eyeguards. It's a misguided logic, since not wearing protection could result in a total loss of vision.

However, clubs, tournament sponsors and manufacturers alike have assumed a posture of caution in making their recommendation for wearing eyeguards stronger. There is some legal precedence suggesting that *requiring* eyeguards may imply that while wearing them a player is completely safe. (Such implication has constituted liability for an eye injury to be fixed by the courts on at least one manufacturer.) In this atmosphere an understandable reluctance to require eyeguards has emerged at tournaments and in the clubs. But this very fact should underscore the importance of eye protection.

The AARA *does* require (rule 2.5 (c) "uniform") eye protection for its members under the age of 18. According to Luke St. Onge, the AARA feels a responsibility for its junior players. "We've got to educate them while they are young. Our first step is to make it safe for Juniors and then move into the adult arena."

Apparently, most players who compete without eyeguards do so because they haven't suffered an eye injury and feel they won't because they are "too careful" or "too good" to be hit. It's the old "It can't happen to me" theory. Of the 8,000 to 10,000 recorded eye injuries, many of them probably felt the same way.

As a matter of record, even highly-tuned championship players are not free from eye injury. Marty Hogan is among the pros who've been hit. And Pennsylvania's top-ranked Tim Grapes has seen the ball a little closer up than he would've liked.

Another champion competitor, Don Kessinger, suffered a similar fate. An "A" player, professional athlete, finalist in the Coors All Pro Racquetball Championship and owner of two court clubs, Kessinger discovered eye injury in racquetball in one of his own clubs this past January.

He served what he thought was an ace. As he turned, his opponent, wife Carolyn, just barely managed to return the ball — straight into his eye. The eye bled, and he had it checked by a doctor who found no apparent visual impairment. He was advised to quit playing long enough to overcome what could possibly turn out to be a detached retina. His layoff forced him out of the Coors All Pro Championship in Las Vegas and a nice bundle of prize money. Kessinger is now an advocate of eyeguards. "I hadn't been wearing eyeguards as much as I should. But from now on I'll never be without them," he said.

These types of stories are found everywhere there are courts with players who compete. And, although many players feel that it makes sense to wear eyeguards, a surprising number of them won't because they feel it is too much of an inconvenience and personal bother.

By Mike La Bonne

Without delving further into player safety philosophy, let's look at the incredibly complex and marvelous creation called the human eye, and what happens to it when it gets zapped by a 100-mile-per-hour racquetball.

The human eye is protected by bone on all sides except directly from the front. Other protective areas include the bony ridge above each eye, the eyebrows, the eyelids, the eyelashes and the tear ducts.

Two areas of the eye seemingly more susceptible to injury are the retina, or membrane lining the inside of the eye; and the cornea, or liquidy and transparent part which juts out from the eye.

Let's look at what eye injuries are possible from a sharp blow.

If the eyeball itself sustains the blow, certain complications are possible. The most common of these are: torn retina, or detached retina; dislocation of the lens; inflammation of the iris; hemorrhage within the eyeball; and fracture of the bone of the eye socket.

The biggest threat is the detached retina, which separates from its normal position at the back of the eye. The retina is the innermost lining of the eyeball. It is the area which receives the focused image which enters the eye. The retina is attached physically only to the optic nerve in the back of the eyeball, and at front at the ciliary body. The remainder, about 98 per cent, is held in position by the gentle pressure of eye fluids (vitreous).

As the retina tears away from the wall of the eyeball, fluid leaves the eyeball and seeps into the tear and vision is blurred. The longer the retina tear is detached without being repaired, the larger it becomes and the more extensive the surgery becomes to fix it. Also, there is a greater chance of permanent vision damage. Complete retinal detachment can cause blindness.

Corneal abrasions may lead to astigmatism (a condition which may cause focusing problems). The cornea is a three-dimensional globe, a segment of a sphere. If it were a perfect sphere the curvature would be the same in all directions and there would be normal vision. However, when a ball rips into the tender flesh of the eye, it can easily shred away the flesh, creating a flat spot on the once-round globe. Any variation in this curvature of the globe creates two points of focus on the back of the eye instead of one. This condition would require corrective glasses and the cornea itself may never heal. Also, there could be lifelong pain associated with this type of injury.

Other, though not as prevalent, injuries which could be caused by a blow to

the eye or head include hyperopia, or farsightedness; myopia, or nearsightedness; strabismus, or impaired eye muscles which become improperly balanced and the two eyes do not focus together (surgery required); and amblyopia, or double vision.

Many of these conditions may not show up until years after an eye injury. It always makes good sense to see a doctor when you've suffered a blow to the head or eye, even if you feel okay. For an eye injury, always see an ophthalmologist, even if the injury seems minor. Early detection of a potential problem could save your vision.

Today, chances are that if you get hurt on the court, and a doctor is not present, you may be in more trouble than you realize, simply because there is not as much known about safety or first aid among today's players as is generally thought. Thus, the chances are increased that you could be injured twice: once by the ball, again by the unskilled but well-meaning player who administers first aid.

Generally, ophthalmologists offer these well-established procedures to follow when administering first aid to injured players.

- Do NOT wash the eye even if the ball was dirty. Why? You cannot get ALL the dirty material out and you cannot sterilize the area no matter how hard you try. If the eye is perforated and you try to wash it, you could end up causing much worse damage to the eye.

- Do NOT put saline or any medicines into injured eyes for the same reasons mentioned above.

- Do NOT remove any blood or blood clot from the eye. It's okay to sponge off the face, but stay away from the eye. The eye cannot lose enough blood to hurt it. Besides, blood contains antiseptics which are good for the injured eye.

- Do NOT try to pry the eyelids open to look at the eye if the patient cannot open them easily by himself. Even if he can, but doing so makes him wince and squeeze involuntarily because of pain or sensitivity to light, leave him alone.

- Do NOT march an injured player about unnecessarily.

- Do NOT feed the injured player before going to the doctor. Water and fruit juice are okay, but no milk.

When a player is hit on or near the eye with the ball, racquet, wall or whatever, things to look for include hemorrhage (bleeding profusely) in the eye, abrasion (a scraped spot), lacerations (cuts), and dirt in the cornea. If the eyeball is depressed it's a good indication that there's a probable fracture of the wall of the eye socket.

If movement of the eye is impaired, if the eye bulges (which tends to indicate pressure from behind by massed blood or cerebral fluid), or if there are dents along the eye socket rim, get him to a doctor quickly.

If the blow is a simple one, causing just a black eye, cold packs applied over the eye will help. But remove them frequently to prevent irritating the eye tissues. Cold applications neutralize excessive hemorrhaging and the follow-up of black eye.

For a blow directly to the eye, cleanse around the area and wash debris away from the eye. Apply cold packs to the area. Don't use heat or ice. Ice freezes tissues quickly and hot applications accentuate the inflammatory process that is already there.

If there is dirt in the eye with no bleeding or apparent injury (if you've received no direct blow from any source), pull the eyelid down, place a swab stick along the upper margin of the closed lid, grasp the eyelash with the free hand and pull the lid up and over the swab stick. Locate the foreign body, brush it out gently with a cotton swab, follow with murine.

Once you've injured an eye, you may be susceptible to further injury sometime down the road. Eyes that do not function properly are the cause of many athletic injuries. How many are unknown. As a handicap to the player, bad eyes may cause headaches, poor coordination, failure to hit the ball squarely, etc. For these reasons, eyes should never be forgotten as a possibility when the player begins to have accidents for "no reason at all."

In addition to wearing eyeguards, there are other methods to help ensure eye safety on the court. Be aware of your opponent's or partner's position. Call for a mercy hinder if in danger of hitting someone. Always wear the racquet thong. Watch the play off the back wall; failure to do so may result in another person running into or hitting the player with the racquet. Try letting the ball drop as low as possible before you hit it so that the ball and racquet are at knee to ankle height. When you hit someone at that height, it will be in the legs and not the face or eyes.

For pure safety sake, the time-tested method of eye safety in racquetball is the eyeguard. There are eyeguards available in all shapes and sizes, from junior to adult, and the cost can range from as little as \$6 to \$50 or more. They can be made for prescription lenses or worn over glasses. But whatever the cost, it's a cheap price when you consider the alternative. Blindness is for keeps. ■

LEVE'S ON THE RISE

And Brimming With Plans As NCCA's Executive Director

By Tom Carlson



Charles S. "Chuck" Leve is one of the most powerful men in racquetball today, and it's all because of the number 38. That's the number he drew in the Selective Service lottery shortly after graduating college in 1970. Leve didn't need a gypsy to tell him he'd probably end up in Viet Nam within a year. A career in journalism — his major in college — would have to wait; temporary employment was more in order. Leve's father, Mort, worked for Bob Kendler, multi-millionaire Chicago developer and prime mover behind the United States Handball Association (USHA). "My dad called me one day," recalls Leve, "and told me about this new sport called racquetball that seemed to be taking off. He was having enough trouble managing handball, so he suggested I take over racquetball, at least until Uncle Sam called. I said what the heck, why not?"

And so, with an uncharacteristic low-grade enthusiasm and a shrug of the shoulders, Chuck Leve entered a profession that would occupy — and at times obsess — him for 10 years. In that time, from 1970 to the present, Leve has been involved in almost every major development in the game. He did much to shape the amateur game during his early days with the IRA (now the AARA). Later he helped his boss, Bob Kendler, organize the National Racquetball Club (NRC) and the United States Racquetball Association (USRA). He also established the format for the modern professional tour. Along the way, he founded and edited both *Racquetball* magazine and *National Racquetball*, the two major organs for the sport.

Today Leve is executive director of the National Court Clubs Association (NCCA), a 330-member international organization of court club owners. In his present position Leve promotes and coordinates the growth and development of the court club system in this country and overseas, and generally attempts to keep court club owners happy and solvent in an economy that has made many grown men cry.

Best wishes, you might say, but why all this interest in just another white collar executive type? Chuck Leve will be the first to admit that political organizations and the desk jockeys who run them are seldom of interest to the average man on the street — or on the court. "I would bet," says Leve, "that if you set up a table in the lobby of any court club and began asking people what the initials NCCA, AARA, NRC, USRA, NARP, or WPRA meant, very few would either know or care."

Leve is quick to add, however, that the politics of a young sport like racquetball can be very exciting — as well as important — to the average player. Older, more

established sports like football and baseball have long since quieted any major disputes over organizations or rules. In racquetball, though, the players still have a chance to voice their opinions, to influence the future of the sport. Organizations are still jockeying for power. In fact, it's still a question whether the country's fastest growing sport will achieve "major sport" status.

And one of the people working hardest to see that the issue is resolved in racquetball's favor is Chuck Leve. "I guess I've always had a talent for organizing," says Leve. Knowing the career and the man, such an observation comes close to hilarious understatement. It's like Fred Astaire in *Top Hat*, telling a talent scout "Yes, I can dance a little." Or Spencer Tracy in *Young Tom Edison* assuring the shop steward "I'm pretty handy with machines, sir."

Today from his recently completed offices in the Chicago suburb of Northbrook, Leve presides over what he calls the "action area" of the sport. "Look," says Leve, by way of illustration: "the AARA has about 30,000 members and the other amateur organization, the USRA, about 35 to 40,000. Well, the 330 racquetball clubs in my organization average around 2,000 members. That's about 650,000 bona fide, dues-paying, court-renting, equipment-buying players. If we [the NCCA] aren't where the action

is, then who is?"

Leve has already transformed a comatose organization into a vibrant, expanding enterprise. Thanks to the new executive director, club owners have gotten national trade shows and conventions, special deals on club insurance, group purchasing discounts, management training seminars and even a 25 per cent discount from Avis Rent A Car. Equally important, Leve is working hard to help these owners to navigate between the twin rocks of inflation and recession. "The building boom is over, at least temporarily," says Leve. "Right now we're in an introspective period where court club owners are having to look hard at their operations and trim off the fat wherever possible."

The result of these efforts is that club owners are beginning to smell a winner. Membership in the NCCA has risen by 50 per cent in the last year alone.

The sweet scent of success has always accompanied Chuck Leve — which is probably why he strikes you in person as a pleasant sort of paradox. Because he has enjoyed success early, Chuck Leve at 32 exudes that bold confidence and executive presence usually associated with a man twice his age. And yet, despite the touch of gray creeping into his beard, he looks much younger than his years. Amidst the chrome and leather trappings of his executive directorship, you sense a barely suppressed puckishness, a youthful exuberance. You wouldn't be at all surprised to see Chuck Leve take a baseball mitt or a frisbee from his desk at lunchtime, and head to the parking lot with the maintenance man.

In fact, Leve is at his most animated when recalling his days as a centerfielder in the American Legion leagues and later at the University of Miami. (By his own admission, he'd be a major league ball player if this were the best of all possible worlds).

Ernest Hemingway, who grew up in nearby Oak Park, had recognized the paradox. He called such people "the great American boy-men" — derisively because he saw them as cases of arrested development. But Hemingway's "man's man" philosophy blinded him to the virtues and advantages of retaining the innocent air of youth. It keeps you fresh, idealistic, and, equally important, such innocence disarms the opposition ("this guy is harmless"). Had Chuck Leve lived a hundred years ago he would have sold snake oil during the week and saved souls on Sunday.

Add to these winning qualities an incredible recall of dates, statistics, conversations, and the general bric-a-brac of history and you're reminded of another fascinating "boy-man," John Dean, he of Watergate fame. One might argue, in fact, that Chuck Leve is what John Dean might have become had Dean had the good sense to work for himself.

This gift of memory makes Chuck Leve's reminiscences of his days at the

Amidst the chrome and leather trappings of his executive directorship, you sense a barely suppressed puckishness, a youthful exuberance. You wouldn't be at all surprised to see Chuck Leve take a baseball mitt or frisbee from his desk at lunchtime . . .

IRA 10 years ago seem as though they happened yesterday. Leve states flatly that the origins of the modern game go back to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1968. That was the year that Larry Lederman, director of a Jewish community center in Milwaukee, decided to hold the first National Paddleball Championships. The event drew racquetball (or paddleball) players from Chicago, St. Louis, Louisville and points west. Despite Lederman's best efforts, a kind of comic confusion ran through the proceedings. Some players showed up with wooden paddles, others with strung racquets. Balls of different colors and sizes caromed around. The sport was simply so new that there was no such thing as standard equipment.

Nonetheless, spirits ran high, and during the tournament, players and locals met and talked about organizing further. Lederman, a handball buff, knew about Bob Kendler, Mort Leve, and their U.S. Handball Association in Chicago. They were only 90 minutes away, and so they were invited up. Kendler and Leve watched the tournament, and liked what they saw. And with typical Kendler decisiveness, an association was formed which, within the year, had become the International Racquetball Association (now the AARA).

Enter lottery number 38. During his summers in high school in suburban Northbrook, Chuck Leve had worked as a part-time janitor for Bob Kendler. Now his dad put the young journalism major in charge of the fledgling racquet sport. "I didn't get to utilize my journalism skills," chuckles Leve. Public discussion of racquetball at that time was confined to a two page insert in *Handball* magazine. Within three years, Leve would proudly edit the inaugural issue of *Racquetball*. But at the moment his most immediate task was to gain some atten-

tion for the sport. "We needed to establish a pattern of sports events so that people could look forward to certain things happening at certain times of the year." That meant the herculean task of building a tournament format and a tour schedule from the bottom up.

Lottery number 38 decided to make the commitment. This was the summer of 1970, and what helped Leve decide was that he had just failed his long awaited physical. "High blood pressure," he says, quickly raising his hand as if taking an oath. "Honest Injun." Then, laughing at his own defensiveness, he retrieves his hand from the air. "Survivor's guilt, I guess," he says.

With his new commitment, the 22-year-old executive secretary of the IRA headed to Salt Lake City to organize his first national championship tournament. "I learned fast about logistics, local arrangements, plus how to do a draw, how to seed players, how to make a schedule of matches, secure referees, and how to ref myself."

The tournament went off without a hitch. Bill Schmidtke won the singles title, and Chuck Leve made a lot of friends. In fact, Leve played Schmidtke in the tournament. "It was my one moment of glory on the court," says Leve, tongue firmly in cheek. This is clearly an anecdote he loves to tell. "I entered as a player really just to donate my entry fee to the cause," he explains, "and I made it all the way to the round of 16."

Lest we suspect ego at work here, Leve quickly bursts his own bubble. "Well, it was a bit of a fluke," he chuckles. "First of all there was a small draw. Many of the players from the east simply didn't make it. In the round of 64, I was scheduled to play a doctor, but at the last moment, he was called into surgery. Default was mine! Then in the round of 32, I was up against Bob McNerny, a first-rate player from San Diego. But he was saving himself for doubles with his partner, Charlie Brumfield, so he forfeited." Another tainted but welcome victory.

"So here I am in the round of 16, and I haven't hit a ball yet." One senses that our hero is about to receive his just desserts. "Now I'm up against Schmidtke, whom I know personally. So I hike up my shorts and remind him that it would look real bad for the sport if the executive secretary of the IRA were to get double donuts in the 16's. He asks me how many points I want. I tell him 10, figuring that double figures would at least look respectable. He tells me 'You've got it.' And I did. I lost the match 21-6 and 21-4. I got my 10 points!" To this day, adds Leve, "I'm convinced that Schmidtke won the tournament because he had so much left after playing me."

The next major development in the game also took place in 1971, and once again, Leve found himself right in the middle of it.

When the IRA board of directors began to question Bob Kendler's motives

for signing exclusive ball contracts, the split began. And the issue finally tore a gaping hole in the organization at the IRA Nationals in St. Louis in April of 1973. "It was a nightmare," says Leve conservatively. "The long silent board suddenly serves Kendler with a set of new by-laws for the IRA which effectively stripped him of most of his power," Leve remembers the moment vividly. "Kendler stood up and said 'I will be no man's eunuch,' and turned on his heel and walked out."

It was the board's move next, and at three in the morning, they showed up at Kendler's hotel room to continue the negotiations. Kendler offered his own new and improved by-laws which stripped the board of its power. As the sheriff in *Cool Hand Luke* once observed, what they had here was a failure to communicate.

Through it all, Leve was frantically taking minutes (as executive secretary), and trying to act as arbitrator. There was also another minor consideration called the tournament. On top of everything else, Leve had to see that the show went on. "It almost didn't, and I almost didn't make it," says Leve. "I was averaging about three hours of sleep. I finally ended up falling asleep at the wheel of my rented car and crashing it with seven other people in it."

The tournament finally wound down, but the political struggle remained. Soon Kendler dramatically announced that he was pulling out of the IRA and was going to develop the pro end of the sport. The result was the National Racquetball Club (NRC) which still commands the pro tour. The days of one sport/one organization were gone forever.

Kendler's move left Leve in a fix. He had devoted three years to the IRA, but now his boss was leaving it, and inviting him to come along to set up a rival organization. A decision had to be made. "I went with Mr. Kendler," says Leve; "after all, he'd gotten me the job at the IRA and besides, I felt he was an ethical man who was being unfairly maligned."

The next three years were tough on everyone. Little less than open warfare ensued, with the rival organizations battling for pro and amateur status alike. And when the smoke finally cleared in late 1975, racquetball found itself with three major organizations. Two, Kendler's new United States Racquetball Association (USRA), and the old IRA, were claiming to represent amateur interests, while the other, the National Racquetball Club (NRC), ran the pro side.

Through it all, Chuck Leve faithfully did Bob Kendler's bidding. So it came as no small surprise when he pulled up stakes and moved over to the National Court Club Association. The equivalent might be Fritz Mondale chucking the Vice Presidency to go with Common Cause.

Many observers familiar with racquetball politics suspected internal fighting in

"I don't think racquetball will grow because Marty Hogan can hit a ball 142 mph. It will grow if the court club industry is managed correctly. And that's what I feel I can do in my new job."

the NRC to be the cause of Leve's departure. After all, the thinking went, an independent and ambitious young turk like Leve could last only so long under the strong-willed, autocratic Bob Kendler. Then too, Terry Fancher, another of Kendler's men (and married to his daughter) had just resigned and moved elsewhere. Finally, observers assumed that Leve had found water in the engine room and was abandoning ship. After all, there was dissatisfaction among the NRC players. In fact, a group of pros, led by Jerry Hilecher, had recently marched off to form their own players association and their own tour. Some of the women had done the same with their new Women's Professional Racquetball Association (WPRA). In short, it was time for an ambitious young man like Leve to hitch his wagon to a brighter star than the NRC.

"Not so," protests Leve, having obviously answered the charges before. "I wasn't unhappy or dissatisfied. I simply felt I had done all I could at the NRC. There were no new worlds to conquer. I had done the magazine, organized every aspect of the tour, done refereeing — everything I could. It was time to move on. Also, I became convinced that 20 years from now the pro end of the sport wouldn't necessarily be where it's at. What I mean is, I don't think racquetball will grow because Marty Hogan can hit a ball 142 mph. It will grow if the court club industry is managed correctly. And that's what I feel I can do in my new job at the NCCA."

Leve offers one additional reason for leaving the NRC. "Right there," he says, pointing to a portrait on the filing cabinet of an attractive blond and a curly-haired year-old child. "When Josh was born, I began to realize that with all my traveling for the NRC, I had very little in the way of family life. Now, with the NCCA, I can stay closer to home, or at least arrange my schedule to suit me."

There's no reason to question Leve's account of his departure from the NRC, especially in light of the fierce loyalty he retains for his old boss. There is, however, an additional reason for Leve moving over to the NCCA, which becomes apparent only after talking with him for a long while. It has to do with a dream he has of bringing all the warring racquetball factions together, and creating a just and lasting — not to mention profitable — peace. Leve laughs self-consciously, calling such a hope his "one-roof plan" (bringing all organizations together under one administrative roof).

This isn't any pie-in-the-sky pipedream. Leve is ever the pragmatist. He believes he can pull it off.

He is also well aware of the knotty complexities of contemporary racquetball politics. In fact, he has a theory to explain why the sport finds itself so politics-ridden. "Ironically, we grew too fast," says Leve. "We're really only 10 years old as a sport, and look how far we've come. The problem," he continues, "is that many of the players who have been around since the early '70s also see how far we've come and how fast. It makes them realize that their days are numbered. The Hilechers, Strandemos, Brumfields, etc. may be making \$20,000 or \$30,000 a year now, but they also feel the 20-year-olds pressing them from behind. They feel the ache in the legs that wasn't there a few years ago, and so they want theirs now, while they can get it." Leve pauses, and in more measured tones, concludes his point: "I sympathize with them — many of these guys are my personal friends — but then too I think of the pioneer players in the late '60s and early '70s — the Bud Muehleisens, the Ken Porcos, the Bill Schmidtkes — who really didn't make anything."

That's Chuck Leve the realist, who applies business ethics to the situation and finds much of the pro players' complaints unwarranted.

But that's only half the man. The other half is Chuck Leve the romantic, who remembers the way it used to be, the good old days. "The most fun I think I ever had," says Leve wistfully, "was back in 1974-75 when we were trying to get the pro tour started. We were all 21 or 22 years old. No one was worrying about getting rich. Hell, the total purse was \$5,000 a tournament. We shared a special feeling that we were pioneers blazing a new trail. It brought us closer together. The tour in those days was more like a fraternity than a business. After matches, there'd be parties and poker games. If we cleared expenses, we were happy."

All of which brings into focus the pleasant paradox that is Chuck Leve. For this big businessman, racquetball will never be just big business. There's simply too much of the boy in the man. In fact, the more you talk to Chuck Leve, the more convinced you are that he does have that baseball mitt squirreled away in his desk. It's just a matter of waiting til lunch. ■

T

TOURNAMENT

R

REPORT

Texas Shoot-Out

**THE 1980 AARA NATIONAL INTERCOLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS
BY SCOTT SCHAFER**

LARRY LILES



Keith Dunlap (right) of the University of Houston defeated Gary Merritt (left) also of the University of Houston in the Men's number one singles, finals.

red to defend his 1979 title as a lone star this year, playing for the University of Houston.

Men's Number One Singles

The Men's number one singles, semifinals, pitted Keith Dunlap, the distinct favorite, against Bob Phillip. Phillip is a lanky southpaw from the University of Texas, Austin, who was the 1979 USRA Junior National runner-up. In game one Dunlap jumped to a quick lead, due to good shot selection coupled with some Phillip skip balls. Phillip never got going in the first game, as Dunlap constantly forced

Phillip to hit his shots off balance. Phillip managed to pull within eight at 15-7, but that was about the time that Dunlap decided to shift into high gear. Serves were exchanged a few times before Dunlap chalked up the needed six points. Game one: Dunlap 21, Phillip 7.

Game two found the early going close with Phillip playing smoother and Dunlap possibly suffering a slight let-up, following his relatively easy first game win. Phillip led on a few occasions, but never by more than one or two points. At 14-14 Dunlap started up his engine once again and blasted his way to 18, where Phillip managed to temporarily halt the express. Although he managed several side outs, Phillip was unable to score. Dunlap then found the three elusive points on an ace left, and two forehand right corner kills.

The other half of the draw saw second seeded Gary Merritt, from the University of Houston, against third seeded Scott Schafer from Memphis State University. It looked as though a possible upset was in the making as Schafer raced to an 18-6 first game lead, employing solid kills, passes and a few crack aces. Schafer seemed to let up at this point, apparently thinking he could coast in the victory. Merritt, however, wasn't giving up, as he slowly whittled away Schafer's big lead. When Schafer realized his lead had been cut to five points, he decided he'd better get back to his original game plan. Some furious rallies ensued, with both players hitting the floor several times. Merritt managed to pull within three, at 19-16, but that was the closest he got as Schafer went out and took the first game 21-16.

Merritt came out in game two, displaying a whole new passel of tricks, as his changed game plan confused the younger Schafer. Merritt, effectively using the forehand and backhand pinch, managed to keep Schafer in back court throughout game two. Result: Merritt 21, Schafer 9. In the tiebreaker, Merritt kept right on rolling along, while Schafer lost his concentration. The one-sided tiebreaker went to Merritt by a lopsided

The eyes of Texas were upon them, as some 95 players hailing from California to Florida to Virginia, converged upon the Quail Valley Racquetball Club in Houston for the eighth annual AARA National Intercollegiate Championships. They were greeted by the shining Texas sun and the shining new Quail Valley facility (two weeks old), on the weekend of April 18-20.

Amidst an always smiling tournament crew, who fixed sandwiches, mixed Gatorade and handed out towels, the players found the atmosphere ripe for an exciting weekend of racquetball. Memphis State University was back to defend its team championship for the fourth straight year, although they were minus superstar Keith Dunlap. Dunlap prefer-

score of 15-2.

The Men's number one singles finals, between Dunlap and Merritt, ended up as oddsmakers would have predicted. In game one, the early going was neck and neck, with the lead being exchanged constantly. Dunlap refused to play Merritt's power game, as he repeatedly slowed down the pace by using ceiling shots and graceful lobs. It proved effective, as Merritt too often tried to force his shots, usually coming up empty-handed. The two finalists stalled for a few innings, with Dunlap holding a 16-14 lead. To Merritt's surprise, Dunlap began to play a more offensive game, as he became anxious to end game one. Changing the flow with some straight-in kills and powerful pass shots, Dunlap notched up the six needed points to win game one 21-14.

Game two started with Merritt coming out strong and grabbing a few early three or four point leads, but to no avail, as Dunlap once again slowed down the pace with his effective lob serves and consistent ceiling shots. Merritt was hitting well in the second game, but became frustrated as Dunlap raced around the court like a rabbit, constantly picking up shots that seemed to have already died.

At one point Merritt held a 16-14 lead, but was unable to score any more. Dunlap came in and turned everything around — again changing to a more offensive plan. It was a plan that proved good enough for a National Championship. Serving at 14-16, "Bionic Backhand," as Dunlap's friends call him, simply waited for a Merritt mistake and drove it on home. Hitting beautiful backhand kills and passes, the University of Houston junior cranked up his serve to gain the seven points needed for a victory. Following match point, Dunlap's joyful howl of victory echoed through the courts in the Quail Valley Club like a coyote in the hills.

Women's Number One Singles

The number one Women's singles was clearly dominated by two strong players who eventually met in the finals on Sunday. In the upper bracket, top seed Barbara Faulkenberry of the Air Force Academy, following a rather slow first game, found the necessary ingredients as she out shot Sarah Russell, from the University of Houston, 21-13, 21-8. In the bottom bracket, second seeded Sharon Fanning from Memphis State University, one of the tournament favorites, ran into trouble in the form of Tricia Tillotson, a hard hitting player from Old Dominion. Tillotson was playing well and Fanning couldn't find the needed shots as "Tilly" overpowered her, 21-10, 21-7. So, the stage was set for the finals between Faulkenberry and Tillot-



Barbara Faulkenberry (left) of the Air Force Academy defeated Tricia Tillotson of Old Dominion in the Women's number one singles, finals.

son.

The finals, as many expected, was a close, action-packed match, with both women displaying very impressive games — impressing upon the spectators that air craft carriers and women's basketball aren't the only things associated with the institutions they represented.

Game one saw a hot shooting Faulkenberry pull ahead in the beginning and continue to stay in the lead, as Tillotson couldn't slow her down. Faulkenberry rolled to a 21-11 first game win. In game two, Tillotson kept Faulkenberry from pulling away, as she had in game one. Using a very conservative game plan, hitting good lob serves and waiting for her shots, Tillotson pulled away from a 15-15 deadlock and captured game two 21-16. The match was thus sent into a pressure-packed tiebreaker.

The early going of the tiebreaker saw-sawed back and forth with both women hitting kills from all positions on the court. Faulkenberry seemed to have the match in her hands as she pulled to a 14-10 lead, lacking one point for a victory. But Tillotson put the clamps on and came roaring back to within one at 13-14. Faulkenberry called a time out, but it didn't help, as Tillotson stepped back in and served an ace that cracked out of the left wall at about 25 feet. Match point serve was nervously traded as the

finalists each had two chances at putting the match away. After a few intense rallies and serve changes, Faulkenberry finally hit match point with a right wall-front wall kill, thus successfully defending her 1979 title. Sharon Fanning captured the second place position over Russell.

Other Results

The Men's number two singles went just as expected, except for a first round upset in which Billy Hendricks, a Memphis State independent, knocked off second seeded Jim Karen of the University of Illinois. Top seeded Blake Soule (pronounced Soo-lay), a representative of Memphis State University, was the undisputed class of the field, his biggest test coming in the semifinals where he defeated Jahangir Eftekhari of the University of Texas, Arlington. Soule had 16-6 leads in the first two games, but let them slip away. He regained his composure in time to save game one 21-19, but couldn't overcome Eftekhari's shooting as he took game two 21-16. Soule jumped ahead in the early going of the tiebreaker, and held on to win 15-6. On the other side, Blair Davis from the University of Texas, Austin, had a tough time in defeating the University of Houston's Jeff Wichers in a very close match. Davis came out on top 10-21, 21-20, 15-10. In the finals, Soule played nearly flawless ball, as he literally

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trounced Davis in game one 21-1. Game two wasn't much different as Soule once again won easily. The second game and match went to Soule 21-1, 21-7. Third place was won by Eftekhar over Wichers.

In the Men's Doubles, top seeds Mike Gora and Dan Cohen from Memphis State had a fairly easy time in winning the title, if you overlook the first round match against Donny Smith and Mike Gilmore of the University of Texas, Austin. The crowd was astonished at the result of game one as Smith and Gilmore seemed to never miss, and they blasted the top seeds 21-5. With some help from coach Larry Liles, the team of Gora and Cohen put things back together for game two, as they won 21-15. The tiebreaker was all Memphis State, as they blanked the Texas duo 15-0.

In the finals, the Memphis State duo met Dennis Lutz and Glen Lasken from the University of Illinois. Gora and Cohen played well in game one, but had trouble in the early going. They pulled it out 21-15 and coasted in the second 21-9, to win their first doubles title.

Winners in the other divisions were Rose Tamez, from Corpus Christi, Texas, first place in Women's number two singles. Renee Trammell of Memphis State took third.

Women's Round Robin Doubles:

First: Linda Lavene-Candi Gavin of Memphis State.

Second: Dawn Kell-Karen Randich of the University of Illinois.

Third: Jennifer Thrulow-Meredith Jackson of Auburn University.

Fourth: Peggy Hall-LeeAnn Summer, Memphis State team number two.

Consolation winners were Joe Porta of the University of Central Florida in the number one singles. Jim Keith, also of Central Florida, won the number two singles consolation. Vicki Carr from Illinois, won the Women's number one singles consolation, with Memphis State's Barbara Allen winning the number two Women's singles consolation.

The Men's team totals were added up with the Memphis State team, defending champions, coming out on top with 37 points. The University of Texas, Austin, was second with 21 points, and the University of Houston was third with 16.

The Women's totals had Memphis State on top with 28 points, followed by Auburn's 17 and Illinois' 15.

The Team Championship was once again won by Memphis State University. The University of Illinois was second and Auburn was third.

Even though only a few went away with trophies, everyone left the 1980 AARA Intercollegiate a winner. ■

WINNING POINTS

SHOW STOPPERS:

PLAYING THE WALLS

By Mike Yellen



Even when fading back toward the side of your racquet hand you can put your racquet out to determine your position. You have to bring your racquet up in preparation for your stroke anyway.



To prevent injury when fading back for a ceiling ball, use your free hand to determine the exact location of the back wall.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mike Yellen, second on the pro circuit, is a member of Ektelon's professional player advisory staff.

Racquetball is supposed to be a non-contact sport. And compared to many alternatives, it *is* relatively "safe." But any time you have fast moving bodies, racquets and a ball within a confined space, there is potential for painful collision. The most common occurrences, of course, involve the racquets or the ball. Assuming you are smart enough to wear eye protection, any damage done here is likely to be temporary, if painful.

It is possible to injure yourself seriously on a racquetball court though—by running into a wall. After all, the walls are considerably harder than your body. And they don't move out of the way, as an opponent can, when you dive sideways for a low shot or drop back fast for a ceiling ball. In fact, if you aren't careful, you can really beat yourself up on those walls. I

have a friend who dislocated a shoulder in a confrontation with the back wall and his racquet arm's range of motion just hasn't been the same since.

The only sure way to protect your tender limbs and joints is to wear the kind of foam rubber padding football players wear. But if that prospect seems a little too cumbersome to you, you can still reduce the possibility of injury due to chance meetings with immovable objects. All it takes is knowing how to avoid or cushion such blows.

Your own two hands are your first line of defense. Think of them as radar antennae. Since you should always keep your eyes on the ball during a racquetball game, it's sometimes tough to also keep tabs on your opponent and whatever it is you're backing into.

Whenever you are moving in such a way that you have all three in your direct or peripheral vision, fine. But any time that you don't and you think you are close to running into a wall or the other guy,

those antennae should go out. Pushing off an opponent is illegal, but touching is okay and it sometimes helps to keep track of him as he moves past you while your full vision is directed to the ball.

Likewise, if you are moving back for a ceiling ball or pass, one of your arms should precede you so that you don't get any sudden surprises. If you are fading toward your backhand side, you can stick out your free hand. If it's toward the side where you hold your racquet, so much the better, because you will have a longer "reach." Be sure to get your racquet up for the shot, though, or you may be safe and sorry, when you lose the point.

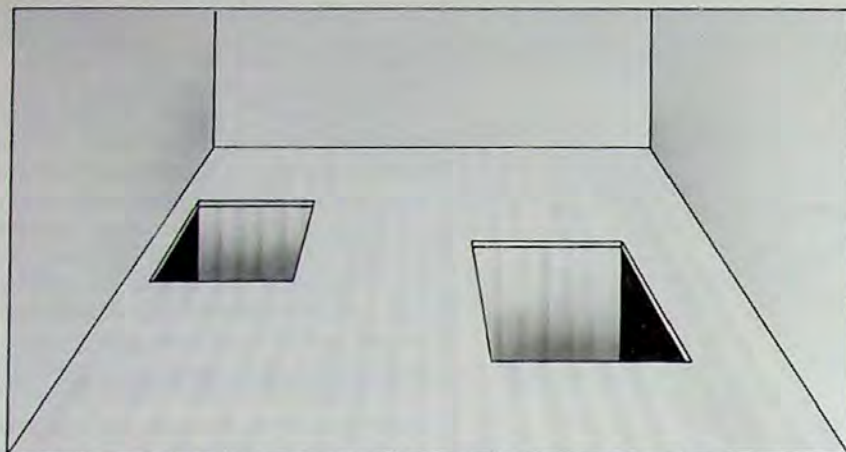
Actually, it's a relatively simple movement, but it's one of those little things we often forget. You have to think about using your hands as antennae, and do it consciously until it becomes a habit.

Knowing where the walls are will not only keep you from getting broken bones, it will also help you with your shots. In knowing where the wall is, you'll be better able to judge whether the approaching ball is going to hit the wall high, low, or not at all. As you go back, use your hands first and then lean on the wall with your shoulder, if necessary, to get under and behind the ball.

On those occasions when you are going back hard, that outstretched arm becomes something of a shock absorber. Keep your elbow bent, not locked into place, and just let it absorb the initial impact, thereby slowing you down a little. Try to distribute as much of the full impact over as large an area of your body as possible, rather than entirely on an elbow or shoulder. You will probably be headed into the wall with your shoulder. As you make contact, roll off, distributing the impact over the broad of your back. Sometimes, you can also lift a foot behind you as an additional cushion, or to push off the wall and get back into the rally.

Don't tense up or try to muscle the wall. Remember — it's not going anywhere. Stay loose, and let the presence of the wall alter your direction if need be. You will inevitably lose any kind of a head-on confrontation with a wall.

This brings us to those times when you may be heading into a wall full front. Sometimes you may find yourself diving or going hard laterally, to cut off a pass. In the first place, don't dive laterally when you are close enough to a wall to make contact. You may think it makes a great impression on spectators, but no point in a racquetball match is worth los-



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If you find that you can't keep from colliding with the back wall, try to absorb as much of the shock as possible over as large a portion of your body as possible.

ing the teeth in your head. If you must collide with a sidewall, do it standing up, so that you have at least a little control over your movement.

The procedure for going forward into a wall is a little different than the one we just talked about. In the first place, you don't want to absorb the shock of impact with the front of your body because of the greater likelihood that you will go into the wall with your face. No matter how bad you look now, that could certainly make it worse.

Therefore, you should take more impact with your arms, although you may be able to distribute a little throughout more of your body by way of your shoulders. The ever-present danger here is that you are going to get jammed up on your own racquet—something akin to throwing yourself onto your own spear. The most logical sequence is that you shoot first, *then* you go into the wall.

In order to avoid impaling yourself on your racquet, learn to quickly loosen your grip and flatten your racquet out on the wall immediately after your shot. Keep your racquet hand behind; hit it in a pushing motion. You'll make a helluva lot of noise, but you won't hurt anything. You can then push off and get right back into play.

To summarize, whenever it appears that you and a wall are destined for close contact:

- Try to go into it at an angle.
- “Read” the position of the wall with your hands, and take the initial blow with your arms.
- Try to distribute as much of the true impact over as broad an area as possible.
- Stay relaxed.

If you follow these simple precautions, it won't be the walls that stop your game. ■



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MOVING UP:

WHEN TO CHANGE DIVISIONS

By Sarah Green

EDITOR'S NOTE: Sarah Green is currently ranked second among professional women racquetball players. This is the third in an exclusive series of instructional articles for women which Green is writing for Racquetball.

After competing in racquetball for some time, most players become concerned with which division to enter, how soon to advance a division, and how to improve the fastest. Here, I offer some suggestions for making these choices.

Most of us begin playing competitively in the "Novice" division, though there are a few exceptions. If you have never really done anything athletic before, I suggest you enter the "Novice" division. It is for players who have never entered a tournament before, and therefore will give you an opportunity to see how well you function under the pressure of tournament play. On the other hand, if you have been involved in sports for a long time, especially racquet sports, you may want to begin competing in the "B" or "C" division. It depends on just how quickly you've picked up the game.

Aside from the "Novice" player, I recommend that all players enter two divisions in all tournaments that will allow you to do so. Play in the division in which you think you have a chance to win and also in the one above. If the tournament limits you to one division, only enter the lower division. Never enter a division that you know you will win with very little effort. And never enter one that you know you will lose in the first round, unless it is your second tournament event. (Of course, it can't be helped if you've just moved up to that division and you lose in the first round.)

Playing down a division will not give you good tournament experience. If you do not have to try hard to win, you'll have a tendency to fool around, take shots that will keep the ball in play and to play on par with the level of your opponent. You will find that this hurts your game in the long run, more than it helps it.

It is a tough decision as to when to move up a division, without playing both

events. There is no standard format, so there are many people who will never move up. And most will never move beyond the "Open" division.

Still, a good guideline to follow is that once you win a division, finish in the finals twice, or go to the semifinals three times, then move up. You will find many trophy hungry people who will not voluntarily move up. If this is the case in your division, the problem is usually solved with ease by explaining the situation to the tournament director. If he or she wants what is best for the tournament now and in the future, the player will be moved up, if appropriate.

You will find quite a discrepancy in divisions from in-house tournaments to city to state and to national tournaments. If you are an in-house high "B" player, you are most likely a low "B" citywide, and a "C" statewide and nationally. Your best bet is to enter two divisions to find out just where you stand. If you cannot enter two events, it's a good idea to write your past tournament experience on your entry blank, and ask the tournament director to place you in a division.

When it comes time to move up, you must prepare yourself mentally. The competition will be much tougher and the women will express greater competitiveness. The toughest part, in my opinion, is learning to lose. Jumping from a division in which you were able to play a whole weekend of matches without losing, to a division in which you play one match and then find yourself watching the rest of the weekend, can be difficult to accept.

The differences between various divisions can be noted by the speed of the ball, court coverage, the serve and the serve return. So often in lopsided matches you will see 10 to 15 aces by the winner. It's usually due to a combination of all the skills I've listed above. The skills, though, will improve with time. So don't get discouraged.

The best way to overcome these differences is by playing in tournaments, by practicing and by watching and playing better players. Also, it's important to play in as many tournaments as possible.

This includes in-house, local, state, regional and national tournaments, so you'll get a variety of competition. No matter how many league or ladder matches you play, it is not the same as playing in a tournament — the pressure isn't there. Of all the tournaments to play in, I recommend the Nationals, if possible, because that is where you'll play against the best players in your division from all over the country. It's also where you'll have the best opportunity to observe the best players in the world.

Watching good racquetball affords one of the best ways to improve your game. (Seeing is believing!) We can be told how to play, but actually seeing it done properly, and getting one's own perspective on how it is done, is a much quicker way to learn. So, any chance you get to see good players, especially the top amateurs and the pros, you should take advantage of.

Watching beginners and novices is also good. By observing their mistakes and bad habits, you become more aware of your own errors. You also get a good idea as to how to plan your strategy because you can observe how many good offensive opportunities they let go by.

Playing against competitors who are better than you is good experience, even if they beat you with ease. You must take advantage of the opportunity to learn from this experience, and not be discouraged because you are not as good as they. Analyze your game. Ask yourself what went wrong — what did she beat you on: her serve? Your serve return? Did she control front court too much? Did she pass you? Did she beat you with her pinch shots? Why didn't your pass shots work? Why didn't you get any aces? These are just a few of the questions you need to ask yourself so that you know which areas of your game need to improve. You should analyze all of your matches, whether you win or lose, so you can learn your strengths and weaknesses as well as those of your opponents.

It almost goes without saying that the quickest way to improve your game is through practice. No matter how much you hate it, you'll benefit if you go into the court and practice specific shots.

The best thing to do is to find a partner to work with. It is much less boring and you can appreciate what practice does for you by seeing what it has done to improve your partner. It is always much more difficult to recognize your own improvement.

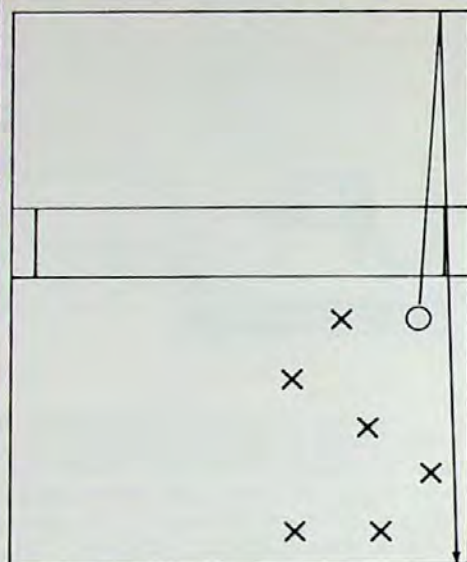
Here are five drills that I have found most beneficial to my game — the "S" drill, "backwall kills," "front wall re-kills," "ceiling kills" and "ceiling games."

First, the "S" drill. Practice pass shots down the walls from all points on the

court. To practice this, you must begin at the back service line, about three feet from the right wall. Just drop the ball and hit it straight in so that it comes back between you and the wall. Do this same shot from this same spot until you have hit 10 good ones (NO CHEATING!). Now step back away from the wall four steps and repeat, trying to hit the ball down the right wall. Remember, as you step away from the wall you must aim your shot a little further to the left on the front wall. Repeat this exercise in all seven spots until you have completed the "S." Repeat the entire drill on the left side to practice your backhand. This is also a good way to warm up before playing. To save time while warming up, just hit five good shots, though 10 is your best bet.

"Backwall kills" is a drill to improve your accuracy off the back. Bounce the ball so that it comes off the back wall and kill it before it bounces. Also, practice pinches and passes from here. This drill will be easier if you can get someone else to throw the ball for you.

"Front wall re-kills" are done to practice cutting the ball off before it goes to back court. Stand in the service box and hit the ball to the front wall so that it comes back about waist high. Take it on the fly and kill it. Also practice pinches



To do the "S" drill for practicing pass shots, begin at the back service line, about three feet from the right wall. Drop the ball and hit it straight so that it comes back between you and the wall.

and pass shots from this position.

The ceiling kill shot is a practice for killing a ceiling ball that comes up short. Practice by hitting a ceiling ball easily enough so that it comes up short and then kill it. Now incorporate this into a

ceiling game. This game is played to 11 points, with each rally scored. Begin by hitting the ball to the ceiling with the return also going to the ceiling. From then on you and your opponent should alternate shots until one of you hits a bad ceiling shot and then someone hits a kill shot. Take all offensive opportunities, but do not try to force them. You are working on your defensive game here. You should be learning when to take a shot up to the ceiling and when to go for a kill shot, depending on the location of your opponent. This will build greater confidence in your ceiling game.

To help gauge your progress, keep a diary of your practice sessions. Record who you played, the scores, which shots are working for you, which shots you are confident of, your practice time in minutes and what you worked on. Also, don't forget to include your off-court training (see *Racquetball*, May, 1980).

Periodically you should go back over what you did to prepare for each tournament and how you did in the tournament. This will give you an idea of how well suited your training program is for you, and how it should be altered. It will also help you gauge when to change divisions — and boost your ego when you see the improvement you've made! ■

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Anchorage Racquet Club
700 South Bragman
Anchorage, AK
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tc, ps, er

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Phoenix, AZ 85014
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sp, r, b, ps, er, n

CALIFORNIA

Marin Racquetball Club
4384 Bel Marin Keyes Blvd.
Novato, CA 94947
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, w/mw, r, b,
ps, er, n

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sb, ps, er, n

Kendall Racquetball and
Health Club
10631 SW 88th Street
Miami, FL 33176
305-596-0600
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, wsr,
msr, r, b, sb, ps, er, n

Sportrooms of Plantation
8489 NW 17th Ct.
Plantation, FL 33322
305-472-2608
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, wsr,
msr, r, b, sb, ps, er, n

HAWAII

The Courthouse Racquetball
Club
45-608 Kam Highway
Kaneohe, HI 96744
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, sb,
ps, er, n

ILLINOIS

Court Club of C'oele
Old Rt. 13 East
Carbondale, IL 62901
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, tc, r, b,
ps, er, n

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston Tennis Club
653 Summer Street
Boston, MA 02210
617-269-4300
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, tc, r,
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MINNESOTA

Exercise Dynamics
Old Highway 71 North
Bemidji, MN 56601
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wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, ps, er

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Racquetline Court Club
17-10 River Road
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, msr

Racquetball 23 and Spa
318 Route 23
Pompton Plains, NJ 07444
201-839-8823
wlr, mlr, ws, ww, mw,
ps, er, n

Ricochet Racquet Club
219 St. Nicholas Avenue
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
201-753-2300
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, ps, er, n

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Point Set Tennis and
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225 Howells Rd.
Bay Shore, NY 11706
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ps, er, n

The King's Court
Racquetball Club
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Brooklyn, NY 11234
212-338-3300
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, tc, sb, ps, er, n

The Pelham Racquetball and
Health Club
6 Pelham Parkway
Pelham Manor, NY 10803
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, wsr,
msr, r, b, sb, ps, er, n

PENNSYLVANIA

The Supreme Courts
90 West Chestnut St.
Washington, PA 15301
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw,
ps, er, n

TEXAS

Killeen Athletic Club
405 South 2nd
Killeen, TX 76541
wlr, mlr, ws, ww, mw, msr, sp,
sb, ps, er, n

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wlr, mlr, ws, ms, tc, r, b, er, n

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For more information on how to list a court club on this page, call Kittie at 901-345-8000.

Scorecard

RACQUETBALL welcomes all tournaments to report their results. Please list all rounds of each event. Scorecard will report as many rounds of each tournament as space allows.

For reasons of space and clarity, tournament results submitted for listing in "Scorecard" should be arranged as shown in the example below. Entries using this format stand a better chance of being included in the "Scorecard" section.

Men's Open

Semifinals: John Smith over Peter Smith 21-7, 21-15;
John Doe over Peter Doe 21-20, 21-13.
Finals: John Smith over John Doe 21-20, 13-21, 21-16.



L to R Dave Fiorini, Dave Bishop, Gene Whitfield, Damien Davis.

AARA PENNSYLVANIA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

February 29-March 2
Allentown Racquetball Club
Allentown, Pennsylvania

Men's Open:

1st: Tom Ranker; 2nd: Craig Guinter; 3rd: Al Plummer; 4th: Dan Brannen.

Men's B: 1st: Paul Evans; 2nd: John Dorsheimer; 3rd: Joe Borlich; 4th: John Greer.

Men's 30-34: 1st: Jim Jones; 2nd: Rich Zewe;

Men's 35-39: 1st: Harold Powell; 2nd: Jere Willey.

Men's 40-44: 1st: Jay Krevsky; 2nd: Carmen Felicetti; 3rd: Joe Jackman; 4th: Rudy VanHulten.

Men's 45-49: 1st: Jay Krevsky; 2nd: Dick Hanlon; 3rd: George Kroll; 4th: Jim Gomery.

Men's 50+: 1st: Jim Gomery; 2nd: Bob Eazor; 3rd: Leo Borg; 4th: Al Chassard.

Men's Open Doubles: 1st: Tom Ranker-Mark Rapoport; 2nd: Russ Montague-Jim Young.

Men's 35+ Doubles: 1st: Joel Babkes-Rip Miller; 2nd: Gene Grapes-Al Schattner; 3rd: Luke St. Onge-Jere Willey; 4th: Jim Pruitt-Leo Zamprelli.

Boys 17-and-Under: 1st: Tom Bevelock; 2nd: Chris Bulckle; 3rd: Adam Schwartz; 4th: Peter Wong.

Boys 15-and-Under: 1st: Tom Bevelock; 2nd: Dan McGill; 3rd: Kevin Hickey; 4th: Adam Schwartz.

Boys 13-and-Under: 1st: Tom Salvaggio; 2nd: Robert McKinney; 3rd: Frank Duschler; 4th: Charles Minter.

Juniors 10-and-Under (Boys and Girls): 1st: Christian Toft; 2nd: Shane Musselman; 3rd: John Humphries; 4th: Kim Pinola.

Women's Open: 1st: Lucy Zarfos; 2nd: Molly O'Brien; 3rd: Cindy Baxter; 4th: Pat Dorsheimer.

Women's B: 1st: Janet Peterson; 2nd: Robyn Swayze; 3rd: Myrna Burns; 4th: Patti Whiteside.

Women's 30-34: 1st: Eileen Turiak; 2nd: Kathy Lentz.

Women's 35+: 1st: Nancy Katz; 2nd: Carol Hopson.

Women's 17-and-16: 1st: Tammy Hajjar; 2nd: Toni Bevelock; 3rd: Dorothy Fishel; 4th: Beth Latini.

Women's Open Doubles: 1st: Linda Kennedy-Molly O'Brien; 2nd: Cindy Baxter-Mary Musewice.

AARA ARKANSAS STATE SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

Don Kessinger's
March 27-30
Little Rock, Arkansas

Men's D: David Bockelman; 2nd: George Helm; 3rd: Gary Couch; 4th: Thomas Kelley.

Men's Novice: 1st: Jeffery Price; 2nd: Curtis Bailey; 3rd: Jerry Dixon; 4th: Jerry Ashburn.

Men's Juniors 17-and-Under:

1st: Jon Harlan; 2nd: Jeff Slusarek; 3rd: Matt Slusarek; 4th: Randy Maynard.

Women's Open: 1st: Cheryl Rutledge; 2nd: Lisa Collins; 3rd: Martha Roberson; 4th: Vicki Dailey.

Women's B: 1st: Claudia Garrigus; 2nd: Janice Base; 3rd: Jan Johnson; 4th: Jackie Ragsdale.

Women's C: 1st: Karon Bullock; 2nd: Jay Storey; 3rd: Debbie White; 4th: Linda McGhee.

Women's Novice: 1st: Tammy Wald; 2nd: Rita Sparks; 3rd: Marcy Catsauls; 4th: Jan Maxwell.

Men's Open: 1st: Fred Aylett; 2nd: Bob Daniel; 3rd: Jim Thompson; 4th: Jim Hunt.

Men's B: 1st: Richard Gossman; 2nd: Rob Walton; 3rd: Alan Zalta; 4th: Chris Laux.

Men's C: 1st: Steve Hatcher; 2nd: Brian Rea; 3rd: Robert Soto; 4th: Tommy Ruff.

Men's Seniors: 1st: Gary Mills; 2nd: Jerry McKinnis; 3rd: Jim Hunt; 4th: Chester Phillips.

Men's D: 1st: Rob Walton; 2nd: Jim Watts; 3rd: Charles Darnell; 4th: Bill Felix.

AARA NEW YORK STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Niagara Falls Racquetball Club
February 29-March 2
Niagara Falls, New York

Men's Open: 1st: Charles Garfinkel; 2nd: John Moshides; 3rd: Jim Winterton; 4th: LaVerne Dickinson.

Men's B: 1st: Tab Mak; 2nd: Larry Geracitano; 3rd: Charles Sargent; 4th: Dave Holler.

Men's C: 1st: Gary Pescillo; 2nd: George Riscile; 3rd: John Cieslewicz; 4th: Sam Clannarano.

Men's Novice: 1st: Ron Cooke; 2nd: John Lamb; 3rd: Ken Habicht; 4th: Mike Casella.

Men's Seniors: 1st: Chuck Wurzer; 2nd: Hermann Neumeier; 3rd: Don King; 4th: Joe LoTempio.

Men's Doubles: 1st: Paul Adams-Don Scales; 2nd: Joe LoTempio-Don DeStefano.

Women's Open: 1st: Kathy Witzig; 2nd: Carol McFetridge; 3rd: Mary Ann Cluess; 4th: Elena Mildenberger.

Women's B: 1st: Calla Moody; 2nd: Catherine Nichols; 3rd: Carol Nestle; 4th: Sue Pike.

Women's C: 1st: Laura King; 2nd: Andrea Natal; 3rd: Bettie Richards; 4th: Barbara Jankowska.

Women's Novice: 1st: Lesley Richards; 2nd: Margaret McFetridge; 3rd: Candy Kane; 4th: Judy Miller.

Junior Boys 14-and-Under: 1st: Sam Battaglia; 2nd: David Taylor; 3rd: Woody Janese; 4th: Tim Doyle.

Junior Boys 10-and-Under: 1st: Cindy Doyle; 2nd: Colleen MacDonald; 3rd: Brad Garfinkel; 4th: David Meyer.

Junior Girls 17-and-Under: 1st: Carol McFetridge; 2nd: Laura King; 3rd: Pam Gonyeo; 4th: Kathy Kohnke.

HAWAII STATE SINGLES

March 14-17

Oahu Athletic Club

Honolulu, Hawaii

Men's Open:

Quarterfinals: R. Lau over M. Rezentes 21-5, 21-8; N. Akau over T. Geary 21-19, 21-17; W. Cox over J. Decker 21-12, 21-13; O. Lovell over J. Lain 21-6, 21-16.

Semifinals: R. Lau over O. Lovell 21-8, 13-21, 11-1; W. Cox over N. Akau 21-6, 21-20.

Finals: R. Lau over W. Cox 21-18, 21-16.

Women's Open:

Quarterfinals: L. Nalual over R. Halli 21-5, 21-8; D. Feary over G. Beach 21-0, 21-1; B. Seff over D. Gibbs 21-15, 21-2; S. Takayasu over C. Lieban 21-5, 21-12.

Semifinals: L. Nalual over B. Seff 21-3, 21-14; D. Feary over S. Takayasu 21-0, 21-17.

Finals: D. Feary over L. Nalual 7-21, 21-19, 11-10.

EXECUTIVE PARK OPEN

Executive Park Athletic Club

Colorado Springs, Colorado

March 21-23

Men's A:

Semifinals: John Mooney over John Vohland 21-13, 15-21, 15-21; Paul Salazer over Gary Bratt 21-13, 21-18.

Men's B:

Semifinals: Jim Turner over Rock Doddridge 21-20, 21-14; Gerry Brannum over Neal Armore 21-20, 18-21, 15-9.

Finals: Jim Turner over Gerry Brannum 21-2, 21-7.

Men's C:

Semifinals: Chris Heyden over Martin Ayaca 21-12, 11-21, 15-5; Al Horton over Greg Sweetman 21-17, 12-21, 15-14.

Finals: Al Horton over Chris Heyden 9-21, 21-8, 15-11.

Men's D:

Semifinals: Dave Perry over William Blaylock 21-7, 21-13; Paschal Jackson over James Millard 21-8, 21-13.

Finals: Dave Perry over Paschal Jackson 21-13, 21-14.

Men's Seniors:

Semifinals: Kenneth Stumpf over Gerald Beathe 21-14, 21-12; John Ormanoski over Red Horton 21-20, 21-17.

Finals: John Ormanoski over Kenneth Stumpf 21-20, 21-17.

Men's Masters:

Semifinals: Jim Thieman over Leroy Drake 21-9, 21-15; George Dwyer over Jerry Webb 21-18, 21-16.

Finals: Jim Thieman over George Dwyer 21-5, 21-9.

Women's B:

Semifinals: Stacy Snyder over Pat Mather 21-16, 21-6; Barb Bergin over Gail Willingham 21-18, 11-21, 15-13.

Finals: Barb Bergin over Stacy Snyder 21-18, 11-21, 15-13.

Women's C:

Semifinals: K.T. Cobb over Kathy Fisher 21-19, 4-21, 15-10; Debbie Thompson over Darlene Risk 21-3, 21-20.

Finals: Debbie Thompson over K.T. Cobb 21-10, 17-21, 15-12.

Women's D:

Semifinals: Sandra Snyder over Rhonda Wasinger 21-4, 21-9; Vicki Bloom over Valerie Laha 21-11, 11-21, 15-11.

Finals: Vicki Bloom over Sandra Snyder 21-11, 11-21, 15-11.

UNION PLANTERS/MEMPHIS STATE OPEN

March 6-9

Memphis State University

Memphis, Tennessee

Men's Open:

Quarterfinals: John Dunlap over Stuart Smith 21-5, 21-3; Dan Cohen over Jim Skinner 21-8, 21-11; Scott Schafer over Steve Smith 21-10, 21-10; Randy Stafford over Keith Blackmon 21-13, 21-14.

Semifinals: John Dunlap over Dan Cohen 21-13, 21-5; Scott Schafer over Randy Stafford 21-17, 21-13.

Finals: John Dunlap over Scott Schafer 18-21, 21-12, 15-11.

Third: Dan Cohen over Randy Stafford, forfeit.

Junior Vets:

Quarterfinals: Larry Liles over Travis Williams 21-3, 21-6; Lee Shaw over Ron Stephens 21-7, 21-12; Kip Parrish over Bill Gurner 21-15, 21-11; Jim Thoni over Arch Johnston 21-5, 21-15.

Semifinals: Larry Liles over Lee Shaw 21-2, 21-7; Jim Thoni over Kip Parrish 21-15, 21-17.

Finals: Larry Liles over Jim Thoni 12-21, 21-12, 15-14.

Third: Kip Parrish over Lee Shaw 21-13, 21-8.

Women's Open:

Quarterfinals: Gail Ferguson over Candi Gavin 15-21,

Racquetball Magazine is seeking articles and freelance writers. Articles can cover everything from new developments in the game to interesting racquetball personalities. How-to articles, on improving your backhand, returning serves, etc., are also welcome. Please send manuscripts (along with a stamped, self-addressed envelope) to: P.O. Box 16566, Memphis, Tn. 38116. For further information, call Nancy Crowell at (901) 345-8000.

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21-4, 15-8; Patsy Ingle over Emille Pinto 21-17, 21-9; Marie Copley over Harriet Lavenue 21-0, 21-14; Sharon Fanning over Bonnie Blanton 21-2, 21-3.

Semifinals: Gail Ferguson over Patsy Ingle 15-21, 21-4, 15-8; Sharon Fanning over Marie Copley 21-10, 21-16.

Finals: Sharon Fanning over Gail Ferguson 17-21, 21-15, 15-8.

Third: Patsy Ingle over Marie Copley, forfeit.

Men's B:

Quarterfinals: Tim Long over Ron Copely 21-16, 21-10; Ron Harris over Paul Wilson 21-14, 12-21, 15-10; Ben Anderson over Dennis Fong 21-15, 21-1; Andy Avgeris over Ron Smith 21-16, 12-21, 15-6.

Semifinals: Tim Long over Ron Harris 21-8, 21-15; Andy Avgeris over Ben Anderson 21-18, 21-13.

Finals: Andy Avgeris over Tim Long 20-21, 21-15, 15-8.

Third: Ron Harris over Ben Anderson, forfeit.

Women's C:

Quarterfinals: Mary Green over Mona Jones 15-21, 21-7, 15-5; Debra Heaston over Shelia Roberts 21-11, 18-21, 15-4; LeAnn Summer over Barbara Allen 21-13, 21-16; Claire Winker over Peggy Hall 16-21, 21-1, 15-14.

Semifinals: Mary Green over Debra Heaston 21-13, 21-17; Claire Winker over LeAnn Summer 21-6, 21-6.

Finals: Claire Winker over Mary Green 21-10, 21-13.

Third: LeAnn Summer over Debra Heaston, forfeit.

Men's Seniors:

Quarterfinals: Lenord Hines over Chuck Mazzone 21-14, 21-10; Luke St. Onge over George Blasingame 21-18, 21-9; Ron Barassi over Ed Lowrance 21-9, 11-21, 15-4; Chuck Minor over Jack Ebbitt 21-19, 21-20.

Semifinals: Lenord Hines over Luke St. Onge 14-21, 21-12, 15-5; Ron Barassi over Chuck Minor 12-21, 21-20, 15-14.

Finals: Lenord Hines over Ron Barassi 20-21, 21-5, 15-9.

Third: Luke St. Onge over Chuck Minor, forfeit.

Men's Masters:

Quarterfinals: William B. Tanner over Cecil Sellers 21-2, 21-4; Stanley Starr over Frank Lewis 21-14, 21-9; Lenord Weiner over Jack Fulton 21-1, 21-2; Ed Lowrance over Robert Thornton 21-16, 21-3.

Semifinals: Bill Tanner over Stanley Starr 21-4, 21-15; Lenord Weiner over Ed Lowrance, forfeit.

Finals: Bill Tanner over Lenord Weiner 21-10, 21-6.

Third: Stanley Starr over Ed Lowrance, forfeit.

Women's Open Doubles:

Quarterfinals: Renee Trammell-Sharon Fanning, bye; Mitzie Wright-LeAnn Summer over Susan Hanley-Mary Ogilvie 21-13, 21-11; Shelia Roberts-Gail Ferguson over Debbie Isbell-Bonnie Blanton 21-6, 21-14; Marie Copley-Carol Lowe over Sally Runyan-Barbara Allen 21-7, 21-6.

Semifinals: Renee Trammell-Sharon Fanning over Mitzie Wright-LeAnn Summer 21-1, 21-0; Marie Copley-Carol Lowe over Shelia Roberts-Gail Ferguson 21-15, 21-12.

Finals: Renee Trammell-Sharon Fanning over Marie Copley-Carol Lowe 21-9, 21-4.

Women's B:

Quarterfinals: Renee Trammell over Yvette Jordan 21-5, 21-6; Nita Flack over Claire Winker 18-21, 21-13, 15-7; Debbie Isbell over Mary Ann Aquadro 21-11, 21-0; Candi Gavin over Kate Randall 21-7, 21-10.

Semifinals: Renee Trammell over Nita Flack 21-11, 21-4; Debbie Isbell over Candi Gavin 21-17, 21-19.

Finals: Renee Trammell over Debbie Isbell 21-13, 21-9.

Third: Nita Flack over Candi Gavin, forfeit.

Men's Open Doubles:

Quarterfinals: Larry Liles-John Dunlap over Steve Smith-Randy Stafford 21-10, 21-17; Jim Thoni-Kip Parrish over Lenord Hines-Chris Moore 21-8, 21-18; Mike Gora-Dan Cohen over Bill Gurner-Lee Shaw 21-12, 21-20; Blake Soule-Scott Schafer over Pat Conner-Luke St. Onge 21-7, 21-15.

Semifinals: Larry Liles-John Dunlap over Jim Thoni-Kip Parrish 21-8, 21-4; Blake Soule-Scott Schafer over Mike Gora-Dan Cohen 21-16, 21-18.

Finals: Larry Liles-John Dunlap over Scott Schafer-Blake Soule 21-9, 21-12.

Third: Dan Cohen-Mike Gora over Jim Thoni-Kip Parrish, forfeit.

Men's C:

Quarterfinals: Fred Heros over Michael Davis 21-20, 21-19; Andy Roberts over Mike Platt 21-8, 21-12; Joel Hobson over Robert Pinto 21-13, 21-6; Gene Cohen over Bob Herring 21-6, 21-7.

Semifinals: Andy Roberts over Fred Heros 21-7, 14-21, 15-7; Joel Hobson over Gene Cohen 15-21, 21-13, 15-1.

Finals: Andy Roberts over Joel Hobson 21-19, 21-8.

Third: Fred Heros over Gene Cohen.

1ST ANNUAL BIG 10 CHAMPIONSHIPS
Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio

Men's Open:

Semifinals: Unschorfer over Cox; Warren over Szafranski

Finals: Unsorfer over Warren 21-12, 18-21, 11-0.
Third: Szafranski over Cox.
Women's Open:
Semifinals: Corroto over Kenney; Hilbish over Paris.
Finals: Corroto over Hilbish 21-20, 21-16.
Third: Paris over Kenney.
Men's Open Doubles:
Semifinals: Szafranski-Pearson over Zamudio-Caseldine 21-4, 21-13; Drager-Pennington over Unsorfer-Cox 16-21, 21-19, 11-9.
Finals: Szafranski-Pearson over Drager-Pennington 21-18, 21-14.
Third: Unsorfer-Cox over Zamudio-Caseldine 21-14, 21-10.
Men's B: 1st: Jim Middleton; 2nd: Dave Silk; 3rd: Bill Warren.
Men's C: 1st: Glenn Lopate; 2nd: John Fortener; 3rd: Ray Zamudio.
Women's B: 1st: Nancy Corroto; 2nd: Cathy Simonson; 3rd: Karen Bohman.
Women's C: 1st: Cathy Simonson; 2nd: Mary Lee Reisinger; 3rd: Carla Imel.

1980 ALBERTA WINTER GAMES
 Grande Prairie, Alberta
 February 28-March 1
 Canada

Men's Open:
Finals: Bruce Wiber over Ryan Blackmore 21-11, 21-3.
Third: E. Danielson.
Men's Seniors:
Finals: Tom Wilkinson over Barry Harper 21-13, 21-13.
Third: Dale Aasen.
Junior Boys 16 to 18:
Finals: Scott Lineker over Murray Belzberg 21-2, 21-2.
Third: Maury Hill.
Junior Boys 13 to 15:
Finals: Paul Shanks over Rodger Harripersad 21-7, 13-21, 11-8.
Third: Chris Aasen.
Men's Masters:
Finals: Fred Briscoe over Ed Shaske 21-10, 21-16.
Third: Bob Dunham.
Women's Seniors:
Finals: Joan Harripersad over Joan Ennis 21-12, 21-10.
Third: Pam Anderson.
Women's Open:
Finals: Donna Harrison over Caroline Sainchuk 21-10, 21-10.
Third: Jody Thumert.
Junior Girls 13 to 15:
Finals: Belinda Archibald over Nancy Johnstone 21-10, 21-5.
Third: Joanne Lenehan.
Junior Girls 16 to 18:
Finals: Elaine Desilets over Lianne Trewin 16-21, 21-14, 11-9.
Third: Bonnie Hamilton.

MAINE STATE OPEN
 March 27-30

Men's Open: 1st: Mike Luciw; 2nd: Steve Larrabee; Consolation: Norm Bernier over Alan Hess 21-19, 21-10.
Men's B: 1st: M. Violette; 2nd: D. DeVarney; Consolation: D. Cushman over R. Lewis 21-9, 21-6.
Men's C: 1st: S. Burnham; 2nd: J. Constantine; Consolation: C. Gorman over S. Kabel 21-19, 21-18.
Men's Novice: 1st: K. Coppens; 2nd: P. Neadeau; Consolation: M. Blair over L. Dillen 21-12, 12-21, 15-8.
Men's Seniors: 1st: B. Folsom; 2nd: Waltz; Consolation: T. Jones over L. Gallagher 21-5, 21-12.
Men's Masters: 1st: M. Friedman; 2nd: F. Kirkpatrick.
Men's Juniors 17-and-under: 1st: T. Fournier; 2nd: P. Giguere; Consolation: J. Salter over L. Hall 21-19, 21-19.
Women's Open: 1st: E. Erlich; 2nd: B. Olson. Consolation: N. Davis over S. Belanger 15-5, 15-12.
Men's Open Doubles: 1st: M. Luciw-S. Larrabee; 2nd: B. Lewis-R. Brown.
Women's B: 1st: B. Welton; 2nd: M. Giglio. Consolation: S. Huggin over L. Ruddy 21-12, 21-14.
Women's C: 1st: K. Downes; 2nd: L. Olson. Consolation: B. Roy over G. McKinney 21-16, 21-15.
Women's Novice: 1st: J. Smith; 2nd: C. Gerrior; Consolation: R. Hayes over J. Berbel 21-9, 21-13.
Women's Seniors: 1st: M. Kelly; 2nd: G. Rosenfeld; Consolation: C. Wiseman over P. Langmaid 21-7, 21-13.
Women's Juniors 17-and-under: 1st: L. Fitzpatrick; 2nd: L. Olson; Consolation: H. Spaulding over T. White 15-6, 8-15, 15-8.
Women's Open Doubles: 1st: N. Davis-M. Kelly; 2nd: L. Fitzpatrick-B. Olson.

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Trenway

Head

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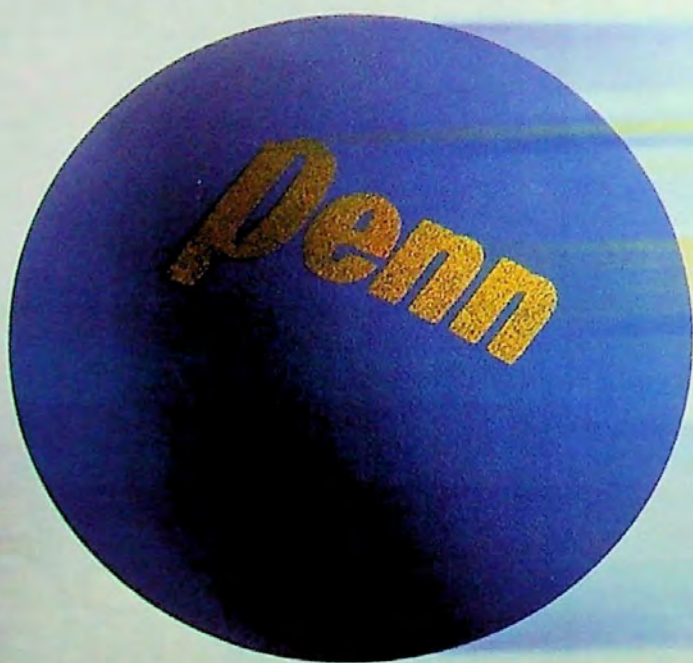
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