

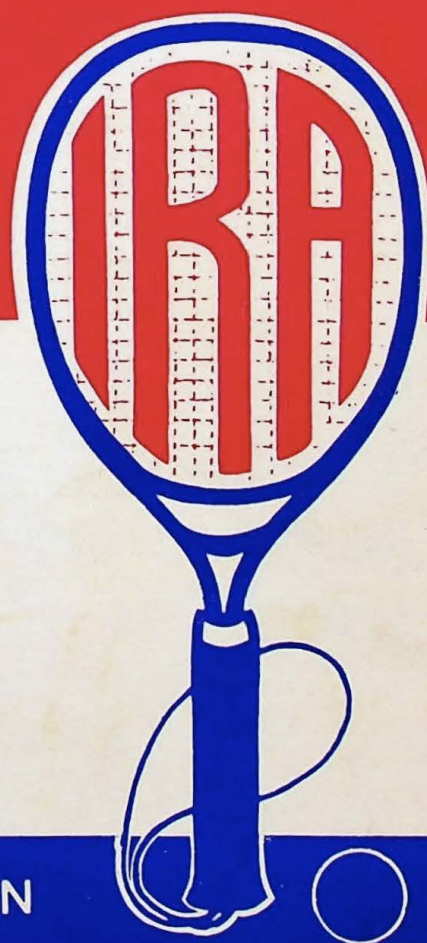
See and Play the Champions!

Tanner National Pro Am Racquetball Tournament

Memphis State University
Memphis, Tennessee
December 13-15, 1974

Souvenir Program \$1.00

INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION





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a message from the Sponsor....

Memphis can be proud of a lot of things in the world of sports... the Danny Thomas Memphis Classic, the Memphis Blues Divisional Champions, the Southmen Conference Champions plus countless other athletic achievements which continue to put Memphis in the national spotlight... and now, a national Racquetball tournament!

Our local racquetball association boasts the largest enrollment of any chapter in the International Racquetball Association in the United States. The strength of this membership has made it possible for Memphis to be selected as a host city for one of six internationally recognized tournaments. Pros and amateurs have gathered from all over the United States to join our own nationally rated local contingent to make this an outstanding tournament.

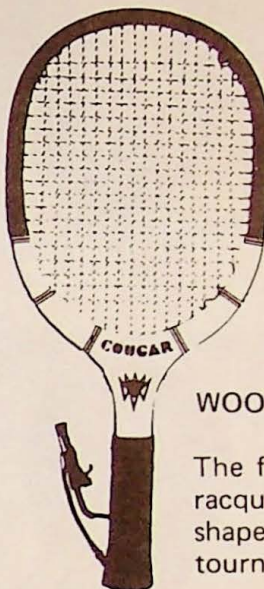
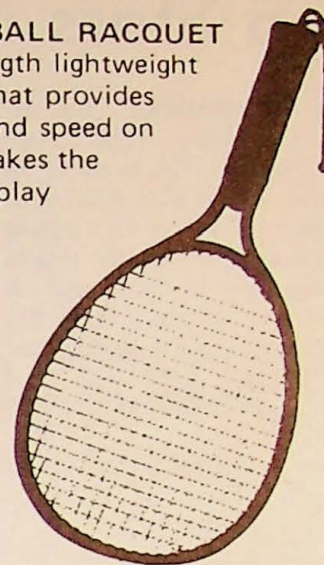
We at Tanner are proud to be the sponsors of this event and hope we have made some small contribution toward the continuing growth of this young but outstanding sport of racquetball.

Good luck players and come back again next year.

William B. Tanner

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Top Stars in Pro-Am Racquetball

BILL SCHMIDTKE International Singles Champion 1971-'74. The IRA honored 32 year old Bill as Male Athlete of the Year 1974 after his thrilling performance for the IRA singles championship in San Diego. A tremendous clutch player, Bill has also won many regional and state titles.



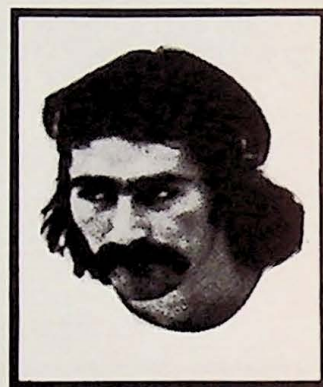
CHARLIE BRUMFIELD International Singles Champion 1972-'73 International Doubles Champion 1973, Bearded, bespectacled Charlie is a 26 year old San Diego attorney. Winner of every major racquetball championship in the world, Charlie is a fearful player with his controlled passing-shot style.



BUD MUEHLEISEN 4-Time International Singles Champion. A charter member of the Racquetball Hall of Fame, Bud is a dentist in San Diego. "Doctor Bud" also has to his credit Seniors championships for 1972 and '73.



STEVE STRANDEMO International Doubles Champion 1974. Quickly gaining a reputation as one of the top young players in the game, Steve was Canadian Klondike Champion in 1973 and reached the quarter-finals in the 1974 IRA Singles.



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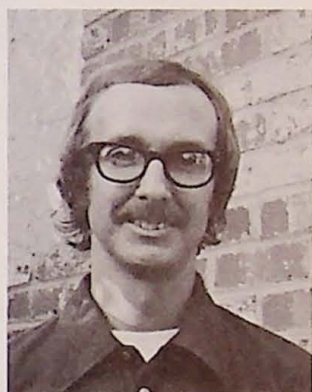
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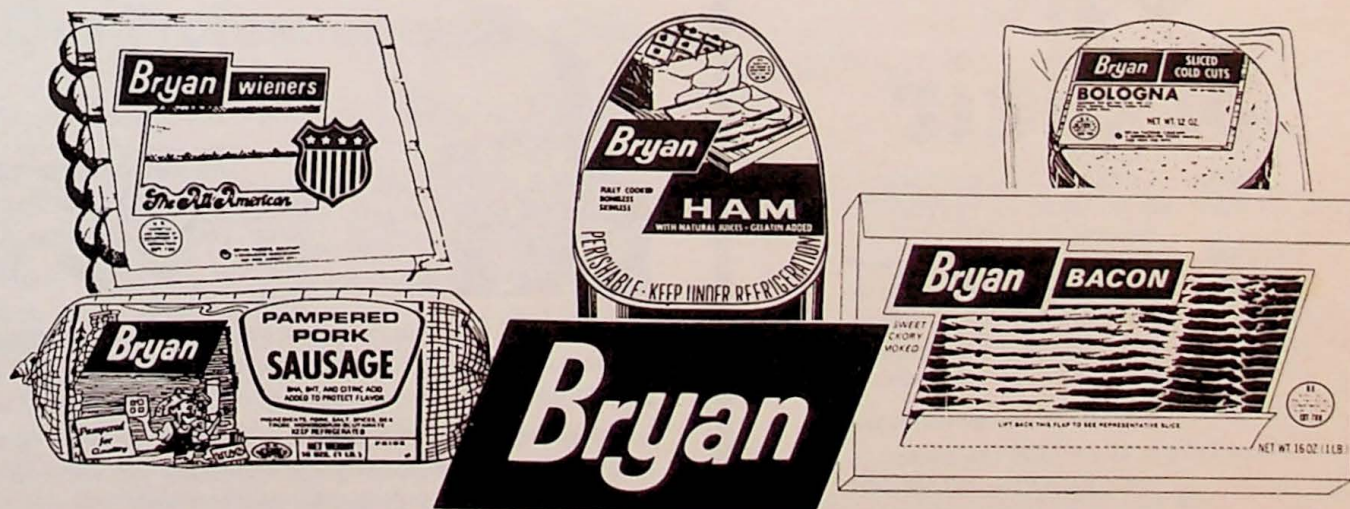
BILL THURMAN Western Regional Finalist 1973. Bill has won many tournaments in California and the Pacific Northwest and was a quarterfinalist in the 1974 IRA Singles.



BILL DUNN Three-State Singles Champion 1974. Winner of many regional events, Bill was a Canadian Klondike medalist in 1973.



CRAIG McCOY Western Regional Champion 1974. Still a senior in high school and a promising racquetball player, Craig holds numerous trophies from California and Pacific Northwest events.



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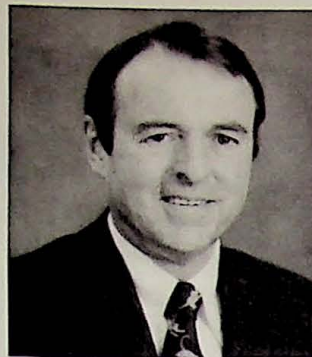
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International Racquetball President DeWitt M. Shy

Dear Racquetball Players,

It is my sincere pleasure on behalf of my friend, Bill Tanner, our generous sponsor and rabid racquetball fan and player, and Memphis State our great host facility... to welcome all racquetball players to Memphis and the 1975 Tanner Pro-Am Racquetball Tournament. We wish all of you the best of luck and hope you enjoy your visit.

Reminiscing a moment... it's positively mind boggling... the fantastic growth racquetball has enjoyed. From virtually an unheard of sport played by only a handful of players seven years ago to a group of avid players that now number in the tens of thousands.

Here is a sport that "suits the times." At today's pace when it's hard to find the time to eat, a person can get an exhausting but satisfying work-out, a prerequisite for good body tone, in a matter of minutes by playing racquetball. The sport is great enough to carry its own weight but with a strong I.R.A. — the players association — promoting it... the combination is absolutely unbeatable.

Again, good luck and have fun... and thanks Bill... and thanks Memphis State.

DeWitt M. Shy
President

Memphis IRA President Welcomes Players, Guests



The Memphis Racquetball Association's 400 members welcome you to our first Tanner Pro-Am Racquetball Tournament.

We hope you will find everything good in keeping with the past tournaments and really enjoy your stay as well as the play. If you need something and don't see it, ask one of us.

The M.R.A. officers want to thank each of you for attending and participating and especially we want to thank Bill Tanner for all of his and his staff's efforts.

Again, Welcome to Memphis!!!

Sincerely,
Memphis Racquetball Association
Smith Schippers, President



Myron Roderick Our Professional Leader

Myron Roderick was a phenomenally successful wrestling coach at Oklahoma State University for 13 years and his success continues on the racquetball court. He has won a host of major tournaments—National Outdoor 3-Wall Seniors, National Invitational IRA Senior Doubles with Bud Muehleisen, Oklahoma State Championships, Southwestern Regionals Senior Championships as well as a second place in the National Invitational IRA Senior Singles.

In a recent letter, Mr. Roderick says: "Welcome to Memphis and the first Tanner Pro-Am Open. I would like to express my appreciation to William B. Tanner for sponsoring this tournament and helping the International Racquetball Association make it a success. I want each player to know that if there is anything the IRA can do here at the tournament or any other time, do not hesitate to let us know. Again, welcome, and enjoy the great hospitality that is always shown us when we hold a racquetball tournament in Memphis."

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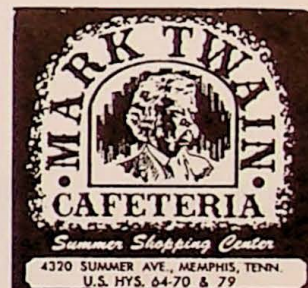
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Randy Stafford, John Hennen,	\$11,200 TOTAL
Myron Roderick	

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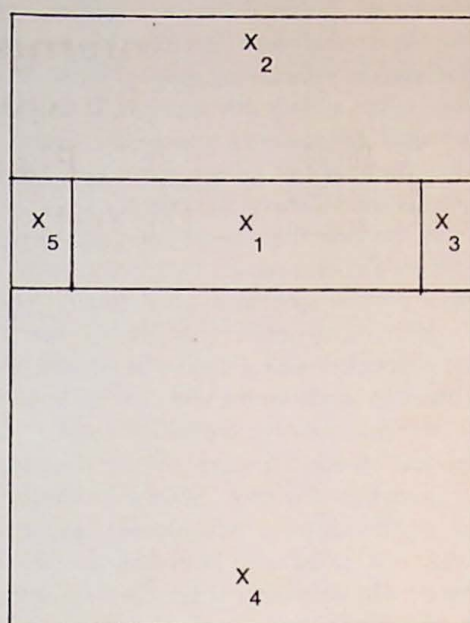
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WHY PRACTICE?

Because That's the Name of the Game

Why should a racquetball player spend time practicing such fundamental skills as serving, stroking, shot-making, backwall play and footwork? Psychological studies indicate that over-learning needs to take place before an individual can execute a motor skill correctly, i.e. the skill must be practiced until it becomes part of his neuromuscular pattern.

No amount of knowledge and understanding of the game can substitute for the practicing of these fundamental skills. They should be practiced until they can be performed automatically. The racquet should feel natural in the hand and literally become a part of the player. The use of repetitive drills is an excellent way of developing these skills. In this way contact between racquet and ball will be coordinated to permit good timing and stroking.

For efficient learning to take place make your practice sessions meaningful by having a plan of attack and following it intently. To relieve the monotony that often accompanies repetitive drills, try to imagine or simulate actual playing conditions. However, do not practice when tired. For best results, work progressively mastering the easier drills before moving on to more complex.

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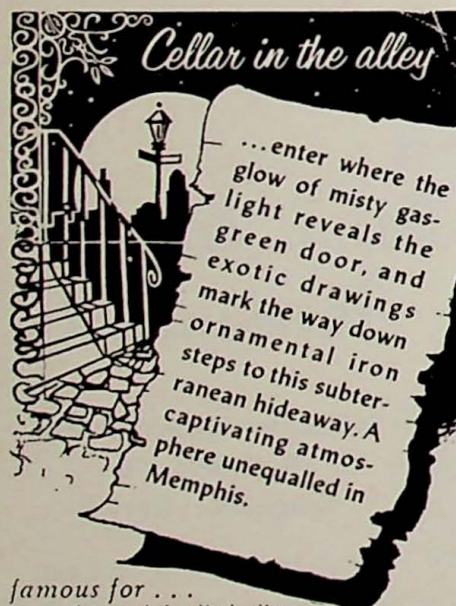
Racquetball on the Move

From a modest beginning in Connecticut in the early 1950's, racquetball has enjoyed an enormous growth. The International Racquetball Association estimates that in the last 5 years the racquetball-playing public expanded to half a million. And what a diversified public it attracts—doctors, lawyers, wallpaperers, wrestlers, housewives, even former roller skating stars, running the gamut from kids to seniors... a testimony to the sport's universal appeal.

1974 was the year that saw racquetball emerge from the ranks of obscure amateur sports. According to IRA President DeWitt Shy, "I knew racquetball had finally 'come of age.' The sport... the equipment... the players, particularly the players, had developed such a degree of finesse, accompanied by superb physical conditioning and stamina, I was convinced racquetball was now ready for professionalism."

"Racquetball needs exposure to the American people," adds IRA Executive Director Myron Roderick, "and for exposure on a wide scale we must present racquetball through television. We have talked with television people and they tell us their interest will be greater if we have an outstanding pro circuit... even greater if we have a pro-am celebrity tournament."

And greatness is our goal. So far, eight of the top players in the world have signed contracts with the IRA and a spectacular series of six pro-amateur tournaments, including Stern's Pro-Am Celebrity in Dallas, make up the 1975 season. Racquetball has had an exciting history and an even brighter future is before us and "you ain't seen nothin'."



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IRA Pro-Am Racquetball 1974-'75 Schedule

Sportcraft Pro-Am Open
Louisville Athletic Club
Louisville, Kentucky
October 25-27, 1974

Sports Unlimited Pro-Am Open
Supreme Court No. 2
San Carlos, California
November 15-17, 1974

Memphis Pro-Am Open
Memphis State University
Memphis, Tennessee
December 13-15, 1974

Champion-Vittert Pro-Am Open
St. Louis, Missouri
January 17-19, 1975

Stern's Pro-Am Celebrity
Stern Health-Racquetball Club
Dallas, Texas
February 13-16, 1975

Ektelon Pro-Am Open
Houston, Texas
March 14-16, 1975

St. Louis Pro-Am Open
St. Louis, Missouri
May 30-June 1, 1975

For Your Info:

Racquetball is played on a handball court (enclosed, 40 feet long by 20 by 20) with basic handball rules and scoring. The ball is slightly larger and softer than a handball, and the players hit it with a stringed racket about 18 inches long. This saves wear and tear on the palms, although sometimes a player is "waffle-faced," or struck flush by an opponent's racket. . . accidentally, of course.

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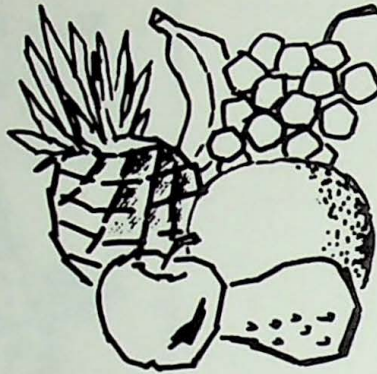
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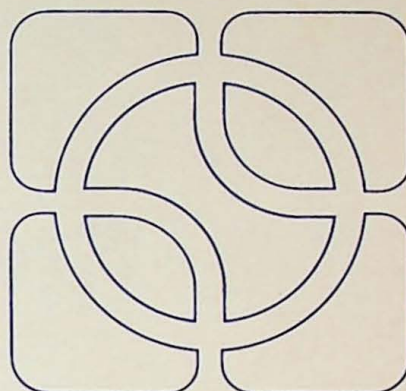
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To All Participants
in the Tanner National Pro-AM
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