

# RACQUETBALL

OFFICIAL VOICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 6

NOVEMBER 1974







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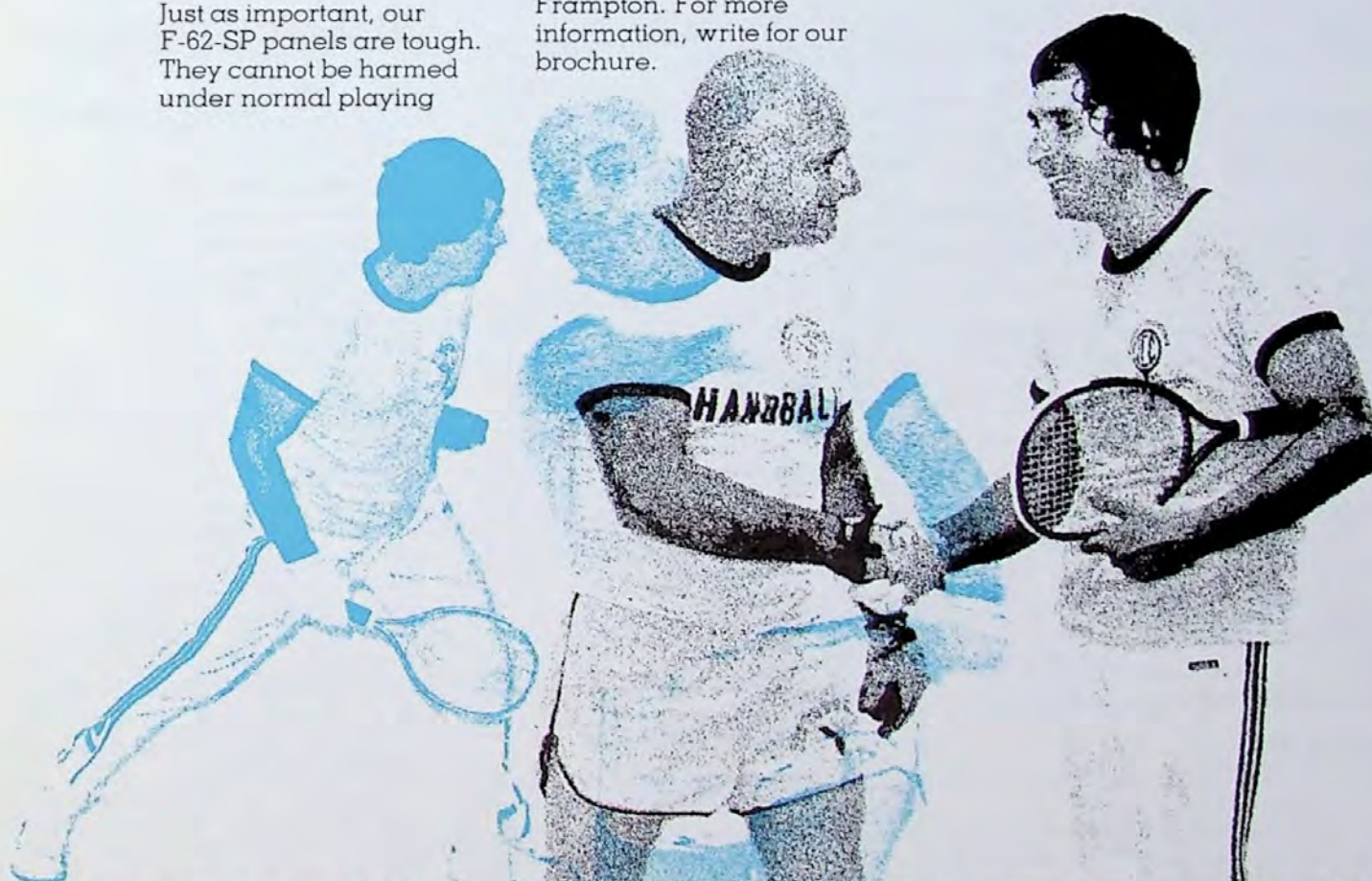
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# What Readers are Saying

• Thanks again for your encouragement on our tournament here in Montana. I think many of our players will be joining IRA soon. Some of us are planning to establish a statewide racquetball organization. We would appreciate any help you might be able to give us. Missoula (University of Montana) is holding a tournament in mid December. Gary Nygaard, an IRA member and very active player, will be running it. Perhaps you can give him the same type of support you did us. Next tournament we plan to use the IRA bracketing and scorecards. it would have simplified matters for us.

**Bill Lang**  
Helena, Mont.

• The University of Montana Racquetball Association (UMRA) seems to foster friendship among racquetball players.

If any club would like to contact us, please do so either through me or one of the officers, Mike Hoonan, Judy Wahlberg or Jim Koon. Thank you for all the help in the past. I'll keep you informed on the state organization.

**Gary Nygaard**  
Missoula, Mont. 59801

• Please encourage women over 35 to get together for the formation of a senior division for women. If it is to be recognized at the national level, it has to acquire enough participants at the "hometown" level. I love racquetball, and I intend to go on competing as long as I can run!

**Carmenza Pond**  
Riverside, Calif.

• A suggestion for future issues. I would like to see short biographical pieces on the top players, together with periodic pieces on fast rising newcomers. Also, I am somewhat confused by the frequent reference to paddleball. How about an article explaining the differences in the two games, detailing equipment used, and any strategy differences necessitated by the different equipment?

tailoring equipment used, and any strategy differences necessitated by the different equipment?

**Phil Howard**  
North Terre Haute, Ind.

• Please send me a membership application so I can join the International Racquetball Association. If you happen to be in our area, be sure to give me a call.

**Ronald P. Loepker**  
St. Louis, Mo.

• I have enjoyed racquetball for many years. It has been a great outlet, not only to produce skill but to release frustrations and make life a great deal better. I have traveled to a number of tournaments and I have been grateful for the progress that I have seen made in this sport. I want to thank you, and through you, all who are responsible for making it a keen, clean game.

I appreciate the wonderful friends from many states I have met through the years. We have made long and lasting friendships. Wish I could encourage more preachers to play the game. When they swing the racquet hard it might make them swing a little easier at their congregations, and when they get alienated, like I have been on the court at times, it is a humbling experience which we all need.

(Rev.) **Herb Penry**  
Greensboro, N.C.

## LETTERS POLICY

All letters to the editor should be double spaced, preferably typewritten to insure accuracy, and limited to 300 words. Letters should deal with substantive matters such as issues rather than personalities.

Racquetball Magazine reserves the right to edit letters for length, good taste, libel, fairness, etc., but will publish as many letters as space and appropriateness permit. Use address shown on Contents page.



**JAN PASTERNAK**  
... She's new commissioner. . .

## Arizona Player Given Position On Commission

Jan Pasternak, Tempe, Ariz., racquetball enthusiast, has been named national commissioner for women by the International Racquetball Association, and will assume her duties immediately.

One of her first jobs will be to form a national committee for women, to help keep the IRA board of directors informed of progress on the women's front.

"We have felt the need for organization to further the interests of women in racquetball for some time, and this is a positive step to achieve greater results," executive director Myron Roderick said.

Ms. Pasternak, after accepting the appointment, called for all women interested in serving on the committee to contact her at 120 Carney, Apt. D, Tempe, Ariz. 85281, phone Area Code 602, 966-5068.

I also will be glad to accept letters from those who just want to write in their ideas about what is good for the game," she said.

Composition of the women's committee will be reported as soon as it has been formed, Roderick said.

## Time To Renew

Now is a good time to renew your membership in the International Racquetball Association.



Official Entry Blank

# First Annual International Tanner Pro-Am Open Racquetball Tournament

December 13-15, 1974  
Memphis, Tenn.



Please enter me in the events checked:  
Limit 2 events

- ☐ Pro-Am Singles  
Cash prizes total \$5,600. Entry fee \$25.
- ☐ B Singles
- ☐ Open Amateur Singles
- ☐ Senior Singles  
Contestant must be 35 years old or over on Dec. 13, 1974.
- ☐ Master Singles  
Contestant must be 45 years old or over on Dec. 13, 1974.
- ☐ Women's Singles

Send this page with entry fee to:

## Tanner Pro-Am Open Racquetball Tournament

Jerry Blanchard  
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Suite 3500  
Memphis, Tenn. 38103

### ENTRY FEES

\$25 per player, pro-am singles

\$15 per player, each amateur event

Payment must accompany entry blank. Make checks payable to International Racquetball Association.

### ENTRY DEADLINE

All entries must be postmarked no later than midnight, Monday, Dec. 9.

### TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

Jerry Blanchard  
PH: 901—523-2363

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### INFORMATION:

All questions should be directed to Jerry Blanchard, director, 100 North Main Building, Suite 3500, Memphis, Tenn. 38103.

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I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the Memphis State University, the International Racquetball Association, its affiliated clubs and their respective agents, representatives, successors and assigns for any and all injuries which may be suffered by me in connection with any participation in this tournament.

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## St. Louis Pro-Am Rescheduled

The date of the first annual invitational Champion-Vittert Pro-Am Open at St. Louis has been changed. Both dates and site will be announced in the near future.

IRA headquarters and tournament director Jim Brubaker said the change was necessary because construction on the new facility had fallen behind. Original plans were for a mid-January tournament.

In addition to pro-am singles, the event will feature open amateur singles, senior, masters and women's singles. A women's B section also is slated.

Full details will be announced in the January issue of Racquetball magazine.

Meantime, racquetball enthusiasts

are tuning up for two other big IRA-sponsored events, the Tanner Pro-Am Open at Memphis Dec. 13-15 (see details, page 3), and the Ray and Clare Stern Pro-Am Celebrity Tournament at Dallas Feb. 13-16 (see page 16).

Directing the Memphis action will be Jerry Blanchard. Entry deadline is Dec. 9.

Tom McKie is in charge of the Dallas action, and a Feb. 3 deadline has been set for entries.

Each pro-am tournament will be open to any IRA member in good standing. Each tournament also will feature amateur events for those players who do not care to compete against the pros or for prize money.

The Pro-Am-Celebrity, February

13-16 in Dallas, already has received commitments from some of the top names in the sports and entertainment worlds. IRA presently is negotiating for a possible national television program.

Prize money for the pro-am tournaments will be \$5,600. First place will be \$1,500, second place \$1,000, third place \$800, fourth place \$700 and fifth through eighth place \$400 each.

In the Pro-Am-Celebrity the prize money will be \$8,000, with \$2,000 for first and an increased scale down through eighth. A women's professional tournament also will be held at the Dallas event with prizes from \$1,000 for first down to \$300 for fourth.



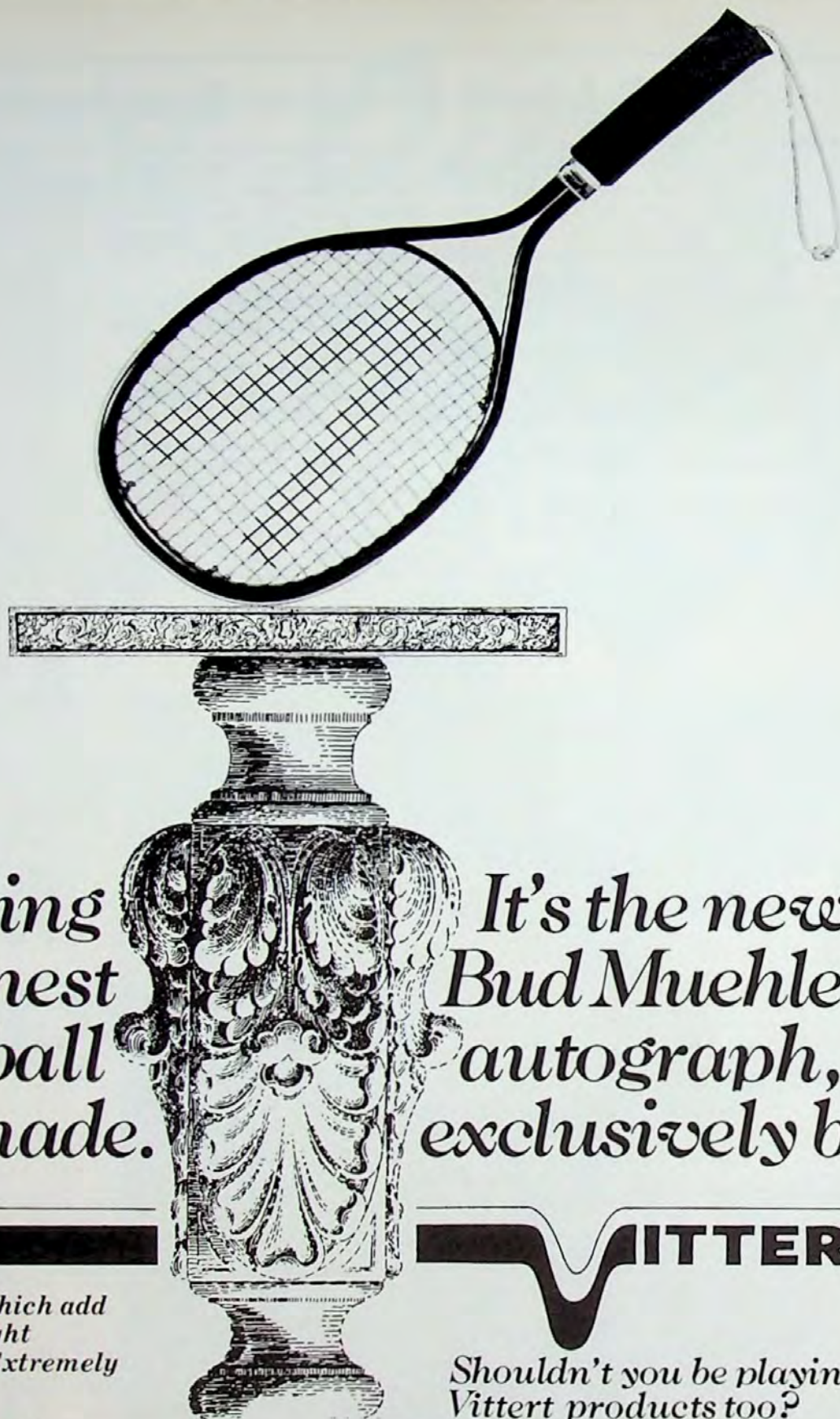
IRA executive director Myron Roderick poses with women's champion Peggy Steding (right) and Camile McCarthy, who defeated Chris Ackerman in a three-game struggle to enter the finals. For full coverage on the big doubles competition in Minneapolis, see pages 18-22, 56-57.

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## Thrills, Upsets

*Charlie Garfinkel, who plays a pretty fair game of racquetball himself, adds the light touch in our coverage of the Sportcraft Pro-Am with this article.*





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Charlie Garfinkel gives a light touch to his coverage of a great tournament

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The most comprehensive story yet written on racquetball's super-star, Peggy Steding, by Dr. Tom Heiting.

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One of the game's most successful players has the staying power once more at Cheney, Wash.

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Thrills and spills as 137 players converge on Richardson, Tex., for the state's largest tourney

### IRA Board of Directors

President—DeWitt M. Shy, Memphis. National Commissioner—Ken Porco, Louisville. National Rules Commissioner—Dr. Bud Muehleisen, La Mesa, Calif. Directors—John W. Chambers, West Vancouver, B. C.; Charles Brumfield, San Diego; Dr. William A. Sellars, Dallas; Smith Schippers, Memphis; Ivan Bruner, Madison, Wis.; William R. Dunn, Union City, Calif.; Dr. Halford R. Price, Phoenix; Peggy Steding, Odessa, Texas. Executive Director—Myron Roderick, Stillwater, Okla.

## RACQUETBALL

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### ON THE COVER

Our enticing cover depicts three scenes from the Ray and Clare Stern Health and Racquetball Club, Dallas, where the Pro-Am Celebrity Tournament is scheduled Feb. 13-16. It will be the first tournament in the beautiful new facility. For further information, see page 16.



# Strandemo-Charlson



## WINNERS AT A GLANCE

*Open:* Steve Strandemo and David Charlson.

*Senior:* Bud Muehleisen and Myron Roderick.

*Master:* John Fazio and Jim White.

*Golden Master:* James Divito and Stan Rizzio.

*Junior:* Bob Adam Jr. and Mark Domanque.

Steve Strandemo gives partner David Charlson a bear hug in jubilant championship joy as defeated Charlie Brumfield (waving, center) and Craig McCoy walk from court.



Golden Masters winner James Divito (left photo in background) and Stan Berny are locked in finals combat. The Divito-Rizzio team took the hard-fought match from Gumer-Berny. Right: Bob Adam Jr. and Mark Domanque, junior champions, pause for a brief rest.





# Take It

By MYRON RODERICK

The Open Doubles bracket was very strong this year, with 31 teams participating. The No. 1 seeded team was Ken Wong and Jerry Hilecher, who were runners-up in the 1973 tournament in St. Louis. The No. 2 seed was Charlie Brumfield and Craig McCoy. No. 3 seed was Joe Wirkus and Gary Johnson, who finished third last year. No. 4 seed was Steve Strandemo and D. C. Charlson.

The seeds went pretty much as seeded except in the lower bracket, where Bill Schmidtke and Ron Strom defeated Wirkus and Johnson in the quarterfinals 21-15, 21-16.

In the semifinals were some of the greatest doubles matches I have ever seen. Kenny Wong and Hilecher had a very difficult time beating Lucas and Roman 21-12, 16-21, 21-15. Steve Strandemo and D. C. Charlson had a good game, winning over Stream and Thurman 21-14, 21-18. Brumfield and McCoy had no trouble beating McKie and Bernstein of Dallas 21-7, 21-9. The upset of the seed, of course, was the Schmidtke and Strom defeat of Wirkus and Johnson.

A great match in the semifinals pitted Hilecher and Wong against Strandemo and Charlson. Strandemo and Charlson won in three, 21-6, 9-21, 21-11.

Brumfield and McCoy won the first game from Schmidtke and Strom 21-15 and it looked like they were well on their way to winning the second game 20-12, but Schmidtke and Strom made a comeback to 20-20 and the serve exchanged hands four times before Brumfield and McCoy finally won 21-20.

Everybody thought the final match would be very close, but it didn't turn out to be as close as anticipated. Strandemo and Charlson played as fine a doubles as I have ever seen. They started off playing McCoy very strong on the left side. McCoy had trouble getting the ball back, then when Brumfield would get a shot after four or five times to McCoy, he was not in position to make the shot that he desired. The first game went 21-13 (Strandemo and Charlson).

The second game was about the same except Brumfield and McCoy tried all kinds of different things. They changed their game, going completely to ceiling shots, then shooting

everything trying to get back into the game. Charlson and Strandemo stayed consistent with their game plan and had no trouble in winning the championship 21-7.

In the Open Doubles, we had a lot of teams come long distances. I think everybody enjoyed the tournament and had a great time watching top caliber racquetball.

## Senior Doubles

By V. Z. LAWTON

The Senior Doubles had an outstanding field, and some outstanding play.

Seeded in the tournament were Bud Muehleisen and Myron Roderick, first; Charlie Garfinkel and Chuck Wurzer, second; Bill King and Mark Wayne, third, and D. Trost and M. Mullins, fourth.

It is hard to seed a tournament like this because you do not always know who has played with whom and who they have beat. But the seeding came out extremely well in this division. All four seeded teams finished in the top four.

Probably one of the longest matches of the tournament, if not the longest, was the semifinals match between Charlie Garfinkel, "The Gar," and Chuck Wurzer and Bill King and Mark Wayne. The match took two-and-a-half hours, with King and Wayne winning 21-19, 14-21, 21-11.

In the other semifinals, Muehleisen and Roderick playing Trost and Mullins, the match seemed to be going with Trost and Mullins the first game. They were shooting extremely well, and keeping control of the ball to Roderick more than Muehleisen. Roderick was having trouble getting the ball back in play in the deep court. In turn Trost was killing.

The score with second server Roderick doing the serving was 13-20 in favor of Trost and Mullins. Roderick and Muehleisen never gave up that

## Thanks, Mal, For Hosting A Great Meet

First of all, I would like to thank Bill Schmidtke, tournament director, for hosting one of the finest doubles tournaments ever held in the International Racquetball Association. I feel that the separation of doubles from singles has added tremendous interest as far as doubles play is concerned. We had better doubles than we have ever had—in all divisions.

Thanks also to Malin Greenberg, owner of The Court House, for his great hospitality while we were there. The Court House is as fine a tournament facility as any in the world. It has great viewing capacity, great locker space and is an outstanding unit.

The food was extremely outstanding, and I think everybody enjoyed the hospitality at the Ambassador Hotel. I would like to say thanks to Regina Schmidtke for her great job in the Hospitality Room at the events.

There were a lot of highlights during the tournament and there were some disappointments.

I think one of the highlights was that we had a 10-year-old boy in the tournament. There is a photograph of young Hart on page 11. Also one of the outstanding aspects of the tournament was the Junior Finals. Four boys played super doubles racquetball. To me, it was more enjoyable to watch than any other division.

One disappointment was that one of our outstanding players, John Halverson of San Diego, was hurt in the quarterfinals and was unable to continue in the tournament. I hope that John is coming along well, and I know he will be back competing as strong as ever in a few weeks.

I think, probably, that one of the most outstanding highlights of the tournament was when Luther Bernstein, Dallas, Tex., retired on the couch in the lounge and took his glasses and toupee off and laid them on the coffee table. The thing that worried us was that it looked like the hair piece and glasses were moving faster than Luther. Seriously, Luther is a great racquetball attrac-

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position and won the first game 21-20. As you know, when you feel you have a game won and then lose in this manner, it is very discouraging, and Trost and Mullins did not get rolling again in the second game.

I feel Trost and Mullins are one of the finest doubles teams I have played against.

In the finals, Muehleisen and Roderrick had their game together and kept Wayne and King both on the defensive, winning without too much trouble 21-11, 21-7.

In the Senior Doubles you are playing with some of the finest gentlemen and sportsmen in the business. I have been in sports all of my life, but I have never seen any finer sports than I have in the Senior Class both Singles and Doubles, in the International Racquetball Association. I'm sure this is true in the Master's, Golden Master's and all other classes. It is a pleasure to compete in this area.

## Master Doubles

By GENE GRAPES

Frustrated in last year's finals when the Master Doubles age bracket was 40-50, new champions John Fazio and Jim White had come to the 1974 National Doubles with a plan that translated: "Wear them out and wipe them out!"

Brushing off Penry and Millis and Troyer and Cutshall in the first two rounds by allowing only 24 points in

four games, the lefty-righty Milwaukee team's game worked like an automatic beer-bottle capper: no chance was missed to apply the squeeze to the opposing team.

Then through the pass came 450-lbs of Texas beef in the forms of Bill Sellars and Richard Walker. Seeded No. 1, they had drawn a bye and had turned back Schultz and Kronenberg in the quarterfinals, 21-20, 21-7. With Schultz shooting well, the first game had been a scrap, but the Texans turned the second into a stampede.

And they had a counter-strike to throw at Fazio and White: "Beat the 'wear-out, wipe-out' strategy with a 'designated-hitter' style of play."

As Bill said prior to what turned out to be one of the better semifinal matches in the over-all tournament, "I can hit back-hand ceiling shots all day without tiring." He added, "If, as is unlikely, I should get weary, then Richard moves over and takes over while I rest."

And your team efficiency doesn't suffer?

"No way, we're No. 1 and No. 2 in Master Singles, we placed third in last year's Senior—not Master—Invitational Doubles and we've perfected this system."

About 100 ceiling shots later, it seemed Dr. Bill Sellars was one of the game's foremost diagnosticians: Fazio and White had gone down, 21-16, in the first game.

After the two-minute break, the strategies of both teams seemingly had not changed. They hadn't, but

some 150 ceiling balls later the result had: Second game to Fazio and White, 21-12.

Ten minutes and 2,000 words of

## 'Trost and Mullins Are One of the Best Teams I Have Met'

analysis later, Sellars and Walker were ready. But so were Fazio and White. Ceiling ball followed ceiling ball and Sellars was seen to shake off several signal changes by Walker.

Finally, after Walker's plaintive drawl, "But Bill-I-I, this don't give us any offense," the Texans broke stride and it was all over.

Fazio and White finished with a rush—and the game. No. 4 seed had beaten No. 1, 21-7.

Down in the lower half, first round matches were uneventful except for Chet Howard's and Ivan Bruner's unexpected, sputtering loss to Sofio Failla and John Leech.

When asked about it, Chet said, "Playing behind Failla is impossible. He's so tall somebody ought to hang a flag on him!"

Second-seeded Halverson and Zelson breezed against Riaz and Albertson, third-seeded Caiazza and Grapes warmed up against Rosenbloom and Salloway, and Schippers and Nicho-



In the intense emotion that is typical of championship play, Craig McCoy appears to be pushing David Charlson as Charlie Brumfield readies for the swing. Charlson and Steve Strandemo went on to win over the tough Brumfield-McCoy team, 21-15, 21-20. At left are master doubles winners John Fazio (left) and Jim White.



# Minneapolis Action



poulos put down Perleman and Pearl.

In the quarterfinals, Grapes and Caiazza froze out Schippers, so much so that Smittey later generated more sweat talking about it (21-10, 21-5) than he did on the court.

Simultaneously, Joe Zelson and John Halverson inexplicably were tussling with Failla and Leech. Obviously, scat-back Leech and tall-tower Failla had a style, but what it was Zelson and Halverson were having trouble discovering.

Finally, at game point Leech made a near-return, Halverson lunged to protect and Failla-Leech won the match as John had ruptured the plantaris muscle in his left leg and had to forfeit.

So Zelson, who uses up partners faster than Carter makes pills, is on the manhunt again. Doubles anyone?

In the semifinals, Grapes and Caiazza successfully applied their deep freeze to Failla and took game one, 21-12. Determined to get some action, Failla switched sides with Leech part way through game two. He stretched to his full height of 8-feet, spread eagled the court and proceeded to give Gene and Sam zero visibility. But not soon enough to save the match and game, 21-17.

So the final was set. The fourth-seeded youngster, Jim White, and even younger John Fazio, faced third-seeded veteran Grapes and older Sam Caiazza. (Some gallery-watchers said it looked like two kids beating up on their fathers.)

It was to be experience and court-savvy against experience, court-savvy, speed, youth, power, shooting, height (Sam at 5'5" said playing behind 6-ft. Fazio was like wandering through the "valley of the giants"),

---

## Like Wandering Through the Valley of Giants

---

time-of-day (Gene thinks any match played before 4 p.m. is early morning and indecent to boot) and, finally, great desire. Grapes had a cold and caught another as White and Fazio worked their high-altitude game against Caiazza, letting Gene in on the action only occasionally to contribute a 2-ft. high kill shot or an outright error.

The result was fast coming: 21-12, 21-10. John Fazio and Jim White

were the new IRA Master Doubles champions.

Last heard as the runners-up walked to the locker room:

Sam: "How can we beat that type of game?"

Gene: "Find the fountain of youth and grow five inches."

## Golden Master

The match started with Divito serving, but the Ike Gumer-Stan Berny team pulled away to an early lead. James Divito & Co. called a time out, got their game together and pulled into the lead 20-18. Gumer-Berny regained the serve and made



Youngest player in the tournament was 10-year-old Hart Johnson, whose racquetball skill has caught the attention of the Twin Cities media. An all-around athlete, Hart is expected to be a big contender as he matures.



Action was fast and exciting in the Junior Division finals, where the Adam-Domanque and Hogan-Nichopoulos teams fought it out. Stretching for the ball here is Adam. The championship went to Adam and Domanque.



two points (20-20), lost the serve on a sky ball, and Divito and Sam Rizzio rallied to pull the first game out, 21-20.

The second game started out with the score see-sawing back and forth to 5-5. The Chicagoans then put on a show of strategy and tactics that took them to an 18-7 lead. It looked like the match was over for Gumer and Berny when they renewed their efforts with a surge of points that pulled them back to 16-20. Their valiant effort was to no avail, however, as Divito and Rizzio maneuvered the ball around the court until they got the final point, 21-16.

The golden master round robin results:

Don Green-Cal Murphy def. Don Johnson-Ben Wirkus, 21-17, 10-21, 21-19; Ike Gumer-Stan Berny def. Bob Mowerson-Steve Ordos, 21-8, 21-2; Gumer-Berny def. Green-Murphy, 21-16, 21-14; Johnson-Wirkus def. Mowerson-Ordos, 21-20, 16-21, 21-16; James Divito-Sam Rizzio def. Mowerson-Ordos, 21-7, 21-8; Divito-Rizzio def. Johnson-Wirkus, 21-10, 21-4; Gumer-Berny def. Johnson-Wirkus, 21-12, 21-6; Green-Murphy def. Mowerson-Ordos, 21-14, 21-6; Divito-Rizzio def. Green-Murphy, 21-18, 21-18; Divito-Rizzio def. Gumer-Berny, 21-10, 21-16.

Placings: Divito-Rizzio, first; Gumer-Berny, second; Green-Murphy, third; Johnson-Wirkus, fourth. Consolation: Ordos-Mowerson.

## Junior Doubles

By DAVEY BLEDSOE

Although the Juniors Division drew a limited field of competition, the doubles finals proved to be one of the most spectacular matches of the tournament.

The Sunday morning action found Bob Adam Jr. (Minneapolis) and Mark Domanque (Lincoln, Neb.) meeting Dean Nichopoulos (Memphis) and Marty Hogan (St. Louis). Because of the ease with which both

of these teams reached the finals, no one really was sure who was favored to take the prize.

Adam and Domanque put together an excellent combination of shots in game one and gained the advantage over Nichopoulos and Hogan, 21-4.

During the two-minute rest period prior to game two, I asked Nichopoulos and Hogan how they would counteract the shooting precision of Adam and Domanque. Nichopoulos responded: "The only way to beat the good shooter is to serve so as to force as many bad returns as possible. We have to give them the low percentage shots and we must shoot with them."

As game two began, Adam and Domanque were forced to "holster their guns" and take the ball to the ceiling because of their opponents' excellent shooting. Nichopoulos and Hogan did just what they predicted would be necessary and evened the match at one game each with their 21-16 win.

In game three Adam and Domanque, not wanting to alter their game plan as they had been forced to do in game two, began to serve cross-court to Nichopoulos. Nichopoulos was unable to cut their serve off and could only manage a defensive return.

Adam and Domanque streaked from behind at 14-16 to an 18-16 lead and again shot their way to 21-16 after the sides had retired three times.

Two youths from Minneapolis, Hart Johnson and Gary Bereu, coupled to capture third place, defeating Larry Molke and Phil Rosenbloom 21-2 and 21-0.

## So Many People To Thank. . .

### It Was Great

tion and is an asset to have at any tournament.

There are so many people to thank in a situation like this, but I think another gentleman who did an outstanding job was Amos Rosenbloom, in charge of all publicity before and during the tournament. He did a fantastic job. We had TV coverage as well as all the newspapers covering it and I think when we have this type of promotion at our tournaments, racquetball is going to do nothing but increase in popularity. I would like to take my hat off to him for a great job. Publicity is not easy to produce, and it takes many, many hours to accomplish.

Another person I would like to say thanks to (without him it would have been impossible to run the tournament) is Smith Schippers, who was in charge of the control desk, which controlled all the match making and referee assignments. Smitty did a fantastic job with this.

Others who deserve thanks are the hospitality girls. I'll have to say Bill Schmidtke may not have the best taste in clothes, but he has very good taste in women, because the three or four ladies who helped in hospitality both nights were very, very attractive as well as very sweet. Without them the tournament would not have been the same. So I would like to say thanks to Merna, J. R., Faye, Judi and Jane.—Myron Roderick

*Bill Schmidtke, off court, is still involved*





# Open Doubles

|                           |                               |                       |                                        |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 1 Ken Wong-Jerry Hilecher | Wong-Hilecher                 |                       |                                        |
| BYE                       |                               |                       |                                        |
| Larry Dietz-Jack Nammar   | Wong-Hilecher                 | 21-7 21-16            |                                        |
| Joe Tarantinos-L.Marbocci | Tarantinos-Marbocci (forfeit) |                       |                                        |
| Mike Luciw-Mike Romano    | Luciw-Romano                  | 21-2 21-6             | Wong-Hilecher<br>21-12;16-21;<br>21-15 |
| T.Grapes-Leonard Perretti |                               |                       |                                        |
| Dick Werner-Gary Rivet    | Luciw-Romano                  | 21-13 21-17           |                                        |
| Bob Schulta-Terry Fancher | Schultz-Fancher               | 21-8 21-4             |                                        |
| S.Strandemo-D.Charlson    | Strandemo-Charlson            | 21-6;9-21;<br>21-11   |                                        |
| B.McCay-Dan Watson        | Charlson                      | 21-1 21-0             |                                        |
| Jim Marsh-I. Schacker     | Strandemo-Charlson            | 21-2 21-7             |                                        |
| T.Whipple-C. Sullivan     | Marsh-Schacker                | 21-15;14-21;21-13     |                                        |
| Len Stream-Bill Thurman   | Stream-Thurman                | 21-14 21-18           |                                        |
| D.Baker-Tom Cutler        | Stream-Thurman                | 21-10 21-9            |                                        |
| Pat Elbert-F.Gallogly     | Ikier-Hadigan                 | 21-11 21-13           |                                        |
| Paul Ikier-Wes Hadigan    | (forfeit)                     |                       |                                        |
| C.Brumfield-Craig McCoy   | Brumfield-McCoy               | 21-5 21-8             | Strandemo-Charlson<br>21-13 21-7       |
| T. Keyes-J. Tochida       | Hall-Peckham                  | 21-10;11-21;<br>21-19 |                                        |
| D. Olson-Bob Moreland     | Brumfield-McCoy               | 21-7 21-9             |                                        |
| Bill Hall-John Peckham    | McKie-Bernstein               | 21-16 21-15           |                                        |
| Tom McKie-L. Bernstein    | McKie-Bernstein               | 21-20 21-20           |                                        |
| M. Beuben-S. Singer       | Bledsoe-Smith                 | 21-17 21-5            |                                        |
| H.Braun-C.McCallion       | Wirkus-Johnson                | 21-3 21-10            |                                        |
| D.Bledsoe-S. Smith        | Wirkus-Johnson                | 19-21;21-16;<br>21-12 |                                        |
| Joe Wirkus-Galen Johnson  | Rude-Hegg                     | 21-2 21-7             |                                        |
| J. O'Neill-J. Fingerman   | Schmidtke-Strom               | 21-15 21-16           |                                        |
| T. Snarski-Tom Radai,Jr.  | Schmidtke                     | 21-10 21-7            |                                        |
| J. Rude-Mark Hegg         | Davis-Soble                   | 21-0 21-5             |                                        |
| B. Schmidtke-Ron Strom    | Schmidtke                     | 21-10 21-7            |                                        |
| F. Lewerenz-T. Carpenter  | Wong-Hilecher                 | 21-20 21-7            |                                        |
| J. Davis-J. Soble         | Wong-Hilecher                 | 21-20 21-7            |                                        |
| D. Smith-Bob Binzen       | Schmidtke-Strom               |                       |                                        |



# Senior Doubles

|                                 |                     |                     |                     |                     |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Bud Muehleisen-Myron Roderick |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| Alan Schattner-James Gomory     | Muehleisen-Roderick |                     |                     |                     |
|                                 | 21-10 21-4          |                     |                     |                     |
| Luther Green-Larry McGee        | Muehleisen-Roderick |                     |                     |                     |
|                                 | 21-15 21-5          |                     |                     |                     |
| M. Greenberg                    | Green-McGee         |                     |                     |                     |
| N. Goldetsky                    | Greenberg-Goldetsky |                     |                     |                     |
| B. Kreuter-                     | 21-11 21-15         | 21-17; 7-21;        |                     |                     |
| R. Stenlund                     | D. Trost-M. Mullins | 21-18               |                     |                     |
|                                 | Trost-Mullins       |                     | Muehleisen-Roderick |                     |
| S. Clarr-Dan Little             | 21-13 21-14         |                     | 21-20 21-2          |                     |
| Dan Hilecher-V.Z. Lawton        | Trost-Mullins       |                     |                     |                     |
|                                 | 21-20 21-2          |                     |                     |                     |
| Pat Colombo-Joe Jackman         | Colombo-Jackman     |                     |                     |                     |
|                                 | 21-14 21-14         |                     |                     |                     |
| C. Garfinkel-Chuck Wurzer       |                     |                     |                     | Muehleisen-Roderick |
|                                 |                     |                     |                     | 21-11 21-7          |
| R. Haskvitz-Don Webb            | Garfinkel-Wurzer    |                     |                     |                     |
|                                 | 21-19 21-3          |                     |                     |                     |
| Fred Glynn-Jim Hanson           | Garfinkel-Wurzer    |                     |                     |                     |
|                                 | 21-9; 18-21;        |                     |                     |                     |
| Bob McNamara-Bernie McNamara    | McNamara-McNamara   | 21-9                |                     |                     |
|                                 | 21-3 21-7           |                     |                     |                     |
| Bill King-Mark Wayne            |                     |                     | King-Wayne          |                     |
|                                 |                     |                     | 21-19; 14-21; 21-11 |                     |
| Paul Nelson-Jerry Hoff          | King-Wayne          |                     |                     |                     |
|                                 | 21-5 21-15          |                     |                     |                     |
| Fred Banfield-Dick Carpenter    | King-Wayne          |                     |                     |                     |
|                                 | 21-4 21-14          |                     |                     |                     |
| Bob Sheldon-Bernie Nielson      | Sheldon-Nielson     |                     |                     |                     |
|                                 | 21-16 21-13         |                     |                     |                     |
|                                 |                     | Trost-Mullins       |                     |                     |
|                                 |                     | Garfinkel-Wurzer    |                     |                     |
|                                 |                     | Garfinkel-Wurzer    |                     |                     |
|                                 |                     | 16-21; 21-11; 21-19 |                     |                     |

## Consolation

|                    |                     |  |              |  |
|--------------------|---------------------|--|--------------|--|
| Schattner-Gomory   |                     |  |              |  |
| Kreuter-Stenlund   | Kreuter-Stenlund    |  |              |  |
|                    | 21-6; 20-21; 21-19  |  |              |  |
| Clarr-Little       | Clarr-Little        |  |              |  |
|                    | 21-10 21-19         |  |              |  |
| Hilecher-Lawton    | Clarr-Little        |  |              |  |
|                    | 21-10 21-20         |  |              |  |
| Haskvitz-Webb      |                     |  | Clarr-Little |  |
|                    |                     |  | 21-19 21-14  |  |
| Glynn-Hanson       | Haskvitz-Webb       |  |              |  |
|                    | 21-8 21-7           |  |              |  |
| Nelson-Hoff        | Haskvitz-Webb       |  |              |  |
|                    | 18-21; 21-12; 21-14 |  |              |  |
| Banfield-Carpenter | Banfield-Carpenter  |  |              |  |
|                    | 21-14; 19-21; 21-17 |  |              |  |



# Master Doubles

|                                   |                       |                   |                |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Richard Walker-Bill Sellars       | Walker-Sellars        |                   |                |
| BYE                               | 21-0 21-0             |                   |                |
| Brud Turner-Marvin Schinagle      | Walker-Sellars        | 21-20 21-7        |                |
| Diz Kroenenberg-Bill Schultz      | Kroenenberg-Schultz   | 21-10 21-4        | Fazio-White    |
| John Fazio-Jim White              | Fazio-White           | 16-21;21-12; 21-7 |                |
| Herbert Penry-J.H. Millis         | 21-3 21-6             |                   |                |
| O.T. Smith-C.E. Mueller           | Fazio-White           | 21-12 21-3        |                |
| Vince Cutshall-Bob Troyer         | Cutshall-Troyer       | 21-0 21-11        | Fazio-White    |
| John Halvorson-Joe Zelson         | Halvorson-Zelson      | 21-1 21-0         | 21-12 21-10    |
| M. Riaz-Vern Albertson            | 21-1 21-0             |                   |                |
| Sofio Failla-John Leech           | Failla-Leech          | 18-21; forfeit    |                |
| Chet Howard-Ivan Bruner           | Failla-Leech          | 21-14 21-11       |                |
| Sam Caiazza-Gene Grapes           | Caiazza-Grapes        | 21-12 21-17       |                |
| Amos Rosenbloom-Meyer Salloway    | 21-14 21-18           |                   |                |
| Dave Perelman-Ray Pearl           | Caiazza-Grapes        | 21-10 21-5        |                |
| Smitty Schippers-Geo. Nichopoulos | Schippers-Nichopoulos | 21-16 21-19       | Failla-Leech   |
|                                   |                       |                   | Walker-Sellers |
|                                   |                       |                   | 21-2 21-8      |

## Consolation

|                     |                     |                  |               |
|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------|
| BYE                 | Turner-Schinagle    |                  |               |
| Turner-Schinagle    |                     |                  |               |
| Penry-Millis        | Penry-Millis        | 21-13;16-21;21-4 |               |
| Smith-Mueller       | 21-6 21-6           |                  |               |
| Riaz-Albertson      | Howard-Bruner       |                  | Bruner-Howard |
| Howard-Bruner       | 21-7 21-5           |                  | (forfeit)     |
| Rosenbloom-Salloway | Bruner-Howard       | 21-5 21-7        |               |
| Pearlman-Pearl      | Rosenbloom-Salloway | 21-17;9-21;21-16 |               |



**First Annual International  
Ray and Clare Stern  
Pro-Am Celebrity  
Open Racquetball Tournament**

**February 13-16, 1975  
Dallas, Texas**



Please enter me in the event checked  
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- ☐ B Singles
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I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the Ray & Clare Stern Health and Racquetball Club, the International Racquetball Association, its affiliated clubs and their respective agents, representatives, successors and assigns for any and all injuries which may be suffered by me in connection with any participation in this tournament.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_



The Director Says:

# GREAT THINGS ARE HAPPENING



## INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 1016 • Stillwater, Oklahoma 74074 • (405) 377-2676

Dear Racquetball Members:

In the last news letter I told you I would have a report on the truth about the problems with IRA and the NRC. The more I thought about this the less I felt it was necessary.

I would rather tell you of the great things that are happening and not get into a debate with Robert Kendler and Chuck Leve. The only thing that I have to say is that it is a shame for men like Mr. Kendler and Mr. Leve to resort to untruths and misleading statements as they do in their magazine. I feel the IRA should not worry about the situation but spend all of its time and energies improving racquetball.

Our first Pro-Am Tournament was a great success. I am sure you will enjoy reading about it in the magazine. If at all possible you need to try and attend one of the Pro meets. I would appreciate it if each member would write Sportcraft and the Louisville Athletic Club for their sponsoring of the first Pro-Tournament.

Our first International State and Regional Convention was very successful. I want to thank each one that attended and am looking forward to New Orleans on September 27-28 for the second annual convention.

I also want to thank everyone who has sent in the name of his facility. If you haven't, do so as soon as you can. We want to establish a complete list of all clubs and facilities.

Be sure and send to us as soon as possible any of the events for 1974-75 that you would like to be host to. The events were listed in the last news letter to the membership.

It does not seem possible, but it is time to renew your membership for 1975, so do this as soon as possible.

I hope each member will be involved in your state organization. If your state is not doing anything, be sure and let me know and we will get something moving.

In closing, I hope to see each one of you along the Racquetball Trail; 'til then--keep swinging.



Sincerely yours,

Myron Roderick  
Executive Director



By CHARLIE GARFINKEL

If you weren't at the beautiful Louisville Athletic Club the week-end of Oct. 25-27, you missed one of the greatest racquetball events ever staged. It was the site of the IRA's first professional tournament.

The tourney had everything—excitement, thrills, upsets, gorgeous women and a tremendous sponsor in Sportcraft.

As for action itself, who would have thought that National Champion Bill Schmidtke; Bill Thurman, ranked No. 6 nationally, and Jerry Hilecher, No. 7 in the United States, would be eliminated in the first round.

Steve Strandemo, No. 5, exited in the quarterfinals.

Here are some names to remember: Craig McCoy, John Hennen, Ron Strom, Randy Stafford and Marty Hogan.

It also marked the return of one of the game's all time greats to open competition. Yes, I mean Dr. Bud Muehleisen. At 43, he finished fourth in the IRA's first pro tournament.

Charlie Brumfield won the tournament by defeating the 18-year-old McCoy in the finals, 21-6, 21-17.

I have some bad news for the players. "The Brum" (short u) is playing sensational racquetball and will be tough to beat. He's out to prove that he's still No. 1, and will let no one stand in his way.

We'll get back to "The Brum" later. We have to thank Ken Porco

and Harry Kletter for the use of their facility. We also would like to thank Ken for the super job he did in running the tournament.

I've been fortunate enough to have been at almost all of the pro tourneys. This being the IRA's first, it was a welcome event.

In other pro events, there always were rumors about one thing or another. Such as: Tournaments being cancelled at the last minute. They were. Prize money being lowered at the last minute. It was. There was always the uneasy feeling that things were not just right.

Not so at this tourney. If you've ever met Myron Roderick, we won't hold that against you. Seriously, Myron's personality, desire, genuine-

*With Garfinkel At Louisville*

## Excitement, Thrills, Upsets--- And 'The Brum' Rolls On



One of the most popular sidelights at the tournament was the hospitality room, where Gatorade played host. Women's champion Peggy Steding pauses for a refreshing lift. Right: Ike Gumer, master titlist, swings as Ray DuPue prepares for the next play.





ness and hard work is everywhere. Also President DeWitt Shy may not be seen as much as Myron, but you can bet your life that this man is putting in many long hours behind the scenes to make the IRA go. This was a great, great, relaxed pro tourney.

In fact, one of the few rumors heard was that Dr. Muehleisen was increasing his dentistry practice from 45 minutes a week to an hour and a half a week. Further investigation showed it was only an hour. We don't want Dr. Bud to overwork.

Another rumor was that Charlie Garfinkle had a case of laryngitis. In fact, Porco had "Do not disturb signs" on everyone's chest just to make sure.

Another rumor was that Schmidtke was using his money to refurbish his wardrobe. Unfortunately, Good Will Stores close at noon on Saturday.

As for the IRA's first pro racquetball tourney, National Champ Schmidtke was eliminated by the burly Hennen in the first round, 21-9, 21-14. Hennen's shots were incredible, and his court coverage even better.

Strom defeated Hilecher 21-13, 21-16, with a brilliant display of shooting and an excellent ceiling game.

Stafford defeated Thurman with an awesome display of shots and

great gets. Sixteen-year-old Marty Hogan took a game from Brumfield before losing 21-13, 17-21, 21-2.

What does all the aforementioned mean? It means that many good players who haven't entered the IRA

## Dr. Bud Returns

## As Big New Names

## Show on Horizon

pro racquetball tournaments should. I'm sure most of the above-named newcomers didn't figure on doing as well as they did, but they were super.

Besides, there's nothing wrong with winning between \$400 and \$1,500. You also get to hear all of Brumfield's quotes for free.

If you want to play the best players in the best-organized pro tour ever, start entering the IRA tournaments. The top players can and have been beaten. Entering also will greatly improve your game.

Racquetball is without doubt the fastest rising game, excluding sex, in the country. Get involved!

Now, back to the tournament. After Schmidtke and Strandemo were eliminated, I asked Charlie Brumfield if he felt he was home free.

As only Brum can answer, he replied, "Coming into this tournament, I felt that no one could beat me. I'm moving well, and I'm concentrating and shooting better than I have in over a year. When I'm not concentrating fully, I'm still very good. When I really concentrate, I'm overpowering."

Brum also is much more modest than he once was. At this point of the interview, I had to tear Charlie away from kissing two of his pictures.

Charlie continued, "I've always said that McCoy has more natural ability than anyone. He finally showed it in this tournament. He concentrated and shot like he does in practice."

"Do you feel he has a chance when he meets you in the finals?" asked this reporter.

"Will the sun rise tomorrow?" remarked Brumfield. "He knows mentally that he has to play super to beat me. I've destroyed him in the last two tournaments, and I can only lose if my control goes completely astray."

Of course, the fact that McCoy and Brumfield were rooming together didn't help Craig much either.

We've saved talking about McCoy until now.

Craig barely won his first match against Kenny Wong. The scores were 10-21, 21-20, 21-15. He played well, but not like he was to play against Strandemo, Muehleisen, and for a game against Brumfield.

Against Strandemo in the quarterfinals McCoy was incredible. Steve is

*Please turn to Page 22*

A pair of southern gentlemen met in the finals of the Sportcraft master singles, where Ike Gumer of Kentucky defeated Ray DePue of Tennessee 21-4, 21-8. Gumer was extended to three games in defeating Art Payne of Ohio to enter the finals.



It came as no surprise when Charlie Brumfield emerged the winner in the pro-am open at Louisville, defeating his doubles partner Craig McCoy in the finals 21-6, 21-17. Here IRA president DeWitt Shy presents the trophy to Brumfield as commissioner Ken Porco (left) and McCoy look on. McCoy gained the finals by defeating Dr. Bud Muehleisen, one of racquetball's legendary figures, in the semifinals. Brumfield had to win a three-game match with Marty Hogan on his way into the quarterfinals, but it was two games per challenge from there on in.





## Pro-Am Open Singles

|   |                 |               |            |                     |             |
|---|-----------------|---------------|------------|---------------------|-------------|
| 1 |                 | B. Schmidtke  |            |                     |             |
|   | Fred Mikels-Ky. |               | Hennen     | 21-9 21-14          |             |
|   | John Hennen     |               | Hennen     | 21-13 21-20         |             |
| 2 |                 | B. Muehleisen |            |                     | Muehleisen  |
|   |                 |               | Muehleisen | 21-3; 18-21; 21-10  |             |
|   |                 | C. Garfinkel  |            | 21-17 21-12         |             |
| 3 |                 | S. Strandemo  |            |                     | McCoy       |
|   |                 |               | Strandemo  | 21-6 21-16          | 21-15 21-6  |
|   |                 | D. Bledsoe    |            |                     |             |
| 4 |                 | C. McCoy      |            |                     | McCoy       |
|   |                 |               | McCoy      | 21-9 21-16          |             |
|   | Gary Lee Rivet  |               |            |                     |             |
|   | Ken Wong        | K. Wong       |            | 10-21; 21-20; 21-15 |             |
|   |                 | 21-14 21-3    |            |                     | Brumfield   |
| 5 |                 | C. Brumfield  |            |                     | 21-6 21-17  |
|   |                 |               | Brumfield  |                     |             |
|   |                 | M. Hogan      |            | 21-3; 17-21; 21-2   |             |
| 6 |                 | B. Dunn       |            |                     | Brumfield   |
|   |                 |               | Dunn       | 21-5 21-11          |             |
|   | Myron Roderick  |               |            |                     |             |
|   | Dick Ernst-Ky.  | M. Roderick   |            | 21-5; 15-21; 21-15  |             |
|   |                 | 21-2 21-10    |            |                     | Brumfield   |
| 7 |                 | J. Hilecher   |            |                     | 21-15 21-10 |
|   |                 |               | Strom      |                     |             |
|   | Ron Lazure      |               |            |                     |             |
|   | Ron Strom       | Strom         |            | 21-8 21-10          |             |
| 8 |                 | B. Thurman    |            |                     | Strom       |
|   |                 |               | Strom      | 21-7 21-11          |             |
|   |                 |               | Stafford   |                     | Muehleisen  |
|   |                 | R. Stafford   |            | 21-12 21-17         |             |
|   |                 |               |            |                     | Strom       |
|   |                 |               |            |                     | 21-6 21-10  |



## Amateur Singles

| Rank | Player              | Score                        |
|------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| 1    | John Hennen-Tenn.   | Hennen                       |
|      | BYE                 |                              |
|      | Jim Brubaker-Mo.    | Hennen (default)             |
|      | Bruce Kranz-Ky.     | Kranz (default)              |
|      | Hal Broderson-Ky.   | Hennen 21-9 21-5             |
|      | Jerry O'Neal-Ala.   | Broderson 21-7; 15-21; 21-13 |
|      | Mark VanFossen-Mo.  | Broderson 21-13 21-18        |
|      | Wes Whitler-Lou.    | Whitler 21-4 21-3            |
|      | Jim Jordan-Ala.     | Hennen 21-2 21-5             |
|      | BYE                 |                              |
|      | Jerry Livers-Ky.    | Jordan 21-7; 20-21; 21-10    |
|      | Geo. Drasin-Ky.     | Drasin 21-10 21-7            |
|      | Ron Stephens-Tenn.  | Jordan 21-4 21-16            |
|      | BYE                 |                              |
|      | Eric Gilbert-Ky.    | Stephens 21-9; 11-21; 21-17  |
|      | Ray Mayhall-Mo.     | Gilbert (default)            |
|      | Myron Roderick-Ok.  | Roderick 21-16 21-12         |
|      | BYE                 |                              |
|      | Bob Kostan-Ky.      | Roderick 21-6 21-2           |
|      | Dean Sorg-Ky.       | Kostan 21-12 21-17           |
|      | Evans Wright-Ky.    | Roderick 21-8 21-14          |
|      | David Brown-Ky.     | Wright 21-10 21-12           |
|      | Rick Russell-Ky.    | Wright 21-17 21-15           |
|      | Gil Champagne-Tenn. | Champagne 21-5 21-6          |
|      | Marty Hogan-Mo.     | Roderick 18-21; 21-12; 21-12 |
|      | BYE                 |                              |
|      | Tom Shivel-Ky.      | Hogan 18-21; 21-8; 21-5      |
|      | Steve Butler-Ill.   | Butler 12-21; 21-11; 21-7    |
|      | Chuck Cooper        | Hogan 16-21; 21-7; 21-6      |
|      | BYE                 |                              |
|      | Gary Stephens       | Cooper 21-7; 13-21; 21-20    |
|      | Len Wilson          | Wilson 17-21; 21-11; 21-15   |
|      |                     | Jordan                       |
|      |                     | Hogan 21-17; 11-21; 21-14    |



# And 'The Brum' Rolls On

perhaps the most determined player on the tour, has supreme concentration and court coverage, and rarely makes an error. He shot everything for winners up until 21-9, 13-3, when the Strandemo comeback began. Steve came back to 13-10, but a victory was not to be.

With Brumfield guiding McCoy from the gallery with such verbal encouragement as "Nice block Craig," "Move your elbow out more," "Be quicker on your trips" and "Use the Towel," Craig adjusted to win 21-9, 21-16.

You have to realize that Strandemo is the fiercest competitor in racquetball. He has fantastic court coverage, is in tremendous shape, and has beaten Brumfield, Schmidtke, Keeley and Serot. That says something about how great McCoy's game was.

McCoy, being the modest individual that he is, said: "Strandemo wasn't moving as fast as he usually does. He may not have been in the super shape that he usually is. I have never played better though. I went for the shot every time, and my percentage was very high."

You'll be a Craig McCoy fan. He's a fine young man with incredible talent.

His win over Muehleisen in the semis was 21-15, 21-6. He completely

dominated play, and again modestly said, "Muehleisen was tired from his two previous matches, and I tried to run him, which I succeeded in doing."

We'll talk more about McCoy's match with Wong and Muehleisen later, in more detail.

When asked about his chances against Brumfield in the finals, McCoy replied, "Brumfield is another

---

**'I have to shoot  
better than I ever  
have to beat him'**

---

story. He controls the court so well, and I know I have to shoot better than I ever have to beat him."

Pre-match odds were going at 3-1, mostly on Brumfield's own promotion. In fact, the night before, he told McCoy to take the 3-1 odds, because they would be 5-1 by morning. No one gave McCoy much chance.

The first game of the finals was the most incredible display of racquetball that I and many others have seen since Brumfield methodically

destroyed Steve Serot 21-6, 21-6 in the National Invitational in Minneapolis two years ago.

Charlie won the first game 21-6 and committed only one error. Yes, one error. Bill Dunn charted the match for us. McCoy had ten errors. Brumfield had 17 kills to 14 for McCoy. Charlie also had four passes.

Charlie's adrenalin was so high that he literally was screaming at himself if McCoy made a good shot. He wanted to make sure that McCoy didn't get started.

In game two, McCoy started to get hot. From 1-2, McCoy went on a streak to go ahead 8-2. They jockeyed back and forth until 13-9 McCoy.

Brumfield got hot and went ahead 16-13. McCoy came back to 16-15. From 16-15 on, both players were shooting and making unbelievable gets. Brumfield won the match 21-6, 21-17.

What else can you say? Brumfield wins again. He wants the No. 1 spot, and he has got the incentive. I feel that is all he needs.

*Turn to page 56*



An intent gallery followed the play at Louisville. Right: Among the titlists was IRA executive director Myron Roderick (left) receiving his trophy from president DeWitt Shy. Runner-up in the amateur singles was John Hennen of Tennessee (right).





Roderick



Muehleisen



Wayne



King

Senior Doubles Champions

Runners-Up in Senior

## More Winners in Minneapolis Combat

[Story on Page 9]

### Senior Singles

|  |               |            |            |  |
|--|---------------|------------|------------|--|
|  | Gil Champagne |            |            |  |
|  |               | Champagne  |            |  |
|  |               | 21-12 21-7 |            |  |
|  | Bill Emnett   |            |            |  |
|  |               |            | Champagne  |  |
|  |               |            | 21-11 21-1 |  |
|  | Leigh Jones   |            |            |  |
|  |               | Jones      |            |  |
|  |               | 21-3 21-20 | Emnett     |  |
|  | Bob Marks     |            | Marks      |  |
|  |               |            | Marks      |  |

### Master Singles

|                   |                 |           |           |      |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|------|
| Ike Gumer-Ky.     |                 |           |           |      |
| BYE               | Gumer           |           |           |      |
|                   |                 | Gumer     |           |      |
| Art Payne-Ohio    |                 | 21-5 def. |           |      |
|                   | Payne           |           |           |      |
| Dan Hilecher-Mo.  | 18-21;21-8;21-6 |           |           |      |
|                   |                 |           | Gumer     |      |
| Harry Kletter-Ky. |                 |           | 21-4 21-8 |      |
|                   | VanFossen       |           |           |      |
| Don VanFossen-Mo. | 21-15 21-7      |           |           |      |
|                   |                 | DePue     |           |      |
| Ray DePue-Tenn.   |                 | 21-7 21-5 |           |      |
|                   | DePue           |           | Payne     |      |
| BYE               |                 |           | VanFossen |      |
|                   |                 |           | VanFossen | 3rd. |



# Women's Singles

|   |                        |            |                     |  |  |  |  |           |  |
|---|------------------------|------------|---------------------|--|--|--|--|-----------|--|
| 1 | Peggy Steding-Tex.     | Steding    |                     |  |  |  |  |           |  |
|   | BYE                    |            |                     |  |  |  |  |           |  |
|   | Jane Pritchett-Ind.    | Pritchett  | Steding             |  |  |  |  |           |  |
|   | Pat Guth-Ind.          | 21-7 21-19 | 21-1 21-1           |  |  |  |  |           |  |
|   | Kay Evans              | Evans      | Steding             |  |  |  |  |           |  |
|   | BYE                    |            | 21-0 21-6           |  |  |  |  |           |  |
|   | BYE                    |            | Evans               |  |  |  |  |           |  |
|   | Sheryl Richardson-Ind. | Richardson | 21-8 21-19          |  |  |  |  |           |  |
|   | Chris Akerman-Mo.      | Akerman    |                     |  |  |  |  | Steding   |  |
|   | BYE                    |            |                     |  |  |  |  | 21-4 21-6 |  |
|   | Suzanne Lyle-Ky.       | Lyle       | Akerman             |  |  |  |  |           |  |
|   | Clara Jordon-Ala.      | 21-1 21-4  | 21-15 21-5          |  |  |  |  |           |  |
|   | Camile McCarthy-Ind.   | McCarthy   | McCarthy            |  |  |  |  |           |  |
|   | BYE                    |            | 21-18; 15-21; 21-19 |  |  |  |  |           |  |
|   | BYE                    |            | Evans               |  |  |  |  |           |  |
|   | Teresa Darland-Ky.     | Darland    | 21-3 21-6           |  |  |  |  | Akerman   |  |
|   |                        |            |                     |  |  |  |  | (default) |  |



Rizzio



Divito

## Minneapolis Winners

[Story on page 11]

## Porco Thanks Helpers

It takes lots of help and lots of cooperation to make a big tournament jell.

The ProAm at Louisville was no exception.

Among those who helped make the event a whopping success were: Sol Baer, Paul Burke, Ken Edelson, Jim Elliott, Mel Eppinger, Tony Furman, Joe Goodman, Ann Hilecher, Harry, Lisa and Bobbie Kletter.

Also June Leathers, Gynne Leet, Mike Mace, Bob Marks, Fred Michels, Dick Oban, Brooks Phillips, Jean Porco, Don, Karen and Ken Rigazio, Rick Russell, Jim Townsend, Karen Tyler and Irene Winston.

Tournament director Ken Porco said the success of the event was due largely to the assistance these individuals gave him.

"A hearty thanks to all," Porco added.



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# SUPER

By DR. TOM HEITING

Almost any day of the week between 2 and 2:30 p.m., the noise level in the racquetball complex at the Odessa (Texas) Family YMCA increases noticeably as a lone woman begins her machine-gun-like warmup routine.

Warmup completed, this interloper into a supposedly male domain begins to systematically take on all comers and consumes them with a competitive appetite that even Duncan Hines would envy. Thus it is that a large number of Odessa racquetball players, mostly businessmen, are sent scurrying back to their offices to ponder the real meaning of women's liberation.

The person responsible for these assorted mental and physical outrages is a remarkable woman and athlete named Peggy Steding.

Just four years ago, this housewife and mother took up the game of racquetball. Since then she has amassed a record which appears to be right out of "Ripley's Believe It Or Not" column.

The achievements may seem meaningless to the non-racquetball player, but to those associated with the game, the record is astonishing.

After learning the fundamentals, Peggy played in a couple of local tournaments and began to display her intuitive understanding of the game.

One of her first tournament matches was against the racquetball champion of Big Spring, Tex., who arrived in Odessa to find that he was scheduled to play "P. Steding." Thinking that it was a routine first round match which would lead him closer to the championship, this denizen of the courts warmed up exhibiting almost flawless form.

Then in walked Peggy, much to his shock and surprise.

The visiting champ tried to set a gentlemen's pace for this somewhat embarrassing encounter, but after a couple of timeouts and an accelerated pace which challenged his entire cardio-vascular system, he lost 21-2, 21-3 and was seen fleeing from the Y being comforted by his perplexed wife, who in the throes of defeat had asked that the entry fee be given back.

After gaining some local experience, Peggy's abilities became so obvious to many local players that she was encouraged to travel to St. Louis to play in the 1973 International Racquetball Association Championships.

Her arrival was without pomp and ceremony and despite a few rumors about this "wild card from West Texas," Peggy quietly blended in and began to absorb some of the atmosphere which surrounds national championships.

This was the moment of truth. Armed with Odessa good wishes and a few Catholic supplications, she won an opening match and prepared to play Jan Campbell of San Diego, who was the No. 2 seed. The bets were all in and the outcome, a 13-21, 21-13, 21-8 Steding victory, threw the women's championships into a state of confusion.

Peggy continued her winning ways, gaining strength and confidence in each match, defeating Chris Ackerman 21-2, 21-4 and the ex-national champ Fran Cohen of host St. Louis 21-6, 21-6.

This set the stage for the big shoot-out between "Super Tex," as she now was being called, and defending champ Jan Pasternak, playing out of Tempe, Ariz. As the tension built, the odds changed almost every hour, switch-



Peggy Steding shows her backhand form

Turn to page 39

RACQUETBALL



# TEX

*Peggy Steding*

My name is Mrs. Peggy Steding, age 38, 5'4½" tall, weight 118 lbs. I have been married 19½ years to George H. Steding, and we have one son, Bo, 15, a sophomore in high school.

I started playing racquetball almost four years ago. I am a self-taught player and have learned everything on my own.

The first racquetball tournament I played in outside of our Family YMCA in Odessa, Tex., was the International Racquetball Association Nationals in St. Louis, Mo., in 1973. I won the singles and doubles titles. My doubles partner was Ann Gorski.

Then I went on to win the Canadian Nationals in singles in July of 1973 and finished third in the Men's "B" there. Since 1973, I have not lost a single game to a woman player. In the past eight months, I have won titles in Texas, Kansas, Illinois, Oklahoma, Washington, Canada and California.

I won the IRA's Nationals again in 1974 in both singles and doubles. Doubles partner was Ann Gorski. In the states listed above, I won the following:

- 2 "A" Men's Singles Division
- 4 "B" Men's Singles Division
- 8 Women's Singles Division
- Placed 2nd in 1 "B" Singles Division
- Placed 2nd in Men's Senior Doubles
- Placed 3rd in Men's Senior Doubles

I have never finished below third place in any of the men's divisions I have played in. I just recently won the "First World Racquetball Championship" in Spokane, Wash., Aug. 1. I won the Women's Singles title and placed third in the Men's Senior Doubles division. In the last year and a half, I have won five national titles (3 singles and 2 doubles).

Several San Antonio, Tex., men are building a \$500,000 racquetball and handball club. They are offering a year's free membership to anyone who can beat me. It is supposed to open in October or November of 1974.

I played an exhibition match Sept. 14 in Tucson, Ariz., at the grand opening of Mel Gorham's place there. I am going to be in Los Angeles in early September to play in the Los Angeles Athletic Club Open.

Before playing racquetball, I started playing tennis in high school in 1951. While in high school I went to State a couple of years. Then in 1955 and 1956 while attending Odessa Junior College on a tennis scholarship, I won State in singles and doubles two years in a row. Also, went undefeated those two years of college.

Since then, I have bowled, played basketball, and softball a couple of years in an industrial league here. The last year I played softball and basketball, I was in Sports Illustrated for leading our basketball team to an 18-0 record, averaging 16 points a game. In one game I was high with 46 points.

In softball, I pitched our team to an 18-0 record, too, and had 7 shutouts and 2 one-run games, each on error.

I have kept up my tennis, and also have played on our Family YMCA Volleyball team the last couple of years.

At the Nationals this year, I was the first woman ever elected to IRA's board of directors. I also was honored at Nationals this year by being elected IRA Women's Athlete of the Year. You can receive this award only every three years. This was the first year for it.





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Dixon, Wayne  
Win, Too

## It's Keeley At World Tourney

The World Racquetball Tournament held at Eastern Washington State College and the Spokane Elks Club attracted 116 participants in eight divisions.

The World Exposition did not distract the performers from demonstrating superb play in each of the divisions as they battled for the silver serving trophies.

The Men's Open Division witnessed enthusiastic quarterfinal matches with Steve Keeley downing Craig McCoy and Bill Thurman edging Dan Alter. The finals matched Steve and Bill, with Steve winning the CBS nationally covered event in two straight games, 21-5 and 21-17.

Peggy Steding not only won the top prize in the Women's Opens, but also was voted by the spectators and tournament committee as the most congenial participant of the tournament. Her Texas accent, helpfulness, goodnatured attitude and common-sense remarks won the hearts of many of the Spokane fans.

Peggy defeated Janell Marriott of Salt Lake City 21-3, 21-7 in the finals.

Mark Wayne and John Mooney fought it out for first place in the Senior Division with Mark's superb

One of racquetball's most competitive players, Steve Keeley, proudly displays his trophy following the World Racquetball Tournament held at Eastern Washington State College.





# Mark Wayne Grabs Two First-Place Trophies



**MARK WAYNE**  
Seniors Winner



**EARL DIXON**  
Takes Master Crown

play providing him the win in two games, 21-17 and 21-5.

Nationally ranked Earl Dixon showed his fine conditioning by soundly defeating Hal Price of Phoenix, Ariz., in the finals of the Master Division, 21-8 and 21-6.

The "B" singles and "C" singles produced some excellent play with Inland Empire players competing in the finals of both divisions.

In the "B" singles, Ray Oram of Spokane defeated Bob Stephens of Pullman, 21-17 and 21-18, in two well-played games. In the "C" Division the 43 entrants participated in an endurance test before Spokane's young Jeff Foss made a gutsy comeback to defeat Mike Leuck in three games: 21-8, 20-21, and 17-21.

Jeff's great determination and sportsmanship led to his selection as the tournament's outstanding sportsman.

Mark Wayne won his second first-place trophy in the Senior Doubles when he and Ron Starkman defeated John Ryan and Rich Garnes, 21-5 and 21-15.

The semifinals of the Open Doubles matched Charlie Drake and Steve Keeley against Bill Dunn and Dave Charlson. Drake and Keeley played two excellent but tough games, winning 21-19 and 21-18, moving them into the finals. In the other semifinal action, Bill Thurman and Len Stream defeated young Craig McCoy and senior player Ron Starkman, 9-21, 21-18, 18-21.

The momentum of Thurman and Stream was too much for Drake and Keeley as they swept the finals in two surprisingly easy games, 21-9 and 21-16.

The Saturday finals were capped by a delicious roast beef banquet overlooking the Expo "74" World Fair and the beautiful Spokane Falls.

"If you were unable to attend this year's World Championship, we hope you will plan to join us next year for our World Championships to be held the first weekend in August," tournament officials said. "For those of you that played in our World Championships, we are looking forward to hosting you again next year."



Tournament committee members for the first World Racquetball Championships were (from left) Charles Jackson, officials' director; Thorne L. Tibbitts, EWSC associate professor of recreation and park administration, tournament director; Dr. M. Patrick Whitehill, EWSC professor of physical education, tournament chairman; H. R. Koslowsky, director, EWSC news bureau, publicity; and Bob Herro, director, Spokane Elks athletic programs, awards chairman.





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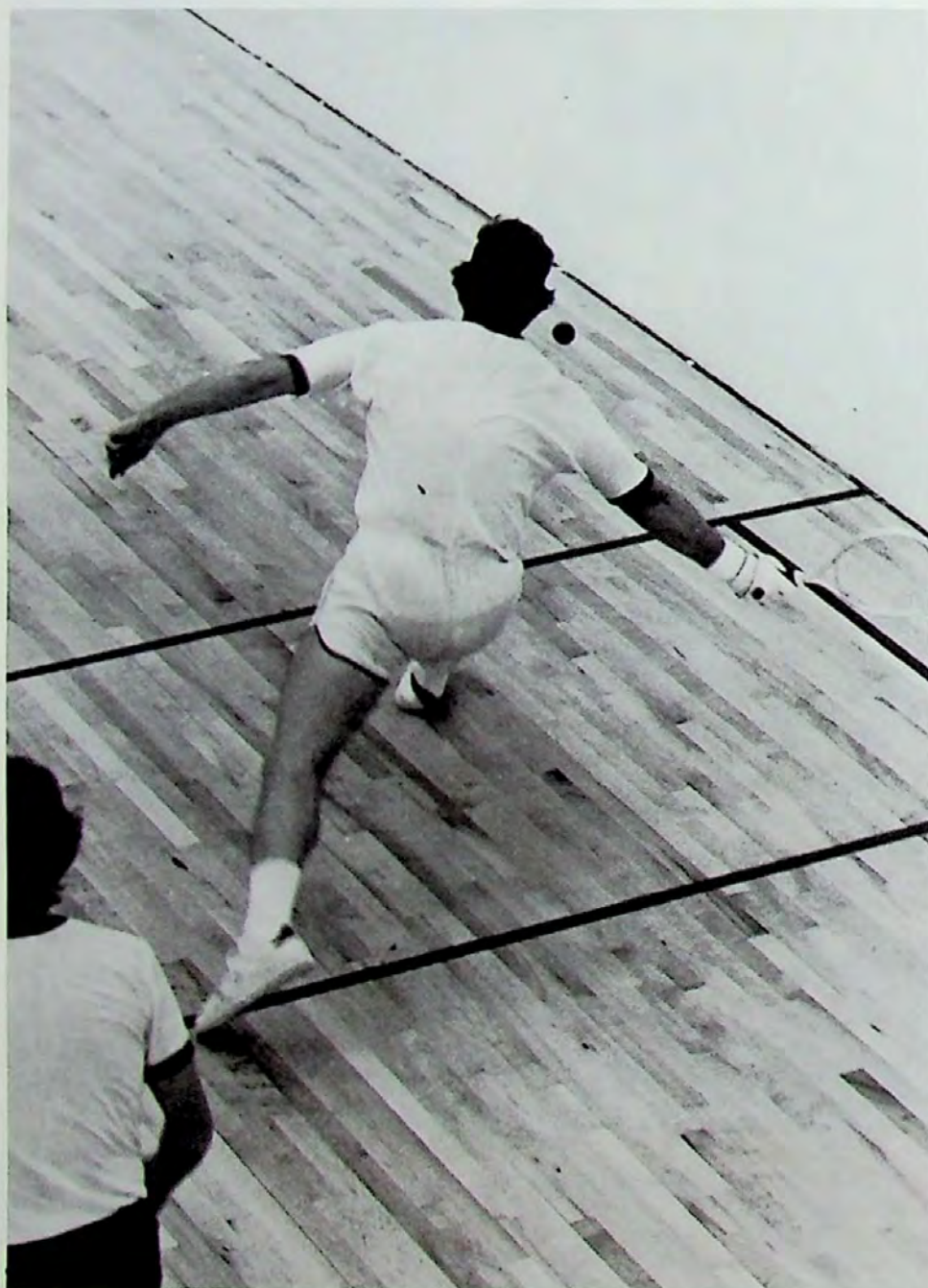
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One-hundred-thirty-seven entrants converged on the six courts at the Centre Tennis Club in Richardson, Tex., Sept. 20-22 to battle in the first annual Lone Star Open, the largest tournament ever held in Texas. Entrants came from Arizona, Kansas, Arkansas, Louisiana and Oklahoma as well as from all over Texas.

Myron Roderick, IRA executive director captured the top singles honors besting Tom McKie in the

semis and Jim Austin, Texas' No. 1 player, in the finals. McKie defeated his doubles partner, Luther Bernstein, for third place.

The tables turned in the open doubles division as McKie-Bernstein downed Roderick-Austin in the action-packed finals. The eventual champions beat Bill Sellars-Richard Walker (upset winners over 3rd seeds Richard Speer-Bob Hill in the quarters) in the semis, while Myron and Jim went three tough games before triumphing over John Jobe and Marvin Keener, professors at Oklahoma State, in the semifinals.

One of the highlights of the tournament was the spirited play in the "B" singles and doubles classes. B

singles had 56 entries competing with Kevin Meyer of Houston impressively walking off with the title. Chuck Johnson of Dallas took second while Loren Ferre of Denton finished third.

Meyer teamed with Mark Sandler, Houston, to win the doubles over Bruce Diamond-Phil Kolb, Dallas, with Ken Smith-Paul Thackara of San Antonio downing the Provence brothers, Carl of Stillwater and Jim of Dallas, for third place.

Carl Provence stormed in from his fourth seed to capture the senior singles crown over Tom Fox of Dallas. Bruce Diamond topped Milt Karp, Houston, for third. Finesse was the rule in this division as the players knew all the tricks of the trade.

# ar Open



The action was exciting, deep in the heart of Texas. In this photo sequence by photographer Gregory Kinney, Jim Austin of Houston hits the deck in his semifinals doubles match. After a brief rest to clear the cobwebs, Austin was back in action. Complete statistics will be found in The Scoreboard, on page 37.





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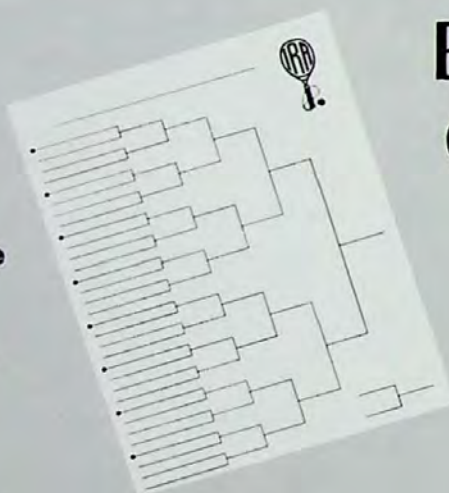
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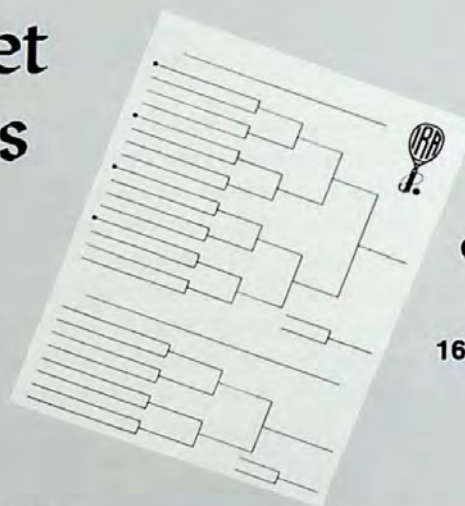
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## Dallas Open

### OPEN SINGLES

**1st Round:** Harold Cooper def. Carl Morris 21-3; Tommy Huffines def. Steve Cole 21-4.

**Quarterfinals:** Luther Bernstein def. Gerry Fine 21-4; Bill Sellars def. Cooper 21-10; Richard Walker def. Dwight Elmore 21-7; Tom McKie def. Huffines 21-11.

**Semifinals:** Bernstein def. Sellars 21-17; McKie def. Walker 21-17.

**Winners Bracket Finals:** McKie def. Bernstein 21-13.

**Losers Bracket:** Huffines def. Morris; Cooper def. Fine; Sellars def. Elmore; Walker def. Cooper; Walker def. Sellars; Bernstein def. Walker.

**Finals:** McKie def. Bernstein 23-31; 31-16.

### B SINGLES

**Quarterfinals:** Don Groves def. Loren Ferre 21-18; Jerry Brazil def. Ed Buford 21-12; Bruce Diamond def. Brian O'Connell 21-14; Tom Fox def. Brad Walker 21-10.

**Semifinals:** Groves def. Brazil 21-12; Fox def. Diamond 21-15.

**Winners Bracket Finals:** Groves def. Diamond 21-4.

**Losers Bracket:** Diamond def. O'Connell; Diamond def. Fox.

**Finals:** Groves def. Diamond, default.

## Helena Open

**Open Singles:** 1st—Zander Blewett, 2nd—Bob Stephens, 3rd—Gary Nygaard, Cons.—Mike Dalton.

**Women's Singles:** 1st—Sue LaLonde, 2nd—Jamie Abbott, 3rd—Valda Fortney, Cons.—JanDee May.

**Open Doubles:** 1st—Bob Stephens-Charlie Jackson, 2nd—Zander Blewett-Gary Nygaard, 3rd—Curly Thornton-Dennis Doherty, Cons.—Steve Bell-Don Goddard.

**B Doubles:** 1st—Zenado Camacho-Norville Nelson, 2nd—Tom Block-Bill Gebhart, 3rd—Roy Ryan-Leroy Bender, Cons.—Tom Carlin-Terry Cosgrove.

**B Singles:** 1st—C. D. Byers, 2nd—Dan Schulte, 3rd—Zenado Camacho, Cons.—Roger Sampson.

**C Singles:** 1st—C. D. Byers, 2nd—Terry Cosgrove, 3rd—Jamie Abbott, Cons.—Marvin Barstad.

**Master's Singles:** 1st—Charlie Jackson, 2nd—Tom Block, 3rd—Joe Luckman, Cons.—Peyton Terry.

## Lone Star Open

### OPEN SINGLES

**1st Round:** Jim Austin def. Kent Taylor 21-14, 21-5; Marvin Kenner def. Virgil Thurmond, 14-21, 21-16, 21-17; Roland Treat def. Bob Hill 21-18, 21-11; Luther Bernstein def. Phil Kolb, 21-13, 21-3; Tom McKie def. Peter Mitchell 21-11, 21-13; Bob Lampley def. Richard Walker 13-21, 21-18, 21-17; Richard Speer def. Bill Sellars 21-17, 20-21, 21-18; Myron Roderick def. Dan Groves 21-7, 21-16.

**Quarterfinals:** Austin def. Keener 21-13; injury default; Bernstein def. Treat 11-21, 21-11, 21-20; McKie def. Lampley 21-9, 21-10; Roderick def. Speer 21-15, 21-3.

**Semifinals:** Austin def. Bernstein 21-7, 21-11; Roderick def. McKie 21-11, 21-10.

**Finals:** Roderick def. Austin 21-16, 21-14. Third: McKie def. Bernstein 21-19, 21-16. Consolation: Hill def. Groves 21-14, 21-17.

### B SINGLES

**Quarterfinals:** Kevin Meyer def. Ed Barziza

21-10, 21-8; Loren Ferre def. Dennis Parker 21-7, 21-6; Jerry Brazil def. Paul Thackara 17-21, 21-6, 21-11; Chuck Johnson def. Neil Wong 21-18, 21-5.

**Semifinals:** Meyer def. Ferre 21-6, 21-2; Johnson def. Brazil 21-4, 20-21, 21-8.

**Finals:** Meyer def. Johnson, 21-4, 21-7. Third: Ferre def. Brazil. Consolation: Armondo Cortez def. Stan Keeley 21-9, 21-14.

### SENIOR SINGLES

**Quarterfinals:** Bruce Diamond def. Ed Gula 21-20, 21-9; Carl Provence def. B. J. Knott 10-21, 21-16, 21-10; Tom Fox def. Sid Ruffu, 21-15, 21-5; Milt Karp def. Harold Cooper 21-14, 13-21, 21-14.

**Semifinals:** Provence def. Diamond 21-7, 21-14; Fox def. Karp 21-16, 21-11.

**Finals:** Provence def. Fox 21-10, 20-21, 21-13. Third: Diamond def. Karp 21-10, 21-13. Consolation: V. Z. Lawton def. Harold Cooper 15-21, 21-8, 21-13.

### OPEN DOUBLES

**Quarterfinals:** Austin-Roderick def. Groves-Johnson 14-21, 21-15, 21-18; John Jobe-Keener def. Treat-Thurmond 21-12, 21-8; Walker-Sellers def. Hill-Speer 21-16, 21-20; McKie-Bernstein def. Lampley-Wong 21-10, 21-19.

**Semifinals:** Austin-Roderick def. Jobe-Keener 14-21, 21-14, 21-12; McKie-Bernstein def. Walkers-Sellers 21-11, 21-13.

**Finals:** McKie-Bernstein def. Austin-Roderick 21-10, 21-14. Third: Jobe-Keener, default.

### B DOUBLES

**Quarterfinals:** Diamond-Kolb def. Karp-Cooper 21-17, 9-21, 21-19; Ken Smith-Thackara def. Brazil-Bill Manor 21-10, 21-20; Meyer-Mark Sandler def. Cortez-Ralph Sturgeon 21-15, 15-21, 21-9; Provence-Jim Provence def. Lawton-Keeley 21-18, 21-17.

**Semifinals:** Diamond-Kolb def. Smith-Thackara 21-19, 19-21, 21-19; Meyer-Sandler def. Provence-Provence 21-16, 5-21, 21-13.

**Finals:** Meyer-Sandler def. Diamond-Kolb 21-12, 21-3. Third: Smith-Thackara def. Provence-Provence 21-15, 21-17.

## Maine Harvest

### OPEN SINGLES

**Men's finals:** Dickie Moore, Waterville, def. Paul Lazure, Portland, 21-19, 21-19. Consolation: George Sulokowski, Chicopee, Mass., def. Jim O'Neil, Portland, 21-5, 21-6.

**Women's finals:** Phyllis Dumont, Old Orchard, def. Pennie Radziucz, Cape Elizabeth, 21-19, 21-3. Consolation: Becky Warren, Portland, def. Nancy Woodman, Old Town, 21-17, 2-21, 21-17.

## Minneapolis

### JUNIOR DOUBLES

#### (Round Robin)

**Results:** Hart Johnson-Gary Bercu def. Larry Molke-Phil Rosenbloom, 21-1, 21-0; Marty Hogaq-Dean Nichopoulos def. Molke-Rosenbloom, 21-5, 21-6; Hogan-Nichopoulos def. Johnson-Bercu, 21-18, 21-4; Bob Adam Jr.-Mark Domanque def. Molke-Rosenbloom, 21-4,



21-8; Adam-Domanque def. Johnson-Bercu, 21-9, 21-9; Adam-Domanque def. Hogan Nichopoulos, 21-4, 16-21, 21-16.

**Placings:** Adam-Domanque, first; Hogan Nichopoulos, second; Johnson-Bercu, third; Molke-Rosenbloom, fourth.

## World Tourney

### OPEN SINGLES

**First round:** Bill Thurman, Larry Kraft, Dave Charlson, William Dunn, Lou Concha, Steve Keeley, all byes; Bob Lund def. Ray Oram, Trey Sayes def. Howie Rankin, Dan Alder def. Steve Strandemo, Charlie Drake def. Terry Fowler, Wayne Bowes def. Deniz Fonseca, Len Stream def. Curly Thornton, Craig McCoy def. Glen Hunter, Tony Krause def. Bob Daku, Doug Moore def. David Baird, Gene Altman def. Bob Herro.

**Second round:** Thurman def. Kraft, Sayes def. Lund, Alder def. Drake, Charlson def. Bowes, Dunn def. Stream, McCoy def. Concha, Moore def. Krause, Keeley def. Altman.

**Quarterfinals:** Bill Thurman def. Trey Sayes, 21-6, 21-6; Dal Alder def. Dave Charlson, 21-13, 21-18; Craig McCoy def. William Dunn, 17-21, 21-16, 21-6; Steve Keeley def. Doug Moore, 21-4, 21-11.

**Semifinals:** Thurman def. Alder, 21-20, 18-21, 21-10; Keeley def. McCoy, 21-11, 21-18.

**Finals:** Keeley def. Thurman, 21-5, 21-17. Consolation: McCoy def. Alder, 21-5, 21-11, 21-19.

### LADIES OPEN SINGLES

**First round:** Peggy Steding, Sue LaLonde, Sharon Freil, Sonya Sharp, Karen Raver, Jennifer Harding, Janell Marriott, all byes; Penny Keenam def. Heather Highmiller.

**Quarterfinals:** Steding def. LaLonde, Freil def. Sharp, Harding def. Raver, Marriott def. Keenam.

**Semifinals:** Steding def. Freil, 21-1, 21-5; Marriott def. Harding, 12-21, 21-8, 21-17.

**Finals:** Steding def. Marriott, 21-3, 21-7. Consolation: Harding def. Freil, 21-3, 21-12.

### SENIOR SINGLES

**Quarterfinals:** Mark Wayne def. Lew Wilson, Lou Concha def. Pic Piccini, John Mooney def. Dan Buehler, Sid Williams def. Charlie Jackson.

**Semifinals:** Wayne def. Concha, 21-15, 21-17; Mooney def. Williams, 21-13, 21-14.

**Finals:** Wayne def. Mooney, 21-17, 21-5. Consolation: Concha def. Williams, 21-20, 21-8.

### MASTER SINGLES

**Quarterfinals:** Pat Whitehill def. J. Harvey Cornell, Earl Dixon def. Larry Kraft, Marcus Grant def. Giulio Di Furia, Hal Price def. Matt Slavich.

**Semifinals:** Dixon def. Whitehill, 9-21, 21-11, 21-10; Price def. Grant, 21-5, 21-6.

**Finals:** Dixon def. Price, 21-8, 21-6. Consolation: Whitehill def. Grant, 21-16, 21-10.

### B SINGLES

**Second round:** Jeff Foss def. Terry Friedlander, Bob Stephens def. Bill Land, Rich Peake def. Rich Garness, Stewart Bloom def. Tevie Smith, Deniz Fonseca def. Dan Nye, Murray Padden def. Richard Maxey, Ray Oram def. Steve Bell, Norbal Nelson def. Mike Hoonan.

**Quarterfinals:** Stephens def. Foss, 21-2, 21-2; Bloom def. Peake, 21-16, 21-9; Padden def. Fonseca, 15-21, 21-7, 21-17; Oram def. Nelson, 21-14, 21-11.

**Semifinals:** Stephens def. Bloom, 21-14, 21-13; Oram def. Padden, 21-6, 10-21, 21-4.

**Finals:** Oram def. Stephens, 21-17, 21-18. Consolation: Bloom def. Padden, 21-19, 21-12.

### C SINGLES

**First round:** Roger Boeker, John Mason, John Monis, Neil McCormack, Henry Schulte, Grant Pisko, Dan Nye, Stewart Bloom, Joe Aceves, Denny Boni, Ken Collins, Richard Buckingham, Ed Tarr, Dave Smith, Bill Beam, Harvey Cornell, C. D. Byers, John Bricket, Bob Stoyko, John Bruntlett, Bob Kasey, all byes; Kerry Frey def. Jeff Larson, Russell Gies def. Bill Ellis, James Freil def. Al Herman, Norval Nelson def. Art Redford, Jeff Foss def. Betty Johnson, Bob Corlett def. Phil Thompson, Richard Reinhard def. Sonya Sharp, Tom Hamilton def. Dave McCourt, Lew Wilson def. Eric Barkey, Carl Cadanau Jr. def. Dick Stiles, Jack Lenertz def. Duncan Gillespie.

**Second round:** Mason def. Boeker, Frey def. Monis, Schulte def. McCormack, Gies def. Pisko, Nye def. Freil, Nelson def. Bloom, Foss def. Aceves, Smith def. Corlett, Collins def. Buckingham, Tarr def. Reinhard, Hamilton def. Smith, Leuck def. Wilson, Cadanau def. Cornell, Byers def. Brickett, Lenertz def. Stoyko, Kasey def. Bruntlett.

**Quarterfinals:** Mason def. Gies, Foss def. Nelson, Leuck def. Tarr, Byers def. Lenertz.

**Semifinals:** Foss def. Mason, 21-12, 12-21, 21-19; Leuck def. Byers, 21-11, 17-21, 21-17.

**Finals:** Foss def. Leuck, 21-8, 20-21, 21-17. Consolation: Byers def. Mason.

### OPEN DOUBLES

**Quarterfinals:** Drake-Keeley def. Bowes-Daku, Dunn-Charlson def. Altman-Baird, McCoy-Starkman def. Peake-Padden, Thurman-Stream def. Lund-Krause.

**Semifinals:** Drake-Keeley def. Dunn-Charlson, 21-19, 21-18; Thurman-Stream def. McCoy-Starkman, 21-9, 18-21, 21-18.

**Finals:** Thurman-Stream def. Drake-Keeley, 21-9, 21-16. Consolation: Dunn-Charlson def. McCoy-Starkman.

### SENIOR DOUBLES

**First round:** Ryan-Garness def. Piccini-Slavich, Smith-Smyth def. Ellis-Hamilton, Starkman-Wayne def. Brickett-Lyons, Williams-Steding def. Herman-Whitehill.

**Semifinals:** Ryan-Garness def. Smith-Smyth, Starkman-Wayne def. Williams-Steding.

**Finals:** Starkman-Wayne def. Ryan-Garness, 21-5, 21-15. Consolation: Williams-Steding def. Smith-Smyth, 12-21, 21-5, 21-11.

## New State Chairmen

Five new state chairmen have been named since the annual Handbook issue of Racquetball Magazine was issued.

Heading racquetball activities in their states for the International Racquetball Association are:

Colorado: Rick Schliebe, 1325 Glen Arm Pl., Denver 80204.

Connecticut: Philip J. Panarella, PO Box 259, New Britain 06050, phone 203-229-0526.

Illinois: Robert Troyer, Lake Forest College (Mathematics), Lake Forest 60045.

West Virginia: Kevin Becker, 131 N. 20th St., Wheeling 26003.

California (Los Angeles Area): Phil Ivaldi, 12511 Orrway Dr., Garden Grove 92641.

## The Box Theory

(From Page 48)

ceptable one-half-foot cube.

3. It takes practice. Four basic and two advanced exercises were presented. Iron out the kinks in your strokes with this daily half-dozen, then concentrate on consistently hitting the box. Become nonthinking, effortless, almost robot-like in your actions. If the unemotional, logically executing Mr. Spock of *Star Trek* played racquetball, he would be galactic champ.

4. The offensive theory: for advanced players. Play the patient ceiling game and then capitalize offensively upon the resulting setup.

5. Whether practicing alone or playing under pressure in, say, the Rollemoff, Idaho, County Championships, think positively and exude confidence. Apply psycho-cybernetics. Envision the ball trickling out of the corner for winner after winner. If it does not roll out, it should have, and next attempt it will.

## Bumper Stickers

NEW!

Join The Swingers---  
play RACQUETBALL



25¢ each

Minimum Order \$1



# Starts on page 26 **Super Tex**

## She's a great competitor, that Peggy

ing back and forth between the two women.

In the end it was a well-deserved, hard-fought 21-19, 21-14 victory for the new West Texas champion.

The match, which offered spectators two drastically different styles, ultimately was decided by conditioning, which ironically in this case favored the 37-year-old housewife over the 20-year-old student from Arizona State.

Peggy put some frosting on the cake when she and pick-a-partner Ann Gorski of Milwaukee won the doubles title 21-15, 21-8 over Joan Zuckerman and Sheila Siegel, both of St. Louis.

With her newly won laurels, Peggy returned to a warm reception of her friends at the Midland-Odessa air terminal. After a day's rest, she was back at the drawing board, and around 2:30, the Odessa Y once again returned to normal with "Super Tex's" machine-gun-like warmup routine.

Since her triumphs in St. Louis, Peggy has collected numerous titles in all parts of the United States and Canada. In addition to winning the Canadian Nationals Women's Singles in July of 1973, she has scored victories in Texas, Kansas, Illinois, Oklahoma, Washington, and California.

Peggy travelled to San Diego in June of this year to defend her National titles. Needless to say, her presence commanded considerably more attention than in the past year.

Prior to her departure, the champ was told by her local playing partners that nobody was within 10 points of her caliber of game in the women's division. If you're interested, Mrs. Steding won the singles title and in only one game out of four matches did an opponent score more than 10 points.

These matches included victories over No. 4 seed Jan Campbell 21-10, 21-13 and an easy repeat championship victory over Jan Pasternak 21-8, 21-6.

In the doubles competition, Peggy and Ann Gorski secured a second title with a 21-15, 21-16 victory over Campbell and Kathy Williams of Hazel Park, Mich. She was the only No. 1 seed in seven divisions to win.

The publicity covering the national racquetball tourney this year was impressive. In addition to newspaper and radio-TV coverage, Sports Illustrated sent one of its sports writers to report on the results. Unfortunately the article, although substantial, was mediocre and lacked both maturity and the human touch regarding the participants, including Mrs. Steding. Incidentally, the IRA Board saw fit to name Peggy "Woman Athlete of the Year" for 1973, and to select her the first woman ever elected to the board of directors.

Five national titles in less than two years—certainly an extraordinary achievement by any standards.

What's the secret?

Here's Peggy's analysis:

"I feel that there are several factors which have helped me achieve success in racquetball and in the tournaments. One is consistency in training and playing.

"I will play on an average of two or three hours a day four or five days a week. This schedule allows me to maintain stroke and shot-making consistency while keeping my 38-year-old body in good condition. In two-thirds of the matches I play, I compete against men, who place more pressure on my overall game.

"A second factor is the fact that I have been blessed with better-than-average speed and reflexes. This has really assisted me in developing a good sense of anticipation in moving towards the ball, shooting on the run, and not having to set up for all shots.

"I believe a third item concerns the type of drive and kill game that I play. I am not a percentage player. I gamble a lot and prefer to go for the shot which will give me the point or serve.

"I guess I should add that I am very competitive in almost anything that I do. I don't like to lose, and will accept defeat only after I have given the game my best possible effort."

This led women competitors to remark, "Watching you play and playing you are two different experiences."

It might be noted at this point that both Peggy's husband, George Steding, and her son Bo have completely backed and encouraged her participation in racquetball at the local and national level. There is a strong family spirit and a sense of pride in her achievements from her two No. 1 men.

The next time you're in Odessa drop down to the YMCA around 2:30 p.m. Peggy will be there, as will a very close and compatible group of racquetball players who are part of the congeniality of the town and its people.

Right, Mrs. Knight. Y'all come and see us now, y'hear.

Epilogue: Peggy added three more titles to her list recently. In July, 1974, she won the singles title at the Klondike Open in Edmonton, Canada; in August she won the First World Racquetball Championship in Spokane, Wash., and over the Labor Day weekend, she won the Los Angeles Open singles title.

Keep on trucking, Peggy!

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*In this article, which starts on page 26, Dr. Tom Heiting gives us the most complete story yet published about that fabulous woman of racquetball, Peggy Steding. Racquetball Magazine invites similar manuscripts on other leaders in the game.*



In the following pages is our report of the first International State and Regional Convention held in St. Louis Sept. 28-29. The convention was attended by chairmen from 30 states and regions. The man traveling the farthest was James Keith, our state chairman from Hawaii. Our hats are off to you, James.

After reading this report, if any of you have suggestions to the state and regional chairmen, be sure and let us know. We have a very dedicated group of leaders and I know they will

ere practice matches, at which time they were given instructions and assistance in improving technique.

Another area indicated that they insisted that all players in a tournament be willing to referee a match and that this agreement was a condition of their playing in the tournament. Players were assigned beforehand to the particular matches which they would have to referee. Another area indicated that the player was required to referee the match immediately following his match.

## The State Situation

By BOB FOLSOM

### *Qualifications of State Chairmen.*

—It was agreed that the person heading up each state should not be elected on the basis of popularity but should be a person with office space, secretarial help, hopefully a WATS

# LOOKING AHEAD

do everything possible to help improve the sport of racquetball both on the local and national level.

As executive director, I would like to say thanks to these leaders as they work to improve the IRA and racquetball.—MYRON RODERICK.

## Organization

### *Tournament Organization and Refereeing*

By LEIGH H. JONES

The meeting held on Saturday afternoon relating to tournament organization and refereeing was chaired by Kent Taylor. Most of the time was spent discussing refereeing and relatively little time was spent on tournament organization. It was our understanding that the regional commissioners had discussed tournament organization and that perhaps Len Stream was preparing a checklist of things to do for a tournament chairman.

It was the consensus of those attending this meeting that obtaining good referees is the major problem in most tournaments. Many examples were given illustrating this problem and also examples were given as to how local organizations were trying to correct it.

For example, in Memphis, it was pointed out that planning for referees in a major tournament started as much as two months in advance of the tournament. During this period, individuals who would be refereeing in the tournament were asked to ref-

eree practice matches, at which time they were given instructions and assistance in improving technique. Many suggestions were given as to how this might be done. For the most part these centered around improving the prestige of the referee. By so doing, it was felt that more individuals would take a sincere interest in the job and accordingly the level of competency would rise.

Grading the performance of referees; having tests to qualify as a referee; providing clinics and instructions for referees; forming an association of qualified referees; and designating those referees who had reached a certain level of competency by arm patches, arm bands and T-shirts would help in raising the prestige of the referees.

It was suggested that Racquetball Magazine devote more space to refereeing, procedures to be followed by referees, and the interpretation of rules. With more emphasis being given in the magazine on the problems of refereeing and how these problems could be corrected, it was felt that this might also help to improve the image and prestige of the referees.

These areas particularly were noted where more information would be helpful: instructions given by the referee to the players before a match begins, and examples and diagrams of avoidable hindrances and screens.

line, and generally in a position to devote time to the job.

*Membership.*—The need to increase IRA membership was discussed at length. It was suggested that the main office have posters printed to announce the existence of the IRA, its motives, how to join, advantages of membership, etc. This poster could contain a box to hold membership mailer cards. The posters could be sent to the state chairman and he could get them posted throughout the state in clubs, Y's, schools and colleges, etc. It was believed that the majority of racquetball players probably do not know the IRA exists.

Another idea was for the state chairmen to mail a list of players (non-IRA) to the main office to be used for mailing a special copy of the magazine. This copy could contain an appeal to join IRA and an application mailer. This could be a special edition aimed at the novice or beginner with special articles, etc.

Another way to increase membership, as discussed by the group, was to make inroads with the YMCAs in the country. In many parts of the country, the Ys do not recognize the potential value of racquetball as a means of building their own membership base. It was said that many Ys are still catering to handball membership to the exclusion of racquetball, but that handball players actually make up a small percentage of the membership.

Another suggestion was that the availability of reprints of the Wall Street Journal and Business Week

**SUPPORT YOUR IRA**



articles would greatly help break down this resistance to racquetball. These articles posted on bulletin boards and sent to key YMCA and university persons could further an appreciation of the game and the problem players have getting onto the courts. It was noted that at Purdue, racquetball players must give up the courts if handball players show up!

Facilities are a major problem in many parts of the country. It was noted that some insurance companies, banks, and other businesses, some motels, etc., are building courts along with their facilities. It was suggested that the main office use its influence to encourage the value of such construction to the business world. Perhaps the President's Council on Physical Fitness could be approached as another channel to promote the game. In Texas, letters were sent to university presidents and deans urging them to include racquetball courts in new building plans. The state representatives could do this in their states. At Purdue, letters including the Wall Street Journal article were sent to university officials.

The value of appearing on local sports shows, talk shows, TV and radio to put racquetball in the spotlight was discussed.

The need for an instructional or promotional film was felt by many of the state representatives. This could be a loop or slides or movie. A TV tape to be used in conjunction with an interview was thought to be a good idea.

The need to involve the military was discussed. We do not now have many members in the military, which could be our biggest single supplier of players. We need a feeder system or some sort of liaison with the service groups. It is understood that IRA is working on this problem now. Somebody stated that we need data, i.e., How many racquetball players as opposed to handball players in the country? Does racquetball harm the walls? Is it a dangerous sport?

State chairmen should help the YMCAs and JCC in organizing and conducting racquetball tournaments. We need the Ys and they need us.

Mailing lists are a key tool in promoting memberships.

One person expressed the conviction that tournaments are the best way to build IRA membership, but that if we increase the magazine to \$5, that fee on top of the entry fee might discourage participation. Perhaps a \$4 fee would provide the

states with added income and not be counter-productive in terms of losing the novice. It was pointed out that an active player with a growing interest in the games does not mind paying \$5 or more for the magazine—but that the novice would consider it unnecessary.

**Finances.**—The problem of generating money at the state level was discussed at length. The problem seemed to be the difficulty of assessing a state fee on top of the IRA fee. One suggestion that seemed acceptable to most was the idea of adding \$1 or \$2 to the IRA fee with the IRA kicking the extra back to the states.

Some states charge a state membership fee of \$2 per year or more. Others have no charge. Maine does not have a set fee, but sends an appeal to members as funds are needed. One state charges all people on the mailing list, many of whom are non-IRA members, to remain on the list.

Most states appear to need most of their funds for mailing expenses. It was suggested that the IRA could make state mailings if notified early enough. This would be a big saving to the states. The use of bulk mailing was discussed.

Although most states agree that they need dollars to promote the game properly, many cautioned against weakening the main office of IRA; however, many projects could be aided by the main office. *Promotional materials especially were considered an area of main office assistance.*

In Milwaukee, it was noted, each player in IRA-sanctioned tournaments pays \$1 to the state, as does each spectator, which also goes to the state. Wisconsin gives financial help to its players going to the regionals and nationals.

A question was raised as to whether an organized effort had been made to contact insurance companies and other businesses for donations and/or sponsorship such as the Travelers of Hartford has given to badminton. Travelers promotes badminton as a fitness activity by sponsoring the international open tourney and providing funds for TV coverage. The badminton open was shown on public television last spring.

**Magazine.**—Many state representatives expressed the belief that the magazine was the most important item in increasing membership. It is the only thing we have to sell except the game itself. The quality of the

magazine, although improved in recent issue, should be a major effort of the main office.

It was also recognized that the chief source of material for the magazine should be the states, i.e., tournament results, pictures, tournament dates, articles, etc.

It was agreed that the instructional articles from *Inside Racquetball* are highly informative and interesting and that more should be forthcoming. It was noted that in the case of the beginning player, a single article could change his whole game for the better.

The idea of a special issue designed to increase membership was generally approved by the group. It also was acknowledged that although the magazine loses money, it is money well-spent. A cost increase was thought to be worthy of consideration by the executive board.

It should be noted that both Myron and Dewit assured us that the quality of the magazine would improve and that deadlines would be met. Some persons did not trust the magazine to come out on time and thereby did not use it to announce tournaments.

**State Level Organizations.**—The matter of organizational structure at the state level was given lengthy consideration. Some procedures and suggestions:

—Wisconsin elects officials from several clubs who set up city and state tournaments, publish dates, notify Ys, etc. Each year in August a letter is sent with dates of tournaments.

—Some think it important to have state officers located in the same area, but others believe it helpful to have them spread throughout the state.

—In forming your state organization, you can use the existing IRA membership list in conjunction with a tournament and set aside time for a meeting to organize a state group. Some use a banquet setting.

—One state uses the IRA mailing list, plus their own list, to invite players to an organizational meeting with the stipulation that round-robin play will follow the meeting. This assures good attendance.

—The initial meeting could well be spent in revising a model of a constitution to meet local needs, setting membership fees, and electing officers.

Turn to page 42



—One state sends mailers to players of all previous tournaments inviting them to the organizational meeting.

—One state has its first meeting to nominate officers, but mails a ballot to players for election purposes.

**Legal Considerations.**—Some states were concerned about their liability. Should the state organization be incorporated? It was thought that this would not be costly if you can get free legal assistance. The matter of receiving money gifts was seen not to be a problem unless you get a fairly large sum. This probably could be channeled through the IRA main office and back to the state. The *giver* is the one who needs the protection, not the *receiver*.

Liability of tournament directors was discussed. It was pointed out that we should use the suggested IRA form which includes a covering statement. It was questioned whether or not this would protect the tournament director personally, and if it would not be better to be incorporated. Most agreed that this question should be given consideration by the IRA legal counsel.

It was also stated that persons who are teaching beginners *must* inform the players of the inherent dangers of the game—especially the possibility of an eye injury—to protect themselves from a negligence suit in case of injury.

**Tournaments and Refereeing.**—Tournaments and league play received some consideration. There did not appear to be many leagues existent at the present time. However, one state played each Sunday a.m. to avoid the facility crush. Clubs are reluctant to give up their facilities as they must serve their membership.

Many state representatives thought that the site of the national and regional tournaments should be open to bid and that these opportunities should be publicized.

One subject generating much discussion was the possibility of the main office—perhaps in the Guidebook—publishing a set of guidelines to be used in setting up tournaments. These guidelines should explain such things as round-robin play; seeding; double and single elimination; 31-point games; scoring systems, i.e., point plant, ladders, pyramids, league play organizations, and variations of all of these, etc.

It was pointed out that there are a few books that can be helpful in tournament organization but that we need specific ideas for racquetball. (See:

INTRAMURALS, by Pat Mueller, Ronald Press; INTRAMURALS, by Louis Means, Prentice-Hall.

The states need information on how to classify players. What are acceptable guidelines? How it is done in other states? Do we need to classify players?

States must work to establish tournament dates in August so that intrastate competition can be encouraged.

**Refereeing.**—Lengthy discussion explored the problems of refereeing. This is a problem area in all tournaments.

It was noted that the tournament chairman, according to the rules, has the final say in controversies.

The choice of referee is extremely important. He should be removed if incompetent. If both players want him removed, he must be removed.

It was suggested that a referee and two judges be appointed in semifinal and final matches. In this manner, disputes would require a two-out-of-three vote.

Certification of referees was discussed, as were several methods of upgrading the quality of refereeing. Many thought the idea of certifying referees impractical at the state level because of the need of *more, not fewer*, referees at tournaments. Other suggestions:

—That the referee should play on the level of the players in his match.

—That scorecards be revised to include a place for the players to rate the referee.

—That the referee's instructions to the players is of great importance.

**Ball.**—The ball was discussed and all agreed it is our biggest headache. It is understood, however, that this problem should be solved in the near future and that new approved balls are about to be produced.

## Regional Matters

### Regional Commissioners Meeting REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS

Site Selection: Each regional commissioner will discuss possible sites with state chairmen and potential hosts and clear selection with national commissioner.

#### Events:

1. Singles must be offered in Open, Women, Junior, Senior, Master's, and Golden Master's. Commissioners

*recommend* that all singles winners receive full fare to the Internationals as long as their bracket contained at least 16 players. Where less than 16 players compete, half fare will be offered.

2. Commissioners *suggest* that when possible, feasible, and desirable, a separate regional doubles tournament be held. Although doubles are not mandatory at the regionals, the Commissioners suggest that as many doubles events as possible be included.

#### Miscellaneous:

1. The 1975 regionals shall be held Feb. 28, Mar. 1-2.

2. It is *recommended* that: (a) entries shall be postmarked no later than ten days prior to the start of the tournament; (b) no late entries will be accepted; (c) the entry fee must accompany the entry blank for the entry to be complete; (d) juniors will be assessed no more than half the entry fee for other age groups.

There shall be no standard entry fee for all regions at this time; however, entry fees should be kept to a minimum (i.e., to cover expenses only).

It is *suggested* that entry blanks be mailed to each player in the region through the national office one month prior to the regional tournament.

A standardized draw procedure was discussed and Ken Porco was requested to look into a fair way of seeding and drawing for the regionals.

It is *recommended* that a player play in his regional tournament unless another regional tournament is closer to his home, for purposes of travel cost and convenience. Such a player must receive the consent of the commissioner of the substituted region.

It is *suggested* that regions be named and numbered, and that a map be created for the magazine.

It is *suggested* that the regional commissioner meet with the state chairmen at each regional tournament.

### REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS

A two-year term is *recommended*, with two commissioners leaving/rotating each year, beginning with the two senior commissioners (M. Phillips, T. Sweeney).

It is *suggested* that the regional commissioners receive a budget for such items as phone (credit card), mailing, travel (e.g., to regional for help in organization, etc., the night

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RACQUETBALL



prior to the start of the tournament), and incidentals relating to regional organization.

## IRA SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS

It is recommended that all IRA-sanctioned tournament dates be given to the national office in time to be published in the September handbook, in order to get the year's calendar settled and avoid as many conflicts as possible.

Regional challenges (inter-regional competition) were discussed, as were regional "Super 16" invitationals.

# Magazine

## Magazine Committee

By JEROME M. WINSBERG

The following is a brief resume of the Magazine Committee meeting. Present were myself, Marc Auerbach, John Reznick and Leigh Jones.

While all the committee members generally agreed that our magazine is first-rate, we all concluded that there could be some improvement. The importance of the publication cannot be overemphasized, since it is often the only link that the national organization has with its general membership. Also, memberships are often solicited and sold on the strength of the information contained therein.

We all felt that the addition to your staff of an individual with journalistic experience would cause the book to be presented in a more professional manner.

The following are some of the recommendations made by the committee:

1. Each edition should have space set aside for a column by one of the big-name players. This could be done on a rotating basis with each of our "Pros" adding an article each issue.

2. Continued stress should be placed upon input from the various local tournaments. It is understood and acknowledged that Racquetball Magazine can only print what is sent to it, but perhaps more emphasis could be placed upon the need of a free flow of information from the individual tournament chairman, the state chairman and the national organization.

3. The "Calendar" should be updated and care should be taken that the dates indicated are accurate. Again, since it is only possible to print the information the magazine receives, it should be hammered home that in order to have a tourna-

ment placed on the calendar, IRA headquarters must get the information regarding same by the 20th of the month prior to the publication. Along these same lines, it is also recommended that when the national office has information regarding a tournament that does not make the magazine, the state chairmen should be informed of the updated calendar by means of a newsletter. It is felt that this could be contained in the general communication that you furnish each state chairman on a monthly basis.

4. The format of the magazine should be reassessed and care taken in the arrangement of the articles in the magazine. It is hoped that there could be a better flow from beginning to end.

5. While it was not unanimous, it was generally concluded that the art work on the cover of the magazine could be improved.

6. Since new clubs are springing up all over the country, and old ones being reshaped to handle the influx of racquetballers, an interesting addition to the magazine would be a regular story on "The Club of the Month." This article could have an in-depth look at one particular club's operation, its facilities, and its management. This would be an added inducement for clubs to give members the finest facilities possible, in order to gain this type of national recognition.

7. Along the same lines, there could be articles of what's happening in a specific city to further the game.

8. There should be more articles on club management and how to start racquetball clubs. These would be extensive investigations into the management and operation of the various types of facilities available. Particular stress should be placed on the cost, the pro shop, the lounge, general information concerning what's best for the club and its members.

9. There should be at least one article every other issue on why it is important to become a member of the national organization, i.e., the reasons why you should join the IRA.

10. There should be regular space provided for information on the various clinics, and on instructional literature available nationally. Particular attention should be given to who offers the clinic, his availability, how much it will cost, and, naturally, where to get in touch with him. Articles concerning the teaching of racquetball also would be helpful. Further, each edition should contain a bibliography of all books and peri-

odicals available on our sport. Since it is obvious that the future of racquetball depends upon the ability of interesting younger persons in the game, articles should be written on how to introduce junior players to the sport. This would include recommendations to individuals and to clubs to sponsor junior tournaments, as well as making available facilities to children on a regular basis. Also, better players should be urged to contribute their time to taking a real interest in the juniors.

11. There should be more articles concerning the health aspects of racquetball, i.e., heart stress, weight loss, body fatigue, and caloric control.

12. On or before May first of each year, the state chairman in his individual area should furnish the national organization with state rankings. These should be published in the next edition after May 1st. Prior to that date, there should be a concerted effort to have the state chairman notify the national organization of his rankings.

13. There should be a review of all the different types of tournaments that are possible. Different and innovative tournaments should be given special attention, i.e., money tournaments, leagues, cut-throat tournaments, doubles tournaments, round robin tournaments, and celebrity tournaments. There should be general articles on the instructional films that are available. A brief review of each film or slide presentation could be a good introduction to this.

14. There should be articles of an instructional nature. This should include not only how to hit a backhand, but also such important matters as how to referee a game, how to choose a racquet and what to do in St. Louis on a rainy evening.

The committee also discussed many other features of the magazine and the game, which overlapped with other discussions at the convention.

---

## Seminar-Trade Show Listed

The first nationwide event of its kind—the National Seminar and Trade Show—opens Feb. 6 and runs through Feb. 9 at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, Calif.

Sponsored by the U.S. Court Club Association, the event stresses both racquetball and handball, according to Jim Austin, one of the sponsoring officials.

Target audience is courtclub owners and managers and prospective courtclub owners, Austin said.





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# The Box Theory And Other Goodies

BILL THURMAN SHOWS HIS FORM



By STEVE KEELEY

Baseball has the home-run, golf has the hole-in-one. And racquetball has the kill shot.

Rolling the ball off the front wall within inches of the floor is the name of the game. Without kills in your repertoire, you'll never make the jump from "C" to "B" player. If you want a step-by-step explanation of the kill-shot stroke, an instructional book such as *Inside Racquetball* will prove helpful. Rather than a picture-frame type enumeration, this article will deal more with kill-shot strategy, specifically the "box" theory.

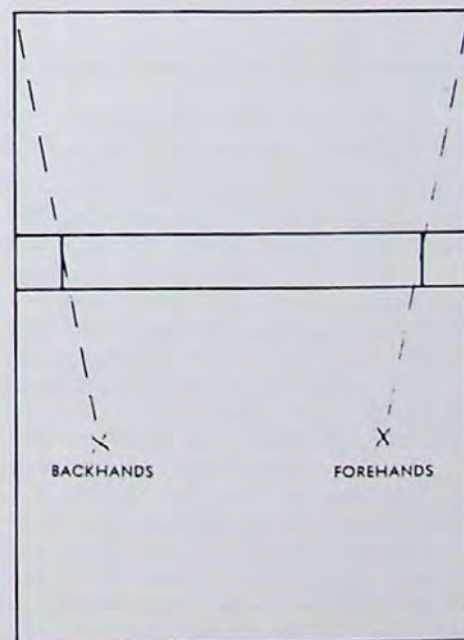
## Forehands in Forehand Corner

Let's assume you're satisfied with your stance and are ready to add a little sophistication to the offensive part of your game. Before introducing the box theory, one important strategic point must be made, understood and put into practice: most forehand kills (about 80%) struck from the forehand side of the court should be placed into the *forehand corner* (the righthand corner for righties and the left for leftsiders). Note the diagram. Again, this refers specifically to the kill shot and not to placement of lobs, passes, freak balls or what have you.

Repeating, most forehand setups, whether off a short ceiling ball, back wall or pass, should be put away in the forehand corner. Similarly, this holds true for backhands directed toward the backhand corner.

Why? Watching any nationally ranked player execute proper place-

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PROPER KILL PLACEMENTS



ment of killshots should be proof enough. It simply is the percentage play. Reasons:

1. The shortest distance from the forehand setup on the forehand side of the court to the front wall is a line from the set point to the forehand corner.

2. The natural side-spin English impacted to the ball by the racquet face tends to cause the ball to neatly "wrap" or run around the corner on a side wall-front wall kill (pinch shot).

3. When the offensive player is positioned in front of his opponent in respect to the front wall (as is often the case), a forehand shot sent into the forehand corner is a "100% play." That is, if the shot rolls out for a winner, a point or side out is scored. If the ball is left up for a two-foot-high kill (squash shot kill) which would normally be covered and rekill, the offensive player has his opponent blocked out visually and physically from getting to the ball. A hinder is called and you, the shooting player, have lost nothing. Note diagram.

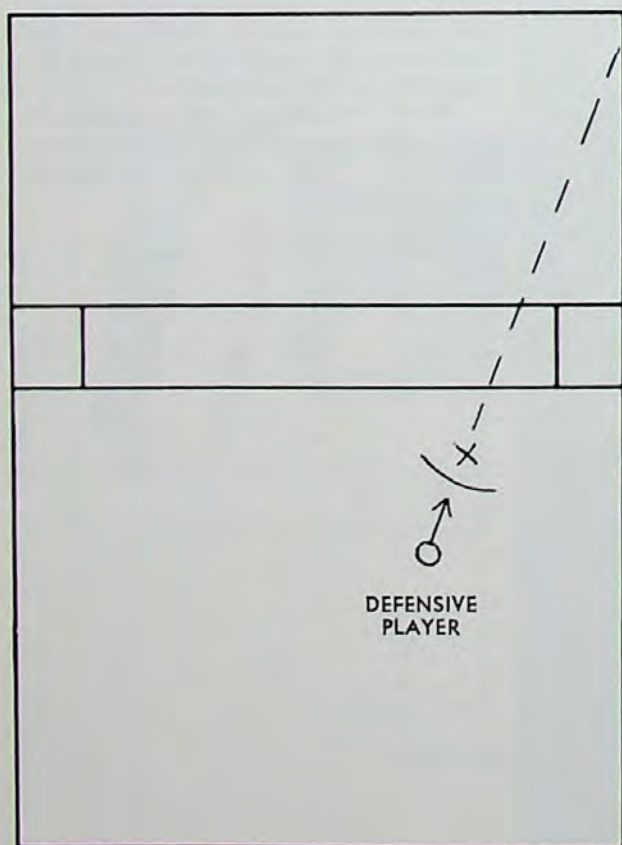
Charley Brumfield, 1972 and 1973 national singles champion, is especially adept at putting reason No. 3 into effect for the "100% play" every time. With an open stance like a bowlegged gunslinger, a wide backswing and follow-through encompassing about as much area as a brontosaurus chasing its tail, and with a

powerful lower torso as broad and planted as a century-old oak, the obstacle named Brumfield is an extremely difficult one to circumnavigate in order to get to the ball. All an opponent can see from behind Charley is one immense posterior and the two corners of the front wall.

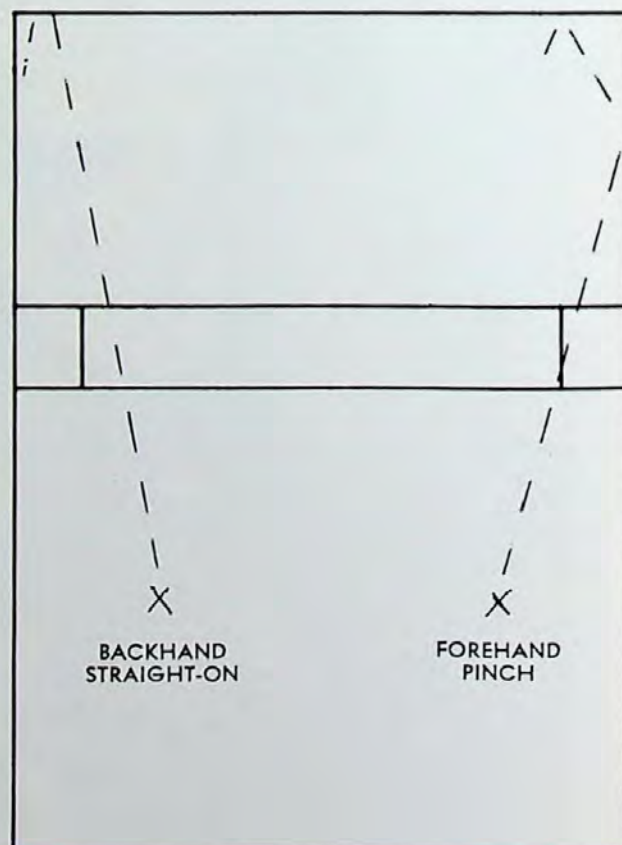
4. Finally, from the defensive



Be a brontosaurus in center court!



BLOCKING OUT OPPONENT  
ON CORNER KILLSHOT



TWO TYPES OF CORNER KILLS



player's standpoint, the natural tendency when forced into covering a kill shot will be to hang back at midcourt or slightly anterior in anticipation of the cross-court kill or drive (V-ball). The forehand corner on a forehand set-up therefore usually remains open for the roll-out.

Now that you're convinced as to the proper placement of corner kill shots, a question may arise: Which is better to attempt, the side wall first-corner kill (pinch shot) or the front wall first kill (straight-on kill)? It usually doesn't matter which wall the ball hits initially, so long as it is low enough. This is rather obvious. It generally is best just to aim low for the crotch (the intersection of the front and side walls). However, if you feel more comfortable in shooting for a certain wall first, then by all means do so. Racquetball is 90% feeling comfortable and confident in yourself.

For example, Steve Serot (ranked No. 2 nationally), the Evel Knievel of the court world, favors the straight-on kill. Ron Rubenstein, Chicago's tanned court superman, is a sure bet to pinch side wall-front wall almost every kill attempt.

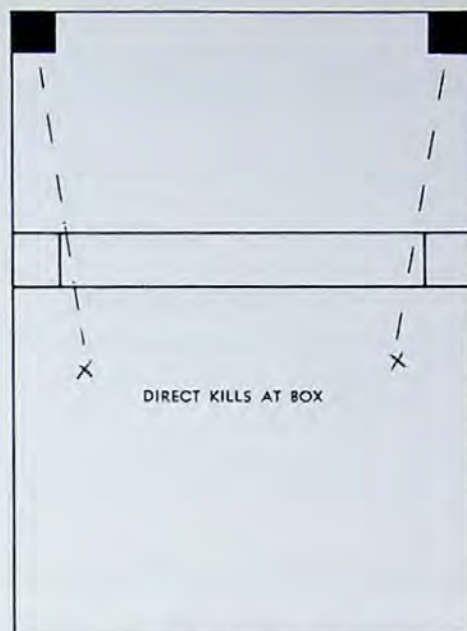
## The Box Theory

And now to the box theory of racquetball. All it takes is a little imagination. Walk into a court in your modest neighborhood YMCA. Gaze intently at the right front corner of this 20' x 20' x 40' stucco-ceilinged sweatbox. Soon a little box will appear in that corner resting placidly amid the plaster chips and cobwebs. The color of the cubicle is not important; most players cannot hallucinate in color anyway. The size, however, is significant.

The box you presently are pondering is one foot high, one foot wide and sticks out a foot from the wall. So it is a one-foot cube gathering dust there in the corner! Such a simple yet significant device has not been set forth since the development of the nonwooden racquet, atom bomb and birth-control pill.

For it is at this target, this one-foot cube, that the reader is about to direct his kill shots. The idea is to knock the box to smithereens with the rubber sphere. If you smote above the one-foot zone you have missed the box (and you have hit too high a kill shot which can be easily covered by the enemy camp). If the ball hits the floor before reaching the foot cubic bin, you have erred—a skip

ball. Note diagram.



THE BOX THEORY

The concept behind the box theory can best be understood by an analogy in archery. If one stood with a bow and arrows at 39 feet from the front wall in a racquetball court and aimed for a quarter taped on the front wall, undoubtedly one would score a miss. Not only miss, the arrow probably would be very wide of the target. But if one taped a paper plate to the front wall and pasted the quarter in the center of the plate, it would be a different story. Most of the arrows would strike within close vicinity of the coin; certainly most would contact the paper plate. Such is the case with the kill shot in racquetball.

When I instruct students to strike the ball at a general area rather than aim for a particular bullseye on the front wall, it is apparent they are more relaxed in their physical motion and more mentally sure of themselves. The result is many more roll outs and fewer wild shots. Execution in any sport, once one possesses the required physical skills (e.g. proper strokes), is purely psychological. Use a psychological crutch; disturb those dormant cob webs, plaster chips and dust piles in the corner nearly every-time by shooting at the box.

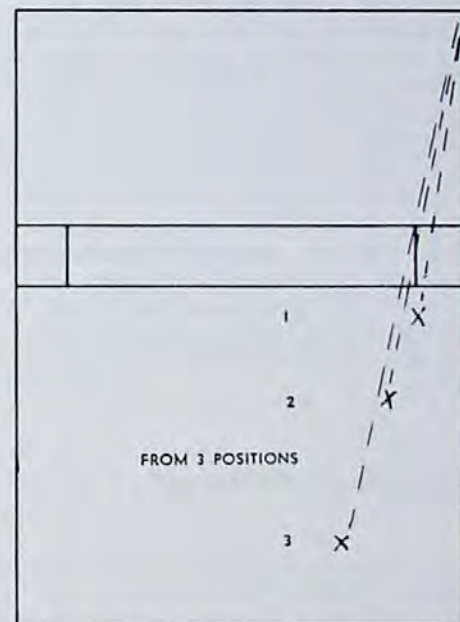
## No Success Via Osmosis

Words are of little use. Any athletic instructor, despite his genius and his pupil's natural prowess, could expound verbally for hours with little transmission of talent from teacher to student.

Now that the reader is aware of

the box theory, it requires only diligent practice to fully realize what an aid this can be. Not just looking at the box sitting in the corner; not just observing better players in action; not solely taking lessons, and not just practice matches and tournament play. All these ingredients make up the pot of success, but the major component is solo practice. For when one practices alone in the court he can concentrate on one specific shot or strategy without the interruption of other shots and strategies. The solitary player also hits about four times as many shots in a given amount of time as he would if playing a game with someone else.

How to practice alone? Here are six basic *kill shot exercises* for the forehand. (Backhand exercises are the same but use the backhand stroke to direct kills toward the box occupying the backhand corner near the front wall.) Note the diagrams.



KILLSHOT EXERCISE #1

1. *Drop and kill*—Self-explanatory. Drop the ball and attempt to kill it. Do this one from three positions on the court as indicated on the diagram. Go for the box.

2. *Set up and kill*—Give yourself an easy rebound setup off the front wall and try to kill it. Done from two positions on the court. Aim for the box.

3. *Back wall kill*—Toss the ball into the back wall and kill after the first bounce off the floor.

4. *Back wall set up and kill*—Stand just behind the second service box short line and give yourself a setup off the back wall, as might occur during a game. Gallop back after the ball, set up and kill into the

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proper corner. (Do *not* initially stand near the back wall to make the setup on this exercise. After all, you will not be clairvoyantly stationed here for a back wall setup during an actual game.)

#### Advanced exercises:

5. *Ceiling set up and kill*—Hit yourself a ceiling ball that falls short of the back wall (at about three-quarter court). Shoot for the box.

6. *Volley kill*—The last shot to be mastered in racquetball, paddleball or handball usually is the fly kill. From two positions on the court, rebound the ball off the front wall so that you have to strike it before it bounces on the floor. In this exercise, especially, the box theory is helpful.

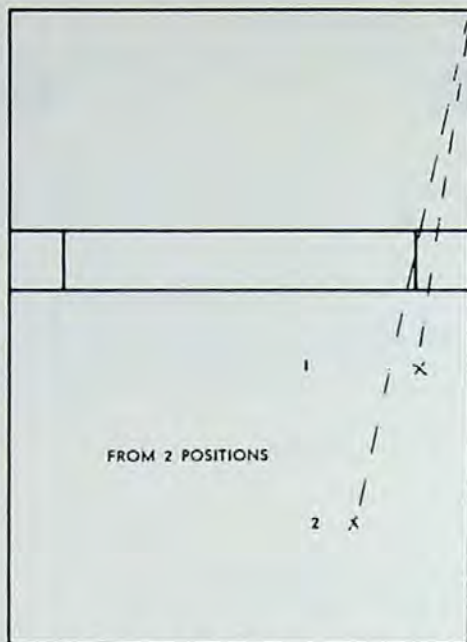
The last two advanced exercises give many players problems but are well worth spending time on, since similar shots occur frequently under game conditions. Once a certain adeptness has been developed with exercises five and six, the first four will seem routine.

How much to practice? The time spent is directly related to the skill extracted. Brumfield used to spend hours daily swatting dozens of balls from each position for the various exercises. Serot did the same, as did other ranking players. Remember, patience is a virtue. Although you practice what you know and already can do, you will discover and conquer things you did not know and could not do.

## The Offensive Theory

A famous wrestling coach once sagely offered, "The offensive matman will beat the counter wrestler almost every time." This idea seems to hold true in other sports, and especially so in racquetball. A good kill-shot producer generally will trounce a decent kill-shot coverer because of the nature of the game and its utensils. Perpetually chasing down a ball so lively struck by a racquet strung so powerfully is something like Tom Thumb pursuing a superball gone wild in a garbage can. Out of this somewhat overdrawn analogy is spawned the "Offensive Theory of Racquetball."

Applied to the advanced "A" player, given any shot during the course of a game, one's first thought should be to kill the ball. If the elusive sphere happens to be speeding along in deep court or if one is not set, then the second most offensive shot in racquetball should come to



KILLSHOT EXERCISES #2 & 6

mind: the "drive" (cross-court usually, though it may be up and down the backhand line). Only if the kill or drive cannot be executed should the third most offensive shot in the game (actually one of three defensive shots) be attempted. This would be the ceiling ball, Z-ball or around-the-wall ball.

Two important notes: First, the offensive theory is prescribed for the "A" tournament player who is able to shoot the ball consistently and drive pass shots with control. Second, the intention of this concept is not that every ball should be an attempted kill. The idea is to play offensively; when the awaited setup finally presents itself, don't squander the opportunity by hitting a conservative shot.

Among certain top-ranked players in the country, the entire game has been reduced to the following type of rally: The serve is returned with a ceiling ball to the backhand corner. This initiates a ceiling-ball rally of eight or ten ceiling shots until one player makes a weak return. This plum ball is then put away for a point, or side out.

The most striking example of the offensive theory in practice is portrayed by Serot's game style. Steve's shot repertoire seems to consist of just two: the ceiling ball and the roll off. Every now and then an intended kill shot will rise a foot or so for a winning pass shot.

Another very offensively oriented performer is 1974 national singles champion Bill Schmidtke from Minnesota. Lonesome Bill's forehand is the most potent in the game's history and he uses it to wallop a kill at

every opportunity. His game plan is best described by the handball *Sword and Shield* concept. That is, the backhand is used conservatively to avoid errors, thus patiently anticipating a setup to the forehand, at which time the coup de grace is applied.

Perhaps the only player of prominence today who has successfully employed a defensive mode of play is another former Minnesota roadrunner, Steve Strandemo. Exhausting his opponents with pinpoint slashing drives and a machine-like ceiling game, this mustached pogo stick consistently reaches at least the semi-finals of nearly every tournament in which he participates.

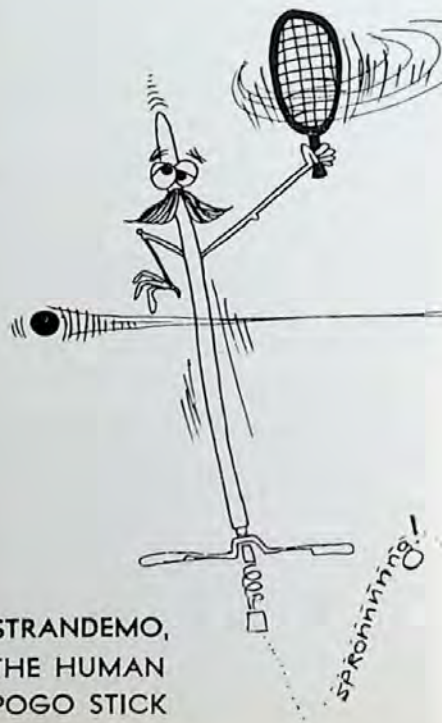
But who possesses Serot's unerring eye for the booming bottom board kill, Schmidtke's sword and shield, or Strandemo's coyote endurance? Not this writer, nor 99 percent of this writer's readers. Nevertheless, improvement is just a shot away. The path is practice, the guide is patience and the attitude one of positive thinking.

## Summary

1. Regarding kill shots, put most forehands in the forehand corner and backhands in the backhand corner. Become a Brumfield Brontosaurus and hog that essential center court position.

2. The box theory: aim for a general area rather than an impracticable bullseye. Shoot the ball right through that one foot cubic kill-shot coffin. If this cubicle is too large for your precise shots, use your imagination to shrink it down to a more ac-

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## Queen Mary Slated

The second annual Queen Mary Racquetball Tournament will be held at Ben Agagianian's Long Beach Athletic Club Dec. 26-29.

Categories of competition will include open singles play, Super B, B, C, novice women, open women, and master's levels, and doubles play at the Super B, B, C, and master's levels.

Negotiations are under way with the Long Beach Century Club to raise prize money for the winners in the open singles competition.

The Long Beach Athletic Club, designed by Agagianian himself, features five racquetball courts. Included is an attractive feature court enclosed in glass, offering seating for up to 400.

Those interested in signing up for the tournament should write to the Long Beach Athletic Club, 4000 Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach, Calif.

## Iowa State Open

The Iowa State Open Tournament is being played Nov. 22-24 at Iowa State University, Ames, under the direction of Mitch Roth. Entry deadline is Nov. 18.

Competition scheduled includes open singles, men's singles, women's singles, and men's doubles. Entry fee is \$10 for the first event, \$8 for the second, with a limit of two events.

## Costa Mesa Busy

A hotbed of racquetball on the Pacific Coast is Costa Mesa, Calif., where Barry Wallace, Jim Carson and Rick Kossler are building interest hotter than a plains states prairie fire.

From November, 1974, through June, 1975, the Orange Coast College Racquetball Club there will play host to five different tournaments, including the National Singles and Doubles June 20-22 (see Calendar).

Wallace is tournament director, Carson, assistant director, and Kossler serves as president of the OCC Racquetball Club.

Divisions in the tournaments are carefully defined for the outdoor competition. Information is available from Wallace at 2701 Fairview Rd., Costa Mesa, Calif. 92626.

## Time to Renew

Don't forget to renew your membership in the International Racquetball Association for 1975. When you renew yours, get one new member among your friends for 1975. Do this today!

## College Dean Wins

Terry Taylor won the 1974 Tri-County Mitchell Piping Tournament at the North Canton, Ohio, YMCA Sept. 22.

Taylor, dean at Mt. Union College, was seeded second and was the runner-up during the 1973 tournament. He defeated Nick Tabellion in the finals, 21-4 and 21-10.

In the semifinals, Taylor won over Ron Akins, chairman of the three-day event. It was the only match that carried either man into three games. In the three matches prior to meeting Taylor, Akins allowed an average of only four points per game.

Tabellion defeated the top seed and last year's champ, Don Nelson, in the other semifinal match.

"Dirty Harry" Mitchell, tournament sponsor, awarded trophies and prizes to the top four contestants. Entries came from seven cities.

## Pat Schmidt Wins

Pat Schmidt of the suburban YMCA defeated Ann Jackson of the JCC in the recently completed fall Women's Open Singles Tournament held at the Milwaukee Handball and Racquetball Club.

Pat beat Ann in two games and is regarded as one of the better up-and-coming young players to watch on the women's scene.



Ann Jackson (left) and Pat Schmidt





## Midwestern Slated

Six events plus consolations have been scheduled for the Midwestern Open Racquetball Tournament Feb. 7-9.

Site is the Lansing, Mich., YMCA, 301 W. Lenawee, and IRA membership is required.

Events slated are open singles, B and C singles, master singles and both women's open and women's novice singles.

Consolation matches or double elimination will be played in all divisions, according to Jim Pruitt.

Entry fee will be \$12 per person for each event, and souvenirs are planned for all participants. A banquet also is planned. Those interested should contact Pruitt at 3020 Gibson St., Lansing, Mich. 48910, or Larry Scramlin at the Lansing YMCA.

## Aberdeen Dual

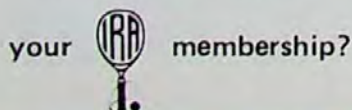
Aberdeen Proving Ground defeated the Jewish Community Center of Baltimore in a dual meet Oct. 6.

The results:

**Singles:** Ron Brooke, Aberdeen, def. Gary Zipper, 17-21, 21-11, 21-6; Jack Graham, Aberdeen, def. Milt Rosenbaum, 21-12, 21-1; Tom Lucas, Aberdeen, def. Leon Goldberg, 21-13, 21-12; Henry Friedlander, JCC, defeated Bill Barnhardt, 21-20, 21-14; Art Askew, Aberdeen, def. Sid Nicholson, 21-6, 21-9; John Rourke, Aberdeen, def. Milt Rosenbaum, 17-21, 21-18, 21-16.

**Doubles:** Graham-Riley, Aberdeen, def. Zipper-Friedlander, 21-6, 21-11; Brooke-Ungerleider, Aberdeen, def. Goldberg-Nicholson, 21-16, 21-10; Gutin-Zipper, JCC, def. Askew-Lucas, 18-21, 21-10, 21-6.

Have you renewed



## Grapes Captures Sixth Crown at Scranton

Gene Grapes, Irwin, Pa., won his sixth Pennsylvania YMCA Open Singles Tournament recently in Scranton, Pa.

Playing a cautious shooting game, the tournament-wise Grapes didn't drop a game in five matches. John Musewicz of Scranton placed second.

Later, asked why Dr. Al Schattner isn't his master's partner anymore, Gene said, "He's got to grow up. The 1973 age-rule changes made him a kid again!"

Al turns 45 in 1975.

## 15 Kansans Compete

The Garden City, Kan., YMCA was host for the First Annual Farm Bureau Sunflower Invitational Tournament Sept. 13-15.

The women's singles tournament drew 15 participants for the double-elimination competition.

Trophy winners were Sharon Brundage, first; Regina Livingston, second; Pat Alpers, third. Each entry was given a shirt as well as lunches for the three-day event, sponsored by the local Farm Bureau Agent, J. Wayne Chambers.



**SHATTNER AND GRAPES**  
'He's got to grow up'



Winners in the Garden City, Kans., Y meet line up for the honors. From left are Pat Alpers, third-place winner; Sharon Brundage, first; Regina Livingston, second, and Barbara Wicks, tournament director.



## Pueblo Indoor Held

The first official indoor racquetball tournament held in Pueblo, Colo., was staged at the Pueblo YMCA's two new courts Oct. 26 and 27 with a men's singles affair in which 10 players participated. The Y has the only indoor, regulation courts in this southern Colorado community of 100,000.

A Pueblo newcomer, 25-year-old Jeff Paul, defeated Dr. John Parrish, 30-year-old veteran, 15-14, 15-13, in the championship finals.

In the consolation finals, ex-grinder Andy Sabo from Southern Colorado State College won over Paul Clarkin, 15-10, 15-9.

Matches were cut to 15-point games by the Y's physical committee. It was felt that since the courts had been open for such a short time, the possibility of a player over-extending himself had to be eliminated.

The Y's new courts are part of a recent one-half million dollar expansion project, which includes a full-size gymnasium, indoor running track, men and women's health club, universal weight training area, game



room and other related facilities.

The court walls are constructed of plaster and paint, with hardwood floors. They are regulation 20 by 40 in size, and were constructed at a cost of \$20,000 inside a former all-purpose room.

Court fees of 25 cents per player will go into a fund to provide observation areas, and, if possible, a third court.

## Aguglia Wins

Out of over 60 entries, Joe Aguglia, graduate student from Rochester, N.Y., beat Luke St. Onge 21-9, 21-19 in the finals of the Nittany Lion Racquetball Fall Classic singles tournament.

This was a hard defeat for St. Onge to fathom, after his long

effort to be No. 1 at Penn State. But along came the spoiler Aguglia.

Aguglia didn't have to show much getting into the finals. Two out of three of his opponents forfeited because of injuries. Meanwhile, St. Onge, due to over confidence, was struggling to win two out of three in each of his matches.

The final showdown came and Luke was promptly blown off the court in game one 21-9. Between games, Luke searched frantically trying to find something to frustrate Joe's forehand.

The second game gave some respectability to the match with a marathon game taking over an hour to complete with Aguglia coming out on the better end, 21-19.

In a spirited and well-played match for third place, Golden Master's candidate Bob Tetrault defeated the "no kill, I can run longer than you" tactics of Harry Smyser, 21-15, 21-15.

## McKie Takes Dallas Open Competition

The Centre Tennis Club of Richardson, Dallas' newest racquetball facility, was the site of the 1st Dallas Singles Championships Aug. 3. The tournament used one game to 21 matches in a double elimination format to narrow the field down to two and then one game to 31 matches in the finals.

Tom McKie, the host pro, took home first-place honors in the open division, besting his doubles partner, Luther Bernstein, 21-13, in the winners bracket and then 23-31, 31-16 in the finals. Richard Walker topped Bill Sellars for third place.

In the "B" division it was Dan Groves all the way. In only one match was his opponent able to reach double figures. Bruce Diamond worked his way back through the losers bracket to finish second, beating Tom Fox for that place, 21-20. Brian O'Connell lost twice to Diamond and wound up in fourth place.

The unique format of the tournament drew a favorable response from the players. Since the entire tournament was played in one day, players did not have to tie up their whole weekend. In addition, the double elimination setup helped minimize any seeding errors and did not eliminate a player because of one poor match.

See The Scoreboard on page 37 for complete statistics.



Luther Bernstein is a picture of consternation as he tumbles in the Lone Star Open at Richardson, Tex. Bernstein went on to finish third in the singles and to team up with Tom McKie to take top honors in the open doubles competition.



# Calendar for Upcoming Racquetball

## DECEMBER

2-6: Milwaukee, Wis., City Women's Singles (A&B). Jewish Community Center, Milwaukee, Wis.

6-7: IRA Senior Invitation Singles, Stillwater, Okla., Myron Roderick.

6-8: Nittany Lion Open, Penn State University, Contact Luke St. Onge.

6-8: Eastern Kentucky Open (men's singles), Morehead University, Morehead, Ky. Contact Bill Emmett, Ashland, Ky.

6-8: Third annual Illini Open, IMPE Building, University of Illinois, Champaign, Ill. (Open, Senior, Masters, Women's Singles) Trophies 1-2-3 consolation. Entry fee \$12, one event only. Don Webb, 280 Natural Resources, Urbana, Ill. 61801.

6-8: Fourth annual Winona Agency, YMCA, Winona, Minn. (Open, Senior, Women's Singles; Doubles) Jim Anderson, Winona YMCA, 174 Center Street, Winona, Minn. 55987.

11-13: Milwaukee, Wis., City Doubles. (Open, Senior, Masters) Highlander Club, Brookfield, Wis.

13-15: Ohio State Championships, Cleveland State University. (Open, Junior, Senior, Masters, College, Women's Singles; Open, Women's Doubles) Ohio Racquetball Association, 127 Northfield Road, Bedford, Ohio 44146

TBA: Big Sky Open, University of Montana, Missoula, Mont., Gary Nygaard.

## JANUARY

9-12: Cowboy Open, Stillwater, Okla. Contact Myron Roderick.

10-12: Woodson YMCA Open, Wausau, Wis. (S&D) Limit 32 players, 8 doubles teams. Jerry Hoff, 3001 Rib Mountain Drive, Wausau, Wis. 54401.

11-12: Eastern Kentucky Open (women's singles), Ashland Area YMCA. Contact Sharon Lowe, Ashland, Ky.

11-13: IRA Women's Invitation Singles, San Diego, Calif.

13-18: Milwaukee City Women's Doubles. (A&B) Jewish Community Center, Milwaukee, Wis.

17-18: Kentucky State Intercollegiate, Berea College. Contact Leigh Jones.

18: Co-ed Doubles. Orange Coast College Racquetball Club, Costa Mesa, Calif.

23-25: Wisconsin State Men's Singles. (Open, Seniors, Masters) Western Racquet Club, Green Bay, Wis.

24-26: IRA Masters Invitation Singles, Dallas.

26-28: Pennsylvania Championships, New Castle, Pa. Contact Joe Jackman.

Jan. 31-Feb. 2: Kentucky State Singles Championships (Closed), Louisville Athletic Club. Contact Ken Porco. Brackets: Open, B, Seniors, Masters and Womens.

## FEBRUARY

1-3: IRA Senior Invitation Doubles, San Diego, Calif.

7-9: Midwestern Open. IBA membership required. Singles play only in Open, B, C, Master's, Women's Open, Women's Novice Divisions. Lansing, Mich., YMCA.

7-9: Wisconsin State Women's Singles. (A&B) Milwaukee Handball-Racquetball Club, Milwaukee, Wis.

13-16: First annual IRA Pro-Am Celebrity, Dallas.

14-16: Kentucky State Doubles Championships (Closed), University of Kentucky in Lexington. Brackets: Open, B, Masters, Seniors, Women's. Contact Jim Daopoulos.

28-March 2: IRA Regional Championships at 10 sites. Region 4 at Oklahoma City; Region 6 at Nashville, Tenn.; Region 7 at Richmond, Va.; other sites to be announced.

TBA: Western New York Class B Singles and Doubles.

## MARCH

1-2: State Doubles. Open, Class B, Women's. Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa, Calif.

14-16: Ektelon Pro-Am, Houston, Tex. Contact Jim Austin.

21-22: Iowa State Championships, Keokuk, Jerry Lucas.

21-23: River City Open, Louisville Athletic Club. Contact Ken Porco.

29-30: Maine Open Championships, Portland, Maine, Bob Folsom

29-31: IRA Intercollegiate Championships, Memphis State University, Memphis, Tenn.

TBA: Central Kentucky Open, Lexington, Ky., Jim Daopoulos.

TBA: Western New York Class A Singles and Doubles.

TBA: New York Men's Doubles.

TBA: Williamsport, Pa., YMCA Open.

## APRIL

10-13: Seventh annual IRA International Singles Championships. (Open, Junior, Senior, Masters, Golden Masters, Women's Singles, Women's Doubles) Tentative site, St. Louis.

11-12: Iowa State Seniors, Keokuk, Jerry Lucas.

14-18: Western New York Class B Masters Singles, Buffalo Athletic Club,

Buffalo, N.Y.

18-20: Wisconsin State Junior Singles, 18-Under. Milwaukee Athletic Club.

21-25: Western New York Class A Masters Singles, Buffalo Athletic Club. TBA: South Super 16, site to be announced.

TBA: Pennsylvania YMCA Championships, Greater Scranton YMCA. Contact Loyd Capnell.

## MAY

3-4: Intermediate Singles. Senior, Class B, C and Women's Divisions. Orange Coast College Racquetball Club, Costa Mesa, Calif.

12-15: Western New York Class A Junior Singles, Buffalo Jewish Center, Amherst, N.Y.

## JUNE

20-22: National Singles and Doubles. Open and B Singles and Doubles, Senior Singles, Open Women's Singles. Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa, Calif. Three wall.

## JULY

15-18: Fifth annual Klondike Open Championships, Edmonton, Alberta.

## SEPTEMBER

25-28: Wisconsin State Men's Doubles. (Open, Senior, Masters, Golden Masters) Western Racquet Club, Green Bay, Wis.

## Garfinkel At Louisville

*Continued from Page 57*

played only twice in his life, was hitting by himself. I asked if I could hit with him. He said, "I saw you play Dr. Bud, and you might hurt my game..."

Davey Bledsoe hasn't left Louisville yet. He's still looking for the sweat spots from his match with Steve Strandemo...

We'd like to comment about the food at the LAC. It's the only club I know of that serves Alka-Seltzer with its meals. I asked the lady in charge what a fly was doing in my soup. She replied, "It looks to me like a backstroke." Seriously, the food was really delicious...

Some people thought Ron Strom might be a jeweler someday. He was overheard discussing a pre-game opponent, saying, "I'll clean his clock..."

Thanks again, Louisville, for everything.





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## GARFINKEL AT LOUISVILLE

# 'Before I Knew It, It Was All Over'

It seems that all the exciting and best matches, except for the finals and the McCoy-Strandemo match, took place in the round of 16. In the tourney's major upset, Bill Schmidtke was beaten by John Hennen 21-9, 21-14. Hennen, a former football player who resembles Attila the Hun, just plain outshot and out-hustled Schmidtke, who did have trouble adjusting to the glass.

Schmidtke, being the true champ that he is, said, "I've never played so terribly. I'm taking up clothing modeling." No! No! Bill really said, "He was just shooting everything. I couldn't adjust. Before I knew it, it was all over."

Hennen remarked, "I was shooting uncannily. I kept shooting. I couldn't miss. I hustled and was very hot today. Best I've ever played. Thought he was going to start shooting."

We've kidded Bill a lot, but he is without doubt a true champion. He never makes excuses, gives his all, is a gentleman on the court—and has the most atrocious wardrobe in the western hemisphere.

Another top upset was Ron Strom's win over Hilecher. Strom is left handed and gave Jerry fits on ceiling balls. He shot beautifully.

Strom said, "I played my ceiling ball in his backhand, was aggressive, and covered the middle well. I angled my serves and kept the ball away from his forehand. I was also picking up shot after shot on my backhand."

Hilecher took his loss realistically. "You can't win every time, and Strom did play awfully well."

Another great match was Stafford's win over U.S.-6th-ranked Thurman. Randy is 6 feet 2 and weighs 170 pounds. He's like a giant spider on the court, and his gets were incredible against a despondent Thurman.

Bill had received a shock before the tourney. He was notified that he would have to report to work on Monday. Those of us who know Bill know how upset his nervous system must have been.

Stafford explained, "I tried to play

consistently. I was going to pass, shoot only when ready. I know Thurman is streaky. He played back; possibly it was because of the way I was playing. I returned serves to the ceiling. I've changed my game from all kills to control. I'm sticking to my game plans better, and it's paying off."

Randy is the present intercollegiate champion, and went three games with Brumfield in the National Invitational last year. He will be tough from now on.

Another interesting match was Brumfield's 21-13, 17-21, 21-2 win over the young and talented Hogan. Brum was ahead 9-4, and seemed to let up in the first game.

Marty came back shooting the eyes out of the ball. Brum got hot and won game one, 21-13.

Hogan was streaky in the second game, and Brum's concentration was poor. He let Hogan shoot, and Hogan put everything away.

In the third game, Brum completely demoralized Hogan by shooting and controlling the game. When Hogan was on, he was amazing.

Marty said, "I wasn't nervous. I really had nothing to lose. I couldn't have played better."

Marty, if he controls himself on the court and keeps his concentration, could be a future great.

Although 16, Hogan looks as if his Bar Mitzvah is in only three weeks. His hair looks as if he put his finger in an open light socket, and his sweatsocks look as if they are attached to his athletic supporter. He may someday be more famous than another Hogan named Ben.

Wong should have beaten McCoy. He had prepared for the tournament by swimming three miles a day in the rice paddy in his back yard, and by eating his Kung Fu Crunchies for breakfast.

Kenny won the first game 21-10 by plain outthrusting McCoy. In fact McCoy looked as he had in many previous tournaments. He looked very stylish, but just wasn't doing anything out of the ordinary.

He eked out the second and third games 21-20, 21-15. Kenny was seen with a long curved knife and seemed very upset after the match. He calmed us down by telling us he was just going to cut down some celery stalks for his chow mein.

Bill Dunn defeated Myron Roderick 21-5, 15-21, 21-15 in a hard-fought match. Bill was tremendous the first game. He was killing and re-killing Roderick's shots. Myron went to the ceiling more in the second game to win. Dunn just outplayed Myron in a good third game to take the match.

Bill looks like a poor man's Charlie Brumfield. His mustache is smaller, and his glass frames are lighter. Bill is one of the best-liked players on the tour.

Roderick, at age 40, is a physical specimen. His stamina and court coverage, his pinch shots, and his desire are tremendous. He covers the court like a man 15 years younger.

In fact, Dunn said the only thing that really bothered him when playing Myron was the glare off Myron's head from the lights.

Strandemo defeated Davey Bledsoe 21-6, 21-16. Strandemo played perfect racquetball the first game. He was hitting his ceiling shots, and shooting beautifully. Davey got hot in the second game, and Steve tried everything possible to slow Davey down. He caught him at 12-12, and won the second game 21-16.

Davey said, "I felt intimidated but couldn't really do anything about it." Steve is intense on the court, and is just fierce as a competitor. Davey is only 23, and he has a world of potential.

In the final match, Dr. Bud Muehlenen defeated yours truly 21-17, 21-12.

Bud made me feel great while we were warming up. He said, "Gar, playing you is better than drawing a bye." I realized, also, that Dr. Bud's heavy dental practice probably was taking its toll.

In our match, I rallied from 11-18 to 17-18 in the first game. I missed an easy shot, and I paid dearly. Dr. Bud won 21-17, and was ahead 6-0 in the second game. He was shooting his forehand incredibly, and hitting a great ceiling ball to my backhand.

When I talked later to Dr. Bud about his game plan, he said: "It is usually the same. I'm going to play my game. I don't want long rallies. That is why I'm out to establish good court position, make good serves, and shoot at every opportunity. My forehand is usually very good. How well I play depends on my backhand. I



like to hit an occasional overhead kill when the opportunity presents itself."

When asked why he is competing against the young lions of the game at age 43, Dr. Bud replied, "I love to compete. I'm satisfied that I finished fourth in this great tournament."

Dr. Bud will go down in racquetball history as one of the two or three all-time greats. On a given day, he still can beat anyone, but he has to be fresh. At 43, he is the smoothest stroker in the game.

Dr. Bud won the national championship at age 37.

The most surprising part of the interview was when I asked Dr. Bud how he stays in shape.

"I play two to three times a week, and it is mostly doubles. The main thing for me to do is to keep my weight down. Once my legs get tired, I'm in trouble."

Dr. Bud is always asked for advice, and he gives it readily.

As for the quarterfinals, we already have reported at length the Stran-demo-McCoy match.

In the Brumfield-Dunn match, Charlie never let Bill get going in the first game, which he won, 21-6. He was shooting and passing, and Bill couldn't get a set pattern going.

In the second game, Dunn started hitting really good ceiling balls, and the score stood at 10 all. From then on, Charlie took over and won 21-6, 21-11.

Dunn said, after the match, "I tried to keep him moving in the beginning. This is contrary to my usual ceiling game. Charlie's not shooting as well, but he is moving better. His serves were squirting off at crazy angles, and I did better when I started going to the ceiling. He's playing awfully well again. He'll be tough to beat."

Brum concurred. "I've got real incentive now. Watch out world!"

In the Stafford-Strom match, we had two players who were not seeded, and who had pulled tremendous upsets.

Strom, 29, is from St. Paul, and plays quite a bit with Bill Schmidtko. He has the Prince Valiant look and is a super shooter.

At the outset it figured to be close. However, Strom just shot everything, and Stafford didn't play nearly as well as he had against Thurman.

Strom said afterwards, "I was confident I could win. I was shooting well, and I was hitting my backhand better than usual. I made Stafford make a lot of errors."

You would never know that Strom was from Schmidtko's area. He actually wore a clean uniform for

each match.

Stafford's remarks were interesting.

"I couldn't find his weak points. I finally figured out that he was left handed. Perhaps I was self satisfied, in that I had beaten Thurman. I thought I could have hustled more, because I wasn't on the floor once during the match." (If hustle is determined by how many times you are on the floor, then John Hennen gets the all-time award.)

Stafford continued, "Strom played very well, but perhaps one win was enough."

In the final quarterfinal match, Dr. Bud Muehleisen (known as Fudley to his friends) defeated John Hennen 21-4, 18-21, 21-10.

In the first game, Dr. Bud shot everything that moved. He was amazing. Hennen got more and more discouraged, and let the game go.

You would have thought that Dr. Bud's second game would be routine. You don't know Johnny Hennen. He has a world of desire and never says die. In a dogged, hard-fought game, he pulled it out from 18-18 to win 21-18.

Not many people gave Dr. Bud a chance in game three. But he turned back the clock and completely dominated Hennen. Dr. Bud ran up a 19-6 lead and finally won 21-10.

Hennen said, "He is just a super shooter, has fantastic court position, and rarely makes a mistake."

As one interested spectator said, with plenty of tournament play plus work on his backhand, Hennen will be a threat to anyone.

He is one of the new breed. Men like Strom, Stafford, McCoy, and Hogan. We can be proud of these young players.

In the semifinals, it was Brumfield versus Strom, and Muehleisen versus McCoy.

In the Brumfield match, Charlie ran up a 14-4 lead on Strom. It appeared that Charlie was concentrating better, but not as well as in the past. Strom came back with some fine shots and passes to close the first game at 21-15 for Brumfield.

Brumfield dominated the second game, 21-10.

Charlie said after the match that he felt there was no way he could lose.

"I felt that I could win with the live ball. I'm moving well, and no one can beat me."

Strom remarked: "I thought he would be tougher. I was ready for his passes. I wasn't setting up well, and I should have hit my overhead drive more."

In the other semifinal, McCoy was beating Dr. Bud 21-15, 21-6.

Dr. Bud, being the man that he is, had this to say about McCoy: "He could have played like this a year ago. He's just getting it together. McCoy has outstanding court coverage. He is deceiving on his swing, and is deceptively fast on the court. He sets well, and shoots well. At 18-8 he lost his concentration, and allowed me to get back into the first game. From then on, it was all downhill."

In the playoff for third place, Ron Strom defeated a very tired Dr. Muehleisen, 21-10, 21-6. It will be interesting to see how the game's elder statesman does on the rest of the tour.

Strom also will be heard from. That is sure.

So there it is. Our first IRA tournament. It was an outstanding success.

In the other divisions, Myron Roderick defeated John Hennen in the amateur division, 21-16, 21-12. Myron's gets and pinch shots had the crowd on its feet.

Peggy Steding had complete control in the women's competition, winning 21-4, 21-6 over Camille McCarthy. Asked how she has managed to dominate the sport so easily, Peggy said, "I rely on anticipation, moving well, a good wrist, and shooting on the run. I always play against men when I can. I'd rather play than practice." Peggy, at 38, could well be national champion for a long, long time.

In the master singles, Ike Gumer, 61 years young, defeated Ray DePue. Ike said, "I played handball for years. I try to do everything in moderation now. I play five times a week. I play the younger kids. I used to play at lot of squash. The squash and handball have really helped my racquetball."

"I don't really feel that I have slipped at all. I shoot anytime that I can. My footwork is still good."

You know Ike isn't kidding when you watch him play.

#### *Tournament Tidbits:*

Freddie Michel's wife had a bouncing baby boy that weighted 7 pounds, 2 ounces. I was a little disappointed they didn't name it Charles. Congratulations to the Michels...

Mike Mace looks like Bud Muehleisen's younger brother. I must have played badly, as Mike, who has



Seedings ran true to form in the Los Angeles Open singles, with Steve Keeley defeating No. 2 seeded Steve Strandemo 19-21, 21-11, 21-13.

The open doubles went to Steve Serot and Mike Zeitman who upset No. 1 seeded Charlie Brumfield and Craig McCoy 21-9, 21-1.

The expected happened in the open women's singles, with Peggy Steding winning, while the veteran Dr. Bud Muehleisen, seeded No. 1, defeated No. 2 seeded Myron Roderick 5-21, 21-9, 21-19 in the open masters singles. Then Muehleisen and Roderick teamed up to take the masters doubles in a relatively easy finals victory over Zehntner and Moore.

The super masters singles title went to Stanley Berney, and the doubles crown to Ed Saylan and Kimble.

For the second year in a row, the world famous Los Angeles Athletic Club with the Los Angeles Racquetball Association co-sponsored the L.A. Open Championships. The top racquetball players across the country came to play in the men's open, women's open, and senior division. They were joined by a strong contingent of super master players (over 50), Bs and Cs.

On Saturday night Singer-Come-dian Bill Foster, at the piano, provided players and fans at the beer and pretzel party with top entertainment.

This tournament had a great racquetball following, 244 single entries, 79 double entries, 75 super trophies and fine food. Thirty-seven women competed.

The strongest C and B competition ever were well under way when the open play started on Saturday. Highlighting the first round was the fine play of Steve Dunn, who lost in three games to Mike Zeitman.

Greatly improved Roger Ehren earned 10 and 11 points against Steve Keeley. Al Portune, a fine

player from Los Angeles, lost to Dan Alder in two close games, 21-16, 21-17.

Players and fans alike waited most of the day to watch the first round doubles match of Thurman-Stream against Strandemo-Starkman. Starkman and Strandemo jumped to a quick lead and rammed home many winners to win 21-4. Thurman Stream came back to win 21-14, 21-18.

Keeley, Thurman, and Strandemo each won secondround matches in two games by defeating Craig McCoy, Dan Alder and Mike Zeitman.

Fourth seed Bill Dunn got by Dave Charlson in three tough games.

In the semifinals, Steve Keeley kept up his steady even play to defeat Bill Dunn 17-10. Steve Strandemo had a roller coaster match against Bill Thurman; Steve ran away with the first game 21-3. Bill began to hit with more consistency and won the second 21-18. In the third, Strandemo got Thurman off balance and won 21-10.

On Labor Day a standing-room-only crowd came to see the two Steves play in the finals. In the first game both played a cautious, aggressive game. Both players repeatedly made many fine saves and both turned defensive shots into offensive shots with Strandemo coming out on top 21-19.

Many spectators were claiming that Keeley could not win if he lost the first game because Strandemo had too much stamina. Others were willing to give odds.

Midway through the second game, Keeley worked up a lead of 11-7. Strandemo figured to wear down Keeley even if he lost the second (which he did, 21-11).

As it turned out, both players were in remarkably good shape and both came out for the third with some super-fine racquetball play. At 10-10 Keeley took control with three

straight roll outs, two down the right side and one on a left corner pinch shot.

From this point on he kept Strandemo from getting control of the center and slowly pulled out to win the match, 21-13.

Keeley is proving to be a fantastic racquetball player. He has developed a fine pinch shot, has excellent control and has the unique ability to come up with the big play to catch his opponent with a totally unexpected shot.

In the second round of open doubles play, Brumfield-McCoy, Zeitman-Serot, Dunn-Charlson won their matches in two straight. Alder and Keeley had a tough time with Thurman and Stream before winning 21-12, 3-21, 21-14.

In the semifinals, Dunn-Charlson made it tough on Serot-Zeitman in the first game by winning 21-11. Serot and Zeitman got it together with an overpowering game to win 21-6, 21-13.

Brumfield-McCoy had good team work and controlled the offense to win 21-17, 21-18.

In the finals, Brumfield and Serot were practically foaming at the mouth. They had stayed out of the singles to be fresh for their doubles play. Zeitman and McCoy were certainly ready to go full blast. On the left side were two young hard-hitting lefties opposing one another. On the right were two crafty veterans with a string of national records and titles.

Only a minor detail remained. Who would be the referee?

Dr. Bud Muehleisen was coralled but not without resistance. All players agreed to abide by his calls, and all did.

The claim is that Ole Casey with two strikes had the fans on edge and holding their breaths in Mudville. Child's play when compared to this racquetball game.

Serot and Zeitman blasted into the

By Phil Ivaldy

# IT'S KEELEY AT LA OPEN



lead. Brumfield and McCoy would blast back, roll a few out and use a lot of finesse to keep the ball in play. The critical difference was that Serot would get the offense going and Zeitman would get some hard hitting, well placed passing shots. On every exchange Zeitman-Serot would increase their lead, finally winning 21-9.

In the second game, Brumfield and McCoy ripped into the ball. Charley rolled it out, pinched it, passed it to get commanding leads of 7-1 and 14-4. Craig was covering anything left over like a cat. Serot would send a vapor ball into the bottom board and McCoy would pounce on it and send the ball back in spades.

Photon ball Serot. Spade ball McCoy. Rip ball Zeitman. Keep away Brumfield. 14-14 all. Time out Charlie.

Brumfield says he wants the front court and all come out smoking.

Brumfield rolls one out, McCoy saves a rally and Brumfield rolls out another. Mike comes back to rip away on the right side and Serot begins to beam in his photons.

Brumfield then sent Serot diving into the back court where he picked it up two microns off the back wall for a flat roll-out, for game and match point 21-17. Just great racquetball and fine sportsmanship.

One word describes Peggy Steding: incredible.

As usual she won the women's open competing against the finest women in the country. She beat Janelle Marriot in the finals 21-6, 21-9. Peggy also played in the Men's B and Senior Division but her partners just could not keep up with her.

Marriott reached the finals by beating Bette Weed in three games. Camile McCarthy, the Indiana women's state champion, lost to Steding in the semis and later beat Weed for third place 21-14, 21-15. Carmenza Pond, Donna Noguchi, Lisa Ornstein and Kathy Schrillo also placed in the top eight.

Judy Clemens worked her way into the women's novice by beating Beryl Lorenzen. There she played a steady game to defeat Shirley Topley 21-15, 21-18. Topley reached the finals by winning a tough and exciting three-game match from Kari Bradfield 21-17, 20-21, 21-19.

Jim Trent played a fine game and became the first senior player to beat Bud Muehleisen in one game before losing in a three-game match.

Myron Roderick won his semifinal match against Mark Wayne in two straight by maintaining a consistent strong offense.

In the finals, Myron jumped to a quick lead, won the first game 21-5. Bud came back with a strong offense to win the second 21-9, and had all he could handle before winning the third 21-19.

Two local players, Moore and Zehntner, teamed up to pull the biggest upset of the tournament by defeating the Seattle world champs in a grueling three game match, 21-16, 11-21, 21-9. Green-Wagoner and Concha-Griffin made the long trip south to take third and fourth place.

The B singles had 32 strong players, eight of them seeded. No. 5 seed Stan Wright played well until he came up lame. No. 2 seed Bill Stevens came through to beat No. 1 see Al Portene in a well played three-game match 21-8, 9-21, 21-19. Stevens had beaten a new strong player, Scott Gainer, 21-8, 21-16, in the semifinals.

In the B doubles the competition was fast and furious with many three-game matches. The Long Beach team of Ehren and Bryson defeated Grifalvo-Wright in open style play, 20-21, 21-17, 21-12.

The C singles competition proved to be an extremely strong field of 128. The eight finalists of Roger Nix, Chuck Ohleman, John Davidson, Dick Sawtelle, Julian Marks, Ray Scheinbaum, Bennett Rogers and Wally Roswall all won trophies and could do quite well in most B tournaments.

In the finals Chuck Ohleman with his quick play and never-say-die attitude, was able to squeak by Ray Scheinbaum 21-19, 21-18.

In C doubles, Rusnich and Gibson overpowered a strong 37 team field and defeated Bowers and Gilbert in the finals, 21-10, 21-14.



One of the most exciting matches pitted Bill Thurman against Steve Strandemo (playing the ball, top). Steve lost to Keeley in the finals. In winners' lineup (left to right) are Mike Chaet, tournament director; Steve Keeley, first place; Steve Strandemo, second, and tournament chairman Phil Ivaldy.



## Busy Month

November was a busy month in Pennsylvania racquetball circles, as three tournaments were conducted at three different locales.

Nov. 1-3 the Pittsburgh Invitational Doubles were played at Pittsburgh under the direction of Gene Grapes.

Tom Ranker was tournament director for the Wynfield Invitational at York on Nov. 9, and the National Invitational Doubles competition was held at New Castle Nov. 15-17. Sam Caissai directed.



## Big Florida Meet

The Florida state tournament was held in Clearwater Sept. 27-29 with more than 100 participants in the nine divisions—largest tournament

ever held in the sunshine state.

There was only one repeat winner from last year's tournament, Clearwater officials said, and this year's event featured many new faces among the winners.

A second invitational tourney will be held in the spring for all Florida racquetball players, giving the state two major tournaments in one year, plus three additional invitational competitions being held at local YMCAs.

### State tournament results:

**Open singles**—George Rudysz, Clearwater, def. Rick Stevens, Gainesville; **open doubles**—George Rudysz-Mike Fatolitis, Clearwater, def. Chris Morris-Clive Longden, Tallahassee; **senior singles**—Hugh Durham, Tallahassee, def. Cliff Mojer, Orlando; **senior doubles**—Kantor-Winter, Jacksonville, def. Mojer-Adams, Orlando; **master singles**—Tom Stedham, Clearwater, def. Bernard Older, Miami; **junior singles**—Mike Fatolitis, Clearwater, def. Terry Aydt, Clearwater.

**Women's singles**—Nancy Hamrick, Clearwater, def. Gerry Rudysz, Clearwater; **junior doubles**—Norris Smith-Terry Aydt, Clearwater, def. Bill Culkar-Eric Anthony, Clearwater; **women's doubles**—Nancy Hamrick-Brigetta Ho, Clearwater, def. Nancy Hornack-Ellen Slater, Tallahassee; **open singles consolation**—Larry Hudgins, Pompano Beach, def. Guy Warner, Clearwater; **open doubles consolation**—Rathbun-Taylor, Rockledge, def. Burquest-Walsh, Sarasota.



Winner of the Maine Harvest Time Open was Dickie Moore, Waterville (right), shown here receiving the open singles trophy from Bob Folsom, state IRA chairman and tournament director. Left is Paul Lazure of Portland, runner-up.

## SIU Organized

Southern Illinois University-Carbondale racquetball players recently formed their own University Racquetball Club. During their first month in operation, they boast 66 members—all from the ranks of the SIU students, faculty and staff.



JEFF PAUL



JOHN PARRISH

...They win in Colorado, page 53...



ANDY SABO



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## Military Front

# Commissioner To Spur Action Among Services

By S-Maj. Peter F. Crummey

Racquetball has come a long way in the military services in the past few years, but there is room for improvement. Thus, my newly appointed position as international military commissioner was created.

I have many duties, but the two primary ones are to act as a point of contact to speed communication on racquetball play, rules, equipment, tournaments and publications, and as a liaison between the military and our civilian counterparts.

I have three primary objectives I would like to accomplish within the next year:

—Establish a large network of active military contacts on each

base or post to help further military racquetball.

—Have a service-sponsored International Military Singles and Doubles Racquetball Championship. Events would be open, seniors and masters.

—Have each service sponsor any military member who can qualify via the regional tournaments to the 1975 International Singles Championships.

I cannot do this without help—*your help*, players.

I need one volunteer from each military base that has racquetball

courts to help us make military racquetball better. If you are interested, please drop me a line or call AUTOVON.

We also need information (with pictures) on any past tournaments sent directly to me for publication in RACQUETBALL Magazine. We also are hoping to compile a complete list of all racquetball courts on military bases. Please send this information as soon as possible.

In upcoming newsletters, we shall look at various subjects of interest to the military player.

Next publication: Military racquetball clinics and wrist strap replacement—the easy way. Happy flat roll-outs.

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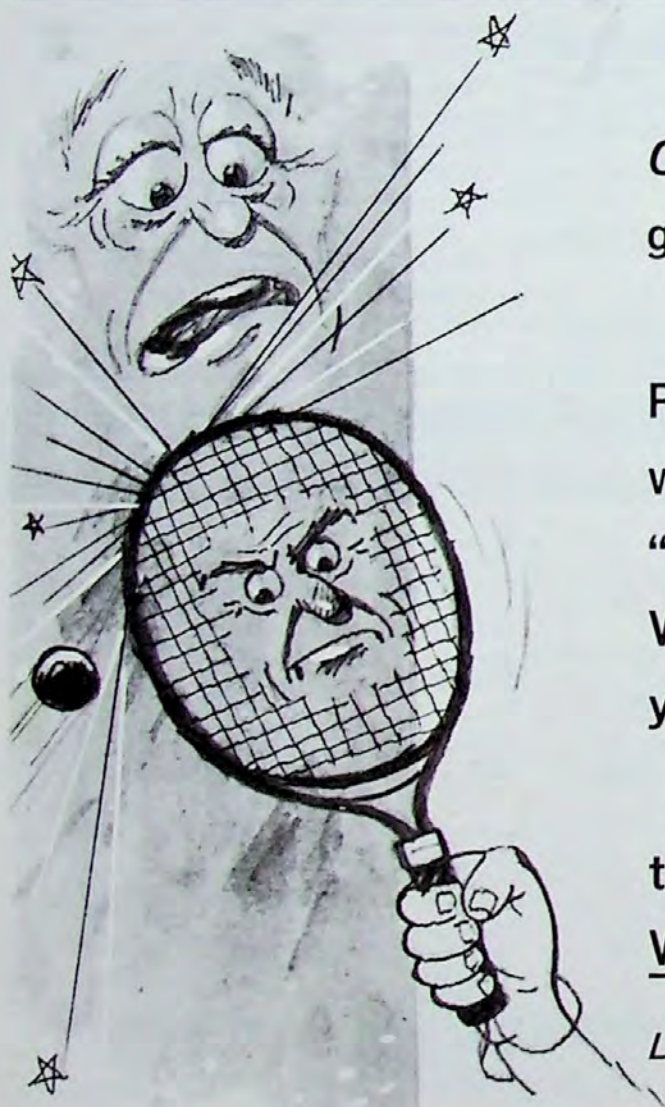
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