

RACQUETBALL MAGAZINE

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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN
AMATEUR RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

INSIDE: 1991 U.S. Olympic Festival Coverage from Los Angeles ** Ektelon U.S. Junior Olympics ** Penn U.S. National Outdoor Three-Wall Championships ** Penn Pacific Rim Racquetball Championship Report ** Regional News ** PARI Instructional Section ** National Rankings ** Event Calendar **

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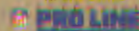
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Linda L. Majer, Director
AARA Media/Public Relations

Publisher

Luke St. Onge
AARA Executive Director

Production Manager: Becky Maxedon

Copy Editor: Michael Topping

Editorial Offices

AARA National Office
815 North Weber
Colorado Springs, CO 80903-2947
TEL: 719/635-5396 -- FAX: 719/635-0685

AARA National Staff

Luke St. Onge -- Executive Director
Jim Hizer -- Asst. Exec. Dir./Programming
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COVER: The official collectors pin for racquetball at the 1991 U.S. Olympic Festival in Los Angeles. Photo: John Foust.

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1991 U.S. OLYMPIC FESTIVAL IN L.A. — WE LOVE IT!

In its third year as a U.S. Olympic Festival sport, racquetball played to standing room only crowds at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles from July 14-17. The eight sessions of round robin preliminaries and playoff finals were designated as a U.S. Team qualifier, offering spots on the team to winners in both singles and doubles. Rising to the challenge, juniors and seasoned record-setters heated up the courts early on.

Making his way into the spotlight from the outset was junior Olympic champion John Ellis of Stockton, California, who went up against long-time team member Andy Roberts of Memphis, Tennessee in the very first round. A second year veteran of the Festival, Ellis raced to an early lead of 13-8 before Roberts overtook him to win the first game 15-13.

Between games, North Team coach Jim Winterton joked with his young player to release the tension. "John was upset about losing the first game. He had the chance to make the two points but just didn't, so Roberts came back. I tried to make him laugh and loosen up. It worked." In the second, Ellis steamrolled to 15-4 win, then capped a career achievement with an 11-0 tiebreaker victory.

"Granted, I wasn't playing my best," said Roberts, "but he wouldn't let me play my best. He's quick and didn't make any mistakes. His family is here and I know how good that hometown support can feel. He played that first match for them."

As it turned out, Ellis and Roberts were destined for a rematch in the medal round, after both advanced steadily through the preliminaries. Ellis went into the medal rounds with a 3/0 record, defeating Bill Sell of Fountain Valley, California 15-7, 15-11 and Chris Cole of Flint, Michigan 15-14, 15-5 before taking a win over



Olympic Festival Gold Medalists (L-R): Andy Roberts, Michelle Gilman, Robin Levine, Kim Russell, Doug Ganim and Brian Hawkes. Photo: Steve Lerner.

Joel Bonnett of Grand Rapids, Michigan 15-11, 15-6 in the semi-final. Brought to attention by the first round loss, Roberts made it a point to match Ellis' record against Sell and Cole, with identical straight game victories over each, 15-10, 15-8.

In his semi-final against Tim Sweeney, Roberts repeated his Pacific Rim Championship victory with a close tiebreaker win. After six sideouts and a double fault at 9-9 in the third, a tired Roberts asked referee Otto Dietrich "can I call my mom?" but was denied the timeout. Two forehand shots down the sidewalls later, Roberts was able to leave the court in relief, headed for a gold medal rematch against Ellis.

"In the first game I played well -- he just played better, making great shots. He was timing my shots well, so in the second and third games I changed pace more..."



Ellis gets out of the way of Roberts' forehand.
Photo: Steve Lerner.

There, Ellis' hope of a repeat was kept alive for a short time after the two split the first two games, but Roberts began working on a "donut" of his own in the tiebreaker with an 8-0 lead before Ellis made his first point. Roberts' service game made all the difference in the third, with three aces in a row and a series of weak returns that were quickly downed on the forehand side, including the final kill shot for the gold medal at 11-1.

"In the first game I played well -- he just played better, making great shots. He was timing my shots well, so in the second and third games I changed pace more, like a pitcher throwing a change-up, and upset his rhythm. And I ran him a lot so he would tire. I didn't think he could sustain that level of play for three games, so I felt confident. Racquetball is a three game sport."

This marked the first Olympic Festival gold medal for Roberts, who skipped last year's event in favor of a honeymoon. In 1989, the team format did not award individual medals, but Roberts received an overall bronze medal as a member of the East Team.

In a year of "three-peats" for Michelle Gilman of Ontario, Oregon, her win in Los Angeles was anything but a long-shot. As expected, she didn't lose a game as she dominated the women's field to secure a chance for her third consecutive Festival gold medal with straight game wins over Elaine Hooghe of Columbus, Ohio, 15-2, 15-8; Malia Bailey of Norfolk, Virginia, 15-9, 15-3; and Marcy Lynch of North Wales, Pennsylvania, 15-6, 15-4, before defeating newlywed Jackie Paraiso Gibson of San Diego in the semi-final, 15-8, 15-7.

With the exception of her preliminary round loss to Gilman, Malia Bailey was also undefeated going into the semi-final, with wins over Lynch, 15-3, 15-8 and Hooghe 15-5, 15-7. Facing her doubles partner for the second time in amateur play this year, Bailey took a straight game win

over Toni Bevelock in the semi-final, 15-6, 15-6, to earn her playoff spot for the gold.

"My serves were in against Toni," said Bailey, "and when your serves are in everything else seems to fall into place. I really wanted to win this match, since she beat me at Nationals, but against Michelle I'm going to have to be more consistent."

For Gilman, the first game of her final against Bailey was the toughest. Always one to take a while to settle into her game, Gilman regained the serve at 12-14 then put away two forehand pinch kills to tie. One ace serve later she took the first game, then retained her advantage in the second game to take a 14-5 lead. A skipped backhand by Bailey on match point put Gilman in the winner's circle.

"The difference between Michelle and the rest of us is her high level of consistency in so many areas," admitted Mallia, who will no doubt face Michelle again in any one of the women's pro stops upcoming in the fall 1991 season.

In doubles, the field was wide open for a novice women's pair to be added to the U.S. Team, and three of the four men's team players were shooting for the team position.

Former doubles world champion Doug Ganim of Columbus, Ohio was playing with Brian Hawkes of Santa Ana for the first time, and the two went to an exciting tiebreaker final against Texans Mike Guidry of Arlington and Drew Kachtik of Austin. Although more experienced as a team, Guidry and Kachtik were late in fine-tuning their game, which had improved steadily through the preliminaries.

"He [Guidry] was making shots from his eyebrows" national champion Tim Sweeney was heard to comment from the stands. Those shots, and Kachtik's court coverage, put the pair in the #2 spot in the playoff, and in the position to put national champions Jim Floyd and Tim Hansen out of the running for Festival gold. They did just that in the semi-final, with a straight game win of 15-14, 15-6. Guidry remarked "we played much better today, much smarter, than our last two meetings against them (in the preliminaries and in the finals of national doubles last year). We switched our serves and didn't skip as many shots."

For Ganim and Hawkes, their semi-final warm-up against Tom Neill and Louis Vogel of Albuquerque went quickly with scores of 15-3, 15-8. The gold medal round against Guidry and Kachtik was much closer, with the Texans taking a close 15-14 win in the first game to set the tone. Defending against game point in the second, Guidry and Kachtik were penalized for serving out of order at 11-14 and forced to give up the serve. In response, Ganim served an ace to Guidry to force the tiebreaker, where both teams stayed even to 7-7 before Ganim and Hawkes took the lead. After several errors by both Texans, an overhead cross court pinch to the right corner by Guidry moved the score to 10-8, but it was too late. Guidry's forehand cross court kill attempt skipped to end the match in favor of Ganim who joined Hawkes on the U.S. Team for the win.



Ganim (far right) winds up a forehand, Kachtik (front court) looks on, Guidry tries to cover from back court, and Brian Hawkes (far left) hopes it's a winner. Photo: Steve Lerner.

On the women's side, former intercollegiate champions Robin Levine of Sacramento ('88) and Kim Russell of Louisville, Ky. ('90) finally gelled as a team in the final, taking the gold over Kaye Kuhfeld of Indianapolis and Lynne Coburn of Baltimore. All four of the women had never played doubles with their partners before the Festival, but had



Robin Levine & Kim Russell celebrate while Kaye Kuhfeld (L) and Lynne Coburn (R) look on. Photo: Steve Lerner.

advanced over the other two, more experienced teams, with ease.

"The more Kim and I play together, the better we get as a team," commented Levine. "We're more consistent in our shots and our teamwork, "clicking" much better and keeping our signals straight." The signals stayed straight through the final, and the two took a straight game victory 15-11, 15-9.

"We anticipated a tough match," said Kuhfeld, "You have to put the ball away against someone like Robin otherwise she digs it out and re-kills it on you, and Kim is very consistent with her forehand. We tried to be more strategic in terms of placing the ball, getting them out of front court and keeping them deep." Lynne Coburn, who often dreams about racquetball matches, had dreamt about the final "but the alarm clock went off too soon."



Jim Winterton. Photo: Steve Lerner.

The North Team, coached by U.S. Team Coach Jim Winterton of Syracuse, N.Y., finished first in the overall competition, with the most game wins by its players from opening rounds. The South Team, coached by Mary Lyons of Jacksonville,

Fla., came in a close second, followed by the West in third position and the East finishing fourth.

The racquetball contingent was sponsored by gold patron Imperial International, Inc., the official manufacturer of all U.S.O.F. '91 souvenir items, and was treated to a get-together luncheon "al fresco" and was presented with commemorative t-shirts and hats by president Bob Dolsky.

The bright, "neutral" souvenir pieces helped to round out the wardrobe of official Festival warmups and competition wear, much of which was kept under wraps (except on the court) until after the athletes returned home. Housed at USC, the players were told not to wear their blue "East" or red "West" uniforms off-campus, nor to wear their baseball caps at jaunty angles. The athletes were briefed on arrival that the

"colors" signified gang affiliations and were invitations for trouble on the street. The racquetball athletes took the advice to heart and, true to form, were happy to travel in groups during their free hours.

Otherwise, the City of Angels pulled out most of its stops on the celebrity front, dazzling the racquetball athletes at opening ceremonies with appearances by former Olympians Bruce Jenner and Mary Lou Retton, heavyweight champion Evander Holyfield, and former president Ronald Reagan. At the Lyon Center, athletes at a late afternoon practice session even got a close-up glimpse of Arnold Schwarzenegger handing out swimming awards at poolside.

With the 1992 Olympic Games fast approaching, the next U.S. Olympic Festival will not be held until 1993 in San Antonio, Texas. Racquetball is certain to be there -- and in St. Louis in 1994 and Denver in 1995 and Argentina for the Pan American Games in 1995 . . . and on to Atlanta in 1996? We hope so.

Men's Singles

GOLD: Andy Roberts, Memphis, Tenn. (South) def.

SILVER: John Ellis, Stockton, Calif. (North) 11-15, 15-7, 11-1

BRONZE: Tim Sweeney, Chicago, Ill. (North) def.

4th: Joel Bonnett, Grand Rapids, Mich. (East) 15-11, 10-15, 11-7

Women's Singles

GOLD: Michelle Gilman, Ontario, Ore. (West) def.

SILVER: Malia Bailey, Norfolk, Va. (North) 15-14, 15-5

BRONZE: Jackie Paraiso Gibson, San Diego, Calif. (South)

4th: Toni Bevelock, Santa Ana, Calif. (East) 15-10, 5-15, 11-6

Men's Doubles

GOLD: Doug Ganim, Columbus, Ohio/Brian Hawkes, Santa Ana, Calif. (South) def.

SILVER: Mike Guidry, Arlington, Texas/Drew Kachuk, Austin, Texas (West) 14-15, 15-11, 11-8

BRONZE: Jim Floyd, Davison, Mich./Tim Hansen, West Palm Beach, Fla. (East) def.

4th: Tom Neill/Louis Vogel, Albuquerque, N.M. (North) 15-11, 10-15, 11-4

Women's Doubles

GOLD: Robin Levine, Sacramento, Calif./Kim Russell, Marietta, Ga. (South) def.

SILVER: Kaye Kuhfeld, Indianapolis, Ind./Lynne Coburn, Baltimore, Md. (North) 15-11, 15-9

BRONZE: Pam Goddard, Waynesboro, Ga./Robin Whitmire, Lilburn, Ga. (West) def.

4th: Lisa Hjelm/Karl McDonough, Carmichael, Calif. (East) 7-15-8, 11-9

FESTIVAL NOTEBOOK

TEAM GOLD: NORTH TEAM

Men's Singles A: Tim Sweeney (Glendale Heights, Ill.)
Men's Singles B: John Ellis (Stockton, Calif.)
Women's Singles A: Malla Bailey (Norfolk, Va.)
Women's Singles B: Dot Fischl (Allentown, Pa.)
Men's Doubles: Tom Neill (Rio Rancho, N.M.)
Louis Vogel (Albuquerque, N.M.)
Women's Doubles: Lynne Coburn (Baltimore, Md.)
Kaye Kuhfeld (Indianapolis, Ind.)
Coach: Jim Winterton (Syracuse, N.Y.)
Manager: Carol Pellowski (Menomonee Falls, Wisc.)

TEAM SILVER: SOUTH TEAM

Men's Singles A: Brian Rankin (Springfield, Mo.)
Men's Singles B: Andy Roberts (Memphis, Tenn.)
Women's Singles A: Marcy Lynch (North Wales, Pa.)
Women's Singles B: Jackie Paraiso Gibson (San Diego, Calif.)
Men's Doubles: Doug Ganim (Columbus, Ohio)
Brian Hawkes (Santa Ana, Calif.)
Women's Doubles: Robin Levine (Sacramento, Calif.)
Kim Russell (Marietta, Ga.)
Coach: Mary Lyons (Jacksonville, Fla.)
Manager: Steve Lerner (Powell, Ohio)

TEAM BRONZE: WEST TEAM

Men's Singles A: Joel Bonnett (Grand Rapids, Mich.)
Men's Singles B: Bill Sell (Fountain Valley, Calif.)
Women's Singles A: Michelle Gilman (Ontario, Ore.)
Women's Singles B: Elkova Icenogle (Auburn, Calif.)
Men's Doubles: Mike Guildry (Arlington, Texas)
Drew Kachtik (Austin, Texas)
Women's Doubles: Pam Goddard (Waynesboro, Ga.)
Robin Whitmire (Lilburn, Ga.)
Coach: Francine Davis (Middlesex, N.J.)
Manager: Paul Henrickson (Millbury, Mass.)

4TH PLACE: EAST TEAM

Men's Singles A: Jeff Evans (Eugene, Ore.)
Men's Singles B: Chris Cole (Flint, Mich.)
Women's Singles A: Elaine Hooghe (Columbus, Ohio)
Women's Singles B: Toni Bevelock (Santa Ana, Calif.)
Men's Doubles: Jim Floyd (Davison, Mich.)
Tim Hansen (West Palm Beach, Fla.)
Women's Doubles: Lisa Hjelm (Carmichael, Calif.)
Karl McDonough (Carmichael, Calif.)
Coach: Jim Hiser (Colorado Springs, Colo.)
Manager: Margo Daniels (Monterey, Calif.)

TEAM CALIFORNIA: The state of California fielded the largest number of racquetball athletes at this year's Festival with nine local competitors -- John Ellis of Stockton; Jackie Paraiso Gibson of San Diego; Brian Hawkes of Fountain Valley; Robin Levine of Sacramento; Toni Bevelock of Santa Ana; Lisa Hjelm and Kari McDonough of Carmichael; Bill Sell of Fountain Valley and Elkova Icenogle of Auburn.

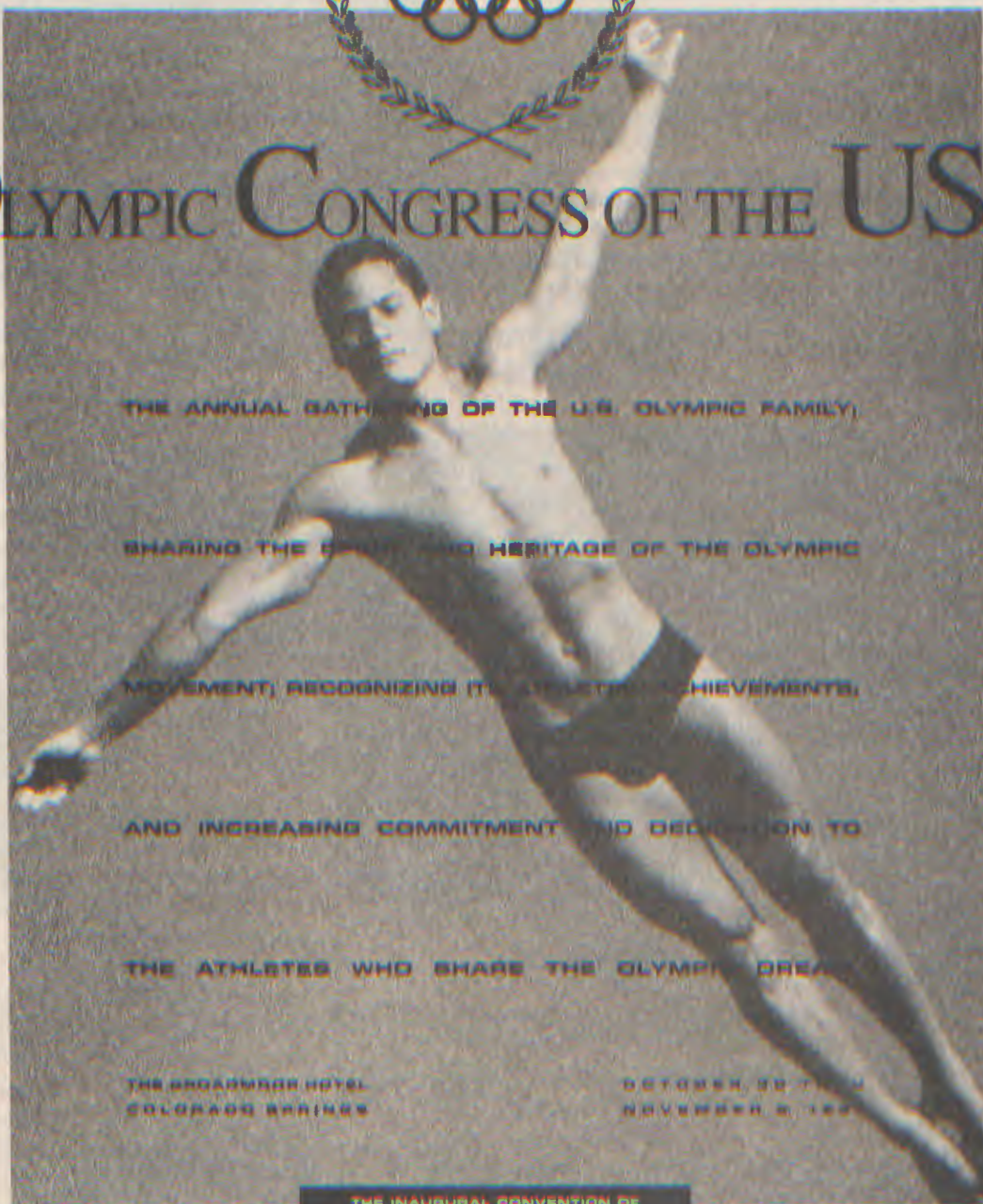
U.S. TEAM WELL REPRESENTED: All but one member of the U.S. National Racquetball Team was in attendance at this year's U.S. Olympic Festival. Tim Doyle (Fountain Valley, Calif.), former National Open Singles champion, was recovering from surgery to remove a stabilizing pin in his ankle. Doyle qualified for the Festival at this year's National Championship in May, but sacrificed his spot to undergo the surgery and rehab over the summer months.



Doyle came by to spectate, and to show off his "hardware."



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KACHTIK RECOVERS FROM MYSTERY VIRUS:

Drew Kachtik was uncertain about his chances in the doubles due to a freak viral infection he contracted at the 1991 Tournament of the Americas in Santiago, Chile last April. Still unidentified, the virus caused symptoms that mimicked a broken bone in his right foot and forced him to give up a

chance to renew his spot on the U.S. National Team. In a cast and unable to walk, much less compete and re-qualify for the team at the U.S. National Singles event in May, Drew was scheduled for surgery to remove the injured bone, then sought a second opinion after discovering new swelling in his ankle, knee and hip. Placed on potent antibiotics by the second

physician, Kachtik began to recover from the viral symptoms within 24 hours. He continues to improve and is expected to make another attempt at the team in October with Guidry at National Doubles.

IT'S OFFICIAL: Certified referees from seven states volunteered to officiate at the Festival, under the direction of National Rules Commissioner Otto Dietrich. The crew of officials travelled at their own expense to Los Angeles, and were on hand throughout the event to alternate as head referees, linesmen and scorekeepers. They were Doug Buchanan (Colorado Springs, Colo.); Jim Carson (Irvine, Calif.); Michael Carter (Sunnyvale, Calif.); Rex Fisher (Dayton, Ohio); Alan Golombeck (Baltimore, Md.); Monty Maglinger (Evansville, Ind.); Gary Mazaroff (Albuquerque, N.M.); and Darrell Warren (Los Angeles, Calif.).

CROSS TRAINING -- CROSS COUNTRY: Brian Hawkes of Fountain Valley, California was one of the best trained racquetball athletes at the Festival. Over the preceeding six weeks, he had competed in three events across the country, the final two back-to-back. Three weeks after National Singles in May, he travelled to the east coast to win singles and doubles titles at the National Outdoor Championships in Gainesville, Florida. The following weekend, July 6-7, he returned to the west coast to win two more outdoor national titles at Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa.

FAMILY MATTERS: At Opening Ceremonies in Dodger Stadium, South Team players did a double take toward the stands as they passed by the third base dugout where the twin sister of teammate Jackie Paraiso Gibson (San Diego) was seated near the field. Jackie and Joy Paraiso are used to stares from racquetball players, since play-

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Jackie and Joy Paraiso.



SMSU Coach George Baker (center) with star players (L-R) Brian Rankin, John Ellis and Tim Sweeney.



Elaine Hooghe looks on from the sidelines.

ing doubles together on the pro tour several years ago. Their brother Joey, a silver medalist in the 1989 Racquetball Junior Olympics, was also in attendance to cheer on the "family sport."

INJURED RESERVE: Elaine Hooghe of Columbus, Ohio (East) became the first player to sustain an injury at the Festival when she sprained her left ankle in the first few points of her match against Michelle Gilman. With Gilman leading 5-0 in the opening game, Hooghe rolled the ankle over going for a shot and was forced to take a full 15-minute injury timeout before returning to the court. After being treated by trainer David Allen, Hooghe was able to finish the match, even running up a string of points in the second game, before losing 15-2, 15-8.

SOUTHWEST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY DRAFT PICKS: Three SMSU racquetball team players -- Tim Sweeney, Brian Rankin, and John Ellis -- qualified for the Festival, confirming the success of the school's recruiting program. The only undergraduate institution to offer full-ride racquetball scholarships, SMSU won its first team title this year over Memphis State University at the World Intercollegiate Championships in April.

DIGNITARIES ONHAND: Racquetball attracted a host of dignitaries during competition, including Harry Usher, President of the Olympic Festival; Alfredo LaMont, USOC International Relations; Dick Hidding, Coca-Cola; Bob Breland, Athletes Advisory Committee; 40 media writers/photographers; Keith Calkins, AARA President and Jack Kelly, President of the Goodwill Games.

SWAN SONG -- FOR THE MOMENT: Following the final round of the Festival, Michelle Gilman announced her resignation from the U.S. National Team, citing the need for more time to pursue her undergraduate business law studies at Boise State University. Gilman moved to Boise from Ontario, Oregon just prior to the Festival and will turn her attention to school, and continued pro tour successes, over the coming year. She intends to retain her amateur status and compete in national championships, but will forego mandatory training and other team responsibilities until further notice. "Being on the team has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life, and I'll miss it" said Gilman.

1991 EKTELON U.S. NATIONAL DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

October 23-27

**City Square Hotel & Athletic Club
Phoenix, Arizona**

ENTRY FEE: \$55.00 First Event (includes referee fee), \$30.00 Second Event. Players may enter two events.

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AARA MEMBERSHIP: Non AARA members should add \$15.00 for a one-year competitive license membership. (Note: If you have recently joined the AARA and have not received your membership card, you must present your receipt copy of the membership application or a cancelled check upon registration.)

STARTING TIMES: Starting times will be available after 5:00 pm on Monday, October 21. Call 602/279-9633.

PLAY BEGINS:

Men's Open, A, 19, 25, 30, 35, 40+	Wednesday, Oct. 23
Men's 45, 50, 55, 60, 65+	Thursday, Oct. 24
Women's Open, A, 19, 25, 30, 35, 40+	Thursday, Oct. 24
All Mixed Divisions	Thursday, Oct. 24
Men's 70, 75, 80+	Friday, Oct. 25
Women's 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80+	Friday, Oct. 25

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TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR: Margo Daniels, AARA National Tournament Commissioner, 815 North Weber, Colorado Springs, CO 80903-2947. PH: 719/635-5396.

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MEN'S DIVISIONS:

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☐ Jr. Vet - 25+
☐ Seniors 30+
☐ Seniors 35+
☐ Seniors 40+
☐ Masters 45+
☐ Masters 50+
☐ Golden Masters 55+
☐ Golden Masters 60+
☐ Golden Masters 65+
☐ Golden Masters 70+
☐ Golden Masters 75+
☐ Golden Masters 80+
☐ A (non-championship)

WOMEN'S DIVISIONS:

☐ Open
☐ Jr. Vet - 19+
☐ Jr. Vet - 25+
☐ Seniors 30+
☐ Seniors 35+
☐ Seniors 40+
☐ Masters 45+
☐ Masters 50+
☐ Golden Masters 55+
☐ Golden Masters 60+
☐ Golden Masters 65+
☐ Golden Masters 70+
☐ Golden Masters 75+
☐ Golden Masters 80+
☐ A (non-championship)

MIXED :

☐ Open
☐ Mixed 25+
☐ Mixed 30+
☐ Mixed 35+
☐ Mixed 40+
☐ Mixed 45+
☐ Mixed 50+
☐ Mixed 55+
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☐ Mixed 75+
☐ Mixed 80+

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PENN U.S. NATIONAL OUTDOORS: HOT!

It's Florida. It's June. It's outdoors -- and it's hot. But it's also fun for each of the entrants of the first annual Penn Racquet Sports sponsored U.S. National Outdoor Three-Wall Racquetball Championship. One hundred of the hardest racquetball players in the nation turned out to brave the tropics, the storms, the sun and the lack of back walls and ceilings at the University of Florida in Gainesville June 28-30 -- and a good number even said they'd do it again (perhaps in November, each suggested).

Held at the 16-court Lee-McCachren outdoor facility behind the Gator Stadium on the UF campus, the three day event was the first AARA sanctioned national outdoor championship of its kind. As one of the most active states for racquetball, Florida provided a large player base, a congenial setting for the tournament and a knowledgeable local organizing committee.

As expected in open singles, Brian Hawkes of Santa Ana, California and local star Martha McDonald of Gainesville, Florida each added another gold medal to their collections. Hawkes and McDonald are long-time outdoor champions in west coast events, and had little trouble winning the AARA titles against Florida challengers. Hawkes took an decisive tiebreaker win over fellow U.S. National Team member Tim Hansen of West Palm Beach, 14-15, 15-12, 11-0, while McDonald won her title in two games over Mary Lyons of Jacksonville, 15-1, 15-8.

With play rained out from noon Saturday, Hawkes had a full schedule of matches on Sunday, including the televised final of the Men's Open doubles division with partner Greg Freeze of El Toro, California. To reach that final, Hawkes and Freeze defeated local players Gary Harrell of Gainesville and Randy Pfahler of Jacksonville in a tiebreaker 14-15, 15-8, 11-

9. On the other side of the draw, Tim Hansen of West Palm Beach and Jason Waggoner of Gainesville advanced past Greg McDonald and Ed Field of Gainesville 15-13, 15-8. In the final, Hawkes and Freeze narrowly avoided a tiebreaker by defeating Hansen and Waggoner in a close straight game win of 15-10, 15-14.

A new pair-up for the Florida team of Lauren Sheprow of Coconut Grove and Robin McBride of Gainesville resulted in an upset win over Mary Lyons and Susan Morgan-Pfahler of Jacksonville in a tiebreaker 7-15, 15-14, 11-7. Sheprow won the Women's 25+ division of the 1991 U.S. National Singles in Houston, and partner McBride was the only one of the four with experience on the three-walled courts. Lyons and Morgan-Pfahler were the 1989 National Doubles champions



Singles champ Martha McDonald (left) calls the televised women's open doubles final between Sheprow/McBride (dark shirts) and Lyons/Morgan-Pfahler (light).

in the Women's 30+ division, and Lyons is the current Women's 30+ singles champion. Both doubles finals were filmed for broadcast on Prime Network affiliates in the month of August.

FINAL SINGLES RESULTS — Men's Open: Brian Hawkes (Santa Ana, Calif.) def. Tim Hansen (West Palm Beach, Fla.) 14-15, 15-12, 11-0 — Men's A: Jay Rand (Gainesville, Fla.) def. Stephen Arizmendi (New York, N.Y.) 15-8, 15-3 — Men's B: Joseph Mijares (Miami, Fla.) def. Roger Mathews (Fl. Myers, Fla.) 5-15, 15-13, 11-5 — Men's 19/25+: Allan Engel (Bradenton, Fla.) def. Stephen Arizmendi (New York, N.Y.) 15-6, 15-6 — Men's 30+: John Scargle (St. Petersburg, Fla.) def. Vinnie Ganley (Orlando, Fla.) 15-10, 7-15, 11-3 — Men's 40+: Van Dubolsky (Fla.) unchallenged — Men's 50+: Earl



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Black (Lakeland, Fla.) def. Roger Wehrle (Marietta, Ga.) 15-7, 9-15, 11-9 -- Men's 55+: John Mooney (Colorado Springs, Colo.) unchallenged -- Men's 60+: Lou Cotton (Ill.) unchallenged. Women's Open: Martha McDonald (Gainesville, Fla.) def. Mary Lyons (Jacksonville, Fla.) 15-1, 15-8 -- Women's A/B: Linda Mejer (Colorado Springs, Colo.) def. Kim Yedinak (Gainesville, Fla.) 15-7, 14-15, 11-4 -- Women's 19+: Kim Russell (Louisville, Ky.) def. Laurie Czarnetsky (Hernando, Fla.) 15-1, 15-1 -- Women's 25+: Laurie Czarnetsky (Fla.) unchallenged -- Women's 30+: Janet Tolson (Fla.) unchallenged -- Women's 50+ & 55+: Jo Kenyon (Fla.) unchallenged

FINAL DOUBLES RESULTS -- Men's Open: Brian Hawkes (Santa Ana, Calif.)/Greg Freeze (El Toro, Calif.) def. Tim Hansen (West Palm Beach, Fla.)/Jason Waggoner (Gainesville, Fla.) 15-10, 15-14 -- Men's A: Joseph Mijares (Miami, Fla.)/David Wayne (Atlanta, Ga.) def. Patrick Victor/Marion Douglas (Gainesville, Fla.) 15-6, 15-7 -- Men's B: Neil Bickman (Gainesville, Fla.)/Oscar Seamed (North Miami Beach, Fla.) def. Louis Brasovan/Gonzalo Morrell (Lakeland) 15-10, 15-10 -- Men's 19/25+: Gary Detschaschell/Barry Sloan (Naples, Fla.) def. Richard Gordon/Chris Turner (Naples, Fla.) 15-9, 9-15, 11-2 -- Men's 30+: Ken Arrowsmith/Dave Segal (Tampa, Fla.) def. Gary Maisel/Michael Schweiger (Hollywood, Fla.) 15-9, 15-10 -- Men's 35+: Rick & Ed Field (Gainesville, Fla.) def. Butch Collins/Gary Harrell (Gainesville, Fla.) 15-7, 14-15, 11-2 -- Men's 40+: Van Dubolsky (Starke, Fla.)/Luke St. Onge (Colorado Springs, Colo.) def. Graig Shaak (Gainesville, Fla.)/Jim Hiser (Colorado Springs, Colo.) 15-10, 15-4 -- Men's 45+: Graig Shaak (Gainesville, Fla.)/Roger Wehrle (Marietta, Ga.) def. Tony Conti/Don Woodington (Lakeland, Fla.) 15-10, 15-12 -- Men's 50+: Earl Black/Don Woodington (Lakeland, Fla.) def. Len Anterio (Hallandale, Fla.)/Murray Sadowsky (North Miami Beach, Fla.) 15-7, 15-12. -- M60 Dbls: Len Anterio/Murray Sadowsky (Fla.) unchallenged. Women's Open: Lauren Sheprow (Coconut Grove, Fla.)/Robin McBride (Gainesville, Fla.) def. Mary Lyons/Susan Morgan-Pfahler (Jacksonville, Fla.) 7-15, 15-14, 11-7 -- WB Dbls: Rena Baer/Kim Yedinak (Fla.) unchallenged. Mixed Open: Martha McDonald/Jason Waggoner (Gainesville, Fla.) def. Robin McBride (Gainesville, Fla.)/Bob Fleetwood (Atlanta, Ga.) 15-7, 15-4

1991 PENN PACIFIC RIM CHAMPIONSHIPS

An eight-member U.S. squad selected from the National Racquetball Team swept the singles and doubles divisions of the Penn Racquet Sports sponsored Pacific Rim Racquetball Championships in Honolulu in June to win the overall team award ahead of Canada, Japan and Mexico. Andy Roberts, Tim Sweeney, Michelle Gilman and Toni Bevelock took to the courts in singles, while the teams of Jim Floyd/Tim Hansen and Malla Bailey/Jackie Paraiso Gibson held up their end of the doubles competition.

In Men's Singles, Andy Roberts eased through a preliminary round with straight game wins over Manyu Tanaka (Japan) 15-4, 15-9 and Gustavo Retamozo (Bolivia) 15-4, 15-2 before being seeded into the regular draw opposite Sherman Greenfeld of Canada. A quick 15-8, 15-7 win over Ivan Uzin (Bolivia) put Roberts into the semi-final round against Greenfeld, who also fell quickly with scores of 15-8, 15-9.

Teammate and recent U.S. National Singles winner Tim Sweeney made a similar march into the draw by defeating Pablo Fajre (Chile) 15-6, 15-5 and Mauricio Morera (Costa



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(L-R) Sweeney, Roberts & Greenfeld. Photo: Mary Lyons.

Rica) 15-10, 15-2 before advancing past Manya Tanaka (Japan) 15-2, 15-7 to face Simon Roy of Canada in the semi-final. Another quick win by Sweeney over Roy, 15-5, 15-9, set up the all U.S. men's open final.

In the first tiebreaker for both players, Roberts and Sweeney tested each other over the course of the two and a half hour nighttime match. Played according to international rules, the third game went to 15 points, and the entire match win for Roberts, 15-12, 9-15, 15-9, was televised by Prime Network.

In Women's Singles, Michelle Gilman took low-scoring wins over Hiromi Miyamoto (Japan) 15-1, 15-3 and Cinthya Teran (Bolivia) 15-0, 15-2 before defeating Carol McPetridge (Canada) 15-11, 15-7 in the semi-final. In the final, Gilman took her revenge against long-time Canadian rival Heather Stupp in two games of 15-10, 15-4. Stupp defeated Gilman

at the 1990 World Championships in Caracas, Venezuela last summer, and also put Toni Bevelock out of the Pac Rim semi's with a tiebreaker win of 15-11, 5-15, 15-6.

In doubles, current U.S. National Doubles champions Tim Hansen and Jim Floyd defeated the top ranked Canadian team of Ross Harvey and Mike Ceresia in a tiebreaker, 5-15, 15-10, 15-3. For the women, the 1990 world championship doubles team of Jackie Paraiso Gibson and Malia Kamahoahoa Bailey also went up against Canada for a close tiebreaker win over Josee Grandmaitre and Vicky Brown 14-15, 15-3, 15-14.

FINAL RESULTS — Men's Open Singles:

GOLD: USA Andy Roberts def.
SILVER: USA Tim Sweeney 15-15, 9-15, 15-9
BRONZE: CANADA Sherman Greenfeld def.
 CANADA Simon Roy

Women's Open Singles:

GOLD: USA Michelle Gilman def.
SILVER: CANADA Heather Stupp 15-10, 15-4
BRONZE: CANADA Carol McPetridge def.
 USA Toni Bevelock

Men's Open Doubles:

GOLD: USA Tim Hansen & Jim Floyd def.
SILVER: CANADA Ross Harvey & Mike Ceresia 5-15, 15-10, 15-3
BRONZE: MEXICO Juan Quevedo/Raul Torres def.
 NETHERLANDS Rob Van deKamp/Richard Van Dozum

Women's Open Doubles:

GOLD: USA Jackie Paraiso Gibson & Malia Bailey def.
SILVER: CANADA Josee Grandmaitre & Vicky Brown 14-15, 15-3, 15-14
BRONZE: JAPAN Hideko Kasahara/Naoko Odowara def.
 BOLIVIA Cinthya Teran/Lucia Murtillo

Team Finish: USA (4 gold, 1 silver), Canada (0 gold, 2 silver, 1 bronze), Japan (1 bronze), Mexico (1 bronze)

PACIFIC RIM NOTEBOOK

Relived by Mary Lyons

ALOHA: On arrival, players and staff were greeted with beautiful Hawaiian Leis, then taken to rooms at the University of Hawaii dormitory to settle in.

Later that evening at a pre-tournament reception hosted by the local organizing committee, players were treated to a huge buffet with a taste of local fruits, veggies and a whole roasted pig! The entertainment turned out to be a live band and Hula lessons for selected members of each delegation. Ours

included Tim "couldn't sneak away fast enough" Sweeney, and Jim Bailey -- who both move their feet much better than their hips.

U.S. Team players and staff danced with players from other countries and, if memory serves me, several guys were turned down by a certain young Japanese lady. Keith Calkins had no such trouble coaxing Barbara Saint Onge onto the floor for the dance of the evening. I danced with the Japanese coach who let everyone call him "Joe." His real name is Yo-eche.

The evening ended with a traditional joining of hands and singing together in the spirit of "Aloha." Barbara Velasco, head of the Local Organizing Committee said, "Aloha means hello, goodbye, friendship, good luck - whatever you want it to say."

DOWN TO BUSINESS: The opening ceremonies were short and sweet with players marching to the Olympic Theme and carrying the flags of their country. Keith gave his shortest speech to date, but as always it was moving and sincere.



Michelle Gilman and Tim Sweeney for the U.S.

Although I didn't get to see any complete matches (too much running around), I did watch a few rallies between a fired up Japanese player and Andy Roberts in an early match in the preliminary round robin. Japanese racquetball is definitely improving, but it's still not quite up to Andy's level. The player was doing fine until he hit a winner and shook his fist at Andy - uh oh! Not a good idea. Mastering the fine art of "psych" is another lesson...

The finals were, as the television coverage showed, very good. Tim Sweeney and Andy Roberts completed a marathon match, Michelle crushed Heather Stupp and Tim Hansen and Jim Floyd got tough when they had to.

OFF THE COURT: The court facility was located at Schofield Barracks Army Base, which was one of the hardest hit during the attack on Pearl Harbor. Members of Team Chile and I took one morning to visit Pearl Harbor, view the Arizona Memorial and get a close up view of some American history.

I was also persuaded by Keith Calkins, Rhett Rainey and Jim Floyd to go golfing one morning, so proceeded to get up at 5:30 a.m. and play one of the worst rounds of my life. I was still lucky enough to work in a couple of decent holes and managed to win \$12.00 from the rest of my foursome.

PERSONALITIES: Jim Winterton, U.S. Team Head Coach, was the only member of the U.S. delegation to be fined (\$5.00) for having a dirty room!



Raul Torres and Juan Quevedo for Mexico.

Leif Elismo, AARA broadcast executive producer, went to the Aloha Bowl Flea Market to get a good bargain. He started bargaining at \$5.00 and ended up paying \$10.00. Good deal!

THANKS: Many thanks go to the local organizing committee, aided by Hawaii State President Tammy Smith and headed by Barbara Velasco. They did a great job!

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1991 EKTELON U.S. JUNIOR OLYMPIC RACQUETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

More than 600 youngsters from across the country descended on the Burnsville Racquet and Swim Club outside Minneapolis June 22-26 to compete in the 1991 Ektelon U.S. Junior Olympic Racquetball Championships. At the 17th annual event, sponsored by Ektelon and Penn Racquet Sports, players vied for national titles in twenty-four "gold" singles and doubles divisions, plus an additional 31 divisions of "red, white and blue" consolation singles brackets. The championship was also a designated qualifier for the U.S. Olympic Festival in Los Angeles and "Junior Team USA."

For their wins in singles, Californians John Ellis of Stockton and Elkova Icenogle of Auburn earned the last two open roster positions for the U.S. Olympic Festival in Los Angeles. Ellis was added to the North Team with current national singles champion Tim Sweeney, and Icenogle played alongside national champion Michelle Gillman for the West Team (see Festival coverage, Page 2).

The two junior champs were also automatically appointed to "Junior Team USA" for one year. At the U.S. National High School championships in March, Sudsy Monchik and Elkova Icenogle became the first to be appointed to the newly-formed team, which will represent the U.S. in Europe on a goodwill tour later in the year. The top 40 "training camp picks" to fill remaining team spots were also announced at the Junior Olympic banquet prior to the finals.

In addition to the honorary extras, top seeded John Ellis of Stockton, California took home two

gold medals in the Boy's 18 and under divisions, with a singles win over Sameer Hadid of Citrus Heights, California and a doubles victory with partner Eric Muller of Overland Park, Kansas.

Ellis, who took second in this event last year to Joel Bonnett, dominated the singles division with low-scoring straight game wins right up to the final. After a bye in the first round, Ellis defeated Jason Thoerner (Martinez, Ga.) 15-4, 15-2; national Men's A singles champion Bret Zimmerman (Grapevine, Texas) 15-1, 15-2; Brett Parker (Ballwin, Kan.) 15-1, 15-3 and doubles partner Eric Muller (Overland Park, Kan.) 15-7, 15-10 in the semi-final.

From his #6 seed position in the draw, Sameer Hadid enjoyed straight game wins into the semi-final, leading off with wins over Todd Stevens (Glen Ellyn, Ill.) 15-3, 15-5; Jeff Barron (Fairfield, Calif.) 15-1, 15-12; national high school champion Sudsy Monchik (Staten Island, N.Y.) 15-14, 15-7 and Scott Reiff (Coral Springs, Fla.) 15-7, 8-15, 11-6.

In the all California playoff Ellis was finally forced to his first tiebreaker but came out on top with a decisive win of 15-6, 13-15, 11-3. "I really wanted to win this one, since it's my last chance to win as a Junior," said Ellis.

This was the final year of junior eligibility for both players, but each will continue to compete at the intercollegiate level in 1992. Ellis will enter Southwest Missouri State

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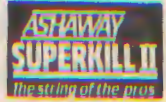


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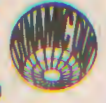
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University as a freshman this fall and Hadid begins his sophomore year at the University of California-Sacramento in September.

In another all California final, defending champion Elkova Icenogle of Auburn won her second Girls 18 and under title against Jenny Spangenberg of San Jose. After taking over the junior spot vacated by Michelle Gilman in 1989, Elkova has locked out any challengers in the junior women's ranks. From the #1 position, she earned a bye in the first round, then followed up with wins over Jenny Skeen (Kearney, Neb.) 15-2, 15-2 and Angela Pellegrino (Las Vegas, Nev.) 15-10, 15-6 to reach the final.

Seeded #2 going in, Jenny Spangenberg also received a bye before advancing past Letisha Bussell (Mt. Home, Idaho) 15-6, 15-8 and Heather Dunn (Beverly Farms, Mass.) 15-10, 15-8 in order to make her debut television appearance against Icenogle. There, veteran media personality Elkova retained control of the match from the first serve, taking a swift win of 15-4, 15-8.

"I think Jenny was a little nervous from the cameras and all," observed Elkova, "that, and stopping for the replays, can mess up your timing. You have to get used to it."

For the team win, all four finalists were a big boost to "Junior Team California," helping to accumulate the most points for advancing through the draw and earning the overall state team trophy. Minnesota came in a close second, with Florida in third.

The Burnsville Racquet & Swim Club, which hosted the 1989 U.S. National Doubles Championships, once again served as a first class host for a national event. Members of the Minnesota State Racquetball Association [MSRA], chaired by president Peggy Clark, staffed several key functions of the tournament, including an excellent hospitality suite for the players and their families. Their efforts, along with those of Ron Strom and Kitty Holton, made this year's Junior Olympic event one of the most memorable.

FINAL RESULTS -- Boys Singles 18-: #1 John Ellis (Stockton, Calif.) def. Sameer Hadid (Citrus Heights, Calif.) 15-6, 13-15, 11-3; 16-: #1 Jason Mannino (Staten Island, N.Y.) def. #2 James Mulcock (Albuquerque, N.M.) 15-11, 15-10; 14-: #1 Shane Wood (Auburn, Mass.) def. #3 Jaron Icenogle (Auburn, Calif.) 15-6, 15-14; 12-: #1 Hal Spangenberg (San Jose, Calif.) def. #2 Tyler Siggins (Fullerton, Calif.) 15-12, 15-2; 10-: #1 Gabriel Gose (Albuquerque, N.M.) def. #3 Kane Waselenchak (Edmonton, Alberta/Canada) 15-4, 15-9; 8-: #1 Jack Hucsek (Rochester, Mich.) def. Jimmy Rodberg (Duluth, Minn.) 15-8, 15-9; 8- Multi-Bounce: Jimmy Rodberg (Duluth, Minn.) def. #1 Jack Hucsek (Rochester, Mich.) 11-6, 11-5

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Transportation: From airport to hotel, make advance reservations with Elite Airport Transportation at 1-800-862-9788 (\$25.00/trip for up to 3 persons) and mention Junior tournament.

Entries: Call the AARA national office at 719/635-5398 to receive an entry for the Junior World Racquetball Championships.

Girls Singles 18-: #1 Elkova Icenogle (Auburn, Calif.) def. #2 Jenny Spangenberg (San Jose, Calif.) 15-4, 15-8; 16-: #1 Amber Pritch (Carrollton, Texas) def. Britt Engel (Bradenton, Fla.) 15-12, 15-12; 14-: #2 Shannon Peaster (Boiling AFB, D.C.) def. Sadie Gross (Apple Valley, Minn.) 15-13, 15-4; 12-: #3 Vanessa Tulao (Hixson, Tenn.) def. #1 Dawn Gates (Kankakee, Ill.) 15-9, 15-7; 10-: Sam Borland (Bettendorf, Iowa) def. #1 Lynn Hansen (Hudson, Iowa) 8-15, 15-3, 11-9; 8-: Karina Odegard (Saskatoon, Saskatchewan/Canada) def. Molly Law (Denver, Colo.) 15-0, 15-1; 8- Multi-Bounce: Karina Odegard (Saskatoon, Saskatchewan/Canada) def. Molly Law (Denver, Colo.) 15-6, 15-3

Boys Doubles 18-: John Ellis (Stockton, Calif.)/Eric Muller (Overland Park, Kan.) def. Adam Karp (Santa Barbara, Calif.)/Eric Wong (Chatsworth, Calif.) 15-3, 15-8; 16-: Craig Cnys (Port Charlotte, Fla.)/Jon Xynidis (Ormond Beach, Fla.) def. Luis Munoz/Javir Moreno (Chihuahua, Mexico) 15-4, 15-14; 14-: Shane Wood (Auburn, Mass.)/Wes Miller (Johnson City, Tenn.) def. Eric Storey (Provo, Utah)/Brant Zimmerman (Cedar Rapids, Mich.) 15-0, 5-15, 11-6; 12-: Hal Spangenberg (San Jose, Calif.)/Robbie Thompson (Birmingham, Ala.) def. Mark Bloom (Metairie, La.)/Bucky Freeman (Longview, Texas) 14-15, 15-12, 11-2; 10-: Gabe Gose (Albuquerque, N.M.)/Kane Waselenchuk (Edmonton, Alberta/Canada) def. Shane Vanderson (Dublin, Ohio)/Dan Thompson (Sun Prairie, Wis.) 15-11, 15-6

Girls Doubles 18-: Rachel Gellman (Albuquerque, N.M.)/Jenny Spangenberg (San Jose, Calif.) def. Elkova and Rusti Icenogle (Auburn, Calif.) 15-4, 15-13; 16-: Britt Engel (Bradenton, Fla.)/Amy Crocker (Grand Junction, Colo.) def. Andrea Beugen (Golden Valley, Minn.)/Alexis Peaster (Boiling AFB, D.C.) 15-10, 14-15, 11-6; 14-: Debra Derr (Ormond Beach, Fla.)/Amy Meyer (Fruita, Colo.) def. Sadie Gross (Apple Valley, Minn.)/Jill Trachsel (Duluth, Minn.) 15-10, 15-10; 12-: Dawn Gates (Kankakee, Ill.)/Jamie Trachsel (Duluth, Minn.) def. Kim O'Connor (Lynn Haven, Fla.)/Vanessa Tulao (Hixson, Tenn.) 12-15, 15-14, 11-2; 10-: Lynn Hansen (Hudson, Iowa)/Sam Borland (Bettendorf, Iowa) def. Meghan Guardiani (Marlboro, Mass.)/Tara Marie Wilga (Webster, Mass.) 15-6, 15-1

JUNIOR TEAM USA JOURNAL: THE TEAM TRIALS

By Andrea Nicole
Beugen



"Winning is overcoming obstacles to reach a goal, but the value in winning is only as great as the value of the goal reached." —THE INNER GAME OF TENNIS by W. Timothy Gallwey

Saturday, July 27: Day One

We all arrive today with the same goal in our minds -- making the junior national racquetball team. The tryouts begin tomorrow, so, we're just spending a relaxing day hanging out and enjoying each other's company.

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It may seem odd, but I immediately begin feeling a bond with everyone. Yet, it feels awkward to know that, come tomorrow, I will be competing against people with whom I am now spending a day of good times. What lies ahead no one knows, but we are all ready to "give it our all" and have the time of our lives!

Sunday, July 28: Day Two

I couldn't sleep at all last night --- maybe this is because there are SIX people in my room. Or maybe it's because I am so anxious for the week to get started. I keep trying to predict how things will turn out and what will be expected of me. I think everyone is wondering the same thing and hoping that their preparation will finally pay off.

Everyone is in "awe" over how beautiful the grounds are. Since the first workout is an optional run at 3 p.m., we have most of today to do what we want, and most of us are eating first. We are shocked to find out that next to mom's home cooking -- this is the life! The food is spectacular. Two buffets hold everything that you can imagine, from healthy choices to wonderful desserts. How could you go wrong? Next I head to the gift shop and then to the Five Olympic Rings. I'm snapping my camera at everything that I see.

The evening meeting begins with introductions of instructors Chuck Gates, Joetta Hastings and Jim Hiser; and the two Junior Team Coaches, Stu Hastings and Hart Johnson. Since I already know both junior coaches from past experience, I know we couldn't be luckier. They both are wonderful people: caring, fun and extremely knowledgeable about racquetball.

Stu starts out with a speech on what the coaches expect of us this week and what they will be looking for as they make their "picks." According to Stu, they are looking for the all around student-of-the-sport. They are not just looking for playing ability, but also sportsmanship, academics and knowledge of the sport. We will be reading articles and writing summaries on them during our free time. We will be kept very busy this week. Those of us who don't fall asleep during Stu's 12 hour lecture will get to hear Hart speak next.

We are moved to tears when Hart shows us a video on the 1991 International Special Olympics which were held in Minnesota this summer. It is so touching to see these special athletes receive gold medals and to also see them experiencing the joy of their accomplishments as they finish their performances. All of us are learning a very important lesson: individually, we each should try our hardest to be the best we can be.

Two quotes from the video say it all: "Let me win, but if I can not win, let me be brave in the attempt." And, "The important thing is not to win but to take part. The essential thing is not to have conquered but to have fought well." For tonight, I will end with these thoughts.

Monday, July 29: Day Three

We are off to a running start today! We woke up at 6:30 a.m. and were at the track at 6:45. Jim Hiser is having us run a mile and a half, then do morning calisthenics including push ups, sit ups, leg lifts and stretches. (You know, the typical 7 a.m. routine for a group of teens.) At 8:45 we catch the bus for our first day at the club. There are 40 of us, with our bags on our laps, in a hot, sticky bus. This is a real "bonding" for all of us.

We spend most of the day at the club drilling and working on specific parts of our games. It is amazing how much I think I know, yet how much there is for me to learn and improve upon. Well, Stu wasn't kidding when he said, "We'll be doing a lot of writing." Today we receive three articles and each one of us will be HONORED with the responsibility of writing a page and a half summary of each. These are due at the 7 p.m. meeting tonight, so you can guess what we will be doing during our free time from 4 to 7 -- yep, writing what we didn't finish at the club -- which looks like it will be alot.

As I walk by rooms today, I hear comments on this assignment and on the week so far. One person said, "I feel as if I'm in school again. I'm in a dorm and I'm cramming on a paper that is due in two hours." He also said, "I wish I worked this hard on my school work. My determination to make the team makes it all that much easier." Another person said, "I love it. This is the life...an experience I won't forget. Even if I don't make the team, it's all worth it. The food, the friends and the experience won't be forgotten," she said.

At tonight's meeting, we are asked to write a paper on the video we saw last night. It will be due in the morning. Back at the dorm, I read some of the summaries. It is so great to know that even though we don't always show it, each of us has a warm heart.

It's only Monday and I am already doing laundry. As I am waiting with some of the other girls for our clothes to dry, we talk to a guy who has been at the Training Center for a month. He is leaving tomorrow for the Pan Am Games. I can't get over the fact that I am surrounded by Olympic caliber athletes. I feel so honored to be here. It is a feeling that I can hardly explain. I'm exhilarated!

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One thing that is making this week so special is the friendships which are being made. I've been going to "Nationals" for seven years and I have seen many of these kids, yet I never got to know them like I have this week. Everyone really seems to be letting their hair down and showing their true selves. It seems that these friendships are what make us look forward to being together with such excitement. Because we are only together a few weeks over the course of the year, we are especially grateful for these ties. It's times like these that we will hold onto for years to come.

Tuesday, July 30: Day Four

Today everyone seems to have a better feel for the schedule and, as usual, we are at the track at 6:45 a.m. doing our "mile and a half" and our calisthenics. Each day these activities get harder and harder. One thing I notice as we do our push ups and sit ups is that we are all working together. When a couple of people are left struggling to get their last five push ups or sit ups done, everyone cheers them on and helps give them a little edge to get them finished.

It doesn't feel like we are 40 kids fighting for 14 spots on a team. Instead, it feels like we are 40 kids who are already

on one big team -- working together. Stu and Hart named us, "The Best of the Best" and "America's Top 40." We are all one big family that eats, sleeps and sweats together.

It is a hard day at the club. Many kids are injured and can't play. I feel sad about this. They worked so hard to get here and now they can't even play. Then there are the kids who are injured but insist on playing. They are an inspiration to me. You can see their determination as they go to hit the ball and practically have to hop to the back of the court. But, they never quit. The injured people are not the only ones who let out some tears. Every now and then I see kids sitting in corners saying how badly they played, or that they feel they messed up in front of the coach. It seems that some people are trying so hard to impress, that they can't relax and play up to their ability.

At our 7 p.m. meeting we do a fun exercise. We are going to go around and ask everyone a question about themselves. After we finish, one person will stand up and we will each say what we have written on our paper about him or her. The best answer I got was when I asked a friend who he admired most in the room. He said, "Everyone here." It sure is a fun night. We are all opening up and laughing -- oh, are we laughing!

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The coaches are UNBELIEVABLE, they are actually letting us go without having to do any articles tonight. We are going back to the dorms and spend hours goofing off and talking. It feels great knowing that we don't have to force ourselves to go and write papers -- but instead, we can spend time together.

I'm in a room with five other people and we are talking about EVERYTHING. I feel so open --- as if they were my best friends from kindergarten. We have so much in common. We share the same goals and dreams. It is no wonder that we are becoming so close this week.

Wednesday, July 31: Day Five

Today is the first time we get to play singles at the club. At the beginning of the week, we couldn't wait to play against everyone so we could prove who we could beat. But now, we are starting to realize that the best players aren't necessarily the ones who will be placed on the team. Suddenly, EVERYTHING seems important -- not just "who is the best player."

Tonight is a rough one. We have to do some serious writing on why we feel we should be on the team. We also have to write an imaginary letter to a friend, explaining that they did not make the team. Then we are asked to write something about everyone at the camp -- saying why each one should or should not be placed on the team. I can tell that everyone feels crummy doing this -- I know I do. I feel that if I write something negative about someone, it could hurt their chances of making the team. That doesn't feel right to me, so I am only writing positive things.

In the dorms talking with everyone, we realize that the reason we were asked to do this last writing exercise is to recognize how hard it is for the coaches to make their decisions and also how much they are dreading tomorrow. Everyone here deserves a spot on the team and only 14 will be picked. That's got to be tough on the coaches.

There is lots of hugging going on tonight. We are afraid that our bond will be broken tomorrow. Our America's Top 40 will be split. We all care for each other, and we don't want that to change tomorrow evening.

Thursday, August 1: Day Six

It has been a very strenuous day for everyone. This morning we were timed on our 1.5 mile run. Everyone pushed themselves to the limit. We want to prove ourselves and need to know that no matter what happens, this week we gave it our all from beginning to end.

The atmosphere at the club is very tense. We all know this is our last chance. This morning we received an article to review by 4 p.m. and at lunch everyone is working hard to finish. Stu and Hart are both talking to us before we leave the club. They are making us realize that this is just one segment of our lives and that if we don't make the team --- we must go on and learn from this experience.

It is 4 p.m. and right now is the hardest part of camp for me. Starting at 6 p.m. the instructors will begin meeting with one person at a time for five minutes each to let them know the final decision and the reasons why. My appointment is not until 7:45 p.m., so I have time on my hands. Wish me luck.

It's 10 p.m. All I can say is "WOW." This is some night. From 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. each of us stayed outside the meeting room to see who made the team, and to support those who didn't. Half of the time we can't tell if the person made the team or not because EVERYONE comes out crying. Some are happy tears and some are sad tears. I really thought tonight would split us up but it hasn't. For a while we are all just staying close by one another and giving hugs to those who need them. But soon, everyone will calm down and realize we are still "America's Top 40." We're ALL the "Best of the Best." Those who didn't make the team have even more motivation to come back next year and be 100% better at what the coaches told them they needed to improve upon. Everyone here is a winner in my eyes.

Friday, August 2: Day Seven

This morning is a challenging one for us. Even though this week's competition is over, it is great to see that everyone has pushed themselves as hard as ever. We realize that the workouts are for us, and not for the instructors. They are something that can make us feel good about ourselves.

We are all having a good time playing regular and mixed doubles today. I was so wrong to think that we would not be close today. We are as close as ever. This week is one of the best weeks of our lives and we are sharing it together. The cuts could not split up the bond we have formed --- it is too strong.

Not only have we become close to each other, but we also have become close to the instructors and coaches. They have been here for us the whole way. My memories of this camp will definitely be memories of these great people who took time out of their lives to help make us better racquetball players and better people.

As the night goes on, I stay up, talk and laugh. Suddenly the team is not the most important thing anymore. By

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tomorrow afternoon, everyone is going to be gone. I just want to share more great times, so, even as tired as I am -- sleeping is not a priority.

It's 4 a.m. and I AM going to bed now. In three hours I'm catching my flight home.

Saturday, August 3: Day Eight

I am on the plane and on the way home. Even though I only got three hours of sleep, I'm wide awake. I'm sad and teary eyed. I've always hated goodbyes. When I woke up this morning, before I knew it, I was hugging everyone and saying goodbye. The friendships I have made through racquetball are the ones that I cherish the most. We have all shared the same unique experiences which makes it easy for us to relate with each other. We only see each other a few times over the year and when we are together we make the most of it.

The week has come to an end. Yet, we all are anticipating the time when we will be together again. We will always remain the first group of "America's Top 40" and the "Best of the Best."

Andrea Beugen, Junior Team USA Member

NATIONAL RANKINGS

MEN'S DIVISIONS

MEN'S OPEN

1. Doug Ganim, OH
2. Tim Sweeney, IL
3. Chris Marshall, NC
4. James Lorelio, FL
5. Louis Vogel, NM
6. Dale Johnson, IL
7. Tim Hansen, FL
8. Todd Stead, MN
9. Brian Rankin, ND
10. Andy Roberts, TN

MEN'S A

1. Brad Mixgate, IL
2. Bill Welaj, NJ
3. Brett Zimmerman, TX
4. Mat Kelly, CO
5. Andy Yambrek, KY
6. Mark Werthman, MI
7. Charlie Andrews, VA
8. Grant Giles, GA
9. Benny Lee, FL
10. Randy Jones, AL

MEN'S B

1. Ed Callejo, CO
2. Kevin O'Callahan, NJ
3. Chris Ladner, LA
4. Bill Turner, TN
5. Scott Hale, MI
6. Steve Richards, NE
7. Richard Brathwaite, ID
8. Jeff Baumgartner, IL
9. Chris Hall, NC
10. Dave Pucci, WI

MEN'S C

1. Chris Keenan, CO
2. Tom Whitman, CO
3. Mike Gardner, IL
4. Keith Fluharty, IN
5. James Narrod, CO
6. Ben Simons, OH
7. Larry Vena, IL
8. Ken Blalock, TX
9. Jim Davidson, MI
10. Brett Byer, MS

MEN'S D

1. Chris Droste, NJ
2. Andrew Haywood, GA
3. Sparkie Thompson, FL
4. Luis Corona, TX
5. Gene Pignataro, IL
6. Mark Strother, LA
7. Tom Mathy, MI
8. Gary Criger, NE
9. Justin Dayles, ID
10. Tom Drew, RI

MEN'S NOVICE

1. Bobby Cotter, MA
2. Chris Spasoff, IL
3. Jimmy Audas, TX

4. Mike Beltran, CA
5. Brian Denieroff, NJ
6. Morgan Smith, GA
7. Craig Toppin, SC
8. Armando Cabrera, NJ
9. Michael Askay, IL
10. David Masters, CO

MEN'S 19+

1. Brian Rankin, MO
2. Charlie Garrido, TX
3. Dale Johnson, IL
4. John Davis, LA
5. Jim Hamilton, MI
6. Mike Locker, MN
7. Jamie Sumner, UT
8. Robbie Binnix, FL
9. Dan Fowler, MD
10. Kenny McLeod, FL

MEN'S 25+

1. Jim Jeffers, IL
2. Sam Wasko, VA
3. Curtis Winter, FL
4. Bob Fugener, TN
5. Joe Cline, NJ
6. Hart Johnson, MN
7. Bill Serafin, NJ
8. Steve Arismendi, NY
9. John Ivers, CA
10. Brad McCuniff, IA

MEN'S 30+

1. Dave Negrete, IL
2. Bill Sell, CA
3. Bill Lyman, IL
4. Dave Peck, CO
5. Vinnie Ganley, FL
6. Bobby Corcoran, AZ
7. Greg Hayenga, MN
8. Larry Meyers, TX
9. Byron Williams, TX
10. Chuck Gates, MA

MEN'S 35+

1. Jim Young, PA
2. Craig Kunkel, CA
3. Dave Kovanda, OH
4. Ed Garabedian, PA
5. Stu Hastings, MI
6. Rick Strout, UT
7. Chuck Gates, MA
8. Walter McDade, TN
9. Herb Grigg, IL
10. Doyle Jobe, IA

MEN'S 40+

1. Jim Bailey, VA
2. Jim Santino, MI
3. Davey Bledsoe, GA
4. Andy Butterbaugh, IN
5. Mike Stephens, MI
6. Steve Chapman, FL
7. Jim Peters, ID
8. Herb Grigg, IL
9. Mitt Layton, FL

10. Bill Welaj, NJ

MEN'S 45+

1. Dick Melhart, WA
2. Ray Huss, OH
3. Tom Perna, OH
4. Pete Petty, TN
5. Mickey Bellah, CA
6. Herb Grigg, IL
7. Fred Letter, NJ
8. Craig Olsen, NE
9. John Fleischaker, KY
10. George Kittrell, MA

MEN'S 50+

1. Charlie Garfinkel, NY
2. Jerry Davis, OH
3. Jack Ross, FL
4. Ron Galbreath, PA
5. Ron Johnson, IL
6. Les Dittich, MN
7. Al Deloreto, GA
8. Barry Holt, IL
9. Len Corie, AZ
10. Ron Hutcherson, IN

MEN'S 55+

1. Paul Banales, AZ
2. Don Alt, FL
3. Hal Lackey, NC
4. Ron Pudduck, MI
5. Louis Benson, NY
6. Frank Taylor, OH
7. Lynn Hahn, MI
8. Charles Douglass, IN
9. Art Johnson, CO
10. Frank Spiegel, MD

MEN'S 60+

1. Harvey Clar, CA
2. Dan Liacara, NY
3. Joe Lambert, TX
4. Bert Shulimson, IL
5. Pierre Miller, IN
6. Mal Roberts, FL
7. Vance Lerner, CA
8. Barney Priestly, SD
9. David Weinberg, NY
10. Max Fallek, MN

MEN'S 65+

1. Mal Roberts, FL
2. Victor Sacco, NY
3. John Bareilles, VA
4. Jack Oushue, NY
5. Dick Kinade, CO
6. Myron Friedman, ME
7. Bob Fraser, CA
8. Art Goss, CO
9. Jerry Stern, IL
10. Glenn Melvey, ND

MEN'S 70+

1. Luzell Wilde, UT
2. Earl Acuff, NC
3. Charles Russell, CA

4. Nick Sans, CA
5. Cam Snowberger, PA
6. Allen Shepherd, MD
7. Charles Estram, MA
8. Art Goss, CO
9. Andy Trozzi, MA
10. Kai Gladstone, CA

MEN'S 75+

1. Harmon Minor, CO
2. Allen Shepherd, MD
3. John Pearce, TX
4. Joe Sawbridge, AZ
5. Jack Daly, VA
6. Andy Trozzi, MA
7. Tom McEachern, CA
8. Stephen Ordos, MN
9. Jack Wilson, KS

MEN'S 80+

1. Jack Pearce, TX

WOMEN'S DIVISIONS

WOMEN'S OPEN

1. Elaine Hooghe, OH
2. Michelle Gilman, ID
3. Robin Levine, CA
4. Dot Fischl, PA
5. Lynne Coburn, MD
6. Chris Deer, MO
7. Kim Russell, GA
8. Cheryl Gudinas, IL
9. Mallia Bailey, VA
10. Linda Screeton, IN

WOMEN'S A

1. Rox Petronelli, MA
2. Mary Keenan, CO
3. Kim Perry, CA
4. Mariha Hayward, MA
5. Mary Lakatos, TN
6. Louise Winter, CA
7. Amber Frisch, TX
8. Suzanne Tolan, NJ
9. Cindy Zerkowski, OH
10. Julie Murphy, TX

WOMEN'S B

1. Dee Jenkins, CO
2. Jenny Skeen, NE
3. Nancy Owens, GA
4. Allison Thomas, OH
5. Carolyn Elnerson, ID
6. Julie Leonard, IN
7. Amy Tyler, IL
8. Renee Roux, CA
9. Sheri Viscount, MD
10. Judy Slocum, AL

WOMEN'S C

1. Diane Pearson, MI
2. Suzanne Benson, IN
3. Jan Clark, OH
4. Donna Johnson, ID

5. Lisa Huntley, CA
6. Carmen Almorre-Martin, CO
7. Debbie Victory, TN
8. Jill Owczarszak, IL
9. Audra Vollaro, AZ
10. Gina Arnold, CO

WOMEN'S D

1. Janice Hill, FL
2. Debra Ivey, GA
3. Nancy Rooha, IL
4. Deborah White, AL
5. Lisa Maxwell, AR
6. Monica Swope, OH
7. Carol Johnson, AL
8. Patricia Brown, RI
9. Claire Gauthreau, TX
10. Kim Schmitz, WI

WOMEN'S NOVICE

1. Cynthia Fauteck, IL
2. Kathy Owens, TX
3. Kathie Kowalczyk, CT
4. Diana Torres, CA
5. Peggy Woodward, NY
6. Jennifer Jaskier, IL
7. Sandra Allen, AR
8. Laura Banham, VA
9. Cheryl Burns, IA
10. Janet Curry, GA

WOMEN'S 19+

1. Cheryl Gudinas, IL
2. Kim Russell, GA
3. Chris Deer, MO
4. Amy Kilbane, OH
5. Angie Browning, GA
6. Diane Gronkiewicz, IN
7. Kelly Shepard, NM
8. Dana Sibell, MN
9. Kelly Beane, NH
10. Robin McBride, FL

WOMEN'S 25+

1. Lauren Shaprow, FL
2. Kersten Hallander, FL
3. Mary Pomeroy, IN
4. B.J. Ehrigott, CT
5. Dee Ferriera-Worth, CA
6. Lorraine Galloway, NY
7. Laura Fenton, NE
8. Debra Bryant, NC
9. Sheila Collins, TN
10. Sheri Viscount, MD

WOMEN'S 30+

1. Mary Lyons, FL
2. Mary Bickley, PA
3. Dru McDade, TN
4. Linda Moore, NE
5. Rox Petronelli, MA
6. Robin Whitmire, GA
7. Pam Goddard, GA
8. Pat Musselman, PA
9. Carol Bastien, IL
10. Colleen Shields, IL

NATIONAL RANKINGS

WOMEN'S 35+

1. Laurel Davis, IL
2. Mary Dee Jolly, NH
3. Julie Jacobson, WI
4. Janet Myers, NC
5. Terry Latham, NM
6. Terri Hokanson, CA
7. Janell Marriott, RI
8. Susan Morgan-Pfahler, FL
9. Debbie Chaney, IN
10. Linda Porter, IL

WOMEN'S 40+

1. Carole Dattelman, PA
2. Agatha Falso, FL
3. Bev Powell, IL
4. Betty Ann O'Hilland, MI
5. Linda Miller, IN
6. Terri Hokanson, CA
7. Patti Nishimura, WA
8. Willie Grover, GA
9. Bernadette Bruner, WI
10. Paula Sperling, NM

WOMEN'S 45+

1. Agatha Falso, FL
2. Pat Tarson, IL
3. Gerri Stoffrogen, OH
4. Sharon Hastings-Welty, OR
5. Brigitte Harts, MI
6. Mildred Gwinn, NC
7. Karen Sanfilippo, NJ
8. Nidia Funes, CA
9. Sylvia Sawyer, UT
10. Kendra Tutsch, WI

WOMEN'S 50+

1. Nancy Kay Butts, WI
2. Mildred Gwinn, NC
3. Jo Kenyon, FL
4. Sharon Hastings-Welty, OR
5. Sylvia Sawyer, UT
6. Kathy Mueller, MN
7. Marion Johnson, TX
8. Joanna Ralda, PA
9. Joann Jones, CT
10. Joyce Melchert, AK

WOMEN'S 55+

1. Jo Kenyon, FL
2. Kathy Mueller, MN
3. Mary Walker, CA
4. Clesta Ching, PA
5. Lola Markus, IL
6. Rose Mooney, CO
7. Betty Mowery, NM
8. B. G. Ralley, CA
9. Jim Kennan, CA

WOMEN'S 60+

1. Phyllis Melvey, ND
2. Joann Jones, CT
3. Claire Gautreau, TX

WOMEN'S 65+

1. Claire Gautreau, TX
2. Joann Jones, CT
3. Betty Mowery, NM

WOMEN'S 70+

1. Mary Low Acuff, NC
2. Eleanor Quackenbush, OR

WOMEN'S 80+

1. Zaida Friedland, NM

JUNIOR DIVISIONS

BOYS 8 AND UNDER

1. Jack Hucsek, MI
2. Jimmy Rodberg, MN
3. Robert Gates, IL
4. Scott Ferguson, KS
5. Matthew McElhiney, FL
6. Benjie Short, IL
7. Jon White, GA
8. Ricky Doukakis, CO
9. Travis Frost, OR
10. Michael Jensen, TN

BOYS 8-MULTI BOUNCE

1. Jimmy Rodberg, MN
2. Jack Hucsek, MI
3. Robert Gates, IL
4. Andy Vaughn, TN
5. Juan Martinez, IL
6. Vito Rubiano, IL
7. Jon White, GA
8. Ryan Leath, TN
9. Joey Bronson, IA
10. Ricky Doukakis, CO

BOYS 10

1. Gabe Gose, NM
2. Shane Vanderson, OH
3. Dan Thompson, WI
4. David Liakos, NE
5. Daniel Wubneh, FL
6. T. J. Newberg, IL
7. Jason Jansen, ND
8. Justin Traver, OR
9. Matt Hellner, OR
10. Travis Mettenbrink, NE

BOYS 12

1. Hal Spangenberg, CA
2. Abe Valdes, OR
3. Steve Aplado, TX
4. Brent McDade, TN
5. Willie Tilton, CO
6. Ben Williams, NY
7. Tyler Siggins, CA
8. Jake Gautreau, TX
9. Blake Hansen, IA
10. Lane Mershon, GA

BOYS 14

1. Todd Criger, NE
2. Wes Miller, TN
3. Eric Storey, UT
4. Shane Wood, MA
5. Chris George, PA
6. Ryan Tobias, OR
7. Randy Rupais, IL
8. Paul Aplado, TX
9. David Hamilton, OH
10. Jaron Icenogle, CA

BOYS 16

1. Chris Thomas, NC
2. James Mulcock, NM
3. Andy Yambrek, KY
4. Jason Mannino, NY
5. Brian Berlin, NY
6. Craig Rappaport, PA
7. Andy Gross, MN
8. Craig Cryz, FL
9. Shane Dodge, ID
10. David Hamilton, OH

BOYS 18

1. John Ellis, CA
2. Sameer Hadid, CA
3. Eric Muller, KS
4. Javad Aghaloo, TX
5. Jim Ellenberger, WI
6. Justin Knutson, MN
7. Rodney Naylor, IN
8. Chris Thomas, NC
9. Shawn Luque, GA
10. Craig Rappaport, PA

GIRLS 8 AND UNDER

1. Molly Law, CO
2. Ashley Carlblom, MN
3. Jeni Fuller, NM
4. Laura Roth, IL
5. Jessica Fuller, NM

GIRLS 8-MULTI BOUNCE

1. Molly Law, CO
2. Ashley Carlblom, MN
3. Monique Rutherford, IL
4. Jodi Trombley, MI
5. Jackie Chemo, MN

GIRLS 10

1. Sara Borland, IA
2. Lynn Hansen, IA
3. Tara McCormick, OR
4. Tiffany Evans, GA
5. Lani Welshart, IL
6. Meital Mansuri, CA
7. Elizabeth Smith, OH
8. Suzette Solomon, IN
9. Nichole Grace, IL
10. Julie McClure, GA

GIRLS 12

1. Vanessa Tulao, TN
2. Dawn Gates, IL
3. Boole Markus, OR
4. Stephanie Cox, IL
5. Ashley Crouse, OH
6. Jennifer Jaskier, IL
7. Rhonda Rajsich, AZ
8. Jamie Trachsel, MN
9. Leslie Buschbom, GA
10. Meadow Krantz, MN

GIRLS 14

1. Jill Trachsel, MN
2. Shannon Peaster, DC
3. Sadie Gross, MN
4. Mandi Hubble, OR
5. Debra Derr, FL
6. Andrea Luque, GA
7. Allison Thomas, OH
8. Dawn Gates, IL
9. Erin Frost, OR
10. Tiffany Hafer, ID

GIRLS 16

1. Amber Frisch, TX
2. Andrea Baugen, MN
3. Britt Engel, FL
4. Tammy Brockbank, ID
5. Jenny Meyer, CO
6. Mandi Hubble, OR
7. Jennifer Medica, MO
8. Dawn Peterson, WI
9. Julie Peterson, TN
10. Catherine Tellier, NM

GIRLS 18

1. Elkova Icenogle, CA
2. Amanda Simmons, FL
3. Rachel Gellman, NM
4. Dawn Peterson, WI
5. Jenny Spangenberg, CA
6. Jenny Skeen, NE
7. Heather Dunn, MA
8. Letisha Russell, ID
9. Tammy Brockbank, ID
10. Dawn Gates, IL

NWRA RANKINGS

MEN'S W/C OPEN

1. Chip Parnelly, CA
2. Gary Baker, IN
3. John Foust, CO
4. Mark Jenkinson, PA
5. Dan Kilmartin, NY
6. Jeff Rowe, NY
7. Bill Searles, NY

MEN'S W/C A

1. George McFadden, NY
2. Mike Bohinski, PA
3. Mike King, PA
4. Mike Roberts, PA



Rankings Current as
of August 13, 1991

JUNIOR TEAM USA SELECTED AT TEAM TRIALS

Fourteen youngsters recently made the cut for the first junior U.S. National Racquetball Team -- "Junior Team USA" -- following a week of training and evaluation at the U.S. Olympic Training Center. The team is made up of seven young men and seven young women, each of whom will have the opportunity to represent the U.S. in international competition, and participate in goodwill tours abroad. A European tour is scheduled at the end of this year.

Most prominent among the team members are Junior Olympic national champions John Ellis and Elkova Icenogle, who both automatically qualified for the team and for the U.S. Olympic Festival for their wins in June. Earlier in the year Icenogle and Sudsy Monchik were appointed to the team for winning the U.S. National High School Championships.

The remaining eleven team members survived a rigorous selection process that began at the state level with a pool of over 100 players. At the Junior Olympics, Junior Team USA coaches Stu Hastings and Hart Johnson narrowed the list to the 40 hopefuls who completed the team trials in Colorado August 3-8. To make the final cut, players were put through their paces on the court and off, with a series of drills, practice sessions, written assignments and personality profiles. Those results, paired with scholastic records and peer reviews, were used to select the first "Junior Team USA" for racquetball.

1991-92 JUNIOR TEAM USA

Andrea Beugen (Minneapolis, Minn.)
Brett Beugen (Minneapolis, Minn.)
Heather Dunn (Beverly Farms, Mass.)
John Ellis (Stockton, Calif.)
Allan Engel (Bradenton, Fla.)
Shannon Feaster (Bolling AFB, D.C.)
Rachel Gellman (Albuquerque, N.M.)
Elkova Icenogle (Auburn, Calif.)
Rusti Icenogle (Auburn, Calif.)
Sudsy Monchik (Staten Island, N.Y.)
James Mulcock (Albuquerque, N.M.)
Eric Muller (Kansas City, Mo.)
Dawn Peterson (Eau Claire, Wisc.)
Craig Rappaport (Lancaster, Pa.)

NEW DIRECTIONS

By Luke St. Onge



Without a doubt, we have just completed the most active three month period in our sport's history. In a span of 90 days, we orchestrated three national championships, an Olympic Festival, two international events, two elite camps and a grueling team trial. We've also produced two upgraded issues of Racquetball Magazine in the midst of it all, and maintained our many programs.

It's been non-stop since the seven-day U.S. National Singles in late May, which culminated in a two hour Prime Network telecast coupled with a one-hour broadcast on SportsChannel America. From there we organized and televised three major events back-to-back: the Pacific Rim Championships June 23 in Hawaii, the Junior Olympics June 26 in Minneapolis, and the U.S. National Outdoors June 30 in Gainesville, Florida.

The Olympic Festival in Los Angeles took up most of July, leading to three consecutive weeks of Junior Team Trials and Junior & Adult Elite Training Camps which carried over into August. The World Challenge in Colorado Springs August 16-18 featured the top three countries in the world in singles competition, and was also filmed for both Prime Network and SportsChannel America. In the middle of all this activity, we kept on schedule to produce and mail the July-August and September-October issues of Racquetball Magazine. I'd like to personally thank all the individuals who worked so hard to make each of these events so successful.

We would also like to welcome two new members to the national staff. Kevin Joyce is the new Membership Director, replacing John Mooney who has taken on new responsibilities as Recreational Membership Director. Kevin has been with the U.S. Olympic Committee since 1984, and brings a strong background in sports administration to our organization. A new receptionist, Dalene Werner, owns the pleasant voice you'll be hearing on the phone when you call the office.

During the Junior Olympics I was asked by several parents why the AARA allows foreign athletes to compete,

and defeat, U.S. athletes in national competition. Actually, the AARA does not allow non-U.S. citizens to compete in any division that is a qualifier for any U.S. National Team position. Thus, non-U.S. athletes cannot compete in the adult open singles divisions and the 18 and under divisions of the Junior Olympics.

The AARA Board feels strongly that it is the responsibility of the United States to provide elite competition for foreign athletes if racquetball is to continue its international growth and become part of the Olympic Games. We have a window of about four years to demonstrate racquetball growth worldwide to the International Olympic Committee, and show that the top 20 countries in racquetball are heading towards a parity in competition.

Racquetball was founded in the U.S., developed in the U.S. and spread by the U.S. military and collegiate markets. The U.S. must continue to embrace all players in the world, for without international development, there will be no place for our junior and adult national teams to compete. Without the support of the international arena there will be no Olympics, no Pan Ams, and no real excitement for our athletes of all ages to look forward to.

Our responsibility to our sport extends far beyond our own shores and racquetball now offers international competition in every age group from 8 to 80. This exciting development has occurred because we have embraced and encouraged involvement by foreign athletes, not to the detriment of our own athletes, but to the benefit of the sport as a whole.



Kevin
Joyce



Dalene
Werner



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Fran Davis
U.S. National Team Coach

FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Keith Calkins

In this issue I would like to discuss one of my favorite subjects -- Fair Play.

The idea that "fair play" exists simply in the presence of sports participation is misleading. Fair play is a quality that is fundamental to all sports competition and needs to be demonstrated by each person who participates in sport, whether as a player, coach, official or spectator. The major role of participation in competitive sport, particularly racquetball, is to develop positive character qualities.

Today many people suggest that competitive sports are not important in society because many of the outcomes for the participants are not always aligned with accepted standards of fair play. We sometimes fail to remember the basic principle that, through sport, one can be a good person and still be a competitive athlete. Being straightforward and honest is where it all begins.

The respect you demonstrate for your team members, opponents, officials and spectators is where the true character expressions surface.

The individuals who participate in our sport must always adhere to the fair play principles that I have mentioned. My personal observations have been quite positive and I generally believe that we stand tall as a sport in our understanding and application of fair play. But as in all aspects of life, we can all appreciate an occasional review of our own standards. Unfortunately there are always the limited few who demonstrate that they know nothing of the concepts of fair play, nor care to learn.

Hopefully, this message will reach home and have an impact where needed. Racquetball players at all levels should always show proper respect for the sport, as was intended by Joe Sobek when he invented it many years ago.

There is nothing wrong with giving your all, yet still failing to be the winner at the end of a match. We must all remember that the beauty of the game is that there is always



tomorrow. Be quick to address the rules of the game and call your double bounces and skip balls. Admit that you carried the ball or that it hit a wet spot on the floor. Let the referee do his or her job as an official and you do yours as a player. When you play without a referee, follow the rules regarding "How to referee when there is no referee," and above all, respect the play of your opponent and reward them with a sincere hand shake at the end of a match and acknowledge the work of the referee and others who appreciate your play.

Sometimes we do not fully appreciate the values that can be gained through trying to be the best person we can be while competing. We fail to recognize that no matter what our playing level, someone is watching and will react to how we exercise the fair play concept. The character we demonstrate as players, officials or spectators must be of the highest standards. When they are, we can all stand tall and be proud of what we have done for our sport.

I encourage you all to keep up the good work on and off the courts. Remembering that players should always give back to the sport of racquetball and respect the game for what it is.

NOTES FROM THE NATIONAL OFFICE

By John Mooney



National Membership:

There were 31,475 AARA members on July 30, 1991. This figure is up from 30,813 as of May 29, 1991. This is significant because the membership usually dips during June and July each year. Members who have upgraded their membership to the "competitive licenses" total 15,574 as of July 31, 1991.

New Membership Director:

Kevin Joyce was named the new Membership Director, effective August 1, and comes to us highly recommended from the United States Olympic Training Center here in Colorado Springs. He is young and energetic, holds a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration and is certain to fit in very nicely as the AARA Membership Director. We are

AARA VIDEO LIBRARY

Bring all the action of U.S. National Racquetball Championships and International competition into your living room! If you've missed any of the Prime Network or SportsChannel America cable network broadcasts shown in your area over the past months, or just want to watch racquetball at its finest, here's your chance to complete your own "video library."

CHAMPIONSHIP RACQUETBALL:

- 1991 Penn World Challenge (Colorado Springs, Colorado)
Robin Levine vs. Sue MacTaggart -- Sherman Greenfield vs. Brian Hawkes
- 1991 Penn U.S. National Outdoors (Gainesville, Florida)
Lauren Sheprow/Robin McBride vs. Mary Lyons/Susan Morgan Pfahler
- Brian Hawkes/Greg Freeze vs. Tim Hansen/Jason Waggoner
- 1991 Penn Pacific Rim Championships (Honolulu, Hawaii)
Michelle Gilman vs. Heather Stupp
- Tim Hansen/Jim Floyd vs. Mike Ceresia/Ross Harvey
- 1991 Ektelon U.S. Junior Olympics (Burnsville, Minnesota)
Elkova Icenogle vs. Jenny Spangenberg -- John Ellis vs. Sameer Hadid
- 1991 Ektelon U.S. National Singles, Men's Open & 19+ (Houston)
Tim Sweeney vs. Egan Inoue -- Charlie Garrido vs. Brian Rankin
- 1991 Ektelon U.S. National Singles, Women's Open (Houston)
Michelle Gilman vs. Toni Bevelock
- 1991 Ektelon World Intercollegiate (Phoenix, Arizona)
Elaine Hooghe vs. Cindy Doyle -- Tim Sweeney vs. Jim Floyd
- 1990 Ektelon U.S. National Doubles (Salt Lake City, Utah)
Michelle Gilman/Jackie Paralso vs. Malla Bailey/Toni Bevelock
- Jim Floyd/Tim Hansen vs. Mike Guidry/Drew Kahtik
- 1990 Penn World Championships (Caracas, Venezuela)
Michelle Gilman vs. Heather Stupp -- Drew Kahtik vs. Roger Harrisad
- 1990 Ektelon U.S. Junior Olympics (Dallas, Texas)
Joel Bonnett vs. John Ellis -- Elkova Icenogle vs. Renee Lockey
- 1990 Ektelon U.S. National Singles (Houston, Texas)
Michelle Gilman vs. Toni Bevelock -- Tim Doyle vs. Egan Inoue
- 1990 Penn Tournament of the Americas (Jacksonville, Florida)
Michelle Gilman vs. Kaye Kuhfeld -- Andy Roberts vs. Sherman Greenfield
- 1989 Ektelon U.S. National Doubles (Burnsville, Minnesota)
Cindy Doyle/Michelle Gilman vs. Malla Bailey/Toni Bevelock
- Doug Ganim/Dan Obremski vs. Tim Doyle/Egan Inoue
- 1989 Ektelon U.S. Junior Olympics (Indianapolis, Indiana)
Michelle Gilman vs. Cindy Doyle -- Mike Guidry vs. Joey Paralso
- 1989 Ektelon U.S. National Singles (Houston)
Michelle Gilman vs. Cindy Doyle -- Tim Doyle vs. Andy Roberts

PRICES: Single Tapes, \$35.00 each, 2-4 = \$31.50 each, 5-6 = \$28.00 each

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pleased to have him with us, and hope you'll welcome and assist him in the coming months.

New Recreational Membership Director:

The AARA Board approved the new "Recreational Membership" program last year, and it requires the attention of a full-time staff member. I have been moved to this new position, leaving the Membership Director's job open for Kevin Joyce. Kevin will take over the duties of writing this column in future issues of the magazine. Thanks to all of you who have read and enjoyed this column over the past year and a special thank you for all of your nice letters.

New Recreational Membership Program:

What is the Recreational Membership? For many years there has been a need for a program whereby clubs, YMCA's, Public recreation facilities, colleges, universities, JCC's, High Schools and businesses with recreational facilities, could organize their local members into an AARA membership without requiring these players to pay a full AARA membership. The Recreational membership does just that! The new program can bridge the gap between the local "club" membership and the AARA.

First: There is a need in the majority of clubs/groups etc, for current information on programming. We have developed materials to help program directors, i.e. program and tournament directors guidebooks, junior development package, officiating, collegiate, high school weight resistance training guidebooks, basic instruction and drills videotapes.

THE CLASSIFIEDS:

GUARANTEED BEST racquetball software available anywhere. Tournament proven worldwide: automatic no-conflict scheduling, outstanding draw sheets, check-in rosters, labels, excellent reports (\$299, inexpensive leasing available). **LEAGUE** scheduling (\$69). **Club list DATABASE (\$49). FREE DEMO and catalogue. WIN SPORTS: 714/894-8161.**

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Second: There is a desire to get racquetball news into the hands of as many players as possible. This can be accomplished by getting Racquetball Magazine to as many players as possible.

Third: A program at the local level will offer a membership and magazine subscription to each local league, round robin, club tournament players at a very low cost.

A club or organized group can join the AARA as a "Recreational Club Member" for a \$150.00 annual fee. The club receives a program and tournament directors guidebook, Junior development Package, and Junior Handbook, 25 rulebooks, a subscription to Racquetball Magazine, club bi-monthly newsletter, choice of instructional video or drills tape, and a choice of a junior "play" poster or USA Team poster. The value of these materials is approximately \$105.00 if purchased separately.

Most importantly, the club/group member may then place all members of the club/group/league or round robin into AARA membership for a \$3.00 annual fee. Once entered into membership, each player will receive a membership card and a one year subscription to Racquetball Magazine.

Recreational clubs/organizations will also have the advantage of a one million dollar liability insurance coverage during competition when all their players are Recreational members and the league or club competition is registered with the AARA.

If your club or group is interested in the program, you can get more information by contacting John Mooney at the AARA office at 719-635-5396.

COLLEGIATE UPDATE

By Neil Shapiro

One of the major goals for the American Collegiate Racquetball Association (ACRA) and the AARA in the 1991-92 season is to develop Intercollegiate League play. We're convinced that intercollegiate racquetball can have regionally competitive leagues much like the Big 10, Pac 10, Big East, etc. With approximately 2000 colleges and universities in the USA that have at least one racquetball court on campus, racquetball is one of the most popular and frequently played sports by undergrads.

So the question is: how do we tap into the large number of recreational racquetball players who would (according to a preliminary survey) enjoy playing intercollegiate racquetball?

The answer lies with the AARA and the Intercollegiate Council. The council (ACRA) has ten regional directors that can help any college or university start a team, then help organize regional competition. The directors have all the league information, plus funding suggestions to help your college or university start a league in the 1991-92 academic year.

The AARA publishes an intercollegiate handbook that contains what you need to know about starting, maintaining and funding a team (\$7.00 will get you a copy). And the ACRA, in cooperation with Head Sports, can arrange a professional clinic by a sponsored player on your campus at no cost your institution. (Other manufacturers are welcome to join this program.)

So this is the year to get started. You don't need lots of players, your players don't have to be open level, and you don't need lots of money...just lots of get up and go!

If you are interested, call me at 518/436-9522, write for The Intercollegiate Handbook, or contact your state AARA headquarters and ask for the person who handles collegiate racquetball.



And if you just want to be a recreational player without forming a team or joining a league, the AARA has a new special Recreational Membership that you may obtain by calling or writing the main office.

The ACRA's Annual meeting will be held September 20-22, 1991 and if there are any items that you would like discussed, please send them to me at 128 Lancaster St., Albany, New York 12210.

NEW RACQUETBALL INSTRUCTIONAL BOOK!

"Racquetball Today"
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Lynn Adams, six time National Champion and seventime #1 ranked player in the world, has just written a new instructional book full of valuable information on the basic fundamentals, plus great tips on winning and improving the mental aspects of your game.



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Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60618

NOSTALGIA

Compiled by John Mooney

Ten Years Ago: 1981

Lix Alvarado was the U.S. Racquetball Association (USRA) Women's Open Champion and beat Heather Stupp in the USRA National Juniors Championships. Jack Newman won the USRA National Juniors Championships over Ira Miller. David Simonette beat Tim Doyle 21-12, 21-10 for the boys 12 and under USRA Championships.

There were new products on the market: Ram Golf Corp. introduced a new Racquetball Glove with an elastic velcro fastener; Wilson introduced their new Racquetball and called it the "True Blue;" Seacmo started marketing their new "club ball" - a green racquetball called the 559; and Ektelon introduced the new Magnum Flex Racquet at a suggested retail price of \$65.00. Wow, the Magnum RTS retailed for \$90.00, ten years later.

The International Racquet Sports Association was formed and John McCarthy was the Executive Director. ** The Thirteenth Annual AARA Doubles was held at Monroeville, Pennsylvania and offered mixed doubles for the first time.

The World Games I was held in Santa Clara, California. The U.S. Team consisted of: Ed Andrews, Mike Martino, and Larry Fox in Mens Singles, and Cindy Baxter, Barb Faulkenberry, and Betty Massie in the Womens Singles. Jeff Kwartler and Mark Malowitz held the Men's Doubles Team position, and Mary Ann Cluess and Karen Borga were the Women's Doubles Team. The USA Team won Gold medals in all events with six countries participating.

Lynn Adams was 23 years old and ranked #2 on the Womens Pro Tour and Fran Davis was the President of WPRA. Ed Andrews and Cindy Baxter were still ranked the #1 amateurs in the country.

SANCTIONED EVENT CALENDAR

September 20

Coors Light R/B Series #1
Westerville Athletic Club
Columbus, OH
614/548-4188

Fall Kick-Off, King's Court
Lyndhurst, NJ 914/425-0261

Fall Kickoff Classic
Las Cruces Racquetball Club
Las Cruces, NM
505/526-4951

MA State Doubles
Cambridge Racquet & Fitness
Cambridge, MA
508/793-9000

Midwest Seniors/
Masters Open
Greenbriar Athletic Club
Indianapolis, IN
317/257-3261

Pennsport Racquetball Open
Pennsport Racquetball Club
Philadelphia, PA
215/627-5874

Pritchard/Doyle Doubles
Wimbleton Sports Plex
Memphis, TN
901/388-6580

Racquetball One Series
Racquetline Fitness Center
Livonia, MI 616/942-1848

Region 4 Doubles
Racquetpower
Jacksonville, FL
904/268-8888

4th Annual Mill Classic
Huntsville Athletic Club
Huntsville, AL

September 21

Texas State Singles
Downtown YMCA
Houston, TX

4th Annual Apple Open
Spa Fitness Center
Watsonville, CA
408/761-4273

September 26

Fat City Open
Quail Lakes Athletic Club
Stockton, CA
209/951-3795

September 27

Blast II, The Sports Center
Fayetteville, NC
919/864-3303

Kernal Klassic, Fitness Barn
Valparaiso, IN 219/762-3191

Miami Open
Miami Health & Fitness
Miami, FL 305/225-2582

PA State Singles & Jr. Doubles
Shawnee At Highpoint
Chalfont, PA
215/822-2953

Racquetball Series
Metrosport & Fitness
Farmers Bench, TX
214/241-3590

Waycross Doubles Tourney
Waycross Sports Club
Cincinnati, OH
513/831-9400

October 3

Park & Shuttle Ultimate
Rio Grande Racquet & Fitness
Albuquerque, NM
505/243-6007

October 4

Region 10 Doubles
Court Club
Indianapolis, IN
317/846-1111

Hurricane Classic
Courts Plus
Jacksonville, NC
919/346-3446

Racquetball One Series
Michigan Athletic Club
Grand Rapids, MI
616/942-1848

SAC All Doubles
Southern Athletic Club
Lilburn, GA 404/923-3400

Schoeber's Shootout
Schoeber's Athletic Club
San Jose, CA 408/629-3333

Special K Series #1
Sawmill Athletic Club
Columbus, OH 216/247-7549

1991 State Long 3-Wall Outdoor
Rowlett Park
Tampa, FL 813/974-3393

October 9

Colorado State Doubles
Lakewood Athletic Club
Lakewood, CO 303/989-5545

October 11

Bud Light Classic
So. FL Racquetball Club
Ft. Lauderdale, FL
305/987-6410

Coors Light Series #2
Congress Park Athletic Club
Dayton, OH 614/548-4188

International Fall Classic
International Health & Fitness
W. Lafayette, IN
317/743-4657

Iowa State Doubles
Westcourts
West Des Moines, IA
515/225-2323

Lancaster County Open
Lancaster County Health Club
Lancaster, PA 717/397-3623

Legends of Racquetball V
Salinas Athletic Club
Salinas, CA 408/757-8331

New England Regional Doubles
NEHR West Springfield
West Springfield, MA
508/752-6216

Octoberfest Open
Auburn Court House & A. C.
Auburn, CA 916/885-1964

October 12

Cool Cucumber
Lakeland Family YMCA
Lakeland, FL 813/644-3528

YMCA Tourney
YMCA of Charlotte-Central
Charlotte, NC 704/333-7773

October 17

Fall Doubles
Midtown Athletic Club
Albuquerque, NM
505/855-4811

Seniors R/B Invt.
Fitness Club of Cape Cod
Hyannis, MA 508/771-7734

October 18

Beltbuster Open
North Belt Health Club
Houston, TX 713/847-3500

Best in The East
Total Fitness
Walkwick, NJ 914/425-0261

Greater Louisville Open
Downtown YMCA
Louisville, KY 502/587-2372

Halloween Open
Cocoa Court Club
Hershey, PA 717/533-4554

Hilton Head Shootout
Downtown Athletic Club
Hilton Head, SC
803/785-7596

Michigan Super 7 #1
Davison Racquet Club
Davison, MI 313/653-9602

NC State Doubles
Charlotte R/B & Health Club
Charlotte, NC 704/521-8048

Riverbend Racquetball Classic
Riverbend Athletic Club
Ft. Worth, TX 817/284-3353

Spookout Open
Sawmill Athletic Club
Columbus, OH 614/889-7698

State 4-Wall Outdoor Warm-Up
Sanlando Park In A.S.
Altamonte Springs, FL
407/869-5966

United Cerebral Palsy Open
Butler Club -- Butler, PA
412/285-5775

4th Thunderbolt Classic
American Sports Center
Palo Alto, CA
209/226-8686

October 23

Ektelon U.S.
National Doubles
City Square Athletic
Club & Hotel Resort
Phoenix, AZ
719/635-5396

October 25

Chancellors Fall Open
Chancellors Rac & Fit
Houston, TX
713/270-4261

Country Fair Open
Nautilus Rac & Rac Club
Brie, PA 814/459-3033

Fall Classic, Bluewater
Racquet & Fitness
Niceville, FL
904/897-4376

(Cont., Page 34)

Five Years Ago: 1986

The AARA Board approved the staff position of Assistant Executive Director. Ted Lange, actor, bartender on the TV series LOVE BOAT, was playing racquetball twice a week. The 1990 National Masters Champion, Art Johnson, won the 1986 Tenth Annual All Military Championship. He, along with John Mooney, won the 1991 National Masters Invitational Doubles Championships.

International Amateur Racquetball Federation had 46 nations as members. The I.A.R.F. was founded in 1979 with thirteen charter nations. The Third World Championships, were hosted by Orlando Tennis & Racquet Club, with twenty nations participating. Canada won its first Gold Medal in Womens International Competition when Carol McPetridge and Manon Sicotte beat USA's Connie Martin and Michelle Gilman. In team competition, Canada won the Men's and the USA won the Womens. With no tie breaking formula, this allowed Canada and the USA to be co-world Team Champions.

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SANCTIONED EVENT CALENDAR

Fall Tourney
Track A Racquet
Akron, OH 216/644-0356

Pt. Wayne Cardiology Open
Summit City Court Club
Pt. Wayne, IN
219/485-1671

Great Pumpkin Open
Midtown Athletic Club
Sacramento, CA
916/441-2977

November 1
Coors Light Series #3
Hall of Fame Fitness Center
Canton, OH 614/548-4188

Fitness Plus Open
Fitness Plus-Days Inn
Johnstown, PA
814/288-5040

Halloween Shoot-Out
The Club at Woodbridge
Woodbridge, NJ
908/499-7550

Racquetball One Series
Muskegon, MI
616/942-1848

U of Houston, Clear Lake
Houston, TX
713/283-2640

World Island Open
R/B & Royal Athletic Club
Burlingame, CA
415/692-3300

1991 FL. State Outdoors
Auburndale Recreation
Auburndale, FL
813/967-6443

Third Annual Attitude
Adjustment, Durango Sports
Club, Durango, CO
303/259-2579

November 7
Desert Classic
The Ultimate Courts
El Paso, TX 915/833-1259

15th Ann. Jack Fulton Open
Memphis State University
Memphis, TN
901/754-3076

November 8
Allegheny County R/B Open
Racquettime of Monroeville
Monroeville, PA
412/373-1911

Cross Court Open
Cross Court Athletic Club
Woodland, CA
916/666-1319

Greater Cleveland Champi-
onship, Severance Athletic
Club, Cleveland, OH
216/921-5208

MidWest Invitational
Seniors/Masters
Michigan Athletic Club
East Lansing, MI
517/887-0459

Racquets Four Classic
Racquets Four
Indianapolis, IN
317/783-3411

12th Ann. Kiwanis Club
Sarasota YMCA
Sarasota, FL
813/957-0770

1991 Hands & Racquets
Charlie Club Resort Hotel/
Fitness Club, Houston, TX
713/240-7610

9th Ann. Williamsport Open
Williamsport Nautilus & R/B
Williamsport, PA
717/322-1080

November 9
Triangle Amateur
Metroport, Durham, NC
919/286-7529

November 14
Academy Awards
Academy Court Club
Albuquerque, NM
505/884-5555

Illinois State Doubles
TBA

3rd Annual Rich Wagner
Splat Shot, The Tournament
House, Riverside, CA
714/692-7511

November 18
Cincinnati City Doubles
Mid-Town Athletic Club
Cincinnati, OH
513/351-3000

David Gries Memorial
Montgomery Athletic Club
Montgomery, AL
205/277-7130

First Coast Classic
Racquetpower
Jacksonville, FL
904/268-8883

Garden State Open
Westwood Racquetball &
Nautilus Ctr., Westwood, NJ
914/425-0261

Holiday Classic Open
The Pennbriar
Erie, PA

Michigan Super 7 #2
Racquettime Health Club
Livonia, MI 313/653-9602

Ohio State Doubles
Hall of Fame Fitness Ctr.
Canton, OH 614/548-4188

Racquetball Series
Metroport & Fitness
Garland, TX
214/276-4696

Tom Turkey Tourney
Hall of Fame Fitness Ctr.
Canton, OH
216/455-7788

INTERNATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS:

COLUMBIA MAKES CHANGES. The Columbian Racquetball Association is currently undergoing a complete reorganization in its country. With this reorganization, Columbia is expected to emerge as a major racquetball power in the Americas.

IOC PROGRAM DIRECTOR VISITS THE INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL FEDERATION (IRF). Gilbert Felli, International Olympic Committee (IOC) Program Director, took time from a very busy schedule to visit the offices of the International Racquetball Federation in Colorado Springs. During his visit, Mr. Felli played racquetball, discussed the future of racquetball and the Olympic Games with Luke St. Onge, Executive Director of the International Racquetball Federation and was treated to a barbeque held in his honor by the United States Olympic Committee.

RACQUETBALL IN 1995 PAN AMERICAN GAMES. Luke St. Onge, Secretary General of the Pan American Racquetball Federation traveled to Havana, Cuba to represent racquetball at the Pan American Sports Organization meeting. A major part of this meeting was the report by the 1995 Pan Am Organizing Committee which placed racquetball on the full medal schedule for the '95 Games in Argentina.



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two full-length zippered outside pockets, two end pockets printed with the U.S. Team world championship insignia and a shoulder strap. To order yours with Visa or M/C, call the AARA national office at 719/635-5396, or send \$39.95 + \$4.95 s/h to USA Racquetball Bag, 815 North Weber, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903-2947.



Mr. Derosa, President of the '95 Pan Am Games Organizing Committee announces that racquetball will be on the schedule for competition in Mar Del Plata.

RACQUETBALL CUT AGAIN. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) accepted only one new sport for the 1996 Games, Women's Softball, once again locking out Racquetball, Bowling, TaeKwonDo, and Triathlon from the Games. The IOC is expected to revamp the program for the year 2000. With all the politics involved with international sports, don't look for a lot of changes until racquetball overcomes its image of being mainly a sport of the Americas.

SAN JUAN VS. FORT LAUDERDALE (Submitted by Jo Kenyon)

On July 19-21, a contingent of 17 players from San Juan, Puerto Rico arrived at the South Florida Racquet Club to challenge a team of 17 local club players from Fort Lauderdale. The Puerto Rican Team, sponsored by Penn Racquet Sports, made the journey at the invitation of club owner Seymour Gladstone, who rolled out the red carpet and made everyone feel most welcome.

The first-time playoff between these two teams was organized by Puerto Rican Team manager Mercedes Ortega and FRA Board member Sue Giliberti. It was designed to be an opportunity for the participating teams to meet new competition, foster good will, and continue to promote racquetball in new and innovative ways. A cocktail hour on Friday evening gave players from each team the chance to become acquainted and enjoy some exhibition matches. Hors d'oeuvres were provided by the local Florida players and free drinks were supplied by South Florida Racquet Club.

Competition began at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday. Players were divided into A, B, or C divisions according to their skill level and each player in the division played the opposing team's members in that division. A total of 51 matches were played and when the final tally was taken, San Juan lead the field with 29 match wins to Ft. Lauderdale's 22.

The competition was capped Saturday evening with a delicious dinner by DiSalvo's and an award ceremony to present the first place trophy to the winning Puerto Rican Team. Players of each team exchanged mementos including T-shirts, key chains, wrist bands and other souvenirs.

On Sunday the participants met again, this time forming doubles teams with players from Florida and Puerto Rico paired together. This turned out to be so much fun it further enhanced the camaraderie that was so prevalent at the tournament. When we bid our farewells after the fun-filled weekend, we did so with the hope of renewing our acquaintances and continuing the competition next year in Puerto Rico. Thanks go to all those who contributed their time and effort to make this initial meeting such a huge success.

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SIXTH EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS MAY 15 - 20, 1991: ANTWERP, BELGIUM

Submitted by Rene Hehemann, E.R.F.

Teams from Belgium, France, Germany, Great Britain, Ireland and the Netherlands participated in the Sixth Annual European Championships from May 15 to 20, 1991 in Antwerp, Belgium.

In the women's team championship, Ireland and Great Britain finished first and second. For Great Britain, it was the highest finish for the women so far. Ireland has finished in first place twice before. The Netherlands had a complete turnover of its team from the 5th European Championships in 1989 in Paris, and the new, less experienced team ended in third place this year.

For the first time in six European Championships, the men from the Netherlands did not finish in first place. With three newcomers on the squad it was difficult to retain their former dominance, leaving the field open for the German men to become European champions in their third attempt. The Irish men had hoped for more, but finished in second place, followed by the Netherlands dropping to third place. The men from Belgium and France performed well, with several matches won, or barely lost, in tiebreakers. The men's events are getting more and more competitive.

In the women's singles championship, a talent from Ireland named Bobby Brennan, surprised everybody and grabbed the title by beating Marie Duignan in an all-Ireland final. Wendy Hackett from Great Britain needed a tiebreaker to take a win from Philomine van Pelt from the Netherlands for third place.

In one men's semifinal, Joachim Loof from Germany achieved an upset victory over Richard van Doesum from the Netherlands. In the other semifinal, Mark Scheffler squeezed by Irish 17-year-old Noel O'Callaghan. In the final Loof encountered tough competition from Scheffler in the first game, but blew his countryman away in the second. Even though previous European titles all went to players from the Netherlands, Richard van Doesum had a hard time getting the bronze medal, which was surely a big disappointment for him.

In doubles action, the women's team of Curran/Brennan of Ireland had an easy victory in two games over Wannee/van Pelt of Holland in their final. In men's doubles from the semifinals on it was a German-Irish clash. The Irish, in the end, managed first and second.

(Continued, Page 38)



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A modest conclusion is that competition in Europe is getting stronger, especially in the men's divisions. In my opinion the Europeans are surely bridging the broad gap with the USA and Canada.

FINAL RESULTS:

WOMEN'S TEAM

1. Ireland, 2. Great Britain, 3. Holland, 4. Belgium, 5. Germany.

MEN'S TEAM

1. Germany, 2. Ireland, 3. Holland, 4. France, 5. Belgium

COMBINED TEAM

1. Ireland, 2. Holland, 3. Germany, 4. Great Britain, 5. Belgium, 6. France

INDIVIDUAL

MEN'S SINGLES

1. Joachim Loof, GER
2. Mark Scheffler, GER
3. Richard van Doezum, HOL
4. Noel O'Callaghan, IRE

WOMEN'S SINGLES

1. Bobby Brennan, IRE
2. Marie Bulgnan, IRE
3. Wendy Hackett, GBR
4. Phil. Van Pelt, HOL

MEN'S DOUBLES

1. Gannon/O'Callaghan, IRE
2. Scheffler/Droge, GER
3. Ryan/Slattery, IRE
4. Loof/Gerullis, GER

WOMEN'S DOUBLES

1. Brennan/Curran, IRE
2. Wannee/Van Pelt, HOL
3. Hackett/Walker, GBR
4. Farrell/O'Brien, IRE

PARI TIP #6: DEFENSIVE SHOTS

By Fran Davis

*Assistant U.S. Team Coach & East Coast
PARI Commissioner*



Hello and welcome to this edition's PARI Tip. Up to now we've covered the basic forehand and backhand strokes, as well as numerous basic offensive shots. Remember that strokes build a strong and solid foundation while the offensive shots end the rally and/or score a point. This issue we will introduce the section on defensive shots.

Review: Before we do that, quickly review the pinch and splat shot diagrams (A-D) in the July/August issue. These shots should hit the side wall first, then the front wall then the second side wall on at least two bounces. If the ball hits the second side wall on at least two bounces this makes it unplayable or unreturnable by your opponent. The result is a side out and/or a point, which is our main objective of hitting an offensive shot. The stroke for the pinch and splat shots remains the same, only the contact point changes (see photo's 1 & 2 in July/August issue).

Now let's continue that step by step building process and move to the task at hand for this month -- the category of defensive shots. A defensive shot is defined as a shot that will buy you time and/or draw your opponent out of center court. There are a total of three defensive shots: 1. *Ceiling*, 2. *Around the World*, 3. *Z Ball*

Today we will discuss the most commonly used defensive shot, the ceiling shot. The ceiling shot is the most basic of the three and is used generally on:

1. Return of Serve - to get the server out of the service box and as deep in the court as possible (Diagram A).

2. During a Rally - to get your opponent out of center court and as deep in the court as possible (Diagram B).

3. Off Balance & Out of Position - pop the ball to the ceiling to gain time to recover and get back in center court.

The deeper your opponent is in the court the harder it is for them to shoot effectively, so keep them deep.

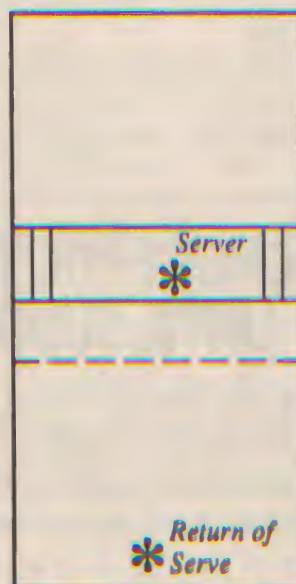


Diagram A.

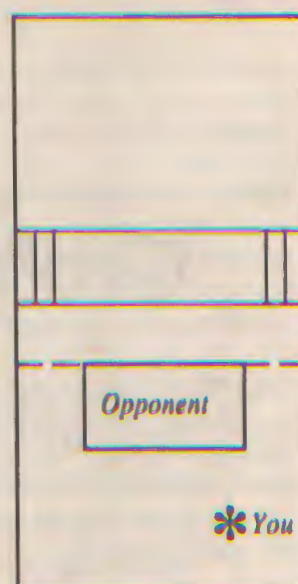


Diagram B.

The following will give you a clearer picture on how you effectively hit the ceiling ball...a bread and butter shot your game cannot be without, to be a well rounded player.

With the game of the 90's changing to rip and shoot, photon serves, and the use of the oversized racquets, the ceiling ball for the club player seems to be becoming a thing of the past. If you watch the pros and top amateur players alike they ALL have an excellent ceiling game that they rely on game in and game out. There is no question the game has changed to that faster pace rhythm, but the ceiling ball -- no matter what level of player you are -- is a must to get your opponent out of center court... don't take it lightly.

I heard something interesting the other day when I watched exhibition pro-football. The head coach was quoted, "Where's my defense? I need it now". In all sports, defense is an area that can win or lose you a



	Contact Point in Hitting Zone	Contact Point on Ceiling	Court Position	Stroke	Bounces
Forehand	Pull Extension Photo 1	3' - 5' from front wall	35' back unless off balance	Basic Forehand	2nd bounce near backwall
Backhand	Shoulder High Photo 2	Same as above	Same as above	Basic Backhand	Same as above

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game. . . don't underestimate it in racquetball. With a good solid defense you won't give the guy an opportunity to score, or, you make it more difficult for him to score. . . so how could you lose?

Now that you've had time to work on the offensive shots I taught you -- the kill, pinch and pass -- it's now time to develop that defensive game, so you can become an all around player. Work hard at this shot so you can develop a well-balanced offensive and defensive game. See you next issue for more racquetball tips.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RACQUETBALL INSTRUCTORS (PARI) NEWS

By Connie Martin

In the past six months PARI has added some 100 names to its list of people interested in becoming PARI certified. Unfortunately we are unable to conduct a clinic in every city of the U.S., but our goal is to try and conduct a clinic within each region every six months. To do so, we need to have a minimum of six to eight participants at each location. So if you are in an area that has not had a clinic before, and can guarantee a minimum of six instructors, please give Jim Hiser a call at the AARA National Office.

Again, if you are not on the PARI mailing list, but would like to be, please call Jim at 1-719-635-5396 and we will add your name and send out the PARI brochure.



Congratulations to the following new members of PARI who have completed the Clinic/Exam Level I and II: Glen Carlson, Wayne Toynes, Lars Cole, Mike Whitman, Dan Fowler, Scott Owsley, Andy Balda, Lori Wallick and Sharon Hastings-Welty.

**PARI LEVEL III
CLINIC/EXAM SITES
FALL 1991**

September 26-27
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Massachusetts

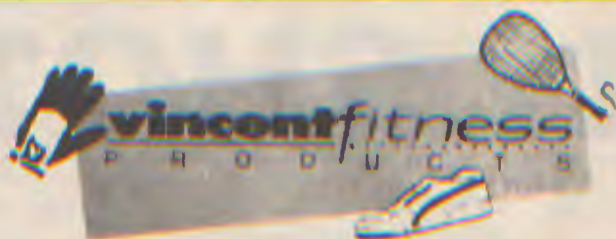
October 1st-2nd
Racquet Club of
Pittsburgh
Monroeville,
Pennsylvania

November 9-10
What A Racquet
Colma, California

November 21-22
MetroSport Athletic
Club
Durham, North
Carolina

November 23-24
Racquetpower
Jacksonville, Florida

Dates TBA
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Chicago, Illinois
Seattle, Washington



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PARI PROFESSIONAL FOCUS

By Connie Martin

MARY LYONS
RECREATION DIRECTOR
RACQUETPOWER
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JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA



Mary is well-known throughout the South for her competitive skills. She has been known to drive people crazy with her "power dinks," "gravity kills" and mastery of the "control" game. For the past five years, Mary and partner Susan have dominated the Women's Open Doubles in the State and Region as well as always individually placing in the top four of the Women's Open Singles. This year Mary won the National 30+ Women's in Houston, and logged a second place finish at the WPR Pro Nationals Doubles with Susan.

Mary Lyons has been a very busy woman this past year. Not only is she an active wife and mother with full time duties at Racquetpower in Jacksonville, Florida, she has been on the road as the Team Manager for the United States Racquetball Team. Husband Steve, a biology teacher, 9-year old Jimmy and 4-year old Katie have all missed her on her many trips this year, but the hectic pace still hasn't slowed her down.

Mary said it was a very rewarding experience travelling with the U.S. Team to Santiago, Chile for the Tournament of the Americas and to Hawaii for the Pacific Rim Championships. In July she was selected as coach of the South Team at the Olympic Festival in Los Angeles. Her team won three of four divisions, but finished second overall in the match point system. Last year, Mary qualified as one of the doubles competitors at the Olympic Festival in Minneapolis with teammate Susan Morgan-Pfahler, also of Florida.

While not travelling with the U.S. Team, Mary is the Recreational Director for Racquetpower. She is responsible for all the programming of racquetball, fitness, aerobics and special activities. Racquetpower hosted the 1990 Tournament of the Americas and will host the World Junior Championships in December.

In fact, one of Mary's favorite jobs at the club is coaching Junior players. Her 9-year old son Jimmy took third at the Junior Olympics in 8 and under last year. Mary travelled with 18 kids, including her son, to last year's Junior Olympics in Dallas. She says it is fun to work with the kids, because they really want to be there. She likes the fact that working with juniors in racquetball not only teaches skills, but helps to develop a knowledge of winning-losing, camaraderie, self discipline and helps develop self esteem ... all the essentials which will help youngsters later in life.

Mary started playing racquetball while an undergraduate at Florida State, majoring in Business Management. During spring break a friend asked her to play and she hasn't put her racquet away since. Racquetball was very new to her, although ball sports weren't. She lettered in high school tennis, golf, basketball, volleyball and softball and then went on to play on the women's golf team at Florida State.

And if she is not active enough in the sport already, Mary is also President of the Florida Racquetball Association.

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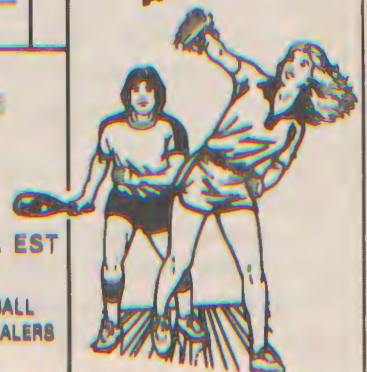
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When asked what her greatest reward for being in the sport to date is, she said watching her Junior players grow up and go from a D Level to an Open Level player and then enjoy the game so much that they are now teaching it...such as Aaron Metcalf.

We are glad to have Mary Lyons represent PARI as a Level II Teaching Professional. If you are in the Jacksonville area and would like some quality lessons, please contact her at Racquetpower at 1-904-268-8888.

PARI TEACHING PROFESSIONALS

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Warren Arnett, Baton Rouge, LA
Bob Berryman, Amarillo, TX
Bob Book, Durham, NC
Richard Bruns, Napa, CA
Steve Carlson, Fargo, ND
Gerald Cleveland, Galveston, TX
Wanda Collins, Bellingham, WA
Tod Danielson, Kingwood, TX
Gail DeVall, Sebastopol, CA
Dot Fischl, Allentown, PA
Johannie Gray, Mobile, AL
Dennis Kaufman, Lodi, CA
Kathy Langlotz, Bryan, TX
Dee Lichty, Rochester, MN
Kip Luna, Chandler, AZ
Mary Lyons, Jacksonville, FL
John Martin, Gresham, OR
Rob McKinney, Lansdale, PA
Linda Moore, Lincoln, NE
Debbie Nemitz, Shreveport, LA
Brad Nicholson, Green Bay, WI
Gaye Rosenfield, Hollis, NH
Mike Sabo, Mundelein, IL
Barb Simmons, Sarasota, FL
Dave Sledge, Dallas, TX
Fielding Snow, Seattle, WA
Karin Sobotta, Erie, PA
Bill Tallafiero, Dallas, TX
Joe Wirkus, Madison, WI
Ken Woodfin, Houston, TX

WHAT'S THE CALL?

By Otto Dietrich
**AARA National Rules
Commissioner**



Question: Sherman Greenfeld, the Canadian National Champion, has several uncommon serves, including one where this right-hander stands on the right side of the service zone near the drive serve line and hits a backhand drive serve between himself and the right wall. Usually the receiver doesn't see the ball until it passes Sherman. Why isn't this serve a "screen"?

Jim Winterton, Syracuse, N.Y.

Answer: The rule says that a screen serve is one that passes so close to the server that the receiver doesn't have a clear view of the ball. You'll notice that two conditions are described—BOTH of which must be present for a serve to be declared a "screen".

How close is "close?" This concept is rather subjective and likely to remain that way. I personally consider a serve "close" if it passes within ABOUT 2 feet of the server. Don't let people tell you that the rulebook specifically says "18 inches." While it said that several years ago, it doesn't anymore!

So what about having a "clear view" of the ball—the other half of the rule? The referee should base this judgement on the receiver's reaction to the serve. Did the receiver have a fair opportunity to see and hit the ball? Was there any noticeable hesitation? Would he have reacted differently if he had been given a clearer view? Difficult judgements like these require the referee to sense what skills the receiver possesses, know how the receiver usually reacts on serves that obviously are not "screens", and be sharp enough to recognize any difference.

So, if a serve passes "close" to the server AND the referee detects any difference in the way the receiver goes about returning it, then a "screen" serve should be called. This assumes, of course, that the impairment was the result of the closeness. If other conditions are evident — such as the receiver guessing wrong about which side the serve was coming to — then the serve should not be declared a "screen" regardless of how "close" it may have been to the server.

Because of the great deal of subjectivity involved in this call, the referee should use the pre-match briefing to let the players know the basis for such judgements. I usually inform players of my "ABOUT 2-foot" criteria and the "impairment due to closeness." I also tell them that they may raise their hand

to request a "screen," but caution them to (i) signal quickly and (ii) not stop playing until they hear my call since the final decision—screen serve or not—is mine not theirs!

A frequent complaint voiced by open level players is that some referees call screen serves too quickly—usually just as the ball passes the server. Unless it is obvious that the receiver will not be able to return a serve due to closeness, a good referee holds off on calling a "screen." Top level players are generally less distracted by "close" serves than lower level players. For them, close serves can create an offensive opportunity in which a return could be a winner and sideout. The referee who takes away such offensive opportunities by calling "screen" too early should be ready to apologize rapidly. Nevertheless, if you are faced with making a choice on a serve that MIGHT be a "screen", lean toward calling one. Always give the benefit of any doubt to the receiver.

If you have a question about the rules or refereeing, please write me in care of Racquetball Magazine. I can't promise everyone a written reply, but if you include a telephone number where you can be reached, I'll call you if possible.

COACHING THE CRUCIAL POINTS

*Coaching Tips by Jim
Winterton, U.S. Team
Head Coach*



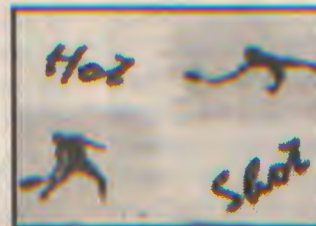
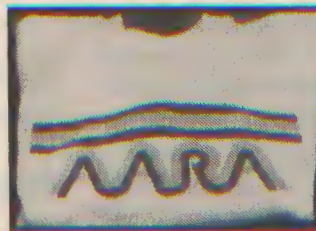
There are virtually hundreds of articles on playing racquetball, but the coaching aspect of the game often seems to be overlooked. As U.S. Team Coach I'd like to share a few ideas that I've found helpful. Coaching the crucial points seems to be an area that separates the good coaches from the rest. Here are five tips that work:

1. Recognize the crucial point. OK, we all know that in a 10-10 tiebreaker, that's the crucial point, but how did it get

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to that? Very few matches are nip and tuck through the whole contest. Some examples of crucial points may be that your athlete has won the first game big and seems happy with that game. To me that's a warning signal. I want that athlete to focus on the next five points so they will keep the pressure on their opponent. If my player lost the first game, I still want him or her to keep the pressure on since it's a new contest in game two. If a player is losing big in the first game, the coach must help him or her realize that every point is important. Often a player can gain momentum by coming back in the first game, even if they lose.

2. Know your athlete's strengths and weaknesses. This is probably the hardest part of coaching the U.S. Team. Since we don't train together day in and day out, often my Assistant Coach, Fran Davis, and I must rely more on the athlete's own assessment of strengths and weaknesses. There are some players who are what I call "kinesthetic" players. They are very physical and "feel" the shots. I have rarely had success coaching them in match situations. If I feel they are in this category, often the best thing I can do is "not coach." Even the greatest piece of coaching advice could ruin a player like this. A "go more cross court" or "go more down the line" might work, but if you say more than that, you could be in trouble. On the other hand, some players can process a great deal of information on the spot and want that type of coaching.

3. Know when to coach and when not to. Most of the time in match play an athlete does not need the coach. If a player has done their homework in practice, the coach should not be a crucial part of their game. The coach's major job should be to offer advice only when it will help the player. For example, a piece of advice to a player like "go to the ceiling" could hurt the inexperienced player who gets a setup off the next serve and goes to the ceiling, or if they get a difficult serve and try to go to the ceiling anyway. In such a case sometimes you should let your player suffer through as long as they are winning. If they're not, then you're obliged to stop them. Years ago one of my junior players, a twelve year old girl, was hitting ceiling balls off set ups instead of shooting the ball. I asked her to call time out and then I asked her why she wasn't shooting. She answered, "Because I'm winning this way." Good answer. Dumb question!

4. Don't get emotionally involved in the match. As a coach remember that you are not the one playing -- two athletes are. Fans get emotionally involved, but coaches can't. When everyone is going crazy you must be the person in control. Often in a close match, what you say or don't say could mean the difference between winning and losing. No matter what you think of your player's opponent, you must

respect them and shake their hand after the match. Also a player doesn't need a coach who is mad or upset. The athlete needs a calm coach in control of his or her emotions.

5. Always coach with positive phrases. I'm reminded of a match I coached years ago and the score was 8-7 in the tiebreaker and my player was winning. His opponent scored three points in a row and my guy was in trouble. He called time out at 10 and I had to think of something to say. As he walked off the court I said to him, "When you get the serve back I want you to hit a serve for the 9th point. I want you to hit a drive serve left when you get the serve back for the 10th point. When you get the serve back for the 11th point I want an ace to the right." I had no idea how he'd get the serve back, but I figured if I told him how, he'd mess it up. Of course, this suggestion worked or I wouldn't have cited it here.

Often matches hinge on the right coaching. In crucial points, suggestions can make the difference between winning and losing. Practice these five tips of 1) recognizing the crucial points of a match; 2) know your athlete's strengths and weaknesses; 3) know when to coach and when not to; 4) don't get emotionally involved in the match; and 5) always coach with positive phrases. Practice these rules and your players will be snatching victory from defeat!

RACQUETBALL ACHES AND PAINS: REHAB FOR RUNNING INJURIES

*By Rhett Rainey
U.S. Team Physician*



Very often racquetball players participate in other sports in order to complement their training programs. Running is important for gaining the cardiovascular endurance needed for competitive racquetball. As a cross training exercise, running also has certain specific injuries inherent to the nature of the sport. Since many of us use running as a good way to cross train, I thought a discussion of some of the specific running injuries and the rehabilitation of those injuries would be useful.

Running injuries normally involve the lower extremity and are often present perplexing and difficult diagnostic problems. Little is known about the exact cause of running injuries. Basically, it is thought that muscle, tendon, or bone becomes overloaded in the running process, resulting in injury from being stressed beyond normal limits. In other words, your body is not able to respond sufficiently to the accumulated stress concentration, therefore breakdown of certain tissues occurs.

Some body types are able to run 80 miles a week with no problems and others can run 5 miles a week and develop significant injuries. This may be accounted for by a decreased genetic strength or inferior bio-mechanical properties in certain individuals. Tissue failure occurs if loads are greater than normal because of anatomic variation that concentrates stress at a particular site. Failure may also result from inadequate muscular strength, endurance, or flexibility, making some people more prone to injury than others.

Use of inappropriate training techniques such as too frequent training at high intensity, prolonged use of worn out shoes and running on the side of the road may also contribute to overload and injury. Important information in regard to running injuries would be whether there is a prior history of other overuse injuries, what is the athlete's specific training program, and has there been any change in the running environment.

The treatment and rehabilitation program for each type of injury must be based on an (1) accurate diagnosis of the injury; (2) evaluation of the possible cause; (3) treatment and rehabilitation of the injured part; and (4) a running prescription as part of the rehabilitation program.

The most difficult aspect of rehabilitation is developing a running prescription for your specific injury. One also must determine whether one is a jogger or a runner. A jogger is one whose pace is slower than eight minutes per mile and distance is seldom over 4 miles. A jogger usually runs 3 to 5 days per week. A runner is one whose pace per mile is usually less than 8 minutes and who usually runs at least five days a week. The runner usually varies the training intensity and distance to improve performance. A big difference between a jogger and runner is that a jogger trains for fitness, whereas the runner competes against time or other runners.

In our next issue, I will discuss specific injuries related to running; what to do about it and what rehabilitation programs are done for that specific injury.

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PRO UPDATE: GILMAN FINISHES NUMBER ONE!

DIET PEPSI WPRA NATIONALS

For the second time in that many showings, Michelle Gilman captured the WPRA National Title, and for the first time, finished the season as the number one professional player in the country!

Choreographed by Molly O'Brien and her staff, the Diet Pepsi National Championships treated players and spectators alike to an event that is considered by many to be one of the most spectacular in the racquetball world! For the second consecutive year, Diet Pepsi and Merritt Athletic Club hosted this event, and have committed to continue to do so for the next two years.

In addition to the live action excitement of watching two of the best players in the sport battling to be number one, the finals were also filmed for rebroadcast by Prime Network affiliates across the country.

The final match set Michelle Gilman and Lynn Adams against one another for the fourth time this season. Although Adams went into the national tournament ranked number one, she had yet to defeat Gilman this year. Her sights, however, were on this tournament, and a number one finish, her major goal. Gilman's power and accuracy, combined with a competitive nature and an on-court maturity beyond her years, has presented Adams with a challenge that the six time National Champion has not taken sitting down. "I've been learning new things all year," says Adams. "At times it's been frustrating, but overall it's been so exciting!"

Gilman took charge of the match early, winning the first two games, 11-7, 11-8. Although Adams was a threat in both games, it wasn't until midway through the third game that the crowd had the thrill of witnessing the "magic" of Lynn Adams as she whittled away at a seven point deficit, and came back to force the match into four games, by winning 11-9. Adams kept her momentum and snatched the next game 11-6 before Gilman had a chance to settle down. Michelle Gilman then showed the crowd why she had been such a dominant force in women's racquetball for the last two years, and came up with a little "magic" of her own. She blasted to a quick 9-1 lead in the tiebreaker making things look easy and showing a determination to put an end to the 1990-91 season.

But it wasn't meant to be easy, as Adams drew on her years of experience and her unending will to perform at a level that had everyone watching in awe! She made an impressive comeback, but Gillman was able to stop her before she went too far. Then in a long rally, that had Adams diving in desperation, Michelle scored her last point and finished the season just where she wanted to be - number one!

In the round of 32's, Dottie Flachl upset #12 seed, Chris Evon, and the 16's found the hometown favorite, Lynne Coburn upsetting #8, Marci Drexler. In the quarterfinals, Caryn McKinney took out Jackie Paraiso in five games, and it took Malia Bailey five to defeat her doubles partner, Toni Bevelock.

PRO DOUBLES

In the doubles competition, Mary Lyons and Susan Morgan-Pfahler of Florida, upset Malia Bailey and Toni Bevelock to earn a trip to the finals, and a chance to play Michelle Gilman and Jackie Paraiso for the National Title. However, the Floridians didn't have an answer for the power and precision of the AARA National Doubles Champions, as Gilman and Paraiso dominated the match and strengthened their reputation as the best doubles team in the country!



WPRA APPOINTS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Women's Professional Racquetball Association is looking forward to a promising future with Molly O'Brien as its new Executive Director. A player on the Pro Tour since 1981, Molly has developed her own company, O'Brien Sports Marketing, Inc., over the past three years, and will draw on its resources to promote the women's pro tour this season.

O'Brien sees the focus of the Executive Director as being that of encouraging prospective tournament directors to host a Women's Pro Stop in their city. In addition to securing new events for the WPRA tour, Molly will be responsible for securing corporate and individual event sponsors. O'Brien says, "This will be an exciting challenge, and I look forward to creating interesting ways to make the WPRA more marketable."

O'Brien Sports Marketing, Inc. promotes racquetball and other sporting events, and currently organizes two WPRA stops, one in Philadelphia and the WPRA Nationals in Baltimore. Any questions concerning the WPRA or interest in "How To Host A WPRA Event" can be directed to O'Brien Sports Marketing, Inc. at 215-723-7356.

WPRA TOP TEN RANKINGS

1. Michelle Gilman, Boise, Idaho
2. Lynn Adams, Chicago, Illinois
3. Malia Bailey, Norfolk, Virginia
4. Caryn McKinney, Atlanta, Georgia
5. Jackie Paraiso, El Cajon, California
6. Kaye Kuhfeld, Indianapolis, Indiana
7. Toni Bevelock, Santa Ana, California
8. Marci Drexler, San Diego, California
9. Lynne Coburn, Lutherville, Maryland
10. Sandy Robson, River Forest, Illinois

WPRA 1991-92 SEASON CALENDAR

November 14-17, 1991

Track and Racquet Club: Syracuse, New York

January 17-19, 1992 Ektelon Winter Classic

Racquetball World: Santa Ana, California

Jan. 31 - Feb. 2 Pizza Hut Racquetball Challenge

The Sporting Club: Atlanta, Georgia

February 13-17 Silver Racquet Pro-Am

Anchorage Athletic Club: Anchorage, Alaska

February 27 - March 1 Diet Pepsi Grant Slam

Shawnee-At-Highpoint: Chalfont, Pennsylvania

April 23-26 California Open

What A Racquet: Colma, California

May 7-10 Diet Pepsi WPRA National

Championships

Merritt Athletic Club: Baltimore, Maryland

EDITORS NOTE:

All this tournament coverage didn't leave us much room for state news in this issue, but it will be back in the November/December edition, along with reports about the Elite Camps and complete coverage of the 1991 Penn World Challenge Racquetball Championships in Colorado Springs (the U.S. won, Tim Sweeney sprained his ankle, Jackie Paraiso Gibson and Robin Levine went undefeated and Brian Hawkes gave his all against Sherman Greenfeld in their televised Prime Network match). Enjoy the new season! --LM



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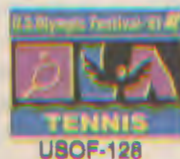


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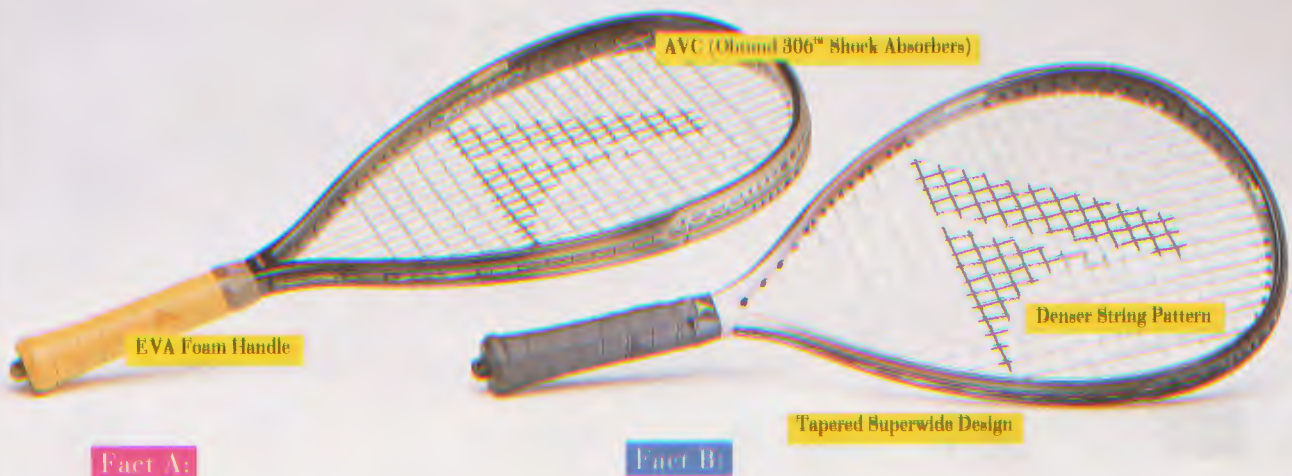
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