

RACQUETBALL

September-October 1997 ... \$4.00

Swain takes off!

**Cannon AFB puts
Cliff Swain into an
F16 to fulfill a
lifelong dream**

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Racquetball
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& much more!**

SUDSY MONCHIK

The Power in the Game. Sudsy Monchik #1 & Cliff Swain #2.

Suds, they call him the **Tiger Woods** of racquetball. In his lifetime he has achieved every major goal in the game. After dominating junior racquetball, and winning every age group, he skipped amateurs altogether. His first season in the pros he finished 19th. In his second, he became World Champion and never looked back. But as powerful as he is he also knows that if you can get more from your racquet it's a little less time in the weight room. And that's why he switched to The Catapult. More power when and where you need it. Yeah, like he needs it.

Cliff. They call it the **Swain Era**. Six years in which he completely dominated the game. It was rare that anyone took games from him much less matches. And remember those 180 Mph serves? Still ripin' em. His play? Well, he's the only guy who's still schooling Suds from time to time. But this four-time World Champion isn't just a "take my trophy and go home" kind of player. His input and consultation have always been a great asset to Head and the game. Currently playing with a racquet he helped develop, The Pyramid 190 "G". Fast, powerful and a true winner. Sounds a lot like Cliff.

Catapult Technology: Most racquets, when they hit a ball, flex and lose energy. With Head racquets several factors work together to help harness this power. Catapult's throat area is designed with kick point action, like a golf club, to snap back to its original state faster than other racquets. This creates a "launch like" action which accelerates the ball as it leaves your strings. Hit with it just once and you will feel the increase in power.



Pyramid "V" Design: Head created one of the most unique breakthroughs in racquet cross section design with our Pyramid shape. It creates a consistent flex that minimizes energy loss through the frame. And now we've improved it. The inner wall now conforms to reflect the same shape as the outer wall. This gives the Catapult an additional nine square inches of string bed. The benefit is more surface area for hitting, more string power on each shot and more consistent response from the string bed.

THE CATAPULT



Launch your game with The Catapult.®

POWER. Let's not beat around the bush. In racquetball, power is everything. Ours isn't some gentlemanly sport where the combatants sit around and complain about how powerful the racquets have become. On the contrary, if we could give you just a touch more juice so that you could knock off the guy just ahead of you on the ladder we've probably made a friend for life. We're about to make many more lifelong friends.

Introducing the new Catapult Series featuring kick-point technology. At Head, our engineers have developed not just one, but three separate innovations that are incorporated into this new series of racquets. Often one design improvement will lead to others and that's precisely what happened with our new Catapult Series. Kick point technology, Pyramid "V" Construction and "XL" Design. Three new innovations that may soon have you wanting to make friends with one of these powerful new racquets.

THE CATAPULT SERIES:

THE CATAPULT 170 - THE CATAPULT 180 & 180 XL - THE CATAPULT 200 XL - THE PRO XL - THE FURY XL

"XL" Design: In rushing to design extra long racquets our competitors have simply added length without considering the implications. Length = weight. With our obsession to create the lightest frames possible, we have learned how to maximize frame strength without adding weight. This means our XL racquets weigh the same as our conventional length frames. In a strategic move we have also added our length to the bottom of the frame, giving more natural leverage to your shots.

Catapult® is a registered HEAD Trademark

GLOVES

The hottest gloves in racquetball! And Head makes them. Well thought out designs benefitting from the finest leather and synthetic materials available. Like Pittards® Tackified leather and breathable Lycra®. We've also added unique new elements like rubberized knuckle pads to protect fingers and silicon grip patterns that improve the hold on your handle. And their looks - they're dynamic. But don't just take our word for it. See for yourself.



THE SENSATION - THE CONQUEST - THE EXTREME - THE RADICAL - THE PHOENIX - THE WEB - THE RENEGADE

SHOES

If you like the look of our gloves, check out our shoes. The Head Anatom Sonic 500 Mid is hot. It's Anatom Fit System® allows your shoe to perform like the human foot. Flexing to allow your shoe to remain in contact with the floor at all times. It's integrated Anatom Midsole made with lightweight Phylon® adds crucial support. It's mesh upper, synthetic toe cap and abrasion resistant gum rubber sole add up to one very attractive shoe.



THE ANATOM CT 500 - THE ANATOM SONIC 500 MID - THE ANATOM SONIC 500

BAGS

Where would we be without them. Most of us virtually live out of one. Kind of like small mobile homes without the wheels. And what makes a great bag? Space and lots of it. Here you go. Large central chambers with plenty of pockets so that dry can be kept separate from wet and vice versa. Holders for water bottles, reinforced floorboards and comfy padded shoulder straps for easy carrying. It's in the bag.



THE LUNCH BAG - THE GUTTY BAG

The Power in the Game. **HEAD**



from the editor

If this "welcome to the new season!" editorial sounds a bit half-hearted, it's because – for me, at least – racquetball is a year-round endeavor. I took up the sport in Florida, where you can find a tournament (or two, or three) on just about all 52 weekends of every year – rain or shine. Since moving to Colorado, I've struggled with the concept of "seasonal racquetball." Lay off? Start again in the fall? I just can't see any reason for it ... except that I can't seem to find hide nor hair of my former playing partners! Fair weather friends ... who needs 'em?!

Ummm ... I do. Now that the weather is turning cooler, *I want to play!* And that's the main reason I'm excited about this "new season" concept – I'll have some opponents! I'm sure many of you feel the same way as we head "back to school" and into the fall ... you've got new shoes, a huge new racquet, spiffy new shorts and attitude to spare. Bring on those tournaments – one right after another!

On the national front, this fall offers plenty of opportunities for players *and* spectators. At the Promus U.S. OPEN in Memphis, skill level players will have another shot at A,B,C & D national titles – as long as they've been re-certified by their state directors in the three months preceding the event (August-October). For those planning to watch the pros on the glass court, you'll be wise to arrive early for the big matches. This year tickets will be designated as either "back" or "side" placements *only* – once you know which section you'll be in, it will be "first-come, first-served" for actual seating.

Other changes upcoming in 1998 include a complete overhaul of the USRA's intercollegiate program, including major revisions to the qualifying procedures for the annual National Intercollegiate Championships [see page 52 for details]. The USRA Board and national staff have taken a long, hard look at the program and come up with the first in a series of initiatives that will make it easier for undergraduates to maintain racquetball as an important part of their busy schedules.

And that's just the beginning. We expect the 30th anniversary year of the sport to be very, very BIG ... with **RACQUETBALL** magazine right there in the forefront to bring it to you – from all the angles. Well, from *between* tournaments, that is — this girl has got to get some court time ...



editor

Linda L. Mojer
USRA Director of Communications

publisher

Luke St. Onge
USRA Executive Director

production staff

Linda MojerGraphic Design, Layout & Production
Kevin Vicroy.....Department/Columns Editor
Denise Whitelaw.....Copy Assistant

business & advertising office

United States Racquetball Association
1685 West Uintah
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80904-2921
Tel: 719/635-5396, ext. 25
Fax: 719/635-0685
e-mail: rbzine@webaccess.net
http://www.racquetball.org OR www.usra.org
http://www.racqmag.com

national staff directory

Name.....	Title & Office Extension
Luke St. Onge.....	Executive Director (31)
Jim Hiser.....	Assoc. ED/Programming (30)
Kevin Joyce.....	Membership Director (23)
Linda Mojer.....	Communications Director (27)
Jeremy Case.....	Data Entry (21)
Margo Daniels.....	Natl. Tournament Director
Tyler Ohlbrecht.....	Distribution (32)
Barbara Saint Onge.....	Archives/Protocol (28)
Twyla Varnado.....	Customer Service (20)
Kevin Vicroy.....	Media/PR Manager (26)
Melody Weiss.....	Finance Director (22)
Dalene Werner.....	Office Manager (29)
E-mail	
usragen@webaccess.net.....	to reach:
.....Weiss, Varnado, Case & Ohlbrecht	
usraadm@webaccess.net.....	to reach:
.....St. Onge, Hiser & Werner	
usramb@webaccess.net.....	to reach: K. Joyce
usrapr@webaccess.net.....	to reach: K. Vicroy
rbzine@webaccess.net.....	to reach: L. Mojer

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RACQUETBALL

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PHOTOS

TOP: SrA Terrence Brimfield, a life support technician with the 522nd Fighter Squadron at Cannon Air Force Base, fits Cliff Swain with a mask prior to an F-16 orientation ride. Cliff pulled 9 Gs during the flight! **CENTER:** Carol Pellowski, Sara Borland and Lynn Adams pose at the Bloomingdale Sports Complex. Photo: courtesy Craig Rappaport. **BOTTOM:** Oklahoman Christopher Coy shows some on-court style. Photo: courtesy Kory Duarte.

ON THE COVER

Cliff poses on the side of the F-16 prior to takeoff. All Cannon AFB photography by: A1C Christopher Gish, 27th Communications Squadron Photo Lab.



reader forum

HACKS 'R US

The evening before the '96 U.S. Open I had dinner with Brian Mirich of Courtesy Sports and two pro players who shall go unnamed. The pros acted cool and compared ailments for a while then somehow got on the subject of "hacks." By their standards, Memphis was going to be overrun with them. I laughed along but couldn't help but feel a little offended for the rest of us. After all, that year I'd won (in my ancient age division) a silver medal at national singles and a gold at national doubles, yet by their elitist — albeit good-natured — criteria I was nothing but a hack. And an old one at that! I was grateful to Brian for rising to my defense, assuring me a little too sympathetically that I was no hack.

Anyway, the moral of this exchange is not that pros are snobs — they're not — they just expect more, and can't be faulted for having a sense of humor. But pros, and tournaments directors as well, need to remember who is keeping this sport alive day in and day out at clubs everywhere, who consistently funds tournaments with their entry fees and memberships, and who shows up to watch racquetball to begin with. We're a bunch of hacks, but we love the game. Don't get me wrong, the pros deserve the red carpet treatment — just leave a little something for the rest of us. As the '97 U.S. Open approaches, I encourage directors to keep this in mind.

Just to show that I know a hack when I see one — on the court or in the mirror — here are some dead giveaways:

Your opponent might be a hack, if they...
... dig two black balls out of their knapsack and bounce them to see which is better ... put on a bicycle helmet ... mark the court with cheap tennis shoes ... still use the 250G ... hit you with the ball during warm-up ... ask the referee what the broken line is for ... blow their nose in their bandanna before wrapping it around their forehead ... keep their balls in a pressurized container ... wrap Ace bandages over their sweats ... sport a

gardening glove on their racquet hand ... wear apparel from the Charlie Brumfield rack ... drop their locker key and warm-up ball in a front corner ...

Maybe your readers can add to the list. Thanks for your ear.

Gene Pare
Campbell, California

SEARCH AND COLLECT?

Thank you for your quality magazine. I am hoping someone there can help me out, or at least point me in the right direction. Having used most every popular racquet made over 20 years, I started collecting them for nostalgia's sake. I searched garage sales, used sporting good shops, and resale stores. I now have around 60 racquets that were made before 1994.

It drives me crazy that I can't remember their exact order of manufacture. I need help, but don't know where to start. I've searched old books on racquetball dating back to 1972, but they almost never mention brand names and the pictures are not of good enough quality to decipher the racquet name. Perhaps you know where I can view old racquetball magazines — or can put me in touch with someone who collects them?

I'd like to assemble a visual history of racquetball — if anyone can help me, I'd appreciate it!

Mark Casey
Berkley, Michigan

[Want to help out? Call the office for Mark's phone number and we'll put you in touch! — Editor]

ALL IN A DAY'S WORK

I have just finished reading the article entitled "So You Want To Be Sponsored" and recalled that product manufacturers began sponsoring "grass roots" players who could make the industry grow when the sport needed some exposure and credibility. These players were in every tournament, at every organized racquetball social, carried their gear all

over the country, and were polite, respectful and represented a quality that even the most well-mannered golfer could envy.

Today, some of the racquetball manufacturers will send free stuff to any young gun that hits the ball hard, talks about his summers at the elite training camp, and describes in detail his future earnings on the "pro tour." However, these guys take the sponsorship equipment, last six weeks with their new look and new racquets, then are never heard from again by the manufacturer until the pawn shop calls to say the loan ticket for the racquet has expired.

I believe that the message we really want to send to these racquetball carpetbaggers is "Play Racquetball Because You Can," not because free shirts, shoes and racquets are waiting at the end of the rainbow. Giving away free equipment to players who will promote future industry growth must continue to be part of the manufacturers' marketing strategy. As a sponsored player myself for the last ten years, the ability to sell product has helped keep me in the goodies, and I suggest that anyone that accepts product on a sponsorship owes it to the manufacturer to keep his end of the bargain and not look for other more enticing opportunities until his/her contract expires.

If the manufacturers really want to see results from these sponsorships, I suggest that they demand the same commitment from their players as most employers demand of their employees. A full day's pay for a full day's play.

Sandy Tucker
Greenville, S.C.

PORT-A-COURT?

Where is the portable court to go on it's "journeys?" Where has it gone? Who is going to be reaping the benefits, and who is playing on it? It seems to me the answer is that it is used for the pros to play on at the U.S. Open. Regardless of who else has not contributed to this

project, I find it pretty sad to note the lack of pro names and both their associations on the list of donors. From the pro rankings in the latest issue, only seven of 100 men and women listed have made any contribution at all and there is nothing shown for the IRT or the WIRT.

Shouldn't the people who are going to use it and benefit from it at least support the project? And as a fellow contributor, thank you to Sudsy Monchik, John Ellis, Mike Guidry, Adam Karp, Todd O'Neil, Janet Myers and Anita Maldonado for donating.

Tawn Wolfe
Huntington Beach, CA

[Oops! If you'll refer back to page six of the May/June issue, we noted that the IRT/WIRT "in-kind" contributions to the portable court (in the Gold donor category) had been overlooked — then we proceeded to overlook them again in the July/August edition. Our apologies to the pro tours which, as a group, supported the portable court project at the maximum level (see sidebar at right). The individuals you cite have made additional, personal contributions to the effort, above and beyond the group effort — and we thank them with you. — Editor]

EQUAL TIME

I'm a lower level player; have been, and probably always will be. I play primarily for fun and meeting people. Getting beat when I play my best is no big deal to me. However, what I resent is being put into divisions where I win because I'm playing D and novice players. It's not fair to them or me. I resent signing up for C/D Mixed Doubles, and when I get to the tournament (sometimes out of town) I find out I've been combined with A/B teams. I resent players blatantly admitting they are sandbagging, but are from out of town and want to take home a trophy.

On top of that, all players should be treated the same. Matches shouldn't be held three hours for "certain" upper-level players to get to the tour-

namment, while the 20-minute forfeit rule applies to the lower division players. Until the lower division player is treated with as much respect and dignity as the upper level player, you aren't going to see racquetball grow. The upper level players have no other divisions to move up to, but the lower division player can strive to move up through the ranks. You're not going to see any players stick with the sport when they feel they are unimportant.

Wanda Jackson
Hurst, Texas

EVERY PURPOSE?

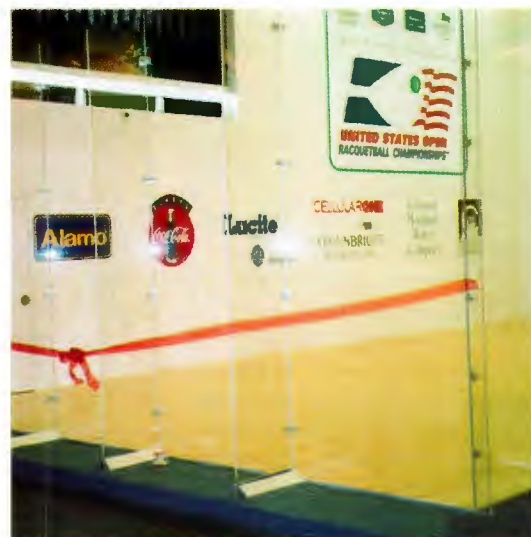
Lynn [Adams] may be right in regard to Chuck Leve and his scathing report. But then again, when would you have this collective body of individuals in one place to address your concerns? Lynn, put yourself in his shoes and try to picture all the hard work Mr. Leve put in to the initial organization of racquetball and the pro game. To everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under heaven — and Mr. Leve chose this as his time.

Genaro R. Marez
Flowery Branch, Georgia

BALLY-HOO

When an airline sells more seats than there are on the plane it has violated it's agreement. When a business sells more goods than it delivers it is not living up to it's commitments. When an organization sells services and then chooses to cut back on those services it has made a decision to deprive it's clientele of the privileges for which it has already been paid.

Eight years ago when the Clear Lake club was under construction Bally was only too glad to collect \$1000 up front from racquetball enthusiasts who wanted to see a class facility in the area. We listened to the promises by sales personnel, understood that our dollars were going to help defray construction costs, and expected that our good faith in investing in an uncompleted facility would be met with the promised goods and services (i.e. six



The portable court may be a reality but we still have quite a way to go before the fundraising is complete (the goal is \$75,000). Help us raise the remaining \$54,000+ and add your name to the full donor list (last published in the July/August issue) which will later become a permanent plaque that travels+ with the court. Make your contribution to the cause in the gold, silver, bronze or patron donor category, and become one of our very special portable court "builders." Call the USRA at 719/635-5396 to make your donation!

PORTABLE COURT UPDATE

New portable court donations since the last issue have been made by: **CRS Products, Inc.**, which added \$250.00, and **Paul Lowe** who added \$100.00 to previous donations to move both up into the "Silver" patron category, joining the **Ohio Racquetball Association** which made a \$500.00 contribution since the last issue. **Roy & Yvonne Rudichuk** made a generous donation of \$250.00 to be added to the Bronze Patron list. **U.S. Team Assistant Coach Tom Travers** doubled his previous donation, and was joined on the Patrons list by new contributor **Shari L. Gittleman**. The **IRT/WIRT Pro Tours** REMAIN on the Gold donor list ...

Donations through August 14 total \$20,726.00 — which still leaves us quite a way to go before we reach the home stretch. Only then will we be able to have the permanent plaque made up to accompany the court. So, if you've already given and would like to increase your gift (and perhaps jump into a higher category), it looks like you have plenty of time before the final list is memorialized in its permanent form.

readerforum

... IN THE NEWS

U.S. National Team members **Todd O'Neil** (Dallas, Texas) and **Michelle Gould** (Boise, Idaho) were mentioned in **SportVision** (June 1997), an international sports magazine, as the USRA Athletes of the Year ... **Matthew Hammond**, 10, of San Antonio, Texas was featured in the February 1997 issue of **Boy's Life** ... **Josh Tucker** (Joplin, Mo.) earned a mention in his hometown paper, the **Joplin Globe**, after taking second in the Boy's 16-and-under division at the Junior Nationals ... the **Brigham Young University racquetball team** found themselves on the front page of **The Daily Universe**, BYU's student paper, after winning the team title at the U.S. National Intercollegiates ... **Erin Brannigan** (Sagle, Idaho) was featured in two large articles before winning his National High School Championship, one in **The Spokesman-Review** (Spokane, Wash.) and another in the **Bonner Co. Daily Bee** ... **Rhonda Rajsich** (Phoenix, Ariz.) was pictured, featured and quoted in the Feb. 27, 1997 edition of **USA Today**. ... **Karen and Darold Key** of Gilbert, Ariz., recently appeared in the **Mesa Tribune** as a part of a rather healthy article regarding racquetball in Arizona. The early July piece was titled "ADDICTED - 'Racquaholics' aim to spread game's highs." The "Racquaholics" in question were indeed the Keys. Pictured were Karen and Darold, along with an action shot of **Lara Wells**.

Racquetball's popularity seems to be in a "boom" time. One of the world's most popular sports magazines, **Sports Illustrated**, has pictured four of the sport's finest this year. **Rhonda Rajsich** (Phoenix, Ariz.), **Erin Brannigan** (Sagle, Idaho), **Brian Simpson** (Fort Wayne, Ind.) and **Melanie Mueller** (Grand Junction, Colo.) have all been featured in the "Faces in the Crowd" section. Rajsich earned her spot by winning the junior world championship. Brannigan was selected after his national high school title, while Simpson was pictured after his first national intercollegiate crown. More recently, Mueller was picked after her two junior national gold medals in girl's 14-and-under singles and doubles.

If you've been in the local limelight and earned some press coverage - no matter how much or how little - please send a copy to: Kevin Vicroy, USRA Media/Public Relations Manager, 1685 West Uintah, Colorado Springs, CO 80904-2921.

properly maintained racquetball courts - only four were built).

Now Bally management offers: "Don't worry. We're only storing equipment on that court temporarily ... it will be returned to racquetball service as soon as the equipment is put in place." (followed by the court being torn down and the exact same scenario being replayed on a second court at the same facility). Well racquetball players aren't dead if they're behind 10 to 1 in an 11 point tiebreaker, and they're not the kind to let their sport die because some organization has decided to "take the money and run."

If something similar is happening in your area, the "Save our Courts" (SOC) committee urges you to: (1) Unite! e.g. form your own committees, (2) Put together petitions, (3) Call the Bally's corporate offices and raise your collective voices in protest. Bally spends a lot of money of advertising. If they do not live up to their promises and the public loses confidence in them and their promises they will be in trouble. Let's help them find the straight and narrow. If we can help write SOC at League City Texas, P.O. Box 77574-629

Mike Lazarow
League City, Texas

"NEW" VIEW

I purchased a 22" inch racquet as soon as I could. I feel that I am like most of the active racquetball players. I like to have the newest model available, and I don't mind spending the money for it. I think the people who are getting hurt the most are the small racquetball pro-shops. These are the people at all of the tournaments, staying all weekend, trying to eek out a living in racquetball. Now they'll have a hard time selling the "small racquets" and will end up losing money.

I think a part of the problem lies with the manufacturers. It seems that the majority of tournament players these days are "sponsored." If the manufacturers were more selective in choosing their players, they would not be in a

position to have to "invent" a longer racquet to promote sales. This is not "new technology" it is an answer to an industry-wide drop-off in sales.

I think this [USRA] web-site and this magazine will do much more for racquetball than anything else. The web-site is great! I always look forward to the magazine, I read it cover-to-cover everytime I get it. Keep up the good work.

Ken Arrowsmith
Lutz, Florida (online)

POLL AND DELIVER

Regarding the USRA rules change in racquet length, it would seem to me a much more effective way to poll the USRA membership on their position would be by posing the question on sanctioned USRA tournament applications prior to the Board voting. A simple yes or no! Then feed all results back to the Board. It is my opinion that the results would of leaned heavily on the side of don't increase the racquet length. I have been involved in promoting racquetball for many, many years, and I could of told anyone that expecting the membership to forward their survey questionnaire ballot form from the magazine back to the USRA would not of worked. People many times have to be pushed, or more appropriately, spoon-fed/coaxed to get them to act.

It would also seem to me that the racquet manufacturers are at the mercy of the racquetball players (meaning us USRA tournament players who support the industry), not the USRA at the mercy of the racquet manufacturer industry, as Mr. St. Onge states "the USRA was placed in a no-win situation." I could reason by this decision making mindset, what the industry wants, those wants will be the future of racquetball. I find it hard to believe that the industry would bring to market 22" racquets without the approval/adoption of the USRA. That would not be a sound marketing approach.

Craig A. Sambor
New Hartford, NY (online)

Killer shots
more often
with less effort
and no pain...



...means
more wins

No racquet company, except **Pro Kennex**, can offer you power, control, shock reduction and vibration dampening combined into one racquet without sacrificing one benefit for another. So how do we do it? **KINETIC System Technology.**

We add a second energy source to the frame of the racquet that increases power, enlarges the sweet spot, balances the weight of the racquet, reduces shock and almost eliminates vibration.

What does this mean to you? Better racquetball, less pain, and a one-way ticket to the top of the ladder.

Other manufactures claim to be the best with design features. Pro Kennex proves it through technology*. And who's gonna argue with science?

KINETIC System Technology. It's found only in Pro Kennex Kinetic Series racquets.

To discover the only racquets on earth with two energy sources, demo one or call 1-800-4-KINETIC.

HOW IT WORKS

1 As you swing the racquet forward, microbearings load to the back of 100 precision-engineered chambers integrated into the frame.

2 As the racquet impacts the ball, the loaded bearings explode forward to the front of the chamber transferring the resulting kinetic energy into the ball.

3 After impact, a shock wave is released into the string bed from the ball and is immediately absorbed into the kinetic chambers around the racquet frame almost eliminating vibration to the arm.

KINETIC DIAMOND SERIES



Kinetic Diamond 15g

Kinetic Diamond 5g

Kinetic Diamond 10g

Pro Kennex now gives you two longer reasons to experience kinetics. The Kinetic Diamond 15g (22") and the Kinetic Diamond 5g (21.5").

PRO KENNEX

PUTTING ENERGY BACK IN THE GAME.

* Tests conducted at MIT's Sports Dynamic Lab show a 15% increase in Power Zone, 20% increase in Shock Reduction and a 43% increase in Vibration Dampening over other kinetic racquets.



FLYING HIGH ...

... ON AND OFF THE COURT

by SSgt Gayle A. Ornong

Members of Team Cannon helped one of the world's greatest athletes reach new heights to achieve a life-long dream — at 18,000 feet above sea level, to be exact.

Cliff Swain, a four time world champion on the International Racquetball Tour, visited Cannon Air Force Base, N.M., April 15 through 20 to take on the Department of Defense's top player, Cannon's own A1C Rob DeJesus, in friendly competition.

Prior to the duo's exhibition matches and clinic, Swain took to the air in an F-16 jet piloted by Capt. Dan Gernert of the 522nd Fighter Squadron.

"To fly in a fighter is a dream I've had ever since I was a child. I thought it was going to stay a dream," Swain said. "It was the most unbelievable thing I've ever done in my life — and I've done a lot of things. It was an experience I will never, ever forget."

Currently number two on the IRT behind Sudsy Monchik, Swain noted that taking a backseat to another player — in a sport which his own name is synonymous with — isn't pleasant. "He's [Monchik] hungry, and I got spoiled," Swain said, noting that life's distractions got the better of him last year. "But that's not an excuse not to play well. Number two is not a position I'm comfortable with and I don't plan to stay there."

He didn't take a backseat to DeJesus, and EF-111A crew chief with the 429th Electronic Combat Squadron,

during the exhibition matches April 19. Swain won all four games 11-1, 11-1, 11-2 and 11-8, dealing graciously with a crowd that was obviously rooting for the Air Force player.

After the crowd roared for DeJesus's first scored point, Swain slammed a shot into the corner, poked his head through the door of the court and laughed, "Take that you guys!"

Following the games, Swain, who makes his living playing racquetball, and DeJesus, who plans to hone his skills at college and then turn professional, talked with clinic participants and passed along tips to help others play the very offensive game better.

"Playing about a million matches helps," Swain laughed. "But anticipation is a big part of it and knowing the other player's game."

Although the world class athletes get much of their practice from the non-stop tournaments they attend, they recommend the casual players always try and improve, practicing intensely but briefly.

"Maybe an hour a day real hard," Swain said. "The key for me is to make every match mean more than anything else in the world—and at the same time, remember it's still just a game."

Special thanks to author, Ssgt Gayle Ornon, 27th Fighter Wing Public Affairs, and photographer, A1C Christopher Gish, 27th Communications Squadron Photo Lab.



Top: Swain (center) and DeJesus (right) pose with F-16 pilot Capt. Dan Gernert of the 522nd Fighter Squadron prior to takeoff. **Above:** Four-time world champ Swain, with the Department of Defense's top racquetball player A1C Rob DeJesus, prepares to take off an F-16 orientation ride. **Below:** Cliff returns a shot to DeJesus during exhibition matches at the Cannon Fitness Center in April. All Photos: A1C Christopher Gish.





**“It was
a skip
... SIR!”**

Three service
branches “battle”
each other for team
and individual
titles at their team
qualifiers and the
armed forces
championships!

by Jan Chayt

ALL ARMY Championship Qualifier

Forty-three Army athletes from around the world came to Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas to try to qualify for the All Army Racquetball Team and the chance to compete against the Air Force and Navy. As an added incentive, those selected for the team were to be sponsored by the Army to compete in the USRA national championships in Houston later in the month.

Competitors from Korea and Europe arrived a day early, then met with competitors from across the U.S. at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center to begin the playoff. With five glass back-wall courts and an extremely helpful staff, the stage was set for some interesting developments.

Top Seeds

Last year's defending open champion was not among the players. Instead, returning for his last year as an open player, was Jimmy Lowe. Now stationed in Alaska, Jimmy missed several years of competition while concentrating on his Army career. Gil Rodriguez from Virginia, who won the men's seniors the last several years, had since turned 40 and moved into the men's masters division. Roger Miller, also from Virginia and another former team member who had always been a threat in open, moved into the senior division.

The women's division also posed some challenges from several returning champions. In women's open, two-time champion Rosemary Anderson ('94 & '96) from Fort Bragg, North Carolina was back again to defend her title. In the senior division, two-time defending champ Jan Chayt of Virginia was in the lineup, along with challenger Evelyn Colon-Perez. Also making a bid was Gladys Leonard from Fort Dix, New Jersey, who had never made the team but had consistently threatened to earn a spot with good solid play that looked stronger each year.

10

Top Row (L-R): Brad Yoder, Troy Vanbemmelen, Tom Fuhrmann, Rob DeJesus, Chris Asuncion, Ed Reed, Cody Matteucci, Jimmy Lowe, Scott Creps, Clint Imholt, Matthew Anderson

Second Row (L-R): Joe Guyton, Rick Eisemann, Pete Chase, Duane Stevens, Julian Alarcon, Dan Keil, Wayne Gonsalves, Roger Miller, Miguel Santiago, Jim Gillhouse

Third Row (L-R): Lee Post, Raul Ramos, Rick Sorenson, John Davis, Jesus Moctezuma, Gil Rodriguez, Tom Chandler, Bruce Shafer

Seated (L-R): Angela Burth, Jayne Vigil, Barb Faulkenberry, Tina Bragdon, Pat Sargeant, Rose Anderson, Gladys Leonard, Pat Phanvongsa, Evelyn Colon-Perez, Diana Huron, Jan Chayt.

Special thanks to Jim Gillhouse for providing the photograph, and identifying the players.

Opening Rounds

From as early as the first round, newcomers began making names for themselves. Matthew Anderson from California showed that he was going to be someone to deal with in the open, and Scott Creps continued to let everyone know that no one takes the big guy for granted. In his first return engagement, Jimmy Lowe served up a double donut which made an "I'm back" statement to everyone.

In the men's senior division Wayne Gonsalves came out stronger than anyone expected, beating Roger Miller in a tiebreaker, while Gil Rodriguez made it clear that he was the man to beat in the Masters.

team. Jan Chayt won the women's seniors for the third consecutive year, by defeating Evelyn Colon-Perez.

Armed Forces Championships

In preparation for the arrival of new teams from the Air Force and the Navy, staffers at the Jimmy Brought Fitness Center spruced up the five glass back courts on which the Army players had just completed their qualifier, then waited for the challengers. On Tuesday evening, team captains met to do a much larger draw than in years past. The Army and Air Force each brought four competitors in each of the men's open, seniors and masters divisions, plus two women each for the open and seniors competition. The Navy brought in a total of four players – two each in the men's open and senior divisions. The tournament format was double elimination with the players seeds based on their finish in their earlier service qualifiers.

Early rounds in the men's open held no real surprises for any of the top seeds, and the semi finals in the winners bracket came down to Matthew Anderson facing Rob DeJesus and Jimmy Lowe against Cody Matteucci. Rob advanced to the next round with a 4, 9 victory over Matthew, while Jimmy took out Cody 4, 2.

Playoffs continued in the losers bracket as the players tried to get another shot against those who sent them there. Tom Fuhrmann, the Air Force #2 had lost an early match against Lowe, then fought his way back to challenge the loser of the Lowe and DeJesus match. There, Jimmy and Rob provided all the excitement the watching crowd could hope for, before Rob lost the narrow tiebreaker 11-9 to go up against Fuhrmann.

Rob took control early in the match against Tom, winning the first game 15-2. With doubles still to worry about, Tom decided to save his arm and forfeit the second game, allowing Rob back into the final rematch, where Jimmy Lowe took the tiebreaker and the title. The final score was 15-9, 14-15, 11-5. Jimmy Lowe who had missed several years of Army and Armed Forces competition was back.

Early on in the men's seniors, Roger Miller won a tiebreaker over Duane Stevens to advance in the winners bracket, where he waited to see who would come back to challenge him. That challenge came from Rick Eisemann who lost a first round tiebreaker to the Army's #1 seed, Wayne Gonsalves, then won their grudge rematch in two. Rick still had to win four more matches to come back and face Roger — who won their final 15-12, 15-3.

In the women's divisions Gladys Leonard, Jan Chayt, Rosemary Anderson and Evelyn Colon-Perez showed the rest of the field that experience is the key to success.

Finals

Jimmy Lowe advanced easily into the open final, facing Matthew Anderson who had come back up from the losers bracket to challenge him. But Jimmy made quick work of his win over Anderson, taking the All Army championship in straight games of 15-5, 15-4.

In the men's seniors, Wayne Gonsalves played strong throughout the bracket to earn his spot in the final against Jim Gillhouse, who beat Miguel Santiago in an 11-10 tiebreaker to make the challenge. The first game went back and forth to a narrow 15-14 win by Gonsalves, who really got on top of his game in the second to take the championship, 15-7.

In the masters, Gil Rodriguez went up against Jesus Moctezuma, stationed in Puerto Rico, for the championship. Gil lost the first game 7-15, but came on strong in the next two, winning them 15-11 and 11-6.

In Women's open, Rosemary Anderson took her second consecutive title with Gladys Leonard finishing a strong second. Gladys pulled a calf muscle in her semi-finals but was able to recover to take the second spot on the

In the men's masters, the Army felt confident they had the team to beat with Gil Rodriguez and Jesus Moctezuma in the #1 and #2 positions. There were no surprises. In the finals of the winners bracket, Gil sent Jesus down to face Bruce Shafer, the Army's #3. Jesus returned from that match to face Gil again, who won the first game 15-13. Gil repeated by taking complete control in the second, winning it 15-2 to claim the championship.

The women's open once again featured Barb Faulkenberry, who has represented the Air Force in many previous tournaments. Her last minute entry placed her in the #2 spot behind #1 Tina Bragdon. The Army team consisted of Rosemary Anderson and Gladys Leonard. The Air Force took the first round of games, and many spectators were surprised that Barb went to a tiebreaker in both of her matches, winning against Rose, but losing to Tina. Barb faced Rose again, and again won it in three. She came back to face Tina, and pulled out a turn-around tiebreaker. The IF match showed everyone why Barb is the champion and most respected women player in the Armed Forces. In a third tiebreaker against Tina, Barb logged another close win of 15-8, 13-15, 11-2. Barb stated her motto this tournament was "Do it the hard way."

In the women's seniors, the Army team of Jan Chayt and Evelyn Colon-Perez felt they had it all tied up. Jan commanded her first game against Jayne Vigil, and started strong in the second. But a few points into the game Jan felt something in her left thigh pop. She continued for a few more rallies and then exited the court and later forfeited out. Jayne went on to win the division following Barb's example of doing it the hard way. Her teammate Pat Sergeant came out of the losers bracket to challenge her and took the first match in two 15-7, 15-13. The IF match went to Jayne 15-14, 15-9.

The men's open doubles went to the Air Force Team of Rob DeJesus and Tom Fuhrmann over the Army's Scott Creps and Matthew Anderson. Men's senior doubles went to the Air Force team of Duane Stevens and Rick Eismann over the Army's Roger Miller and Miguel Santiago. It was no surprise the men's masters doubles title went to the Army's Gil Rodriguez and Jesus Moctezuma. The women's open doubles went to Barb Faulkenberry and Tina Bragdon. The Army's Jan Chayt and Diana Huron took the women's seniors doubles.

Total points on matches won and lost were calculated and the Army Team claimed the team championship for the second year in a row.

U.S. Forces European Championships

by Joseph Villareal, Team Ramstein

To close out the 1996-97 racquetball season, the U.S. Forces European Championships were held in Hanau, Germany in mid April. This finale had been the most awaited tournament of the season, and players from all over Europe came to play. Back in the running were: Open winner Clint Imholte and third place finisher Joseph Villareal, Senior champ Mike Bowers, and masters finalist James Johnson, just to name a few. Some new entrants were: Marty Page, Shamus O'Shea, Rico Southee, John Surovy, Otto Carrizo, Joe Gonzalas and many more.

The matches throughout the tournament were very tough, with most going to tiebreakers. Top open seed Clint Imholte cruised past his first two opponents, leaving him sitting at the top of his bracket by the end of the first day. Although #2 seeded Joseph Villareal had a shaky start, he recovered from a 2-10 deficit to win one of his games 15-14. By the end of the day, he was slated to take on the reigning champion. Imholte and Villareal met last year with some spectacular gets and crushing kill shots and this year was no different. After 45 minutes of passes, kills, splats and dives, Imholte rose victorious for a back-to-back championship run.

Newcomer Marty Page ruled the senior division, going through opponents left and right, winning in straight games throughout the tournament. No one stood a chance against the unstoppable Marty Page.

In the masters division, Mike Bowers had his hands full, including a win in the toughest match of the tournament against Tom Woodard. The match lasted over an hour, ending with scores of 11-15, 15-7, 11-9. Bowers went on to defeat Thomas Chandler in the finals.

In Open doubles, many of the top players teamed up to do battle. The finals match was the longest and most exciting of the tournament. Thomas Chandler and Otto Carrizo took over two hours to defeat Joseph Villareal and John Surovy in a narrow 11-9 tiebreaker.

In the womens division, Ynez Slaymaker played a double round robin against Brenda McCune for the Seniors's #1 spot. Both played tough, but in the end, Brenda was victorious.

Results — 1997 U.S. Forces European Championships — Men's Open Champion: Clint Imholte; 2) Joseph Villareal; 3) Joe Gonzalas. Men's Senior Champion: Marty Page; 2) Rico Southee. Men's Masters Champion: Mike Bowers; 2) Thomas Chandler; 3) Tom Woodard. Women's Senior Champion: Brenda McCune; 2) Ynez Slaymaker.



EMOTIONAL FIRSTS IN BALTIMORE

by Kevin Vicroy

Ironically, it wasn't the 8-and-under divisions that produced the most crying at the Ektelon 24th U.S. Junior Olympic Championships, presented by Penn Racquet Sports and hosted by the Merritt Athletic Club - Security, June 21-25. Sometimes, and these are often the most beautiful moments in sports, it's the more mature athletes — like 18 and under singles champions Mark Bloom and Rhonda Rajsich — who realize what they have achieved and what it truly means. That is when the emotions take over.

And that's exactly what happened to fourth-seeded Mark Bloom of Metairie, La. and his tearful family after he defeated unseeded Chris Crowther of Riverside, Calif., 15-11, 15-14 in the Boy's 18-and-under singles final.

Before making his finals debut, Bloom had played his way through to the semi-finals against top seeded Californian Rocky Carson. After disposing of Kelly Lee of Butte, Montana, 15-6, 15-9 in the first round, the University of Texas sophomore put away Cincinnati's Paulos Strike, 15-9, 15-10 to advance into the quarterfinals against Jed Bhuta of Pike Road, Alabama. Bhuta, a consistent top-eight finisher, was helpless against Bloom's quickness and fell 15-2, 15-4.

Now the semi-final was set between Bloom and World Junior champion Carson. Rocky stumbled a bit in the first game, losing 15-14, but rebounded to crush Bloom in game two, 15-2. But unfortunately for Carson, even world champs can't twist fate. Bloom was on a mission, and aided by sideline coaching from his brother Jeff, he won a convincing upset tiebreaker over the top seed, 11-7. Jeff quickly rushed onto the court to hug his younger brother. From the reaction of friends and family, it was obvious that this was the biggest win in Bloom's career.

So how would he handle his trip to the finals? Would he suffer a "let-down?" How strong would his opponent, Crowther, prove to be? The unseeded Crowther had upset #2 seeded Tyler Siggins of Anaheim, California, 11-15, 15-14, 11-6 for his finals invitation.

As it turned out, Bloom was spectacular in his straight game win. His mother, Rosie, launched straight-up with excitement after the final point — joining the crowd in giving the players a standing ovation. Jeff quickly hugged his mother and again rushed onto center court to congratulate his little brother. In Hollywood, the scene would have "brought the lights up," the curtain would have slowly closed and the film would have entered a strong bid for "Feel Good Movie of the Year."

"It's my first time ever and it's unbelievable," Bloom said of winning his first national singles title. "My brother was with me out there on that court. He was playing right alongside of me. Jeff never got an opportunity to play in the national finals, so I won this for both of us."

*Mark Bloom celebrates after his win.
Unless noted, all photos with this story by Kevin Vicroy.*



"My brother was with me out there on that court. He was playing right alongside of me. Jeff never got an opportunity to play in the national finals, so I won this for both of us." • **Mark Bloom**
(with brother Jeff, above) after his win.

There had been times in the finale when Bloom would lose his concentration. "When I skipped a few shots, I just focused in on seeing a gold medal wrapped around my neck," an emotional Bloom said following the match. "Having my name right under Eric Storey's (1996 winner) feels awesome, and on the same list with names like Swain, Monchik, Mannino and Hogan is just unbelievable."

First for Rajsich

In the Girl's 18 and under bracket, nobody even came remotely close to defeating Rhonda Rajsich (right), who downed doubles teammate Vanessa Tulao 15-1, 15-8 in the finals for her first junior national singles title. The current two-time National High School Champion ran through the competition allowing a meager four points per game.

Christina Lewendal of Beaverton, Oregon couldn't seem to get anything rolling against Rajsich in the quarterfinals, losing 15-1, 15-3. Next up on the Phoenix native's victim list was another Oregon dark horse Erin Frost of Eugene. Frost, a sophomore on academic scholarship at the University of Oregon, pushed the eventual champion more than anyone all week long, only to fall 15-8, 15-4 in the semis.

In the final, Rajsich dominated Tulao from the start and cruised to victory. "I just tried to keep a dominating focus and play my game," Rajsich, an Arizona All-State basketball selection, said following her finals victory. According to the champ, she wasn't out to "really intimidate them (her opponents), but let them

know that I'm mentally solid and any confidence they got wouldn't last long.

Team Play

Team Oregon, for the sixth consecutive year, captured the state team crown, scoring a whopping 1,143 points, 610 better than second-place Ohio. California tallied 360 for third place, while Florida (303) and Texas (283) rounded out the top five.



Of the 46 players representing Oregon in Baltimore, five players won six national singles championships — Brooke Crawford (Klamath Falls) - Girl's 16-and-under; Charlie Pratt (Beaverton) - Boy's 10-and-under; Ashley Legget (Klamath Falls) - Girl's 10-and-under; Brittany Legget (Klamath Falls) won both the Girl's 8-and-under multi-bounce and regular 8-and-under; Erick Podwill (Beaverton) - Boy's 6-and-under multi-bounce. The Oregonians won three doubles events, as well.

Sweet Sixteens

Joplin, Missouri's Josh Tucker found out the hard way that a No. 1 seed can weigh a little heavy on the shoulders, as #2 seeded Ryan Staten of Dodge City,

Kansas upset Tucker 15-9, 15-5 in the Boy's 16-and-under finals.

Tucker, who finished in the round of 16 of the 18-and-under division, swept through his first four opponents losing only two games. After allowing no more than four points per game in his first three matches, Staten met fellow Junior U.S. Team member Shane Vanderson of Dublin, Ohio in the semifinals. The stocky Kansas native put away



FINALISTS IN BOY'S 16 AND UNDER: RYAN STATEN (ABOVE), JOSH TUCKER (BELOW)



Vanderson 15-12, 15-8 to move on into the finale.

Unfortunately for Tucker, the wheels on his ride to a championship fell off as Staten simply overpowered him with a simple and well-executed game plan.

"I was playing good throughout the whole tournament," Staten said after his win. "I was hitting all of my shots, wasn't skipping and just played smart racquetball."

Knowing that his opponent wasn't at the top of his game, Staten remarked, "He (Tucker) was the No. 1 seed and I think he felt the pressure a little bit. He definitely wasn't playing as good as he normally does out there."

After being named the USRA Female Junior Athlete of the Year, it would have seemed fitting that Sara Borland of Bettendorf, Iowa would come out on the final day and win her second straight Girl's 16-and-under gold medal. However, Team Oregon's Brooke Crawford of Klamath Falls refused to buy into that storybook ending.

Suffering somewhat from nausea and flu-like symptoms, Borland came back from a 14-9 first-game deficit to win 15-14 on pure guts and will.

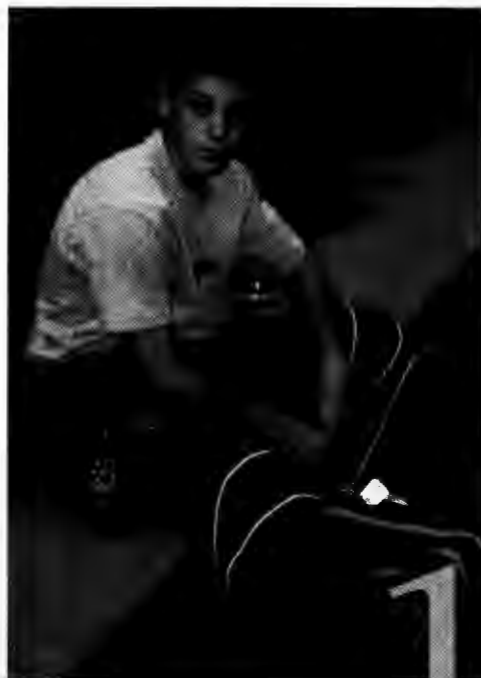
"Sara came back and played real tough," Crawford stated following the match. "When I lost that first game, I told myself, 'I can't let it happen again.'"

And she didn't. Crawford took games two and three by scores of 15-11 and 11-7, respectively, and won her first junior national singles crown over the defending champion.



Left: Brooke Crawford in her 16 and under final.

Below: Trevor Crowe catches some down time between matches.





Top: Rocky Carson and Sara Borland accept their "Junior Athlete of the Year" awards at the banquet. Photo: Jim Hiser.

Bottom: Tyler Siggins may have outgrown his first souvenir t-shirt from the 1986 Junior Nationals, but his mom surprised him by bringing it to Baltimore.



24th U.S.
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SINGLES RESULTS —

BOY'S 18-: Mark Bloom (Metairie, La.) def. Chris Crowther (Riverside, Calif.) 15-11, 15-14. B16-: Ryan Staten (Dodge City, Kan.) def. Josh Tucker (Joplin, Mo.) 15-9, 15-5. B14-: Jack Huczek (Rochester Hills, Mich.) def. Matt McElhiney

(Bradenton, Fla.) 15-7, 15-0. B12-: Steve Klaiman (Houston, Texas) def. Brandon Shoemaker (Findlay, Ohio) 15-9, 15-11. B10-: Charlie Pratt (Portland, Ore.) def. Joey Lakowske (Corvallis, Ore.) 15-9, 15-5. B8-: Nick Arturo (Anchorage, Alaska) def. Jamin Godwin (Sarasota, Fla.) 15-0, 15-8. B6- multi bounce: Brandon Callihan (Anchorage, Alaska) def. Eric Noble (Fayetteville, N.C.) 15-7, 15-4. B4- multi bounce: Erick Podwill (Portland, Ore.) def. Ryan Noble (Fayetteville, N.C.) 15-6, 15-10. **GIRL'S 18-:** Rhonda Rajsich (Phoenix, Ariz.) def. Vanessa Tulao (Rainbow City, Ala.) 15-1, 15-8. G16-: Brooke Crawford (Klamath Falls, Ore.) def. Sara Borland (Bettendorf, Iowa) 14-15, 15-11, 11-7. G14-: Melanie Mueller (Grand Junction, Colo.) def. Krystal Csuk (Naperville, Ill.) 12-15, 15-10, 11-8. G12-: Kimberly Irons (Dublin, Ohio) def. Adrienne Fisher (Dayton, Ohio) 15-9, 15-7. G10-: Ashley Legget (Klamath Falls, Ore.) def. Brandie Hanson (Klamath Falls, Ore.) 15-11, 15-10. G8-: Brittany Legget (Klamath Falls, Ore.) def. Rebeka Kopf (Babylon, N.Y.) 15-8, 10-15, 11-0. G6- multi bounce: Brittany Legget (Klamath Falls, Ore.) def. Shannon Ingelsby (Oregon) 15-1, 15-9.

DOUBLES RESULTS — BOY'S 18-: Rocky Carson (Santa Maria, Calif.)/Tyler Siggins (Anaheim, Calif.) def. Mark Bloom (Metairie, La.)/Bucky Freeman (Longview, Texas) 15-13, 15-13. B16-: James Ford (Riverton, Wyo.)/Ryan Staten (Dodge City, Kan.) def. Stephen Lewis (Kennewick, Wash.)/Shane Vanderson (Dublin, Ohio) 15-6, 15-11. B14-: Matt McElhiney (Bradenton, Fla.)/Zack Miller (Atla Loma, Calif.) def. Bart Crawford (Klamath Falls, Ore.)/Steve Klaiman (Houston, Texas) 10-15, 15-13, 11-10. B12-: Seth Parker (Harrisburg, Pa.)/Travis Woodbury (Arlington, Va.) def. Clay Burris (Brandon, Fla.)/Brad Slocum (Sarasota, Fla.) 15-10, 15-7. B10-: Andrew Grissom (Campbell, Calif.)/Matt Johnson (Farmington, N.M.) def. Matthew Hammond (San Antonio, Texas)/David Lewis (Aurora, Colo.) 15-6, 15-7. **GIRL'S 18-:** Rhonda Rajsich (Phoenix, Ariz.)/Vanessa Tulao (Rainbow City, Ala.) def. Brooke Crawford (Klamath Falls, Ore.)/Erin Frost (Eugene, Ore.) 15-6, 15-12. G16-: Megan Bals (Lincoln, Neb.)/Maggie DeBord (Lincoln, Neb.) def. Meghan Guardiani (Marlboro, Mass.)/Jenn Swallow (Parkside, Pa.) 15-1, 15-6. G14-: Molly Law (Denver, Colo.)/Melanie Mueller (Grand Junction, Colo.) def. Jeni Fuller (Albuquerque, N.M.)/Kristen Walsh (Salt Lake City, Utah) 15-10, 15-9. G12-: Adrienne Fisher (Dayton, Ohio)/Kimberly Irons (Dublin, Ohio) def. Derae Darling (Gearhart, Ore.)/Jessica Richter (Hamilton, Mont.) 15-2, 15-3. G10-: Ashley Legget (Klamath Falls, Ore.)/Ashley Willhite (Klamath Falls, Ore.) def. Molissia Martin (Kenosha, Wis.)/Dominique Winfrey (Powell, Ohio) 15-1, 15-3.

MIXED 18-: Lianna Kerwood (Beaverton, Ore.)/Erin Brannigan (Sagle, Idaho) def. Vanessa Tulao (Rainbow City, Ala.)/Jed Bhuta (Pike Road, Ala.) 15-6, 15-13. **MIXED 16-:** Megan Bals (Lincoln, Neb.)/David Liakos (Minden, Neb.) def. Molly Law (Denver, Colo.)/Scott Fisher (West Babylon, N.Y.) 15-8, 9-15, 11-7. **MIXED 14-:** Krystal Csuk (Naperville, Ill.)/Adam Taylor (Shelbyville, Ind.) def. Crystal Winfrey (Powell, Ohio)/Jack Huczek (Rochester Hills, Mich.) 10-15, 15-9, 11-8. **MIXED 12-:** Kimberly Irons (Dublin, Ohio)/Brandon Shoemaker (Findlay, Ohio) def. Adrienne Fisher (Dayton, Ohio)/Steve Klaiman (Houston, Texas) 15-13, 6-15, 11-10. **MIXED 10-:** Brandie Hanson (Klamath Falls, Ore.)/Charlie Pratt (Portland, Ore.) def. Dominique Winfrey (Powell, Ohio)/Justin Erdman (Hilliard, Ohio) 15-5, 15-5.

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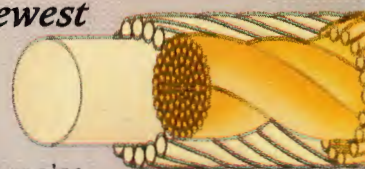
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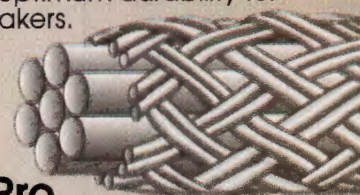


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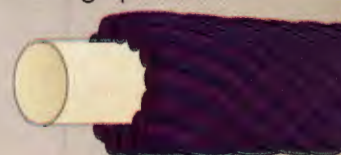
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industry update



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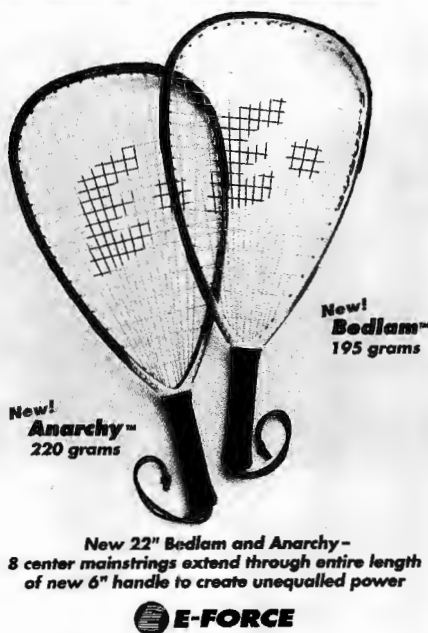
In response to the introduction of new, larger racquets, Ashaway Racket Strings immediately increased the length of all single sets of racquetball string. Ashaway string sets are now sold in 40' coils, up from the 36' previously. The change involves no price increase. "Prominent racquet manufacturers recently introduced huge frames that require 39'-6" of string," said Kenneth Levine, director of sales at Ashaway Racket Strings. "These new racquets offer more power than previous models, but they cannot be strung with traditionally sized string sets. Ashaway is among the first manufacturers to respond to the change with longer string sets." The only U.S.-based manufacturer of string for tennis, racquetball, squash and badminton, Ashaway is the official string of the USRA, as well as Racquetball Canada.

DUNLOP'S TOUR PRO RACQUETBALLS

Following a six-month absence from the market for research and development, Dunlop Sports is ready to re-launch its green Tour Pro Racquetball. According to Dunlop Racquet Division President Dave Haggerty, "We changed the entire manufacturing process in order to produce a livelier and most importantly, reliably consistent product. The new balls, which are USRA approved, are packaged three-per-can and are warranted against breakage before the logo wears off."

NEW 22" LONGSTRING FRAMES BY E-FORCE

Following the success of the 16.2 and 21.0 LongString Technology, E-Force "pulls out all the stops" by introducing its new 22" LongString Technology. This patent pending technology creates mainstrings that extend nearly 22" through the handle. The result is mainstrings that are at least six inches longer than those in all competitor racquets. The combined length of the 10 longest main string (effective hitting area) is at least 56 inches longer for an increase of over 39%. Two revolutionary frames, the 195 gram Bedlam and 220 gram Anarchy, utilize the incredibly powerful new 22" LongString Technology. The Bedlam and Anarchy have eight center mains to extend 21.5 inches from the racquet's tip to the bottom cap. The combined length of the 10 center mains is 201.5 inches. Both models have a Tri-Tear LongString 107 square-inch head with handle sizes of 3 5/8 (flared) and 3 15/16."



LONGBODY™

EKTELON ROLLS OUT NEW LINE

New racquet technology from Ektelon effectively extends racquet length fi to one full inch to deliver up to 10% more power and 13% more reach, in a

new line which heralds the Power Ring Ultra LongBody™, Fusion Pro LongBody™, Power Ring Pro LongBody™, Turbo Pro LongBody™ racquets, plus the Thunder Lite™ 21" frame with ultra-maneuverability. In addition, two racquets are back by popular demand: the Power Ring™ and Strobe Lite™ (an ultra-lite update of the Strobe, the most popular Ektelon racquet ever). Innovations to the line include the Sweet Spot Suspension System for improved control; The PowerWEB™ for more power; the Vision Grip™ Cushion Handle System to reduce vibration; and the new DNA Helix RB 16™ string for increased resiliency. Ektelon has also announced a new line of accessories that wrap advanced safety and performance features in dynamic colors and designs that play off the aggressive hot new looks from Ektelon's flagship racquets, including two new gloves, two new protective eyewear models and a new sport bag line — along with the new black nubuck leather Natural Foot Shape™ shoe, the NFS Indoor 1.5™. The NFS shoes are the official footwear of the men and women's pro tours, as well as the U.S. National Team.

GEMINI BACK IN '98

Gemini is back in '98 with more power, more durability and more choices. Length: three new 22" top-of-the-line racquets and three outstanding 21" state-of-the-art frames. Balance: Each comes in "head-heavy" "head-light" and our newest "mid-balance" racquet. Weight: Ultra light, Light and Heavy (for those who think light weight is for sissies). If you need more than one racquet, Gemini will make sure each has the same weight and balance. Order your customized racquet today and enjoy the best racquets you'll ever play with. Gemini Racquetball: 800-899-3367.

IRT RACQUETBALL GEAR

Courtesy Sports presents IRT Racquetball Gear as the Official Clothing of the Pro Tour. These clothes were designed to withstand the most aggressive play in the world by the top pros in the world. Classy and comfortable, IRT Racquetball Gear will allow you to look, feel and play your best racquetball. For a free color catalog, call 1-800-729-1771 or visit www.courtesysports.com.

PACIFIC SPORTS WAREHOUSE

PSW announces the publication of its fall-winter catalog, featuring all of the new longer-length racquetball racquets as well as gloves, shoes, eyewear and an expanded selection of instructional books & videos. Everything for the serious racquetball player is included in this colorful 32 page catalog. To obtain a free copy or place an order, call PSW toll-free at 1-800-835-1055 Monday through Friday from 8-5 PST, or Saturday from 10-3.

PRO KENNEX ADDS "JEWELS" TO DIAMOND LINE

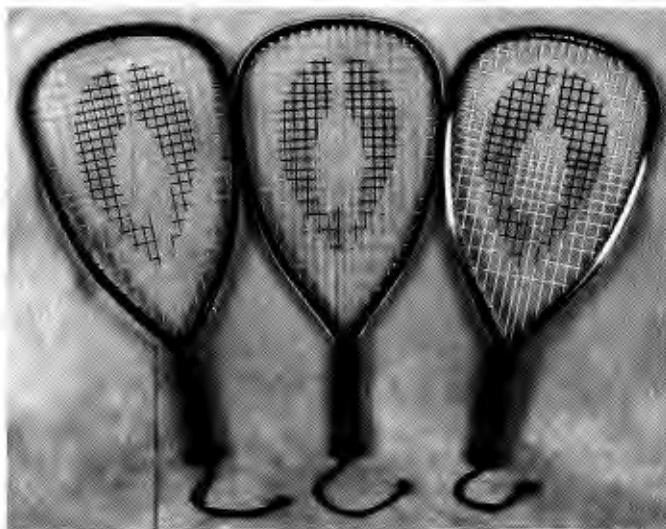
Two new frames have been added to the ProKennex Kinetic Diamond Series, which features the Kinetic System Technology [KST], with its proprietary Diamond Frame Technology [DFT]. The extended length Kinetic Diamond 15G Reach (22") and the 5G Reach (21.5") join the original Kinetic Diamond 10G to create a family of racquets that offer unprecedented power and performance. In addition, the entire line is designed to virtually eliminate arm trauma, with a 102-square-inch "diamond" headshape and an ultralight strung weight of just 205 grams for excellent maneuverability. Striking racquet cosmetics are as impressive as their performance, and the manufacturer's suggested retail price range for the Kinetic Diamond 15G Reach is \$225-\$250; for the 5G Reach \$200-\$225.

WILSON STRETCH RACQUETS

Wilson Racquetball has introduced five longer racquets featuring the company's patented Stretch technology. Wilson engineers completely re-designed each Stretch racquet to maximize its power. Importantly, they kept the handle length the same as a conventional 21-inch racquet, and lengthened the hitting surface by a full inch. The combination of greater overall length and greater mass in the racquet head generates a level of power not achievable by length alone. Wilson's Stretch technology is available in two distinct racquet series — the ultralite Air Hammers (175-190 grams) and the Energy racquets (220-230 grams). Enthusiasts will be able to choose from among the new 22" models in the performance line, with suggested retail prices ranging from \$79.99 - 199.99. Wilson will also maintain five other conventional length (21") racquetball racquets for those consumers seeking traditional specs.

WIN SPORTS GOES ONLINE

Win Sports computer software recently announced the launch of its Internet web page at <http://members.aol.com/Win4sports>. Since 1987, Win Sports has been selling high-performance sports software for tournaments, leagues, ladders, rankings, ratings, mixers and match-ups. They can also be reached via e-mail at Win4sports@aol.com.



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IRT COVERAGE BY DARRIN SCHENCK – WIRT COVERAGE BY CHERYL GUERIN

Spalding IRT Tournament of Champions

by Hank Marcus

For Cliff Swain it had been a frustrating season. For mere mortal players, finishing in the #2 season spot would have been the dream of lifetime. But no mere mortal, Swain wanted his #1 ranking back more than anything. And after disappointing losses this season to Monchik, Roberts and Guidry, the spot had slipped beyond his reach. So Swain came to Portland and the Spalding IRT Tournament of Champions with only one thing on his mind — to beat Sudsy Monchik and re-establish that he would be out for #1 again at the start of the new season.

If Cliff Swain — the greatest left-hander in the history of the sport — had come to Portland to send that message ... he could consider it received!

The Spalding IRT Tournament of Champions marked the final event on the tour — exactly 10 months after the first serve of the season in Las Vegas. Multnomah Athletic Club's legendary Court 10 (which seats over 1,000 fans and has hosted all the greats, beginning with Hogan and Yellen's challenge series of the late 80's) was once again set to showcase the top players in the sport. Only the top eight ranked players qualified for the exclusive playoff and each wanted to add their name to the select list of champions.

The event began in the Round of 16, with the most popular action for local fans as the top eight pros faced Oregon's own top eight open players. In the past this round has produced some great matches, but only in 1993 was local star Jeff Evans able to upset one of the pros. Still the fans turned out in huge numbers to root on their guys and this year's most anticipated battle was between Oregon's #1 John Wetherbee and Drew Kachtik. Last year Wetherbee had come within a single point of beating Kachtik in the same round, in a five-game tiebreaker. But this year the local players and fans went home early after the pros dominated every match in straight games.

Friday night brought all eight pros back for an evening of quarterfinal play, and the first chance for the rabid

Northwest fans to see the pros against each other. The match ups were all-too-familiar, duplicating the lineups of the past three stops leading into Portland. The first battle was for the #4 ranking, featuring Jason Mannino and John Ellis. They had fought all season for this spot and were coming off a five-game war in San Jose that Mannino had pulled out. Both players had enjoyed great seasons, with Mannino winning his first tour event in Rochester and later being named "most improved player" for the season. At the same time, Ellis had his most consistent season as a pro with wins over Monchik and his first ever over Swain. This was a match up highlighted by two of the best divers in the game, and a rivalry that had developed over the last part of the season. But in Portland Ellis was on fire, serving so well that Mannino never really got into the match. Ellis dominated the match in straight games and was the first player to advance into the semis.

The next match featured #3 Andy Roberts vs. #6 Mike Guidry and showcased the diversity in game styles on the tour ... Roberts game of power and precise kill shots against Guidry's legendary speed and court coverage. Roberts — strong all season — had stayed right on Monchik and Swain's tail as the "big three" battled each other at nearly every event. But Guidry had been up-and-down, suffering a number of early-round losses toward the end of the year, but highlighted by a tremendous event win over Swain and coming to within a couple of dives of beating Monchik and winning his first tour event in Boston. This match went to form; great rallies featuring Guidry's diving ability but with Roberts ending the long rallies with rollouts. Roberts won in an exciting four-game match and claimed his standard spot in the semis.

Swain hit the court next against an old nemesis, Mike Ray. The elder statesman of the tour and last link to the days of the control style of play, Ray has remained a thorn in Swain's side — even during the period when Swain completely dominated the tour. This season Ray had even boosted Monchik lead in the rankings by beating Swain three times. Ray had also worked on adding some pop to his backhand to better compete with the young power players and it had mixed results in the win-loss column. Still, Mike was confident against Swain, resorting to a game plan he knows will work if he sticks with it and executes. Swain came out

with two strong game wins, but Ray is known for his patience and he took game three. Everyone could feel the momentum shift as they started the fourth. At an IRT event you can always spot a top seed in trouble when you see all the other pros watching from the sidelines. They know the match ups, the strengths and weaknesses of every player and can pinpoint exact rallies or points that might lead to a win or loss as early as the first game of a match. The tour consensus was that if Ray forced a fifth game, Swain would be in trouble. The fans got the best played game of the tournament as both players recognized what it meant. Swain hit the big shots at the end and won a 55-minute, 16-14 game for the match.

The final match of the evening brought out the first sellout crowd of the tournament as #8 Drew Kachtik set out to try and upset #1 Sudsy Monchik. The 22-year-old phenom who had just reclaimed his #1 spot in his second season, is the most popular player among the fans in Portland – due to his outgoing personality and the feeling among locals that they saw the first glimpse of his greatness when he rolled into Portland two years ago as an unproven rookie on the tour and blew through the draw to win the Pro Nationals. Kachtik had an interesting year, losing a number of early round matches but also taking responsibility for two of Monchik's tour losses. But a knee injury (which would later require surgery) severely limited Kachtik's mobility at the end of the season and he had struggled to hold on to his #8 ranking and spot in the event. Still, the fans got what they came for as Monchik entertained the crowd throughout an easy four game win.

Saturday is a busy day at this event: the semis and finals are played on the same day; along with clinics, autograph sessions, and the season ending banquet. The



swain vs. monchik

All Tournament of Champions photos: Jennifer Gibas.

first semi was a grudge match between Swain and Roberts, who had battled back and forth evenly all year, with Roberts winning two of the biggest: the semis of the Promus U.S. Open and the Foxwoods IRT Nationals. Almost every time it had become an epic battle of both physical and mental skills, and the quality of play had



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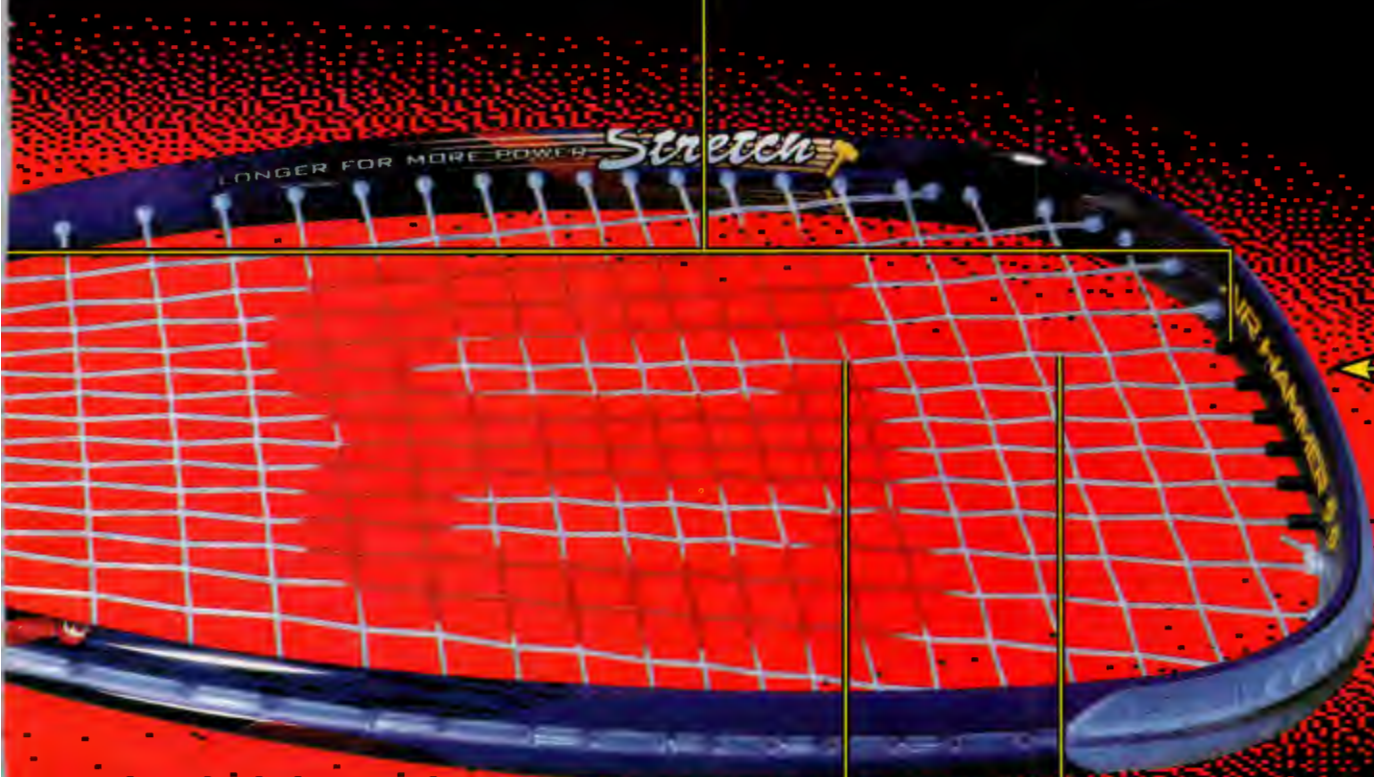
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AIR HAMMER 9.9 STRETCH



gudinas v

RAD Tournament of Champions

by Kevin Vicroy

The big story of the RAD Tournament of Champions wasn't the absence the tour's finest player, but it may have been the presence of an influential young fan that may have tipped the scales.

With tour champion Michelle Gould at home in Boise resting her

injuries, the WIRT season finale was anybody's title to win. Cheryl Gudinas was the top seed, followed by Jackie Paraiso, Laura Fenton and Lydia Hammock rounding out the top four, respectively.

Held at the Multnomah Athletic Club in Portland, Ore., from June 4-7, the event began with Brooke Crawford of the U.S. Junior National Team upsetting Debra Halstead 7, 4, and 5.

"I played great mentally, but not so tough physically," Crawford said of her first professional win.

Unfortunately for Crawford, her quarterfinals opponent was the third-ranked player in the world, Paraiso. The El Cajon, Calif., native breezed past the outmatched youngster 1, 4, and 4.

"Playing Jackie was just the opposite of my first match," Crawford said. "I felt good physically, but not good mentally. I think I was a bit 'freaked-out' about playing such a good player."

In other quarterfinal action, Fenton defeated Canadian Junior National Team member Lisa Kerr in straight games of 11-6, 11-3, 11-4, while Gudinas cruised past Nicole Schultz 11-3, 11-3, 11-1.

The fourth quarters match-up featured Hammock against one of Canada's finest players, national team member Christie Van Hees. In the tightest match of the weekend, Van Hees overcame a 2-0 game deficit to down the tour's ninth-ranked player 9-11, 3-11, 12-10, 11-1, 11-6.

been some of the best. Now the crowd seemed split as to who would win this one. Swain came out as strong as he had all along, establishing his serve and keeping Roberts off balance. Two games went by quickly before Roberts began to find his game and get the shots to end rallies even with Swain diving after everything. Roberts won the third and it appeared that the momentum had shifted. But Swain refused to give in, re-established his serve and won going away.

Monchik and Ellis hit the court next for the younger audiences. All the juniors huddled around as their heroes set to blast and dive all over the court. Ellis had beaten Monchik a couple of weeks earlier in Phoenix but that appeared to just motivate Monchik more as he put on his usual show of incredible power, awesome gets and showmanship for the crowd as he rolled over Ellis in three straight.

Monchik has always played well in Portland, and with the large crowds and hundreds of juniors on hand he was in his comfort zone — ready to play and entertain all week. Now was the time as the sell out crowd got what they wanted: a Monchik vs. Swain, #1 vs. #2 battle. Both players came out a little tight but it was Swain making the big shots and Monchik skipping the ball as Swain took the first two. The third game was all Monchik as the confidence and serve got him going and carried him to an easy win to set up the fourth. The war had just begun. As they battled evenly from 0-0 to 10-10, everyone felt that the winner of this game was going to win the match. With the crowd in a frenzy the 50-minute game four ended with two great rallies won by Swain for his first Tournament of Champions win.

s. paraiso

In a rematch of last year's semifinals, Gudinas again put away the fiery Van Hees in four games, with scores of 11-1, 11-8, 11-13, 11-5.

Lincoln, Neb., native Fenton was set for her re-match with Paraiso on the other side of the bracket. Paraiso had just defeated her fellow U.S. teammate in the semis of the USRA national singles just weeks before, and did so again with a 13-11, 11-6, 11-6 win in Portland.

"I seemed to get all my serves in and was very accurate with my pinches and splats," Paraiso said. "I was very confident after my win over Laura at Singles. I think she had a difficult time focusing for some reason."

For the second time in three WIRT stops, Gudinas and Paraiso met in the finale.

"The first time we met was right after beating Michelle [Gould] and I was mentally off against Cheryl," Paraiso said of her second-place finish to Gudinas at the Crystal City Pro-Am in May. Here, Paraiso took the first two games 13-11, 11-3.

"After a tough first game, I was more relaxed and just played my game," Paraiso said. "I had my number one fan sitting on the right side cheering me on. It was the first tournament that I took my daughter, Danielle, with me alone. We had a lot of fun."

Even with her "good luck charm," Paraiso dropped the third game 11-9. Then, according to Paraiso, "I think I got too confident and Cheryl stepped it up a little bit mentally."

But Danielle cheered her mom onto victory as the world champion doubles player captured the title with an 11-5 four-game decision.

"It wasn't hard after hearing my daughter say, 'Win mommy, I know you can do it.'"



IRT PHOENIX PRO-AM

City Square Sports Club: Phoenix, Arizona

By Darrin Schenck

Hot, hot, hot!! Early summer in Phoenix is still hotter than most places get all year. The action indoors was heating up as well as the tour visited its third city in as many weeks. The wear and tear was beginning to show on some of the older players, while an early exit last week seemed to help someone this week.

The event had a full draw of 32, with some local players stepping right in to the main draw. Jeff Tipton, Anthony Voorhies, Jeff Bell, Pat Gonzales, Ben Simons, and Bill Hayes all played the big guns in the first round, and Bell was the only one to make it out alive, due to a last minute forfeit by Drew Kachtik. Southwest local Aaron Embry lost to Guidry in three straight, as did Hank Minardo to Mike Ray. Mike Green went down to Jelso in three, and so did fellow countryman Brian Istace to Dan Fowler. Ruben Gonzalez showed some old flash in beating Kelly Gelhaus in four, and a deathly ill Vogel did the same to Kelly Kerr. Also in four games: Clouse got revenge over Joe Paraiso; James Mulcock took out Rafael Filipini; Grant Smith lost to Karp; and I lost to Bronfeld.

FINAL ... Swain vs. Ellis

Cliff Swain had been playing tough to finish the season, and this tournament showed why he was the number one player for quite a while. Moving out from the round of 16, Swain had dropped only single games to Michael Bronfeld and Adam Karp before defeating semi-finalist Andy Roberts in three. For John Ellis, wins were logged over Louis Vogel and Tony Jelso in four games apiece; leading to an upset semi-final win over Sudsy



Above: Top/Cliff Swain, Middle/John Ellis, Bottom/Sudsy Monchik. Photos: Courtesy IRT.

Monchik in straight games. Cliff has stayed healthy in spite of his aggressive style, and went on the cruise past Ellis in three straight games 11-4, 11-5, 11-3. John Ellis had a good weekend, but Cliff won his second tournament in a row, and looked sharp headed towards the final showdown in San Jose.

BAY101 IRT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Bayhill Athletic Club:
Milpitas, California**

One more time! The IRT travels to San Jose for the World Championships, and the wonderful hospitality of the Bay 101 Casino. So, what would happen, would Cliff win his third tournament in a row? Would Monchik recover from his ankle injury in such a short amount of time? Would Andy Roberts show the poise he displayed in Las Vegas? The suspense was killing me ...

A few of the locals qualified for this event; Andrew Grissom, Mark Bustos, Nate Osborn, Scott Foster, Dave Garcia, Franco Palmer, and Timmy Marshall, but nobody made it through to the next round. Woody Clouse started the weekend with a win by forfeit, while Robinson and Mulcock battled to a fifth game. Mulcock won with some strong shots in the tiebreaker 11-5. Drew Kachtik beat Hank Minardo in three, Vogel beat Kerr in three, Fowler beat Grant Smith in three, and Gelhaus beat Filipini in three games. Joe Paraiso won a marathon over Adam Karp, outlasting him (10-12), (10-12), 11-6, 11-8, 11-8. Bronfeld beat me again, Mike Ray went five with Franco Palmer. Mike Guidry advanced over Garcia, and top seeds Monchik, Swain, Roberts and Mannino all advanced in three games over their qualifiers.

FINAL ... Monchik vs. Swain

Several rounds later, it was Sudsy Monchik and Cliff Swain ... the way it

should be, number one and number two. Monchik's advance from the round of sixteen included four-game match wins over James Mulcock, Woody Clouse and semi-finalist Jason Mannino. For Swain, it had been up and down, with an early, narrow tiebreaker win over Kelly Gelhaus, followed by a straight game win over Joe Paraiso and another grueling tiebreaker against Andy Roberts in the semi-final. For the final, Monchik's ankle was better, and one of the bigger purses was on the line, not to mention the title of pro world champion. Sudsy looked sharp in the last final of the season, making some great gets and even greater shots in successfully defending his title. The season has ended, we have to summer off, and then start all over again in Las Vegas for some pro doubles !

Crystal City Classic Pro-AM

Skyline Athletic Club: Arlington, Virginia – By Kim Machiran and Cheryl Guidinas

To help wrap up the season, Ed Willis and the Skyline Club in Arlington, Virginia hosted perhaps the most eventful tournament of the year ... at least from the semi-finals on. It was there that Michelle Gould lost her foothold on an undefeated season, and Cheryl Guidinas moved to within striking distance of her first tour victory.

It was Jackie Paraiso (who had nearly cancelled out of the tournament due to illness) who finally up-ended Gould in a not-so-rare semi-final between the two. Although Gould had routinely been the winner of their match ups this season, Jackie had always found a way to expose any weaknesses there may have been in Gould's game on a given day. In fact, it seems that Gould has had the toughest time with Paraiso, who looked solid throughout this particular match and, although it took five games, stayed in control the whole

way. Serving well was a factor for Jackie, but more importantly, her own return of serve was the key. It was obvious that her plan was to pinch the ball, and she never wavered. As the match wore on, Gould became frustrated when she couldn't get her patented serve going, while Jackie stayed relaxed. The crowd sensed that things were going Jackie's way, turning this into perhaps the most exciting match of the year. Jackie went on to win in five, 11-8, 7-11, 11-2, 4-11, 11-4. Good thing she didn't stay home this trip!

From the #2 spot, Cheryl Gudinas seemed to play into her game as the tournament wore on. Although she had dropped a game to each of her opponents in her first two rounds, she smoothed out the rough edges against Marci Drexler in their semi-final, getting by the first game 12-10, but capitalizing on some low percentage play by Drexler in the next two games, winning them 11-4 and 11-8.

FINAL ... Gudinas vs. Paraiso

It was a great opportunity for Gudinas, who'd been in plenty of finals, but hadn't yet pulled out a pro stop victory. Rumor has it, she was up until 2 a.m. thinking

about how much she didn't want this one to get away. Hours later, although Jackie would battle in streaks, Gudinas got momentum early and came out strong. Jackie didn't seem to have as much fire as she had the day before, either from the match against Michelle itself, or a case of nerves from playing in the final — and fell to Gudinas in straight games.

"Jackie's really the champion of the tournament because she's done something no one else has been able to do lately. But it still feels good to win" stated Gudinas after the match. Congratulations to Jackie on a great tournament, and to Cheryl for her first pro win.

Bay 101 WIRT World Championships

Bayhill Athletic Club: Milpitas, California

The WIRT and the IRT appeared together for one last time this season in Milpitas, California, where the Bayhill Athletic Club was a great host for the final pro event for the women, and the staff made us feel right at home.

In the semis, Gould met former doubles partner Laura Fenton. Gould looked good early and had an easy go of it until the third game when Fenton's pinches started clicking. With her long reach, Laura was able to do good things off Gould's serve, which is always a plus! She would take the third 11-9. But as we've seen so many times this season, Gould recovered to win the match in the fourth, 11-5.

Against Paraiso in their semi-final, Gudinas had hoped to keep the hot hand but looked flat from the start. Paraiso seemed to have everything working for her and she walked through this one with ease. Serving especially well, Jackie forced Cheryl in leaving up weak shots. Gudinas' usual fire was missing, and we think Paraiso wanted another crack at Gould.

FINAL ... Gould vs. Paraiso

In another exciting match, Gould was pressed to fight hard to take home the win. Every point was close, and the four game match took over two and a half hours. Both players served well and no game was won by more than three points. Gould came away the victor though, taking the match 9-11, 11-9, 11-8, 11-9. Gould, who normally can rely on her physical toughness, showed how strong she can be mentally as well in pulling out this close one.

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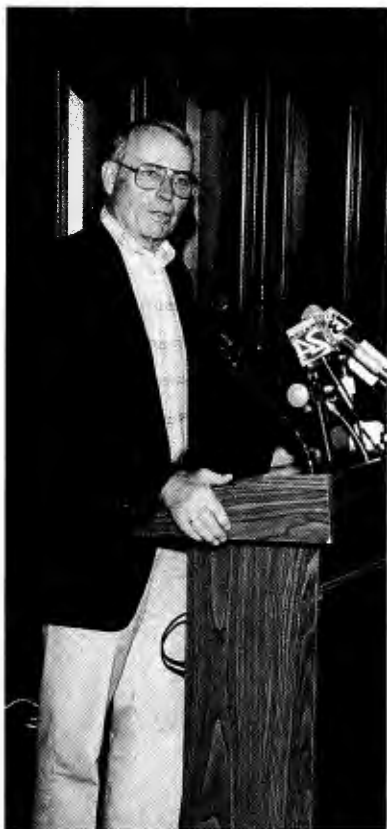
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**Promus Hotel Corporation
CEO Ray Schultz at Memphis
press conference. Photo:
Mike Boatman.**

PRO TOUR NEWS

U.S. OPEN Festivities Kick-Off with Press Conference

Event officials were in the "Home of the Blues" Thursday, July 17th to announce that Memphis will again host one of the most prestigious pro stops of the season – the Promus Hotel Corporation U.S. OPEN Racquetball Championships.

Tournament Director Doug Ganim offered the racquetball fans of Memphis first-crack at tickets for this year's event.

"Last year's event sold out so quickly that many Memphis area fans were unable to buy tickets," Ganim stated. "This year, we are giving Memphis fans the first opportunity to purchase tickets."

Mac Winker, owner of The Racquet Club of Memphis, offered his club's beautiful Walnut Room to host the conference, which was quickly filled by local media and VIP's. That evening, each station's news program covered the press conference, and several headlined the piece before the opening round of golf's famed British Open.

The U.S. OPEN will be held at The Racquet Club of Memphis for the second straight year, beginning on Tuesday night, November 11 and will run through Sunday, Nov. 16. The USRA tourney and racquetball's only "Grand Slam" event, is presented by American Express.

Tour Honors

Immediately following the Tournament of Champions final in Portland Oregon, over 300 attended the awards banquet to honor the players and close the season. This year's IRT awards went to — Player of the Year: Sudsy Monchik; Most Improved: Jason Mannino; Sportsmanship: John Ellis; and Rookie of the Year: James Mulcock.

Also honored at the banquet was VCI tour sponsor Ed Ray and his wife Barbara. Long time racquetball supporter Jack Scott was spotted at the semi's but due to an arm injury was unable to defend his title in the doubles pro-am held prior to each IRT event. With the tremendous support and donations from all the pros a silent auction raised over \$1,500 for Fibromyalgia Research.

The Tournament of Champions would not be the same without juniors from throughout the northwest who use it as a last tune up before their Nationals. As always they were everywhere and the pros took the chance to conduct clinics and sign posters, balls and shirts throughout the week.

WIRT Season Awards

By vote of the top sixteen WIRT players, the women's pro tour recently selected and announced its annual award winners for the 1996-97 season. They were: Player of the Year: Michelle Gould; Most Improved Player: Lydia Hammock; Sportsmanship Award: Lynne Coburn; Rookie of the Year: Randy Friedman and the Steding Cup to Molly O'Brien. Each of the honorees will be recognized at the kick-off banquet held at the first event of the new season in Annapolis.

Tour Calendar Online

IRT Properties has released the schedules for the International Racquetball Tour and Women's International Racquetball Tours for the 1997-97 season. New events for the IRT include the "Foxwoods Pro-Am Series" with events in Boston and Long Island added to the Foxwoods Doubles and Foxwoods Pro Nationals both held annually in Las Vegas. The Mid-South Racquetball Pro-Am in Greensboro, North Carolina is a new event not only for the men but for the WIRT pros as well. Also added for the WIRT is the Long Island Pro-Am in March. Please watch www.irt-tour.com for results from all of the events. The site has been redesigned and revised for 1997-97; check it out!

pro tour

IRT SEASON RESULTS

Las Vegas, Nevada: August 1-3 • Foxwoods IRT Pro-Am Doubles — **Todd O'Neil & Derek Robinson** def. **Steve Lerner & Tony Jelso** (3), 6, 6, (5), 7.

New Orleans, La.: August 6-10 • Elmwood Pro-Am Summer Cooler — **Sudsy Monchik** def. **Cliff Swain** 7, 4, 5.

IRT SCHEDULE

August 28 - Sept. 1
Coors Light Pro-Am @ In Shape Sports Club at Westlane—Stockton, CA

September 24 - 28
Ralph's/Food 4 Less Pro-Am @ The Tournament House—Riverside, CA

October 1 - 5
Mid-South Racquetball Pro-Am @ Sportime Racquet & Health Club Greensboro, NC

October 8 - 11
Charles E. Smith Companies Pro-Am @ The Skyline Club at Crystal Gateway Arlington, VA

October 29 - November 2
Woodfield Halloween Classic @ Woodfield Racquet Club Schaumburg, IL

November 12 - 16
Promus Hotels U.S. OPEN Racquet Club of Memphis Memphis, TN

November 19 - 23
Foxwoods Pro-Am Club TBA—Boston, MA

December 10 - 14
APH Service Company Holiday Pro-Am Classic Lakewood Athletic Club Denver, CO

January 14 - 18
Ralph Schomp Automotive Pro-Am @ Denver Athletic Club—Denver, CO

January 21 - 25
Future Cellular*SBBS Pro-Am @ Continental Athletic Club—Columbus, OH

February 4 - 8
VCI Pro-Am @ Southern Athletic Club—Atlanta, GA

February 18 - 22
Foxwoods Pro-Am Club TBA—Long Island, NY

February 25 - March 1
Piehler Pro-Am @ Penfield Racquet & Fitness Club Rochester, NY

March 13 - 15
VCI Doubles Championships Schoeber's Athletic Club Pleasanton, CA

April 22 - 26
Foxwoods IRT Pro Nationals Las Vegas Sporting House Las Vegas, NV

April 29 - May 3
Tony Filippini Real Estate Pro-Am @ Club TBA San Diego, CA

May 6 - 9
Phoenix Pro-Am @ Arizona Athletic Club—Phoenix, AZ

May 13 - 17
Bay101 IRT World Championships @ Bayhill Athletic Club—San Jose, CA

June 3 - 7
Spalding Tournament of Champions @ Multnomah Athletic Club—Portland, OR

WIRT SCHEDULE

September 5 - 7
RAD Athletics Annapolis Pro-Am @ Merritt Athletic Club—Annapolis, MD

October 3 - 5
Mid-South Racquetball Pro-Am @ Sportime Racquet & Health Club Greensboro, NC

October 24 - 26
Tournament of Terror Pro-Am @ Racquetball World—Canoga Park, CA

October 31 - November 2
All-Sport Maryland Pro-Am Merritt Athletic Club Baltimore, MD

November 12 - 16
Promus Hotels U.S. OPEN Racquet Club of Memphis Memphis, TN

January 9 - 11
1998 Grand Slam Pro-Am Highpoint Athletic Club Chalfont, PA

February 27 - March 1
Future Cellular*SBBS Pro-Am Continental Athletic Club Columbus, OH

March 6 - 8
Long Island Pro-Am Amritraj Racquet & Health Club—Bayshore, NY

April 23 - 27
Foxwoods WIRT Pro Nationals @ Las Vegas Sporting House Las Vegas, NV

May 2 - 4
Crystal City Classic Pro-Am The Skyline Club at Crystal Gateway—Arlington, VA

May 14 - 18
Bay101 WIRT World Championships @ Bayhill Athletic Club—San Jose, CA

June 5 - 8
RAD Tournament of Champions @ Multnomah Athletic Club—Portland, OR

'97-98

International Racquetball Tour 1997-98 SEASON RANKINGS

1. Sudsy Monchik . . . 2981
2. Cliff Swain 2861
3. Andy Roberts 2356
4. Jason Mannino . . . 1896
5. John Ellis 1814
6. Mike Guidry 1546
7. Mike Ray 1366
8. Drew Kachtik 1255
9. Dan Fowler 1227
10. Woody Clouse . . . 1215
11. Adam Karp 1209
12. Tony Jelso 1089
13. Louis Vogel 1044
14. Kelly Gelhaus 830
15. Michael Bronfeld . . . 776
16. James Mulcock 762



Women's International Racquetball Tour 1996-97 FINAL RANKINGS

1. Michelle Gould . . . 2215
2. Cheryl Gudinas . . . 1695
3. Jackie Paraiso 1417
4. Laura Fenton 1182
5. Molly O'Brien 887
6. Lynne Coburn 816
7. Marcy Lynch 765
8. Janet Myers 725
9. Lydia Hammock . . . 676
10. Randy Friedman . . . 543
11. Doreen Fowler 526
12. Kersten Hallander . . 491
13. Dina Moreland 420
14. Lorraine Galloway . . 394
15. Robin Levine 387
16. Marci Drexler 317

USRA and USA

United States Racquetball Association

Racquetball

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TS-2 \$15.00

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ASH



TS-3 \$18.00

BLACK



TS-4 \$15.00

WHITE
ASH



TS-5 \$16.00

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heavyweight
T-shirts.
Available with
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XXL.

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cotton short sleeve
henley. Embroidered
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USRA or USA logo.
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RED ASH

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HE-USA \$24.00

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cotton mock turtleneck.
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MT-USRA \$26.00
MT-USA \$26.00

*Add \$2.00 for XXL sizes.



100% cotton pique knit
Stars 'n Stripes golf shirt.
Embroidered with your
choice of USRA or USA
logo. Adult sizes M-XXL.

WHITE
NAVY

SS-USRA \$49.00
SS-USA \$49.00

*Add \$2.00 for XXL sizes.



100% heavy-weight cotton
pique golf shirt. Embroidered
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USA logo. Adult sizes M-XXL.

RED

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GS-USRA \$30.00
GS-USA \$30.00

*Add \$2.00 for XXL sizes.



90/10 Cotton/Poly 9 oz.
sweatshirt. Available
with USRA or USA
embroidered
logo. Adult
sizes M-XXL.

RED

HEATHER

NAVY

SW-USRA \$32.00
SW-USA \$32.00

*Add \$2.00 for XXL sizes.

100% Cotton denim jacket with two front flap pockets and two side welt pockets. Embroidered with your choice of USRA or USA logo. Adult sizes M-XXL.

DJ-USRA \$69.00
DJ-USA \$69.00

*Add \$4.00 for XXL sizes.

80/20 heavyweight pique fleece half-zip pullover with two in-seam pockets. Embroidered with your choice of USRA or USA logo. Adult sizes M-XXL.

FP-USRA \$66.00
FP-USA \$66.00

*Add \$4.00 for XXL sizes.

Denier polyester sport bag with three outside pockets. Detachable shoulder strap. USRA or USA embroidered logo. 20"X10"X10"

RED

SB-USRA \$40.00
SB-USA \$40.00

Six panel adjustable cap available in colors and embroidered designs shown.

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CP-USA \$17.00

BLACK

KHAKI/BLUE

BLACK/BLUE

WHITE/RED

BLACK

BLACK/BLUE

BROWN/BLACK

100% Cotton heavyweight denim shirt with button-down collar and left chest pocket. Embroidered with your choice of USRA or USA logo. Adult sizes M-XXL.

DS-USRA \$39.00
DS-USA \$39.00

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100% cotton seed stitch crew neck sweater. Embroidered with your choice of USRA or USA logo. Adult sizes M-XXL.

CNS-USRA \$60.00
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100% nylon fully-lined warm up suit with matching pants. Embroidered with USA or USRA front logo. Adult sizes S-XXL.

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*Add \$4.00 for XXL sizes.

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ITEM	COLOR	S	M	L	XL	XXL	TOTAL PIECES	UNIT PRICE	SUBTOTAL

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Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

Questions? Call (719) 635-5396

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Add \$6.95 Shipping and Handling for first three pieces. Add \$1.00 per piece additional for orders more than three pieces.

TOTAL

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the ceiling shot

PURPOSE: Drives opponent deep or keeps opponent deep.

This is a *defensive* shot of last resort usually from deep in the court when you don't have the option of a better, offensive shot. With the trend toward power play, ceiling shots are used less often. Why? Because a good offensive player jumps on the first chance to bring the ball down for a drive, pinch, cross court or rollout. You should, too.

An effective ceiling shot puts the ball close to the back wall. Don't let the ball come off the back wall, which sets your opponent up for a strong cross court, down-the-line or offensive kill.

EXECUTION: The shot first hits the ceiling within one or two feet of the front wall, travels straight back within 3 feet of the side wall without touching it. (Also, a ceiling shot can first hit the front wall as long as the ball immediately hits the ceiling next.) Keep ceiling shots to your opponent's weak side.



**FOREHAND
CEILING SHOT**

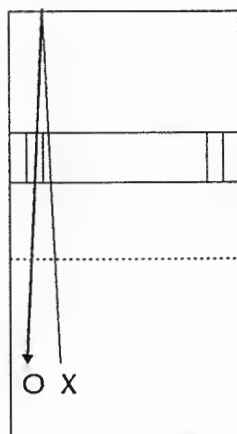


**BACKHAND
CEILING SHOT**

Set up for the *forehand ceiling shot* the same way you set up for overhead drive and overhead pinch shots.

With your body parallel to the side wall, in a continuous motion rotate your hips as you reach up and extend, step forward and hit the ball with the move of an overhand baseball throw.

Make contact with the ball at full arm extension above your front leg, and follow through on the downstroke.



Set up for the *backhand ceiling shot* with the racquet lower than for any other backhand shot. Your swing begins with the racquet positioned slightly above the waist.

As you step forward, drive through with your elbow, reaching full extension and contact with the ball as your elbow lines up with your front leg. Follow through with your swing.

MASTERY OF
RACQUETBALL®
The Complete Success Program

Ninth in a series based on Mastery of Racquetball™, an official USRA instruction program taught by Tom Travers, three-time Men's 40+ National Champion. Travers has taught at the USRA Elite Racquetball Camp, U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, and is assistant coach of the U.S. Racquetball Team. For further information about Mastery of Racquetball, see the display ad on page 48.



Wilson
RACQUETBALL

GAME PLAN

By Lynn Adams

Pssst ... Wanna Learn some Magic?

*Ladies and
Gentlemen! ... step*

right up to the magical mystery tour of mental racquetball! Learn secrets known only to the pros! Secrets so guarded, my life is in danger when I dare to speak them out loud. The cost? Ah, yes, these secrets will run you plenty. No matter? You'll pay anything? Are you sure? All right then ... the price to learn the "magic" of a tough mental game is ... *practice and hard work !!*

"Gasp ... Oh no, not that! Please, you cry, anything but that! I'd rather pay big money. Can't I pay big money?"

This may be a silly intro, but there is a certain mystique which surrounds "mental toughness." Players assume that if you aren't *born* tough, you won't ever *be* tough. To that I say, "Rubbish."

Mental toughness is a learned skill, just like a forehand pinch is a learned skill. It takes practice, repetition, the knowledge of how to go about learning the skill and the tenacity to follow through until your goal is achieved.

Now, I am not a sports psychologist, so I don't profess to know all the answers, but I did have some success in my own career with all this mental stuff. And since questions about the mental game are the ones that I get asked the most at camps and clinics, I thought it would be fun to share some of the things I did that helped me to become more mentally tough. There are several different mental skills, or "secrets" I'd like to reveal, so this will be the first in a series on the mental side of racquetball — leaving plenty of time in between articles to try out the exercises and see if they can help you. Good luck!!

Skill #1 — Be Prepared

If you are walking down the street, and someone jumps out of the bushes and grabs you, what are you going to do? The person who says, "I don't know, I'll figure it out when it happens," is going to have a tough time doing anything. Emotions, fears, and doubts can cloud judgment and reaction time.

A better alternative is to think about possible reactions to this threat, pick out the responses most likely to help in the situation, then practice or "role play" the scenario over and over until you know exactly what to do — so you'll do it automatically. In times of fear and pressure, you want your brain and body to *know* what to do, not have to figure out what to do.

While this example is extreme, the concept is the same in preparing for a match. During an intense match, you want to react automatically in tough situations, not be surprised and then scramble to decide what to do. Often, by the time you figure it out, you've already lost.

When I was playing on the pro tour, I kept journals that covered many different areas of the game. I kept a book on my opponents, listing current strengths and weaknesses, favorite shots and serves in key moments, along with shots and serves that I could hit to force them into errors for sideouts or points.

I had a book about my feelings, goals, frustrations and dreams — a kind of chronicle of life on the tour. I also had my "Role Playing" book, in which I prepared for every possible scenario during a match. Here is a sample list of things I might prepare for:

- Bad referee - poor calls, disrupts play, I can't catch a break.
- My opponent is cheating, taking double bounces and phantom hindes.
- My [insert your choice here: boss, family, girlfriend, boyfriend, wife, husband, rival, ex, scout] is watching me, and I'm playing poorly.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 35

35

Longer racquet. Longer mainstrings. Longer handle. **22.0" LongString™**

Introducing the most powerful racquets in the game:

New
Bedlam™
195g

New LongString 22" Bedlam and
New LongString 22" Anarchy.

New 22" Length
New 22" Mainstrings
New 6" Handle

No competitor comes close to the
E-Force combination of 22-inch
racquet and 22-inch mainstrings.

Longer mainstrings mean more
power, and only E-Force has patent
pending LongString Technology which

extends the center mains through the entire handle.

The combined length of the ten center mains is at least
56 inches longer than those in all competitor racquets.

A tremendous power advantage!



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Click On This

The Most Powerful Racquets In Racquetball.

It's a fact—longer mainstrings mean a more powerful racquet (see box at right). LongString Technology™, available only from E-Force, is the most significant advancement in racquet design in the nineties.

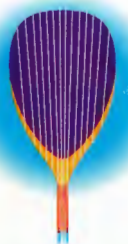
Mainstrings extending through the handle were first introduced with the Mayhem 21.0". For those who prefer a 21" racquet and 21"

Mayhem™ 190g mainstrings, the Mayhem is still the ultimate weapon on the court.



The new 22" Bedlam™ and 22" Anarchy™ racquets increase power not just by lengthening the overall racquet. 22.0" LongString

Technology adds a full inch to each center main...eight new power-producing inches of mainstring length. With the ten center mains now totalling 201.5 inches, compared to 145 in the nearest competitor racquet, E-Force LongString Technology gives you the power to dominate in all aspects of your game.



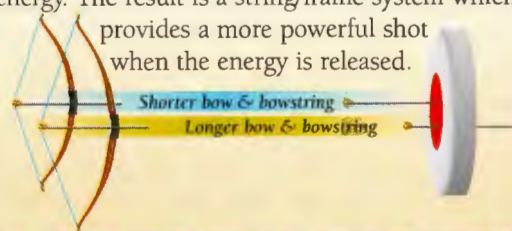
Ten centermost mainstrings are at least 56 inches longer than those in all other racquets. See chart.

- Oversize racquet mainstring length
- 16.2" LongString Technology—Chaos™
- 21.0" LongString Technology—Mayhem
- 22.0" LongString Technology—Bedlam & Anarchy

Why longer mainstrings deliver more power.

As racquet frames evolved, longer mainstrings resulted in huge increases in power. The quadraform head shape out-powered the teardrop (and throat-pieces became obsolete). The midsize out-powered the quadraform. The oversize outpowered the midsize. 16.2", 21.0" and now 22.0" LongString Technology outpowered the oversize.

Why do longer mainstrings and racquet bow length generate more power? It's the same principle as the bow and arrow. For an equal amount of effort, longer mainstrings and bow length cause the strings to stretch further, allowing the frame to store more energy. The result is a string/frame system which provides a more powerful shot when the energy is released.



Why E-Force Racquets Are More Powerful

Racquet	Bow Length*	Max Length Mainstrings	Combined Length 10 Center Mains	The E-Force Advantage
22.0" LongString Bedlam (E-Force) Anarchy (E-Force)	22.0 in. 22.0 in.	21.5 in. 21.5 in.	201.5 in. 201.5 in.	Over 39% more mainstring length. 56 extra inches.**
21.0" LongString Mayhem (E-Force)	21.0 in.	20.5 in.	193.5 in.	Over 33% more mainstring length. 48 extra inches.**
16.2" LongString Chaos (E-Force) Ignitor™ (E-Force) Marshels™ (E-Force) Frenzy (E-Force)	16.2 in. 16.2 in. 16.2 in. 16.2 in.	16.0 in. 16.0 in. 16.0 in. 16.0 in.	141.3 in. 141.3 in. 141.3 in. 141.3 in.	Longer center mainstrings than all other competitive racquets
Racquets w/o Throat Piece Maximum length avail. Typical length	15.5 in. 14.3 in.	15.4 in. 14.2 in.	145.0 in. 131.3 in.	E-Force's longer center mains deliver extra power
Racquets with Throat Piece Standard throat Wrapped throat—Ektelon	13.1 in. 13.9 in.	13.0 in. 13.8 in.	124.0 in. 136.8 in.	E-Force's mainstrings are substantially longer

* Bow Length—maximum possible distance between top and bottom mainstring connection points
** Comparison of combined length of ten center mainstrings



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Click On This

- I'm supposed to win this national championship, and I'm losing in the first round to an unseeded player.
- I'm struggling against a player I always beat easily.
- I was up 12-3, lost my rhythm and now it's 12-11.
- It's 8-0 in the tiebreaker and I don't have the 8.
- I just had a fight with my [again, insert name here: husband, wife, boss, etc ...] and I can't keep my head in the game.
- Oh my gosh, I'm winning 10-9 in the tiebreaker to the #1 seed in the tournament!
- I'm bored, and I really don't feel like playing racquetball this weekend.
- This is my third match of the day and my legs just won't move anymore.

Do you understand the concept we're moving toward? The list of scenarios is endless, but we all face them at one time or another. I'm sure you can come up with many, many more examples. The point is, you don't want to freak out and lose when your boss shows up unexpectedly. You want to have a plan of action ready — one that you've practiced over and over in your head and on the court, so you aren't caught by surprise. If you're prepared, your chances of triumphing over the situation are greatly increased.

Let's use the example of a boss unexpectedly showing up at a match, and role-play how to handle the situation. Keep in mind, there is no single right way. There are many different ways of handling a situation. The key is finding the best way for you.

Role Play #1

A common way to deal with things that make us uncomfortable is to do nothing and hope the problem goes away. I suppose this alternative could work in some situations, but the odds aren't in your favor. I personally would not choose to deal with my problem in this way. Since your boss didn't just happen to be in the neighborhood, odds are high she came specifically to watch you play, so it's unlikely she is going to go away. This approach is ultimately going to make you feel more nervous and agitated.

Role Play #2

I could call a time out, approach my boss, and in a smiling, non-threatening tone, say "I am surprised at how nervous I am with you watching. I feel really silly and I hope you'll be gentle to my ego if I really flub it up bad out there." This approach might relieve some of your nervousness, plus give you an out if you end up losing.

Role Play #3

Approach your boss and ask "I can't get a handle on my nerves. Would you be terribly upset if I asked you to please not watch anymore?" If your boss agrees, will you worry about what they are thinking about you? If so, this may not be your best option. If they refuse, then you have another set of issues to deal with.

Role Play #4

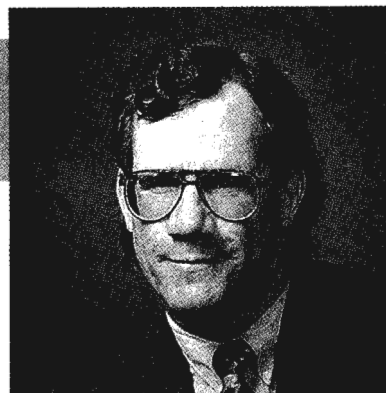
You acknowledge you are nervous and that you don't have a handle on the situation. Then you take a deep breath and focus your brain on another topic such as taking a bigger backswing and a full follow through on each shot. Maybe you over-exaggerate staying up on your toes. Maybe you repeat a certain phrase over and over in your head, or even out loud, like "100 percent, 100 percent, all my smarts, speed and desire." By focusing on something else in a positive way, it's possible you can conquer your nervous feelings.

These are just four examples of how to role play and prepare for a situation. Once you've determined how you want to handle a situation you want to practice it as often as possible. If you choose to talk to your boss, go ahead and practice out loud to a mirror, a friend, or even to yourself. Say it often so it doesn't sound awkward or forced.

If you choose to substitute an action or a phrase (as in #4) do it during practice matches on a regular basis, until you can do it with ease.

We all have a certain situation that really throws us off and wreaks havoc on our game. I suggest you pick that certain scenario to work on and really put some effort and time into learning how to control yourself in that stressful situation. Don't take on more than one scenario at a time. Devote yourself to improving this one specific situation before tackling another.

A word of caution: This is not a miracle cure. In order to obtain some control over yourself and a situation, you must practice and work at it on a regular basis. Even when you get good at it, it doesn't always work. You might still feel nervous, lose a match you should win, or lose your temper. My goodness, we aren't robots. But the point is, by practicing mental skills, we will triumph more often, have a better shot at winning on a more regular basis, generally feel more in control and have more personal power that we ever had before. And what could be wrong with that?



STRING YOUR OWN RACQUET?

There's a mystique about people who string their own racquets. They seem so dedicated to racquetball, so technically astute, so...into it.

But for every player you know who does their own stringing, how many own stringing machines that are gathering dust in the attic? Stringing machines are like home exercise machines: they're full of good intentions, and they offer true potential benefits, but they rarely fulfill their promises. Should you do your own stringing? Let's look at the pros and cons.

The most obvious benefit of home stringing is economy. Most strings cost \$5 to \$10 per set, while professional stringing jobs usually cost \$20-25. For anyone who needs to re-string frequently — and that includes chronic string breakers and other power players, large racquetball families, and competitive tournament players — the savings can add up pretty quickly.

Convenience is another benefit. The do-it-yourself stringer can get a string job whenever they want it, without having to drive anywhere or wait for anyone.

By stringing your own, you take control over your equipment. You purchase the string you want, and select the tension that suits you best. You can experiment with different strings and tensions whenever you feel like it. With practice, every string job will be consistent, which will help improve your game.

For the tournament player, stringing your own means no more anxious waits at the tournament stringer's booth, and not having to rely upon a rushed stringer who doesn't know you or your preferences, and who might not even have your brand of string on hand.

There's also the satisfaction of doing it yourself, of becoming expert in another aspect of your sport, or understanding how things work. And there is the potential to bring in a few extra dollars by stringing for others.

That said, there are also a lot of reasons *not* to become an amateur racquet stringer. Start with the cost of the equipment. Most professional-quality floor-model machines cost \$1,000 or more. On the other hand, some consumer-quality tabletop machines that use

drop-weights to tension the string cost as little as \$100-\$200.

Don Hightower, Associate Director of the United States Racquet Stringers Association (USRSA) urges consumers to proceed with caution.

"Especially for beginning stringers, it can take a surprising amount of time to string a racquet on a drop-weight machine," he said. "These machines are not very user-friendly, and may offer less convenience than taking the racquet to a pro."

Even assuming that the machine is a good one, some players simply don't have the time to spare, so home stringing becomes a burden, not a convenience. For many, it's easier to leave the racquet at the club's pro shop, and pick it up next time they play.

Few amateur stringers attain the skill and expertise that pros can provide. Most home stringers work in an information vacuum, and do not know how to fine-tune their equipment to obtain the best results. When confronted with a new racquet, home stringers may be at a loss to find the recommended string pattern and tension.

Through trial and error, most home stringers can achieve respectable, consistent results on their own racquets. But it is unfair for an amateur to charge his or her friends and club co-members for work that is of questionable quality.

Although chronic string breakers are often good candidates to become do-it-yourselfers, Don Hightower told me that seeking advice from a professional stringer may be a better route. "A pro may be able to solve a breakage or playability problem through string selection or racquet tuning," he said. "Going the home-stringing route is not always the best way to obtain better quality and economy."

Don recommends that players who need expert stringing service or advice should seek out a USRSA Certified Stringer or Certified Racquet Technician (CRT). If you need help finding one in your area, call the USRSA at (619) 481-3545.



"RACQUET ZONE" FITNESS

By Kory Duarte

Welcome to the new racquetball season. I hope you are excited and have set goals that will be attainable in all areas of your life. So let me start out with this advice:

play hard, practice often, and stay clear of the drive-throughs ... if at all possible. If you don't remember anything else worthwhile from this column, please remember over 90% of your fitness program's success or failure is based on nutrition. The problem for most of us is that, we simply "are what we eat" and it's very hard for us to deny ourselves the things we desire on a normal basis. It's what I call, "life in the fast food lane." So determine right now that, "I'm not going to do it ... wouldn't be prudent" when choosing what, and where, to eat.

You may have heard about a controversial book called "Enter The Zone," by Dr. Barry Sears. This bestseller has touched a nerve in the nutrition industry because it goes against the conventional wisdom of the recommended American diet (high carbohydrates) and strict adherence to the food pyramid. Recently Dr. Sears followed up "Enter the Zone" with "Mastering The Zone." I have just finished the first book and can tell you that it is very interesting and informative. The book outlines how you can "Enter the Zone" and stay there by incorporating a diet of proper macro-nutrients (carbohydrates-protein-fat) and their correct ratios.

Currently most dietitians recommend that your diet consist of 65% carbs, 20% protein, and 15% fat; which should also include mono and polyunsaturated fats. Because most Americans have followed these ratios they have gained more weight than any other nation in the past 25 years.

Americans — despite all the fitness awareness, diet pills, and weight loss programs — are simply not losing weight. Because we are a nation that consumes too many carbohydrates for our bodies to burn through exercise, we store them as excess body fat. Dr. Sears concluded after using his "Zone" favorable diet on world class athletes and years of research that; the proper ratios should be 40% carbs, 35% protein, and 25% fat. Foods like pastas, breads (especially bagels), and grains have been our greatest enemies in the fight of the battle of the bulge.

Surprisingly, most of these foods are found at the bottom of the food pyramid and are said to make up

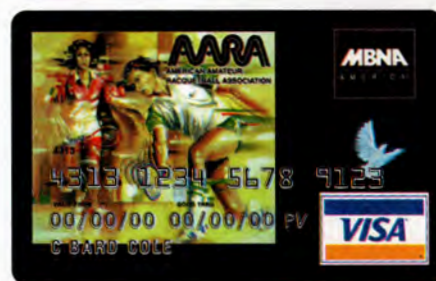
most of our diets. Actually if you cut these foods out of the food pyramid you would have the "Zone" favorable diet that Dr. Sears prescribes.

If you want to know what types of foods to stay clear of to maintain a "Zone" favorable diet, read the books and you will find to your surprise that there are foods that we eat on a regular basis that cause a hormonal imbalance that we can't afford to live with. You can either believe what Dr. Sears says or believe the dietary wisdom that has been given to Americans in the last 25 years, which has not proven to be successful.

I strongly recommend that you take a look at each of Dr. Sears' books. They may be just what you are looking for to help your game not to mention your longevity.

So until the next workout, be careful out there ... it's a fitness jungle. If you have any questions about how you can get in better shape, feel free to send your questions or comments to **RACQUETBALL** Magazine and I'll do my best to answer them!

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JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT

By Fielding Snow, AmPRO Certified Clinician

The future of any sport is the development of the next generation of athletes. Not just to hand over the baton, but to have the next generation want to take it. Inspirational to most of the younger crowd is ... fast hitting, agility and coordinated movement, and high positive energy!

As an instructor for over 15 years in many sports (badminton, squash, baseball, basketball, and racquetball), I believe in creating as much of an energy source as possible for the players of the future. I tend to gain as much insight as I give with regards to what these juniors want and where they want to go. And I often find that they don't always want to be "number one."

As a matter of fact, they tend to want to have fun more than anything. You'll find this to be true even as they grow into the seniors of tomorrow. Fun is the name of this game and with the proper framework and instruction, each student can improve and enjoy the sport for years to come.

As I spend more and more time with young athletes, I find it is as important to formulate and develop skills for general use as it is for a specific use. Such as improving one's ability to anticipate where the ball is traveling or just to be able to catch the ball waist high. Another fundamental I stress is to improve a given fitness level with movement exercises (notice I don't say drills) that create fun and laughter.

When working with a group of young athletes I feel the game is only part of the learning. For beginning juniors, a lesson format includes:

- A. Racquetball — Develops the students eye for the game.
- B. Practice — Develops the individual discipline for racquetball.
- C. Fitness — Creates a healthier athlete.
- D. Fun — Shows how much enjoyment can be derived from this game.

In the development of a junior's skills, there will be instruction on the basics: forehand, backhand, serving, and typically the shots. While it is wonderful to show them each the perfected skill, it is also important to have wide parameters on each skill. You wouldn't want to try and teach a beginning junior to hit a drive serve with all of their power when it is more important to try and teach them to hit to the corners.

Practice has to be inspirational in some way. An athlete should want to practice, but the sessions must have easy, achievable skills. Practicing should simulate a portion of the game with a positive outcome one is sure to reach.

The fitness angle has to be high energy and fun. "Movement exercises" sound far more fun than "drills." Test for speed, agility, endurance, and laughter.

The fun comes when each student reacts to your enthusiasm and high energy. Their laughter and enthusiasm will bring them back asking for you, and referring others to you in the future.

Scheduled 1997 AmPRO Instructor Clinics

Date	Site	City
Sept. 19 - 21	Burley Athletic Club	Burley, ID
Sept. 19 - 21	Pro Sports Club	Bellevue, WA
Sept. 26 - 28	Clovis Community College	Clovis, NM
Sept. 26 - 28	Allentown Racquet & Fitness Club	Allentown, PA
Sept. 26 - 28	Sportset	Rockfill Center, NY
Sept. 26 - 28	Southridge Athletic Club	Greenfield, WI
Sept. 26 - 28	The Glass Court Swim & Fitness	Chicago, IL
Sept./Oct. TBA	Canoga Park Athletic Club	Los Angeles, CA
Oct. 10 - 12	TBA	Minnesota, MN
Oct. 24 - 26	Tom Young's Athletic Club	Albuquerque, NM
Oct. 24 - 26	East Shore Health & Racquet	North Charleston, SC
Oct./Nov. TBA	What A Racquet Athletic Club	San Francisco, CA

Scheduled 1997 AmPRO Programmer Clinics

Date	Site	City
Sept.	Jacksonville Athletic Club	Jacksonville, FL
Oct. 17 - 19	Track & Racquet Club	Syracuse, NY
Oct./Nov. TBA	Cascade Athletic Club	Gresham, OR

For additional information, or to schedule your own clinic, please call Michelle Gould, AmPRO Executive Director at (208) 362-3844



changingtimes • by Luke St. Onge

renewal contract, Penn will remain the "official ball of the USRA" through the year 2002.

It's eye-opening to realize that this contract will carry us into the new millenium — and just as interesting to note that Penn and the USRA have maintained an uninterrupted working relationship since the early 1980's, through good times and bad.

Under the direction of president Gregg Weida, Penn played a pivotal role in the development and implementation of the Racquetball Industry Initiative which stabilized our sport and produced substantial growth in 1996. Unlike other companies in their position — hold-

ing a major share of a given market, in both brand and private labels — Penn has not been content to pull back, collect their profits and simply ride out the market. Instead, Penn has continued to support grassroots development by underwriting hundreds of sanctioned events and special programs — year in and year out.

Now one of the major components of our agreement with Penn is to develop an on-going, joint promotional effort on behalf of **RACQUETBALL** which will introduce the magazine to millions of recreational players. We feel that our publication is ready for the mainstream, through sales promotions, online offers, packaging initiatives and the type of top-notch marketing Penn is known for.

The USRA and Penn have long been aware of the importance of establishing promotional opportunities which bring the industry, club owners and organizations closer together. It is in this spirit that we look forward to yet another opportunity to experience an exciting time for our sport with such a reliable partner.

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MAY 30-June 1, 97 Portland, OR. (Juniors Only)

JUNE 27-29, 97 New Jersey

AUGUST 22-24, 97 San Francisco, CA.

SEPTEMBER TBA Boston, MA.

OCTOBER TBA Chicago, IL.

DECEMBER 4-11, 97 Aruba, "Caribbean Island"

JANUARY 98 TBA Denver, CO.

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GRAPHICS DONE
BY TONY JAMES
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global

EUROPEAN RACQUETBALL FEDERATION

Submitted by **Rene Hehemann**

After 13 years of service as the first president of the European Racquetball Federation [ERF], Juergen Denk of Germany resigned his post, and was replaced by newly-elected Erik Meyer of Belgium. Denk's hard work over the years brought the gratitude and appreciation of the federation and European racquetball as a whole.

The ERF's election took place at the 12th ERF Congress in Hamburg in late June, and the following executive committee members and officers were named:

President, Erik Meyer (BEL)

Vice-president, Phil Duignan (IRL)

Gen. Secretary, Rene Hehemann (NED)

Treasurer, Mike Mesecke (GER)

1997 ERF EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS **Hamburg, Germany: June 25-28 1997** **Submitted by Mike Mesecke**

The 9th European Championships were held in Hamburg, Germany, the home of the 1988 IRF World Championships, in late June and combined with the 6th European Masters Tournament. The event was well publicized and received coverage by several newspapers and television stations.

In the absence of "Team Ireland" ('96 European Champions) Germany won five of six possible titles and was the most successful country — earning its sixth, of the past eight, team championships. The Germans won the team title by a narrow tiebreaker margin over the Netherlands, after both squads tied with nine points apiece. Achim Loof of Germany captured the men's singles crown, as well as the doubles championship with Trevor Hayter. Brigitte Swolfs (Belgium) downed Yvonne Kortess (Germany) for the women's gold medal.

RESULTS — Men's Team: 1. Germany (9 pts); 2. Netherlands (9); 3. Austria (7); 4. Belgium (4); 5. Poland (2); 6. Italy (0). Men's Open Singles: 1. Achim Loof (GER); 2. Michiel van der Holst (NET); 3. Trevor Hayter (GER); 4. Ralf Lysakowski (AUS) — Women's Open Singles: 1. Brigitte Swolfs (BEL); 2. Yvonne Kortess (GER); 3. Elke Esquibel (GER); 4. Christine Boerschlein (GER) — Men's Open Doubles: 1. Hayter/Loof (GER); 2. Droege/Klinke (GER); 3. Postma/van der Holst (NET); 4. Matla/de Jong (NET) — Men's Senior 35+ Singles: 1. Joerg Ludwig

(GER); 2. Erik Meyer (BEL); 3. Johann Fierens (BEL); 4. Joerg Sattler (GER) — Men's Senior 45+ Singles: 1. Karel Matla (NET); 2. Rene Hehemann (NET); 3. Frank van Gelderen (NET); 4. Bram Klein (NET) — Men's Senior Doubles: 1. Droege/ Scheffler (GER); 2. Jensen/Ludwig (GER); 3. Hehemann/Matla (NET); 4. Bachmaier/Paulsen (GER) — Boy's Junior Singles: 1. Ralf Lysakowski (AUS); 2. Martin Klippel (GER); 3. Oliver Bertels (GER); 4. Sebastian Frank (POL).

16TH MEXICAN NATIONALS

Submitted by **Enrique Villagran**

The 16th annual Mexican National Championships drew 287 players in ten divisions of competition this year, including 40 entrants in Men's Open and 15 in Women's Open. Alvaro Beltran defeated Ricardo Filipini for the men's open title, while Guadalupe Torres defeated Rosy Torres for the women's crown. Two hours of live television broadcasts featured Sunday's competition and next year's national championship was set for Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua.

RESULTS: Men's Singles: 1. Alvaro Beltran (Tijuana); 2. Ricardo Filipini (Michoacan); Enrique Villegas (Tijuana). Men's Doubles: 1. Ignacio Bustillos/Javier Moreno (Chihuahua). Women's Singles: Guadalupe Torres (San Luis Potosi); 2. Rosy Torres (Tijuana); 3. Susana Acosta (Chihuahua). Women's Doubles: 1. Rosy Torres/Guadalupe Torres.

1997 CANADIAN JUNIOR **NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Rock Forrest, Quebec: July 1-5, 1997

Submitted by **David Hinton**

SINGLES RESULTS: Boys 18 & Under — 1. Eric Urteaga, BC; 2. Francis Guillemette, PQ; 3. Matthew Rachinski, SK. **Girls 18 & Under:** 1. Amanda MacDonald, SK; 2. Julie Neubauer, AB; 3. Carma Jensen, AB. **Boys 16 & Under:** 1. Kris Odegard, SK; 2. Kam Bartschi, SK; 3. Alexander Soucy, PQ. **Girls 16 & Under:** 1. Veronique Guillemette, PQ; 2. Genevieve Brodiur, PQ; 3. Veronique Tetrault, PQ. **Boys 14 & Under:** 1. Warren Chow, BC; 2. Charles Chouinard, PQ; 3. Terence Li, SK. **Girls 14 & Under:** 1. Karina Odegard, SK; 2. Erin Shaw, SK; 3. Stephanie Oteyza, MB. **Boys 12 & Under:** 1. Remi Perras, PQ; 2. Hugo Laprise, PQ; 3. James Landeryou, SK. **Girls 12 & Under:** 1. Kelly Shaw, SK; 2. Brandi Jacobson Prentice, SK; 3. Tiara Johnson, SK. **Boys 10 & Under:** 1. James Landeryou, SK; 2. Douglas Wong, BC; 3. Ryan Chorney, MB. **Girls 10 & Under:** 1. Brandi Jacobson Prentice, SK; 2. Megan Daciuk, MB; 3. Katie Rankin, MB. **Boys 10 & Under Multi-Bounce:** 1. Peter Mulholland, NB; 2. Graham Richardson, SK; 3. Scott Campbell, MB. **Girls 10 & Under Multi-Bounce:** 1. Alicia Reid, MB. **Boys 8 & Under Multi-Bounce:** 1. Scott

Campbell, MB; 2. Mathieu Grand'Maitre, PQ. **Girls 8 & Under Multi-Bounce:** 1. Alicia Reid, MB; 2. Ashley Daciuk, MB.

DOUBLES RESULTS: Boys 18 & Under Doubles: 1. Eric Urteaga, BC/Kam Bartschi, SK; 2. Francis Guillemette, PQ/Alexander Soucy, PQ. Girls 18 & Under Doubles: 1. Amanda MacDonald, SK/Karina Odegard, SK; 2. Carma Jensen, AB/Julie Neubauer, AB. Boys 14 & Under Doubles: 1. Remi Perras, PQ/Charles Chouinard, PQ; 2. Michael McLean, MB/Erik Youngson, MB. **TEAM STANDINGS** — 1. Saskatchewan; 2. Manitoba; 3. Quebec.

KOREA HOSTS 10th **ASIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The Korean Racquetball Federation hosted the Asian Racquetball Championships in Ansan, Korea in early August, drawing four men's and women's teams from Japan and eleven Korean teams. At the close of the three-day playoff, the men's final was televised in its entirety and Japan captured the top spots in both men's and women's open.

In addition to the championship, the Asian Conference was held, where directors of each national federation met to discuss issues of importance to the region. A total of 14 administrators determined a set of promotional and developmental goals, led by KRF chairperson Hong, Young Sang and JARA director Yasushi Tanahara. The 11th Asian Racquetball Championships is scheduled to be held in Japan.

SUCRE HOSTS INVITATIONAL

After losing the E-Force Open final in Cochabamba, Bolivia two weeks earlier, Gerardo Gil re-claimed the winning line by taking the E-Force Invitational in Sucre. Bolivia's top player conceded only one set throughout the entire tournament (to Eduardo Caba), and defeated Roberto Aracena 11-3, 11-3, 11-5 in the final. With this victory, Gil will maintain the No. 1 national position at least to December.

The women's final was played between two of the most successful players this season: No.3 Ma. Fernanda Romero and No.2 Paola Nuñez. Suffering from a back injury, Romero needed a tiebreaker to win the championship (11-8, 11-7, 9-11, 9-11, 11-7). Romero is very close to Nuñez and Parada in the national rankings, and might be in the No.1 position very soon.

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COY MAKES MARK

by Kory Duarte

Most of us who love racquetball don't have to look very far these days to find a role model, a hero, or someone who just makes you go "yeah!" But most of our heroes don't grace the covers of Sports Illustrated or other magazines. In Oklahoma, a young boy has caught hold of a dream to be the best player in the world. His name is Chris Coy, and he's been on the racquetball scene for almost three years — turning heads with his athletic prowess and a remarkable ability to dive for shots.

Chris lives in Elk City, Oklahoma, where his parents own and operate The Health Club, and he finds many opportunities to practice against better players. I had a chance to watch Chris play for the first time at a tournament held at the Southern Athletic Club. Chris is very tenacious and hits the ball with ease, as his competition soon found out. Chris played so well, he won the Juniors division and the Men's D consolation. He's since gone up against some of the top juniors in the country in his age group. Last year he competed at the World Junior Championships and did very well in the 10 and under, beating the #7 player in the nation.

Yes, Chris is an inspiration to us all and to the sport. But I failed to mention that Chris was born with cancer and has a prosthetic left leg. Chris lost his leg when he was four years old and, although he beat the cancer, there were other battles he and his family endured. Through it all Chris has not let anything stop him from leading a full life and giving his all at racquet-

ball. He is one person who would rather be known for his accomplishments as a person, than by his limitations on the playing field.

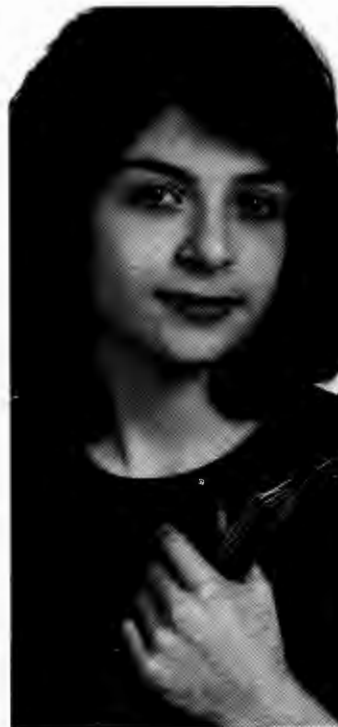
Chris has inspired so many who have crossed paths with him, for the person he is. So remember the name Coy, because at your next tournament, he might just might be your opponent. Chris is a hero and a role model ... someone has to be.

MORE HONORS FOR LINDSEY

By Simon Wiederman

Lindsey Deutsch received her third straight invitation to the Disneyland Young Musicians Symphony Orchestra and got the surprise of her young life. The Disney people gave her the greatest honor possible by naming her the orchestra "Concert Master." To those who are not familiar with the term (as I was not), she was chosen as the captain, the conductors assistant, the number one performer in the orchestra.

After rehearsing for ten days in June, they performed a concert at the Hollywood Bowl which was broadcast over the Disney Cable Network. Since the age limit is 12



LEFT TO RIGHT: CHRIS COY,
LINDSEY DEUTSCH & PATRICK
DEIGHAN

for the Disney project, this was Lindsey's last year of eligibility. This has been a wonderful experience for young Miss. Deutsch and adds to the many honors she has received as an outstanding violinist. Although she has accomplished quite a bit in racquetball, her many hours of violin practice have limited her participation in the sport. Nonetheless, she is competing very well in womens B, plus has medaled several times in junior national and world competition. Because she will no longer be involved with Disney, she'll now be able to compete in Junior Nationals.

OHIO LOSES DEIGHAN

By Tim Deighan

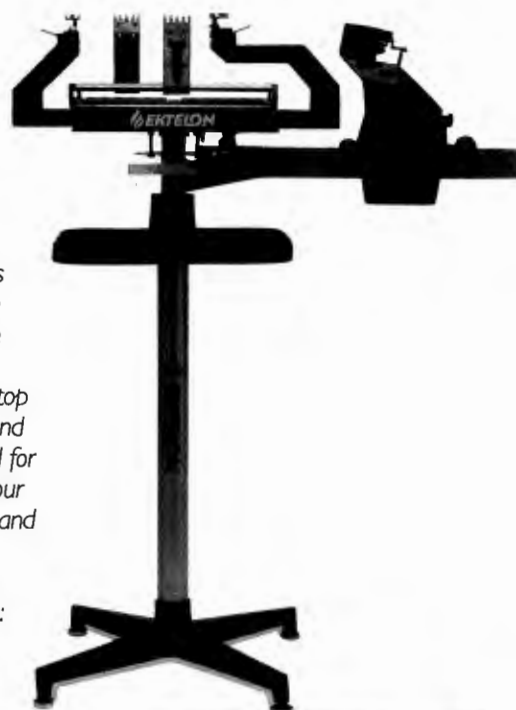
On April 23, the sport lost a pioneer, an innovator, and one of its most ardent supporters when Patrick Deighan died of a heart attack while playing his usual Wednesday match at the Mentor Heisley Racquet and Fitness Club in Mentor, Ohio. Few players have had a greater passion for the sport. A gentleman and fierce competitor, Deighan turned 70 in March and was looking forward to entering tournaments in his new age bracket. He was coming off a second place finish the 60-70 year-old division at the Ohio State Championships and had won the state title in 1996.

A retired oral surgeon from Painesville, Ohio, Deighan switched from handball to racquetball in 1970. He first played at the Painesville YMCA and had been a member of the Mentor Heisley Racquet and Fitness Club for over 20 years. A member of the Ohio Racquetball Association, the National Masters Organization, and a lifetime member of the USRA, Deighan traveled near and far to support, spectate and compete in the sport he so dearly loved. He especially enjoyed traveling to pro tour events, where his boisterous whistle and wisecracks were legendary.

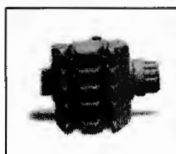
In addition to introducing three sons and two sons-in-law to the sport, Deighan taught hundreds of others to

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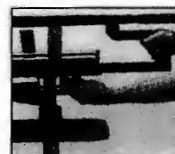
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play the game. In need of a game on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday, you could count on Doc Deighan to hit it around with you. Few practiced and studied the game as much. He called it "the relentless pursuit of perfection." If you were lucky enough to meet Pat Deighan, you met a winner-on and off the court. He is greatly loved and will be greatly missed.

courtside update



21st Jack Fulton Open

by the "Committee"

On October 10th, the 21st Annual Jack Fulton Open will be held at the University of Memphis nine-court P.E. Complex in Memphis, Tennessee. If not the longest-running sanctioned tournament, it is certainly among the oldest ... the annual event has served as a fundraiser for the record-setting University of Memphis (Memphis State) Intercollegiate racquetball teams for the past 20 years.

Coach Larry Liles and the University of Memphis named this tournament after long-time racquetball enthusiast and promoter Jack Fulton. Over the years Jack has helped with recruiting and coaching, was president of the Memphis Racquetball Association for 17 years and founded the Rollout Club, a support group for the Memphis State racquetball teams.

The first Jack Fulton Open was held in 1976, naming open division winners Barbara Faulkenberry (who was still attending high school in Florida) and Steve Mondry, who travelled cross country from California to play. MSU tried to recruit Barbara but couldn't compete with the Air Force Academy.



Top (L-R):
Coach Larry Liles, Kathy Gluvna & Jack Fulton, circa ??

Center: In 1989, an airborne Sergio Gonzalez gave Simon Roy plenty of room to make his shot, while Bruce Erickson looked on.

Bottom: First Fulton champion, Barbara Faulkenberry.



The second Fulton had a special guest – Davey Bledsoe – who had just defeated Marty Hogan for the national championship. We advertised that Davey, (the golden retriever), would be on hand to play 10 players to 11 points in exhibition matches, with each player to receive a Wilson Racquet (Davey's sponsor at that time). It was one of our most successful tournaments with over 280 entries from 18 states.

In the event's history, many Fulton winners were MSU athlete scholars – John and Keith Dunlap, Jack Newman, Andy Roberts, Todd O'Neil, Sara Green, Janet Marshall, Kathy Gluvna, Toni Bevelock, Cindy Doyle, Kerri Stoffregen — who all went on to win national intercollegiate titles.

This well run tournament, with good food and southern hospitality, has drawn many top names from across the country to Memphis. Just a few national champions to take part have been: Randy Stafford, Tn., Debbie Vinson, Tn., Steve Smith, Tn., Tim Anthony, Oh., Day Haynes, Tn., Holly Gray, Ca., Heather Dunn, Mo., Jen Yokota, Mo., Chris Deer, Mo., Britt Engel, Fla., Derek Robinson, Wa., Tim Hansen, Fla., Johnny Hennen, Tn., Giles Coors, Tn., Ed Lowrance, Tn., Mike Zeitman, Tx., Rick Bezousek, Neb., Bruce Erickson, Minn., Sergio Gonzalez, Fla., David Simonette, Md., James Lorello, Fla., Sadie Gross, S.D., Melanie Mobley, Tn., Cynthia Wilson, Tn., Candi Gavin, Tn., Jim Cullen, Tx., David Fleetwood, Tn., Jerry Bildsy, Tn., Cary Finn, Tn., Theresa Beresford, Va., Kim Cooling, Il., Mike Gora, Canada, Pete

Tashie, Tn., Dan Cohen, Mo., Allen Engel, Fla., Jim Jeffers, Il., Brian Sheldon, Mo., Mike Engel, N.J., Brian Rankin, Mo., Simon Roy, Canada, Fabian Balmori, Venezuela, Luis Munoz, Mexico, Scott Reiff, Fla., Sara Green, Tn., Dina Moreland, Ca., Jim Thoni, Tn., Rick Komistek, Canada, Joel Bonnett, Mich., and our own Coach Larry Liles.

Funds from the tournament have recruited players to the university team from Canada, Mexico, Venezuela, Bolivia and many states in the U.S. Over the years there have been many, many volunteer workers and sponsors

(unfortunately, far too many to list) but we would be remiss not to thank Pat Caldwell and Burger King's Joe Mirabile for their valuable support.

This year's tournament is scheduled on a big football weekend ... the University of Memphis will go up against Arkansas State and the NFL's Tennessee Oilers will play the Cincinnati Bengals. Think you might want to join in? For more information about the tournament, call Coach Larry Liles at (901) 678-3458 or Jack Fulton at (901) 754-3076.

NMRA Singles in El Paso

by Ron Pudduck

Early in the season, well over 100 masters players converged on El Paso, Texas to have an old-fashioned shoot-out — racquetball style. Slinging their racquets at their sides, the masters participants played three great days in a round robin-format held at the Ultimate Courts and East Valley YMCA.

In men's 45+, Gary Mazaroff (NM) went undefeated to win his age group. The final round-robin match had Mazaroff pitted against the also-undefeated Tom Ochoa, but Gary's court skills led him to a 11-8, 11-8 victory.

In men's 50+, Tom McKie (TX) took first over David Warner (MN) with a total point score of 251 to 242. Another close bracket was in men's 55+, where flight A winner Glenn Allen (VA) was able to defeat flight B winner and local El Paso player, John Hellard, by a final game score of 15-13.

Men's 60+ had three flights and a three way play-off. Flight winners Joe Jackman (PA), Paul Banales (AZ) and Tom Penick (CA) won their flights and contested for the medals. Tom Penick actually tied Ron Pudduck (MI) for the flight winner at 190 points each. Pudduck had a win-loss record of 16-2, and Tom's record was 15-3, but the point



L-R: Men's 60+ "top four" Michael Jackson, Paul Banales, Tom Penick, Joe Jackman.

totals were the same. Because of this tie, the head-to-head rule was used, and because Penick had scored more points in his match against Pudduck, Tom advanced to the finals. In the final three-player round-robin, each ended with a 1-1 record. However, Joe Jackman had a higher point total, and was declared the winner.

Men's 65+ was an interesting division. Joe Lambert (TX) had ruled the roost for the past few years—but Don Alt (FL) just turned 65 and was the "young kid on the block" who many expected would give Joe a serious challenge. Well, you probably guessed what happened! Yep, Lambert defeated Alt 15-8 in the final playoff match, to retain his title.

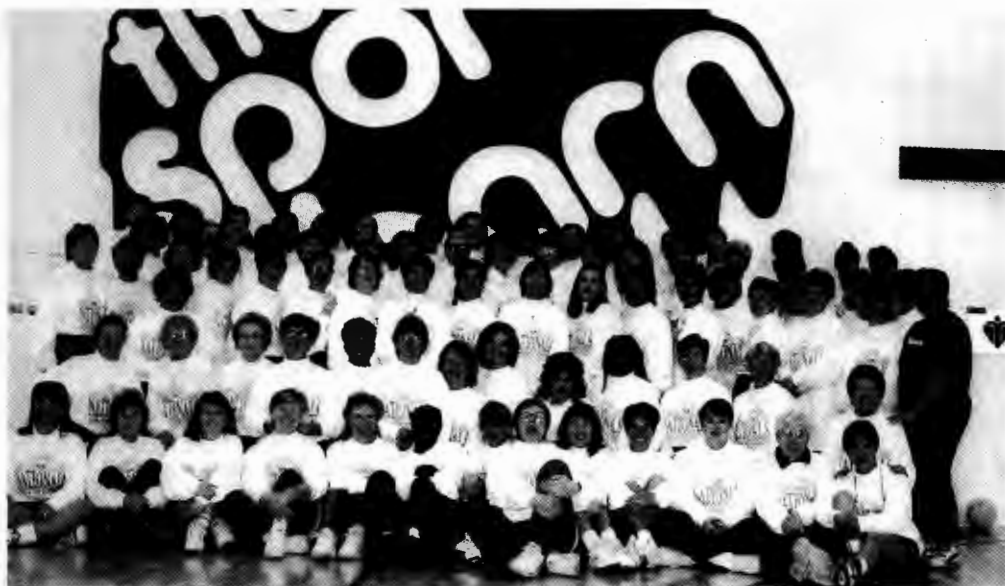
Men's 70+ saw Mal Roberts (FL) emerge from his nine matches in first place with 215 points to Dick

Kincade's (CO) 207. Men's 75+ was won by the undefeated Earl Acuff (NC). George Spear (FL) was once again a champion in men's 80+.

All the players agreed that this was one very fine tournament. Friendly sponsors, great amenities and lots of exciting play. What more could one ask?!

NMRA Golden Masters Tournament

A large group of golden masters players converged on the Merritt Athletic Club in Baltimore for the annual National Masters Racquetball Association, Golden Masters Championships. The three day round-robin event offered great competition for all the contestants. Competition started daily at 9:00 am, and usually lasted until 6:00 p.m.



WOMEN'S SENIOR/MASTER CHAMPIONSHIPS

by Kendra Tutsch

The 8th Annual Women's Senior/Masters National Championships were held "Superbowl Weekend" at the Sports Barn in Chattanooga, Tennessee. This tournament continues to draw some of the top women's age group players from all over the country to participate in a round robin format which provides lots of

great competition along with plenty of time for socializing, sight-seeing and, of course, shopping.

This year, the staff of the Sports Barn offered great southern hospitality to the 83 players in attendance (shown above left) while tournament director June Riggs and her crew of volunteers did a superb job of keeping the matches moving along and the players supplied with food and drink all weekend.

Play started Friday morning and continued until Sunday noon, with time out on Saturday evening for a real Tennessee-style barbecue at "Porker's" accompanied by a swinging country band and featuring an impromptu dance exhibition by Mildred Gwinn. Senior women appear to have amazing abilities both on and off the court!!

Championship playoff rounds in the flighted age groups (40's, 45's, 50's) were held on Sunday morning as well as final matches in the other age groups. In the 35's Debra Tisinger won her final match against Robin Whitmire to repeat as champion (Debra will be tournament director in 1998). In the 40's Susan Morgan-Pfahler won the

Glenn Allen (VA) repeated his El Paso win with another 55+ singles victory. HE also teamed with partner Tom Penick (CA) to win the 55+ doubles. Glenn breezed through the singles bracket but had a more difficult time in doubles, barely edging out the team of Rex Lawler (IN) and Ron Pudduck (MI) by a total point score of 232 to 229. Alan Dwyer (VT) won his first championship in 60+ singles. Harvey Clar (CA) returned to his winning ways when he traveled from the fast west coast to the east coast to win the championship in the last match when he defeated Lynn Hahn (MI) in a close match. Don Alt (OH) finished second to Harvey with a point score of 210 to 202. Men's 70+ singles was won by Dick Kincade (CO) over Duane Russell (MI). Perennial champ, Earl Acuff (NC) defeated Nick Sans (CA) at 75+ singles, while Allen Shepherd (MD) won the 80+.

On the women's singles side of the draw — winners were Gail Schaefer (MD) 55+; Jo Kenyon (FL) 60+; Lola Markus (IL) 65+; Dorothy Vezetinski (WA) 70+; and Mary-Low Acuff (NC) 75+.

Jo Kenyon (FL) and Ron Pudduck (MI) were crowned national cham-

pions in mixed doubles. In men's 70+ doubles, Marv Schinagle (OH) teamed with Duane Russell (MI) for a 234 to 224 win over Norm Skanchy (UT) and Russ Carruth (UT). 75+ doubles saw Allen Shepherd (MD) team with Cam Snowberger (SC) to take the title.

It was an exciting three days but many of the players were happy to be heading home for a few days of R&R before going back to the practice courts.

The National Masters Racquetball Association [NMRA] was founded in 1971, with the goal of providing all USRA members in the 35 and over age group the opportunity to play in three invitationals each year. Tournaments are USRA sanctioned (USRA membership is required) and are played in a self-officiated, round robin format. The NMRA stresses integrity, sportsmanship, fellowship and camaraderie, and playing time is scheduled to leave ample time for relaxation, sight-seeing and socializing. If you are interested in joining the NMRA, please send your name, address, telephone number(s) and date of birth, along with \$35.00, to Ivan Bruner, 5555 Odana Road, Madison, WI 53719.

playoffs, beating newcomer to the 40's but tournament veteran Linda Moore. The finals in the 45's was an "instant replay" of the 1996 tournament with a similar outcome, as Eileen Tuckman defeated Nancy Kronenfeld.

The 50+ division was flighted for the first time and a new champion emerged as Margaret Hoff claimed the championship over Sharon Chandler, who had just moved into the 50's. In the 55's the "new age group" effect worked more favorably, as Sharon Hastings-Welty took first place by total points. Other winners were Jo Kenyon in 60+, Lola Markus in 65+, Louise Gerry in 70+, and Mary-Low Acuff in 75+.

If you want plenty of racquetball competition plus fun and good friends, plan to attend the 1998 tournament which will be held **January 30 - February 1 at Racquetball World in Canoga Park, California (LA area).**

For more information on the Women's Senior/Masters Racquetball Council or the 1998 event, contact Kendra Tutsch at 608/233-5865 or write her at 110 S. Midvale Blvd, Madison, WI 53705.

RESULTS — 35+: 1. Debra Tisinger (Calif.); 2. Robin Whitmire (Ga.); 3. Cheryl McConaghy (N.M.); 4. Kelly Kirk (Minn.). **40+:** 1. Susan Pfahler (Fla.); 2. Linda Moore (Neb.); 3. Meena Evans (N.C.); 4. Laura Patterson (Mich.). **45+:** 1. Eileen Tuckman (Fla.); 2. Nancy Kronenfeld (Ill.); 3. Judy Sands (N.J.); 4. JoAnn Johnson (Wash.). **50+:** 1. Margaret Hoff (Ill.); 2. Sharon Chandler (Wash.); 3. Merjean Kelley (Calif.); 4. Jean Heckman (N.Y.). **55+:** 1. Sharon Hastings-Welty (Ore.); 2. Mildred Gwinn (N.C.); 3. Nancy Butts (Wis.); 4. Jean Tull (N.Y.). **60+:** 1. Jo Kenyon (Fla.); 2. Kathy Mueller (Minn.). **65+:** 1. Lola Markus (Ill.); 2. Reta Harring (Wis.). **70+:** 1. Louise Gerry (Tenn.); **75+:** 1. Mary-Low Acuff (N.C.).



GELHAUS AND HALLANDER TAKE CALIFORNIA STATE CROWNS

Kelly Gelhaus and Kersten Hallander won their respective open division titles at the California State Championships, held in May at Racquetball World in Canoga Park. Gelhaus, ranked 15th on the men's pro tour, held off junior world champion Rocky Carson 15-4, 15-11 in the men's open finale to earn the \$600 top prize. Gelhaus is a former member of the U.S. National Team, while Carson is a current squad member of the Junior National Team.

Possibly on the brink of a breakthrough year, Hallander earned \$400 for her victory over club pro Debbie Tisinger. After an exhausting comeback to win game one 15-13, Tisinger fell prey to the San Diego resident's sharp shooting and energetic play in games two and three, 15-5, 11-2.

RESULTS: MEN'S Open: Kelly Gelhaus def. Rocky Carson 15-4, 15-11; AA: John Wong def. Clint Abdalla 15-9, 15-3; A: Steve Dark def. Brian Lorber 15-7, 10-15, 11-4; B: Reed Bastian def. Rick Villavicencio 15-8, 15-12; C: Brad Bastian def. Aaron Kaufman 15-9, 15-11; D: Keith Shigeta def. Bobby Quintana 15-12, 15-4; 24+: Dillon Silver def. Greg Solis 15-14, 9-15, 11-7; 25+: Jorge Prieto def. Jay Huot 12-15, 15-13, 11-9; 30+: John Wong def. Bill Keiran 15-7, 4-15, 11-9; 35+: Bart Landsmen def. Steve Wattz 15-4, 10-15, 11-9; 40+: Darryl Warren def. Steve Wattz 15-13, 15-9; 45+: Darryl Warren def. Garrett Parks 15-12, 15-3; 50+: R.O. Carson def. Luis Guerrero 15-10, 6-15, 11-8; 55+: Hal Price def. Luis Guerrero 15-10, 15-10; 60+: Jerry Holly def. David Guerra; 65+: John Reid def. Jim Dunn. **WOMEN'S Open:** Kersten Hallander def. Debbie Tisinger 13-15, 15-5, 11-2; AA: Sherron Boyea def. Karen Schmidt 10-15, 15-10, 11-2; A: Jill Crouse def. Diane Rossiter 15-7, 15-1; B: Karen Holly def. C.C. Palaski; C: Rosario Bauer def. Charlene Cotroneo 9-15, 15-6, 11-7; D: Alicia Matza def. Dawn Carson; 25+: Jill Crouse def. Peggine Callahan; 30+: Mae Varon def. Monique Flaherty by forfeit; 35+: Debbie Tisinger def. Solanna Taragan 15-13, 15-3; 40+: Loretta Anderson def. Sherron Boyea 15-11, 15-9; 50+: Joy Desantis def. C.C. Palaski.

ELSWHERE: Men's 35+ winner Tim Armstrong was thrilled to accept a \$300 check from tournament director Doug McIntosh at a Pro-Am in Lincoln, Nebraska earlier in the season.



Above: Tony Jelso, front, versus Jonathan Dunn in Men's Open. Photo: Bob Missina, courtesy Wh'stle Stop Photography.

1998 Changes to Intercollegiate Qualifying Requirements!

States will offer qualifying collegiate divisions in selected tournaments. Some areas may still host regional events as they have in the past, but athletes will be able to qualify for Nationals by playing in *either* a state-hosted qualifier or a separate regional event.

Schools will be able to qualify their teams by sending *one* representative from each squad (male and female). Thus, to qualify a full men's team (six singles, three doubles) only one male entrant would have to compete in the qualifying event. However, seeding consideration will only be extended to those who compete in a qualifying event.

Colleges/universities that wish to receive confirmation of this policy change and/or entry forms to qualifiers and the national championship, must make that request via the national office [719/635-5396]. Since racquetball coordinators change frequently, schools should update the USRA office with the names and addresses of new personnel each year.

The following state events have been identified as 1997-98 Collegiate Qualifiers:

ALABAMA: October 3-5, 1997
Magic City Classic @ Courtsouth
Racquet & Fitness—Vestavia Hills, AL
Contact: Jim Garner
205/823-2120

CONNECTICUT: March 6-8, 1998
Connecticut State Singles @ Downtown
Health & Racquet Club—New Haven, CT
Contact: Juliet Campbell
203/248-1869

MISSOURI: February 20-22, 1998
Missouri Athletic Club West
Town & Country, MO
Contact: Jen Yokota
314/921-7933

TENNESSEE: March 6-8, 1998
Tennessee State Singles
Contact: Sheila Collins
615/331-1923

UTAH: January 20-24, 1998
Logan Recreation Center
Salt Lake City, UT
Contact: Val Shewfelt
801/750-9877

*Cited events are "to date" only — look for
more sites and dates in the next issue!*

1997 REGIONAL CHAMPIONS

Listed alphabetically by city...

• **Arlington, Texas — Men's Open:** Brian Fredenberg; A: David Guentert; B: Michael Natal; C: Marvin Broughton; D: Lannon Smith; Novice: Jesse Wells; All-Age: Eric Jubin; 25+: Larry Meeusen; 30+: Lance Gilliam; 35+: Martin McDermott; 40+: Mike Robinson; 45+: Don Scales; 50+: David Pearson; 55+: Joe Lambert; 60+: Joe Lambert; 65+: Skip Kiphart; 75+: Robert McAdam.
Women's Open: Denise Mock; A: Jeanette Coury; B: Bonnie Mobley; C: Susan Huntsman; D: Gail Gabrysh; 30+: Bridget Barron; 35+: Denise Mock.

• **Billings, Montana — Men's Open:** Lance Reithmeier; A: Ricky Brown; B: Marc Schnitker; C: Gerry Noy; All-Age: Lance Reithmeier; 12<: Chris Weber; 18<: James Ford; 35+: Don Williams; 40+: John Hull; 45+: Dave Weber; 55+: Bob Baldwin.
Women's Open: Denise Moerkerke; B: Jessica Richter; All-Age: Lori Perino; 35+: Denise Moerkerke.

• **Chicago, Illinois — Men's Open:** Jim Ellenberger; A: Pat Murray; B: Craig Citti; C: Martin Gonzales; D: Nick Kritzer; 25+: John Negrete; 30+: Brad McCuniff; 35+: Dave Eagle; 40+: Gregg Mandell; 45+: Greg Hasty; 50+: Horace Miller; 55+: Tom Rearden; 60+: Jerry Stoltman; 65+: Chuck Kaiser; 70+: Dick Wodewitz.
Women's Open: Jen Yokota; A: Mary Crawford; B: Leslie Miller; D: Peggy Hartman; Novice: Karen Berry; 25+ & 30+ & 35+: Ellen Somberg; 40+ & 45+: Nancy Kronenfeld; 55+: Pauline Kelly; 60+: Lola Markus.

• **Columbia Heights, Minnesota — Men's Open:** Mike Locker; A: George Rutkowski; B: Scott Nelson; C: Tim Anderson; All-Age: Ryan Homa; 25+: K. Graham; 30+: Jim Jeffers; 35+: Mike McElhany; 40+: Jim Luzar; 45+: Jim Luzar; 55+: Obed Oas; **Women's Open:** Carol Krieger; A: Marion Crawford; 30+: Lori Harper.
Junior Region #11 — B18<: Sam Ryder; B16<: Jason Jansen; B14<: Darrin Prince; B12<: Buck Harper; B10<: Brady Prince; B8< multi-bounce: Cam Grundman; G10<: Trina Harper; G8< multi-bounce: Alisha Harper.

• **Houston, Texas [Junior Region 7] —** Boy's 18<: Bucky Freeman; B16<: Elan Levy; B14<: Patric Mascomro; B12<: Omri Buzi; B10<: Matthew Hammond; B8<: Jansen Allen; B8< multi: Ori Melnik; Girl's 16<: Davina Bloom; G14<: Adva Buzi; G12<: Lindsay Deutsch; G10<: Rachael Acosta.

• **Jacksonville, Florida — Men's Open:** Tim Hansen; A: Mike Harmon; B: Chong Kim; C: Nate Blunt; D: Javier Rivera; Novice: Dan Fowler; All-Age: Nick Xynidis; Boy's 8< multi-bounce: Kenny Green; B8<: Jamin Godwin; B10<: Jamin Godwin; B12<: Clay Burris; B14<: Matthew McElhiney; B16<: Mike Harmon; B18<: Brandon Henline; 25+: Aaron Metcalf; 30+: John Scargle; 35+: John Scargle; 40+: Terry Fluharty; 45+: Mitt Layton; 50+: Ray Kaufman; 55+: Roger Wehrle; 60+: Milas Turney; 65+: Mal Roberts; 70+: Mal Roberts;
Women's Open: Janet Tyler; A: Lynn Slaughter; B: Alina Polak; C: Linda Walker; D: Laurie Jolliff; Novice: Lourdes Rivera; G10<: Katie Lyons; G18<: Melissa Harmon; 25+: Yesenia Delbusto; 30+: Patty Powl; 35+: Janet Tyler; 40+: Karen Bouchard; 45+: Renee Fish; 60+: Jo Kenyon.

• **Jacksonville, North Carolina [Junior Region 16] —** Boy's 18<: Shawn Fry; B16<: Brent Walters; B14<: Chad Walters; B10<: Jordan Walters.

• **Noblesville, Indiana [Junior Region 10] —** Boy's 18<: Seth Taylor; B16<: Seth Taylor; B14<: Adam Taylor; B12<: Dain Taylor; B10<: Simon Jackson; B8< multi: Sean McGrath; Girl's 12<: Francine Codrington; G8< multi: Sharon Jackson.

• **Vestavia Hills, Alabama [Junior Region 5] —** Boy's 18<: Jeffrey Garner; B16<: Jeffrey Garner; B14<: Michael Lawrence; B12<: Jacob Karmelin; B10<: Drew Toland; B8<: Conner Reynolds; Girl's 8<: Brandi Alexander.

• **Windham, Maine [Junior Region 1] —** Boy's 18<: Scott Fisher; B16<: Joey Delfino; B14<: Joey Delfino; B12<: Andy Carr; B10<: Mike Keddie; B8<: Matt Keddie; B8< multi: Justin Asuncion; Girl's 16<: Meghan Guardiani; G14<: Amanda Labelle; G8< multi: Kara Mazur.



irf world juniors

International Racquetball Federation
Pro Kennex World Junior Championships
Los Caballeros Sports Village
Fountain Valley, California
December 19-23

ENTRY FORM – Please Print . . .

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Country _____ Zip _____

Phone (Day) _____ (Evening) _____

Birthdate _____ Age _____

Partner _____ Division _____

A third division must be mixed doubles ...

Partner _____ Mixed Division _____

National Ranking _____ Division _____

National Division _____ Finish _____

Other Seeding Information _____

OLYMPIC PLAY-OFF FORMAT: Each entrant is guaranteed three matches in singles. Please review (on site) the section explaining the format for individuals who lose. Awards will be presented to winners in each play-off bracket.

WAIVER: I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims that I may have against the IRF, Pro Kennex, Ektelon, Los Caballeros Sports Village, event sponsors or their respective agents for any and all injuries. I also acknowledge the potential risk of eye injury during competition, and can certify in writing that my protective eyeguards (including prescription frames/lenses) conform with all standards specified in USRA Rule 2.5(a). By registering to compete in this event, I consent to be subject to drug testing as administered according to the IRF/USOC guidelines, and release all rights to the use of event photographs in which my image appears.

Participant Signature & Date _____

LIABILITY: I agree to be liable for all costs for damages for which my child is responsible and to pay for all costs arising from any disciplinary action imposed as stated in the Junior Code of Conduct, as adopted by the IRF.

Parent/Guardian Signature & Date _____

RACQUETBALL Magazine

BOYS SINGLES

____ 18 and under
____ 16 and under
____ 14 and under
____ 12 and under
____ 10 and under
____ 8- regulation rules
____ 8- multi-bounce
____ 6- multi-bounce

GIRLS SINGLES

____ 18 and under
____ 16 and under
____ 14 and under
____ 12 and under
____ 10 and under
____ 8- regulation rules
____ 8- multi-bounce
____ 6- multi-bounce

BOYS DOUBLES

____ 18 and under
____ 16 and under
____ 14 and under
____ 12 and under
____ 10 and under

GIRLS DOUBLES

____ 18 and under
____ 16 and under
____ 14 and under
____ 12 and under
____ 10 and under

MIXED DOUBLES (Third event only)

____ 18 and under
____ 16 and under
____ 14 and under
____ 12 and under
____ 10 and under

MAIL COMPLETED ENTRY AND FEES TO:
IRF WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS
1685 WEST UINTAH
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80904-2921

**ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY
DECEMBER 5 (Postmarked by 12/03/97)**

ENTRY FEES AND PAYMENT

First event. (\$60.00) _____
Second event (\$35.00) _____
Mixed Doubles. (\$15.00) _____
USRA Membership fee .. (\$15.00) _____

TOTAL DUE: \$ _____

Make checks payable to USRA. Entry form is not complete, nor is entry accepted, unless check for correct amount is enclosed and all information is provided. Payment at check-in will be processed as a late entry and surcharged.

LODGING: Doubletree/Red Lion Hotel – Rate: 75.00/night. Call 714/540-7000 and mention World Juniors to receive the special rate. **AWARDS CEREMONY & BANQUET:** For all participants, on Monday evening (12/22) at the Red Lion Hotel. Non-participants may purchase banquet tickets for \$20.00 at the tournament desk. **OFFICIAL BALL:** Ektelon Premium Select.

tournament entry

EKTELON 1997 30th U.S. NATIONAL DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIPS

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION ...

• **ENTRY DEADLINE:** Entry must be received by Wednesday, OCTOBER 1, (postmarked no later than Sept. 29). All entries are final, with absolutely no refunds after the deadline date. • **ENTRY FEE:** \$65.00 First Event (includes referee fee), \$35.00 Second Event. A third event is allowed ONLY in the MIXED 55+ through 85+ divisions, for a \$15.00 fee. • **LATE FEES:** IF any entries are accepted after the deadline, an additional \$15.00 late fee will be assessed (payment made at tournament check-in will be processed as a late entry and surcharged).

• **STARTING TIMES:** Starting times will be available on-site after 5:00 pm on Monday, October 13. Please do not call the national office for starting times! ... Call 602/285-2929.

• **OFFICIATING:** \$5.00 of each entry fee will be paid back to you for every match you referee. Director of Referees: Otto Dietrich.

An official event of the
USRA

October 15-19
City Square Sports Club
100 West Clarendon
Phoenix, Arizona 85013
602/285-2929

Be prepared to start play on:

Wednesday 10/15	Thursday 10/16	Friday 10/17
MO	M55	M70
M All-Skill	M60	M75
M All-Age	M65	M80
M25	WO	W50
M30	W All-Skill	W55
M35	W All-Age	W60
M40	W25	W65
M45	W30	W70
M50	W35	W75
	W40	W80
	W45	

All Mixed Divisions

• **LODGING:** The Lexington Hotel [602/279-9811] is located in the same building as the tournament facility. Rate: \$78.00/night for up to four persons per room. Quality Hotel & Resort [602/248-0222] is located two blocks from the club. Rate: \$78.00/night. Hilton Suites [602/222-1111] offers two-room suites,

including full cook-to-order breakfast and two hours of complimentary cocktails each evening for

\$149.00/night. You must make your reservations by September 20 AND mention National Doubles to receive these tournament rates. • **TRANSPORTATION:** The airport is 20 miles from the club/hotel and transportation must be arranged prior to arrival. Call Super

Shuttle @ 602/253-6300 and ask for the USRA special rate. • **HOSPITALITY:** At least one meal per day will be provided for entrants. • **TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS:** Margo Daniels, National Tournament Director @ 408/372-7224; Jim Hiser, USRA Associate Executive Director @ 719/635-5396, ext. 30.

NEED TO KNOW ...

Rules: USRA Official Rules will govern competition, including the mandatory use of protective lensed eyewear tested to ASTM F803 or CSA impact standards. In open divisions, only U.S. citizens may compete, and only one serve is allowed. **Age Requirement:** For age division competition, players must meet the age requirement as of the first day of the tournament.

Amateur Status: Only amateurs may participate. A professional is defined as anyone who has

accepted prize money in the preceding 12 months, regardless of amount, in any IRT/WIRT pro-sanctioned tournament or any other events so deemed as

professional events by the USRA Board of Directors.

Membership: A USRA competitive license membership is required of all participants. At registration, entrants must present a current membership card, a receipt, or a cancelled check indicating recent enrollment as proof of membership, or purchase a competitive license membership on site.

Drug Testing: The U.S. Olympic Committee's Drug Testing Program will be used at this event. A positive result for an IOC banned substance will be cause for disqualification from this event, and for loss of eligibility for a minimum of six (6) months by the USRA. Only OPEN players will be tested. By registering to compete, you are consenting to the drug test on a sample of your urine, and subject to its penalties if found positive for a banned substance. Testing is mandatory; non-compliance will result in the same penalty as a positive drug test. For more information about specific medications call the Drug Hotline at 1-800-233-0393.

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national•doubles•

entry•form

ENTRY FORM (Please Print)

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State _____ Zip _____
 Phone (Day) _____ (Evening) _____
 Occupation _____
 Employer _____
 Birthdate _____ Age _____
 Partner _____ Division _____
 Partner _____ Division _____
**Third division for MIXED competition in 55+ through 85+ ONLY*
 Partner _____ Division _____

NOTE: Regional doubles competition is not required for competition at national doubles. However, for seeding purposes, you may cite any regional doubles titles or accomplishments below.

Regional _____ Div. & Finish _____

EQUIPMENT SURVEY

Racquet _____ Glove _____
 Eyeguards _____ Shoes _____
 Sponsor _____

WAIVER

I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims that I may have against the USRA, Ektelon, Penn Racquet Sports, the City Square Sports Club, or their respective agents for any and all injuries. I also acknowledge the potential risk of eye injury during competition, and can certify in writing that my protective eyeguards (including prescription frames/lenses) conform with all standards specified in USRA Rule 2.5(a). By registering to compete in this event, I consent to be subject to drug testing as administered according to the USRA/USOC guidelines, and release all rights to the use of event photographs in which my image appears.

Participant Signature & Date _____
 (Parent/Guardian if entrant is under 18)

Entry form is not complete – nor is entry accepted – without check for correct amount enclosed, required signatures affixed and all information provided. Any payment made at tournament check-in will be processed as a late entry – and surcharged a \$15.00 late fee.

MEN	•Divisions•	WOMEN
_____	Open	_____
_____	All-Skill (A)	_____
_____	All-Age	_____
_____	25+	_____
_____	30+	_____
_____	35+	_____
_____	40+	_____
_____	45+	_____
_____	50+	_____
_____	55+	_____
_____	60+	_____
_____	65+	_____
_____	70+	_____
_____	75+	_____
_____	80+	_____
_____	85+	_____

MIXED DOUBLES DIVISIONS

_____ MX Open	_____ MX 50+
_____ MX All-Skill (A)	_____ MX 55+
_____ MX All-Age	_____ MX 60+
_____ MX 25+	_____ MX 65+
_____ MX 30+	_____ MX 70+
_____ MX 35+	_____ MX 75+
_____ MX 40+	_____ MX 80+
_____ MX 45+	_____ MX 85+

ENTRY FEES AND PAYMENT

First event (\$65.00) _____
 Second event (\$35.00) _____
 *Third event (in MIXED 55+ through 85+ ONLY) (\$15.00) _____
 USRA Competitive License _____
 Membership fee (\$20.00) _____
 Late fee (\$15.00) _____
 Tax deductible donation _____
 to U.S. Team \$ _____
 TOTAL DUE: \$ _____

Use your USRA MBNA credit card to charge your entry, and receive an additional 10% off your fees. Only MBNA charges receive this discount!

MC/Visa _____ Exp. _____

Signature _____

MAIL COMPLETED ENTRY AND FEES TO:
 USRA NATIONAL DOUBLES
 1685 West Uintah
 Colorado Springs, CO 80904-2921

ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY:
 WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1997
 (Postmarked no later than September 29)

55

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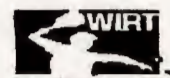
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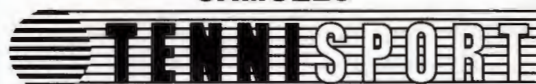
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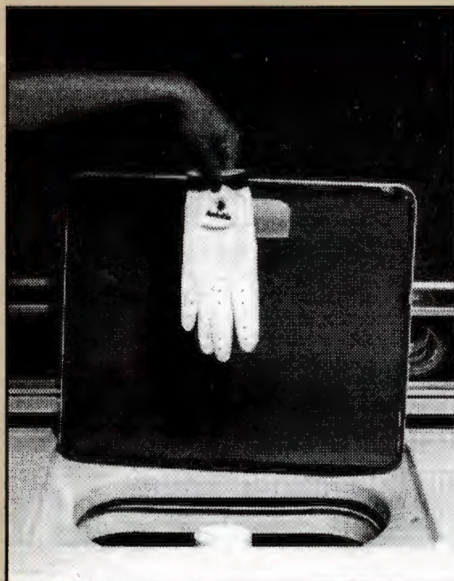
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MEN

Men's Open

1. Ruben Gonzalez, NY
2. Dan Obremski, PA
3. Michael Bronfeld, CA
4. Dan Llacera, DE
5. Todd O'Neil, TX
6. Travis Aldinger, PA
7. Jimmy Lowe, AK
- 8T. Brian Fredenberg, TX
- 8T. Mike Locker, MN
10. Adam Karp, CA

Men's A

- 1T. Ralph Cuesta, FL
- 1T. Dan Pischke, WA
- 1T. Alain Pujolar, FL
4. Jeff Gal, NY
5. Dan Gong, CA
6. Silvio Rostran, FI
7. Mike Harmon, FL
- 8T. Ken Fairchild, NJ
- 8T. Not a Member, CO
10. Scott Foster, CA

Men's B

1. Sam Ryder, WI
2. Craig Citti, IL
3. George Anthon, LA
4. Marc Schnittker, CO
- 5T. Not a Member, FL
- 5T. Mike O'Donoghue, DE
7. Hector Martinez, AR
8. Fabrizio Avelar, FL
9. Mark Bianchi, OK
10. Sam Serrano, MA

Men's C

1. Kevin Brand, SC
2. John Garcia, NM
3. Joseph Austin, Jr., LA
- 4T. Marc Claybon, OH
- 4T. Preston Gaster, NC
6. Marc Dehart, CO
7. Lyn Stephens, NC
8. Martino Moore, AR
9. Chris Underwood, GA
10. Scott Remsen, MA

Men's D

1. Leonard Toth, TX
2. Jerry Gibson, TN
3. Jon Hardy, AR
4. Ray Meisner, IL
5. Bryan Jacoby, SC
6. Raymond Gong, CA
7. Ryan Kinnaman, AR
- 8T. Not a Member, IL
- 8T. Mark Lawson, WV
10. Joe Sherrill, LA

Men's Novice

- 1T. Josh Chronister, PA
- 1T. Chris Poole Jr., AR
- 3T. Rob Day, WA
- 3T. Dan Fowler, GA
- 3T. Eric Fritchley, OH
- 3T. Lou Lappen, PA
- 3T. Scott Lubbers, MI
- 3T. Jesse Wells, TX
9. Wm. Allen Ayers, AR
10. Steve Cerezo, DE

Men's All-Age

1. Scott Grunin, NY
2. Rob Dejesus, NM
3. Mike Dennison, OH
4. Brian Simpson, IN
- 5T. Willie Tilton, CO
- 5T. Nick Xynidis, FL
7. Ryan Homa, WI
8. Alain Pujolar, FL
- 9T. Matt Adesso, OH
- 9T. Aaron Metcalf, FL

Men's 25+

1. Mike Locker, MN
- 2T. Rich Baer, NY
- 2T. James Lorello, FL
4. Anthony Defusto, NY
5. Matthew Anderson, GA
6. Brian Pointelin, CO
- 7T. Travis Aldinger, PA
- 7T. John Cantrell, KS
- 7T. Brian Fredenberg, TX
- 7T. Aaron Metcalf, FL

Men's 30+

1. Brad McCuniff, IA
2. Gregg Peck, TX
3. Dan Llacera, DE
- 4T. John Barrett, PA
- 4T. Lee Beckwith, CO
- 4T. Lance Gilliam, TX
- 4T. John Negrete, IL
- 4T. John Scargle, FL
- 9T. Par Bernardo, NY
- 9T. Frank Poletta, OH

Men's 35+

1. Mitch Smith, PA
2. Dave Watson, OK
3. Tim Hansen, FL
4. Dave Eagle, OH
5. Gil Rodriguez, VA
- 6T. Joe Hassey, AZ
- 6T. Martin McDermott, TX
8. John Scargle, FL
9. Jeff Hanno, NY
10. Steve Lerner, OH

Men's 40+

1. Mitt Layton, FL
2. Terry Fluharty, FL
3. Tom Rall, CO
4. Ruben Gonzales, NY

5. Mark Baron, VA
6. Gene Couch, FL
7. Steve Neighbors, ID
8. Ron Burris, FL
9. Clee Melvin, MI
10. Glen Huey, TX

Men's 45+

1. Mitt Layton, FL
2. Gary Mazaroff, NM
3. Jim Luzar, WI
4. Jerry Dye, TX
5. Dan Davis, TX
- 6T. Rick Fusari, FL
- 6T. Darryl Warren, CA
8. Tom Rall, CO
9. Mike Robinson, TX
10. Greg Hasty, IL

Men's 50+

1. Ed Remen, VA
2. Ray Huss, OH
3. John Aldape, ID
4. Tom McKie, TX
5. Stan Lemon, TX
6. Dennis O'Brien, ID
7. Not a Member, IL
8. Scott Rudoni, CA
- 9T. Russ Deegan, FL
- 9T. Ken Vanzandt, TX

Men's 55+

1. Glenn Allen, VA
2. Les Barbanell, NJ
- 3T. Ron Hutcherson, IN
- 3T. Warren Reuther, LA
5. Roger Wehrle, GA
6. Bobby Sanders, OH
7. Luis Guerrero, CA
8. Rex Lawler, IN
9. Fred Letter, NJ
10. Charlie Garfinkel, NY

Men's 60+

1. Jerry Stoltmann, WI
2. Jerry Holly, CA
3. Paul Banales, AZ
4. Michael Jackson, CT
- 5T. Don Alt, FL
- 5T. Jack Dunsmoor, ID
- 7T. David Jordan, NJ
- 7T. Ron Maggard, MO
9. Joe Lambert, TX
10. Rex Benham, AR

Men's 65+

1. Joe Lambert, TX
2. Don Alt, FL
3. John Reid, CA
4. Vance Lerner, CA
5. Charles Kaiser, MI
6. Verlyn Dunn, ID
7. Otis Chapman, OH
8. John O'Donnell, IL
9. Pearce Grove, VA
10. Jack Bogasky, VA

Men's 70+

1. Mal Roberts, FL
2. Dick Kincade, CO
3. Hank Richard, GA
4. Earl Acuff, NC
5. Victor Sacco, NY
- 6T. Marvin Rosenberg, NJ
- 6T. Ken Yahiro, IL
8. Nick Sans, CA
- 9T. Not a Member, PA
- 9T. Not a Member, CA

Men's 75+

1. Earl Acuff, NC
2. Robert McAdam, TX
3. Nick Sans, CA
4. Hank Richard, GA
5. George Spear, FL
6. Al Romero, NM
- 7T. Bill Matotan, NM
- 7T. Carlos Sena, FL
- 9T. Andy Trozzi, MA
- 9T. Luzell Wilde, UT

Men's 80+

1. George Spear, FL
2. Harry Steinman, MD
3. C. Allen Shepherd, MD
- 4T. John Pearce, TX
- 4T. Andy Trozzi, MA
6. Walt Mosenthal, MA
7. Hank Richard, GA

WOMEN

Women's Open

1. Kersten Hallander, CA
2. Michelle Gould, ID
3. Cheryl Gudinas, IL
4. Denise Mock, TX
5. Lydia Hammock, CA
6. Kori Grasha, NY
7. Roz Petronelli, MA
8. Robin Rodriguez, AK
9. Lorraine Feeney, MA
10. Elaine Mardas, OH

Women's A

1. Yesenia Delbusto, FL
2. Michele Kinaan, CA
3. Dianne Weissbach, MA
4. Jeanette Coury, TX
5. Karen Schmidt, CA
6. Megan Bals, NE
7. Carol Zimlinghaus, CO
8. Deborah Mustone, VA
- 9T. Joanna Boyte, NC
- 9T. Debbie Fiordilino, NY

Women's B

1. Bonnie Mobley, TX
2. Yesenia Delbusto, FL
3. Belinda Dettman, FL
4. Kelly Goddard, VA

5. Alina Polak, FL
- 6T. Adrienne Fisher, OH
- 6T. Grace Jaworsky, KS
- 8T. Angie Davis, AR
- 8T. Leslie Miller, IL
- 8T. Bonnie Morrell, PA

Women's C

1. Heather Elliott, FL
2. Shelly Stetler, CO
3. Nathania Stewart, GA
4. Kassi Herr, FL
5. Sheri Kinnaman, AR
6. Jesi Fuller, NM
7. Susan Huntsman, TX
8. Cheryl Bird, TX
9. Laurie Gordon, CT
10. Jane Bentley, NM

Women's D

1. Terry Truvillion, MI
2. Kathleen Neal, GA
- 3T. Erica Beaudry, CO
- 3T. Gail Gabrysh, TX
- 3T. Judy Mancuso, VA
6. Sharon Stevens, MA
7. Cheryl Stamps, AR
- 8T. Tricia Antoine, LA
- 8T. Terri Hench, FL
10. Alicia Matza, CA

Women's Novice

1. Lourdes Rivera, FI
2. Kastle Arturo, AK
- 3T. Lisa Barrett, PA
- 3T. Not a Member, IL
- 3T. Linda Gubitose, PA
- 3T. Not a Member, MD
- 3T. Nikki Winfrey, OH
8. Kelly Bruns, VA
9. Lisa Veneruso, CT
10. Chris Parks, IN

Women's All-Age

- 1T. Shannon Feaster, DC
- 1T. Sadie Gross, SD
- 3T. Tammy Brockbank, ID
- 3T. Kerri Stoffregen, OH
5. Vanessa Tulao, NC
- 6T. Erika Juhl, DE
- 6T. Aimee Roehler, PA
- 8T. Kim Machiran, MO
- 8T. Lori Perino, MT
- 8T. Nichole Schultz, OR

Women's 25+

1. Michelle Wiragh, MD
- 2T. Yesenia Delbusto, FL
- 2T. Elaine Mardas, OH
4. Jen Yokota, MO
5. Thelma Ruhlen, VA
- 6T. Peggine Callahan, CA
- 6T. Jo Shattuck, CO
- 8T. Tina Bragdon, CO
- 8T. Sue Cox, FL
- 8T. Isabel Delgado, FL

Rankings...rankings

These rankings are based
on results processed by
the national office as of:
JULY 15, 1997

Women's 30+

1. Lorraine Galloway, NY
2. Lydia Hammock, CA
3. B. J. Ehrigott, CT
- 4T. Bridget Barron, TX
- 4T. Debbie Tisinger, CA
6. Teri Lawrence, FL
7. Lisa Papp, GA
8. Sheri Viscount, DE
- 9T. Holly Desportes, NC
- 9T. Stacy Sour, CO

Women's 35+

1. Debbie Tisinger, CA
2. Denise Mock, TX
3. Kim Machiran, MO
4. Mary Bickley, PA
5. Roz Petronelli, MA
- 6T. Not a Member, NC
- 6T. Kim Wilkerson, OR
- 8T. Carol Bastien, IL
- 8T. Mary Bridges, MO
- 8T. Jodi Paul, PA

Women's 40+

1. Linda Moore, NE
2. Marcia Richards, CO
3. Val Shewfelt, UT
4. Susan Pfahler, FL
- 5T. Mary Bickley, PA
- 5T. Janice Chayt, VA
- 5T. Janelle Marriott, RI
8. Karen Bouchard, FL
9. Brenda White, IL
10. Martha Bailey, CO

Women's 45+

1. Janet Myers, NC
2. Eileen Tuckman, FL
3. Shelley, Ogden, OH
4. Nancy Kronenfeld, IL
5. Gerri Stoffregen, OH
6. Debbie Chaney, IN
7. Renee Fish, FL
8. Terry Ann Rogers, CA
9. Judy Sands, NJ
10. Andee Glansberg, NY

Women's 50+

1. Agatha Falso, FL
2. Gerri Stoffregen, OH
3. Pattie Schof, LA
- 4T. Margaret Hoff, IL
- 4T. Donna Johnson, ID
- 6T. May Barber, VA
- 6T. Nidia Funes, CA
- 6T. Meri Jean Kelley, CA
- 6T. Carol Pellowski, WI
10. Sharon Hastings-Welty, OR

Women's 55+

1. Sharon Hastings-Welty, OR
2. Rose Stoltmann, WI
3. Jo Kenyon, FL
4. Marquita Molina, CA
5. Nancy Butts, WI

6. Gail Schaefer, MD
7. Annabelle Kovar, NE
8. Mildred Gwinn, NC
9. Pauline Kelly, IL
10. Nidia Funes, CA

Women's 60+

1. Jo Kenyon, FL
2. Helen Dunsmoor, ID
3. Susan Embry, CA
4. Mary-Low Acuff, NC
- 5T. Jane Graham, GA
- 5T. Kathy Mueller, MN
- 7T. Norma Carlisle, UT
- 7T. Lola Markus, IL
- 9T. Naomi Eads, MO
- 9T. Ellie Sanchez, NM

Women's 65+

1. Lola Markus, IL
2. Mary-Low Acuff, NC
3. Reta Harring, WI
- 4T. Paula McNeish, FL
- 4T. Not a Member, DE
6. Rebecca Dixon, OH
- 7T. Louise Kiss, NM
- 7T. B.G. Railey, TN
- 7T. Dorothy Vezetinski, WA

Women's 70+

1. Mary-Low Acuff, NC
- 2T. Not a Member, TN
- 2T. Dorothy Vezetinski, WA
- 4T. Beth Keene, TX
- 4T. Roberta Schoenfeld, NM
6. May Lou Kackert, NM

Women's 75+

1. Mary-Low Acuff, NC
2. Eleanor Quackenbush, OR
3. Christine Stephens, TX

BOYS

Boy's 8 & Under

1. Nick Arturo, AK
2. Jamin Godwin, FL
3. Mark Beaudry, CO
4. Alan Crockett, AL
5. Matt Keddie, NH
6. Brad Starken, WI
7. Conner Reynolds, GA
8. Colin Stock, OR
- 9T. Jansen Allen, TX
- 9T. Kenneth Green Jr., GA

B8- Multi-Bounce

1. Brandon Callihan, AK
2. Kenneth Green Jr., GA
3. Avery Zuck, OR
4. Matthew Machiran, MO
5. Colin Stock, OR
6. Eric Noble, NC
- 7T. Justin Asuncion, MA
- 7T. Cam Grundman, MN

- 7T. Matt Keddie, NH
10. Andy Bertagnoli, WI

Boy's 10-

1. Charlie Pratt, OR
2. Joey Lakowski, OR
3. Drew Toland, AR
4. Eddie Mazur, CT
5. Andrew Grissom, CA
6. Matthew Hammond, TX
7. Matt Johnson, NM
8. Matthew Emmel, NY
9. Mike Keddie, NH
10. Brad Starken, WI

Boy's 12-

1. Clay Burris, FL
2. Brandon Shoemaker, OH
3. Patrick Debord, NE
4. Steven Klaiman, TX
5. Seth Parker, PA
6. Chris Meyer, OR
7. Brad Slocum, FL
8. Andrew Kopf, NY
- 9T. E.J. Basta, MO
- 9T. Buck Harper, WI

Boy's 14-

1. Bart Crawford, OR
2. Jack Huczek, MI
3. Matthew McElhiney, FL
4. Bobby Tantalio, NY
5. Trevor Crowe, OR
6. Erik Leetch, AR
7. Matt Lobene, NY
8. Michael Lawrence, AL
- 9T. Joe Roth, PA
- 9T. Joel Worthington, KS

Boy's 16-

1. Jeffrey Garner, AL
2. Ryan Staten, AL
- 3T. Fred Tantalio III, NY
- 3T. Josh Tucker, MO
5. Marcus Hughes, GA
6. Stephen Mykalcio, NY
7. Mike Harmon, FL
8. Matt Gehling, MD
9. Nick Giunta, OR
10. Brad Jantz, WI

Boy's 18-

1. Erin Brannigan, ID
- 2T. Mark Bloom, LA
- 2T. Rocky Carson, CA
- 2T. Jeffrey Garner, AL
5. Brandon Henline, GA
6. Willie Tilton, CA
7. Tyler Siggins, CA
8. Larry Peek, FL
9. Bucky Freeman, TX
10. Dustin Baker, PA

GIRLS

Girls 8 & Under

1. Brittany Legget, OR
2. Rebeka Kopf, NY
3. Jenny Epstein, NY
4. Shannon Inglesby, OR
- 5T. Sarah Moyle, OR
- 5T. Ashley Willhite, OR
7. Brandi Alexander, LA
8. Nicole Robinson, OR
- 9T. Sharon Jackson, IN
- 9T. Michelle Key, AZ

G8- Multi-Bounce

1. Brittany Legget, OR
2. Kara Mazur, CT
3. Shannon Inglesby, OR
4. Brooke Schulenberg, MN
5. Nicole Robinson, OR
6. Sarah Moyle, OR
7. Melissa Garcia, NM
8. Jenny Epstein, NY
9. Rebeka Kopf, NY
10. Sharon Jackson, IN

Girls 10-

1. Ashley Legget, OR
2. Brandie Hanson, OR
3. Jenny Hough, MD
4. Ashley Willhite, OR
5. Natalie Starken, WI
6. Nikki Winfrey, OH
7. Kelley Fisher, OH
8. Katie Lyons, FL
9. Kimberly Walsh, UT
10. Kastle Arturo, AK

Girls 12-

1. Kimberly Irons, OH
2. Cari Mitlitsky, NY
3. Mary Sweeney, NY
4. Adrienne Fisher, OH
5. Derae Darling, OR
6. Jesi Fuller, NM
7. Katherine Stock, OR
8. Lindsay Deutsch, TX
9. Erica Beaudry, CO
10. Grace Leutele, AZ

Girls 14-

- 1T. Melanie Mueller, CO
- 1T. Kristen Walsh, UT
3. Krystal Csuk, IL
4. Juliana Mayor, NY
5. Kristen Kovar, NE
6. Jen Ersek, NY
7. Crystal Winfrey, OH
- 8T. Adva Buzi, TX
- 8T. Amy Jo Hollingsworth, OR
- 8T. Mary Sweeney, NY

Girls 16-

1. Brooke Crawford, OR
2. Megan Bals, NE
3. Meghan Guardiani, MA
- 4T. Sara Borland, IA
- 4T. Maggie Debord, NE
6. Jennifer Swallow, PA
7. Jessica Wood, NY
8. Krystal Csuk, IL
9. Jennifer Bennett, UT
10. Michelle Gonzalez, OR

Girls 18-

1. Rhonda Rajsich, AZ
2. Liana Kerwood, OR
3. Katie Gould, MO
4. Brooke Crawford, OR
5. Christina Lewendal, OR
6. Melissa Harmon, FL
- 7T. Sara Borland, IA
- 7T. Erin Frost, OR
- 7T. Vanessa Tulao, AL
10. Kori Grasha, NY

WHO'S "NOT A MEMBER"?

Since ranking services are a benefit of USRA membership, it is the policy of RACQUETBALL to publish the "Top-Ten" national rankings of members only.

Ranking lists are reviewed prior to each publication to ensure that all named "top-ten" athletes in their respective divisions are current members of the USRA. This means that — in order to maintain a position in the published top-ten — it is the ranked athlete's responsibility to make sure that his/her membership is in good standing year-round.

If you suspect that you might be among the "not a member" group — you'll want to follow up with a call to the national office [at 719/635-5396] to confirm your status.

SEPTEMBER

September 18

Crystal City Pro-Am
Skyline Clubs @ Crystal
Gateway-Arlington, VA
703-527-7785

September 19

All American Racquet
Club Fall Classic
Oklahoma City, OK
405-330-8323

Fayetteville Classic III
Fayetteville Athletic
Club-Fayetteville, AR
501-587-0500

Jesse James Shootout
Olympus Athletic Club
Northfield, MN
645-8007

Connecticut State
Doubles @ Downtown
Health & Racquet
New Haven, CT
203-248-1869

September 26

Alpha Fall Kick-Off
Alpha Racquetball Club
Mechanicsburg, PA
717-540-5111

Burns Park Classic III
North Little Rock, AR
501-791-8585

Fall Valley Champs.
Merced Sports Club
Merced, CA
209-722-3988

Midwest SRS/Masters
Open @ Greenbriar
Athletic Club
Indianapolis, IN
317-926-2766

Ralph's/Food 4 Less
Splat Shot @ The
Tournament House
Riverside, CA
909-682-7511

Season Blast-Off
46 Fitness &
Racquetball Club
Fairfield, NJ
201-742-8806

1st Annual KRA
Women's Invitational
Downtown YMCA
Louisville, KY
502-231-3576

**Regional Doubles
Racquetpower
Jacksonville, FL
904-270-2224**

September 27
Oklahoma State
Junior Championships
Southern Athletic Club
Oklahoma City, OK
405-681-5020

OCTOBER

October 3
Apple Open @ Spa
Fitness Center
Watsonville, CA
408-722-3895

**! COLLEGIATE
QUALIFIER !
Magic City Classic
Courtsouth Racquet &
Fit.-Vestavia Hills, AL
205-823-2120
[See pg. 52 for details]**

Fall Classic
Lakeland YMCA
Lakeland, FL
941-644-3528

Pennsylvania State
Doubles @ Allentown
Racquetball Club
Allentown, PA
610-821-1300

Virginia State Doubles
Robious Sports &
Fitness-Richmond, VA
804-330-2222

October 10
Noblesville Fall Classic
Noblesville Ath. Club
Noblesville, IN
317-862-1279

Thunderbolt Open
Dan Gamel's Health &
Racquet-Fresno, CA
209-227-8405

12th Annual Solano
Open @ Solano Athletic
Club-Fairfield, CA
707-429-4363

New Jersey State
Doubles @ 46 Fitness
& Racquetball Club
Fairfield, NJ
201-742-8806

**October 15-19
Ektelon USRA
30th National
Doubles
Championships
•City Square•
Sports Club
Phoenix, AZ
602-285-2929
[Entry on pg. 55]**

October 15
Halloween Open
Healthworks
Wallingford, CT
203-248-1869

October 17
Atlanta Classic Cars
Challenge @ Concourse
Ath. Club-Atlanta, GA
770-698-2000

Oktoberfest
Auburn Court House
Auburn, CA
916-885-1964

Kentucky State
Doubles @ Downtown
YMCA-Louisville, KY
502-231-3576

Oklahoma State
Doubles @ Southern
Athletic Club
Oklahoma City, OK
405-330-8323

October 18
Highpoint Oktoberfest
Highpoint Racq & Fit.
Chalfont, PA
215-822-2303

October 24
Cocoa Halloween Open
Cocoa Court Club
Hershey, PA
717-540-5111

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

Tournament of Terror
Sequoia Athletic
Club/RB World
Canoga Park, CA
818-884-5034

October 26
Texas State Doubles
Chancellors Racquet &
Fitness-Houston, TX
713-772-9955

October 31
Baystar Open
Racquetball Plus/Royal
Athletic Club
Burlingame, CA
415-697-9162

NOVEMBER

November 1
O.R.A. Intercollegiate
Singles @ Hall of Fame
Fit.Ctr.-Canton, OH
614-890-6073

November 7
Cross Court Athletic
Club Open
Woodland, CA
916-666-1319

Froggy Open
Tournament @ Nautilus
Fitness Center
Erie, PA
814-868-0072

Omni 41 Sports &
Fitness Center Open
Schererville, IN
219-865-6969

18th Annual Kiwanis
Club @ Sarasota Family
YMCA-Sarasota, FL
941-952-9533

alendar...calendar

BOLDED listings are
State Championships
(Level 3) or higher.

November
12-16
Promus Hotels
2nd U.S. OPEN
Racquetball
Championships
The Racquet
Club of
Memphis
Memphis,
Tennessee
800-284-5396
[See ad on inside
back cover]

November 14
NFC Tournament
Northwest Fitness
Center-Houston, TX
713-895-8688

Turkey Open
Downtown Health &
Racquet Club
New Haven, CT
203-248-1869

November 15
Lehigh Valley Open
Allentown R'ball Club
Allentown, PA
610-821-1300

November 20
Pro Kennex Grand Prix
#2 Courtesy
Sports/Schoebers
San Jose, CA
415-968-7970

1997 USRA NATIONAL EVENTS
October 15-19 Ektelon USRA 30th U.S. National Doubles Championships: Phoenix
November 12-16 Promus Hotel Corporation 2nd U.S. OPEN Championships: Memphis
December 19-23 IRF 9th World Junior Championships: Fountain Valley, CA

1998 USRA NATIONAL EVENTS
January 15-17 USRA 14th Annual Leadership Conference: Colorado Springs, CO
Jan. 30 - Feb. 1 Women's Senior/Master National Championships: Canoga Park, CA
February 18-21 NMRA U.S. Masters Singles Invitational: San Francisco, CA
March 06-08 USRA 11th National High Schools: St. Louis, MO
NEW DATE! for Intercollegiates ...
... March 25-29 E-Force USRA 29th National Intercollegiates: Phoenix, AZ
April 3-11 12th Tournament of the Americas/Pan Am Qualifier: Winnipeg, CAN
NEW DATE! for Regionals ...
... April 16-19 Ektelon USRA Regional Qualifier Championships: Nationwide
April TBA NMRA U.S. Golden Masters Singles/Doubles: Site TBA
May 20-25 Ektelon USRA 31st U.S. National Singles: Houston, TX
June 27 - July 1 Ektelon USRA 25th U.S. Junior Olympics: Portland, OR

November 21
Alpha Turkey Gobbler
Alpha Racquetball Club
Mechanicsburg, PA
717-540-5111

Holiday Cash Classic
Orlando Fitness &
Racquet Club
Orlando, FL
407-645-3550

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

November 27
Turkey Shoot
The Racquet Centre
Hollywood, CA
310-861-6028

DECEMBER

December 5
Connecticut Cup
NEHR @ Newington
Newington, CT
203-248-1869

Diamond Classic
Southern Athletic Club
Lilburn, GA
770-923-5400

Mistletoe Matchup
Downtown Ath. Club
Norfolk, VA
804-625-2222

MSAC Christmas
Classic @ Mariner
Square Athletic Club
Alameda, CA
510-523-8011

Quad West Athletic
Club Winter Classic
Clearwater, FL
813-535-4901

Indiana State Doubles
Greenbriar Ath. Club
Indianapolis, IN
317-889-0892

2nd Annual Toys for
Tots Tournament
South Florida Racquet
& Health Club
Ft. Lauderdale, FL
954-987-6410

December 6
Women's Only
Tournament
Allentown R'ball Club
Allentown, PA
610-821-1300

December 12
Winter Classic
Gold River Racquet
Club-Gold River, CA
916-638-7001

X-Mas Classic
The Tysons Club
McLean, VA
703-527-7785

December
19-23
ProKennex IRF
World Junior
Championships
Los Caballeros
Sports Village
Fountain Valley,
California
719/635-5396
[Entry on pg. 53]

Event Level & Description	Finish & Point Awards				
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5-8
1 = Closed State Tournament	30	20	15	10	5
2 = Open Tournament	50	30	20	15	10
3 = State Championship	150	100	75	50	25
4 = Regional Championship	250	150	100	75	50
5 = National Invitational	300	200	150	100	75
6 = National Championship	600	400	300	200	100*

*In draws of 48 or more at a national championship, the
9-16th place finishers receive 50 points.

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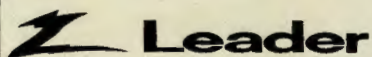
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