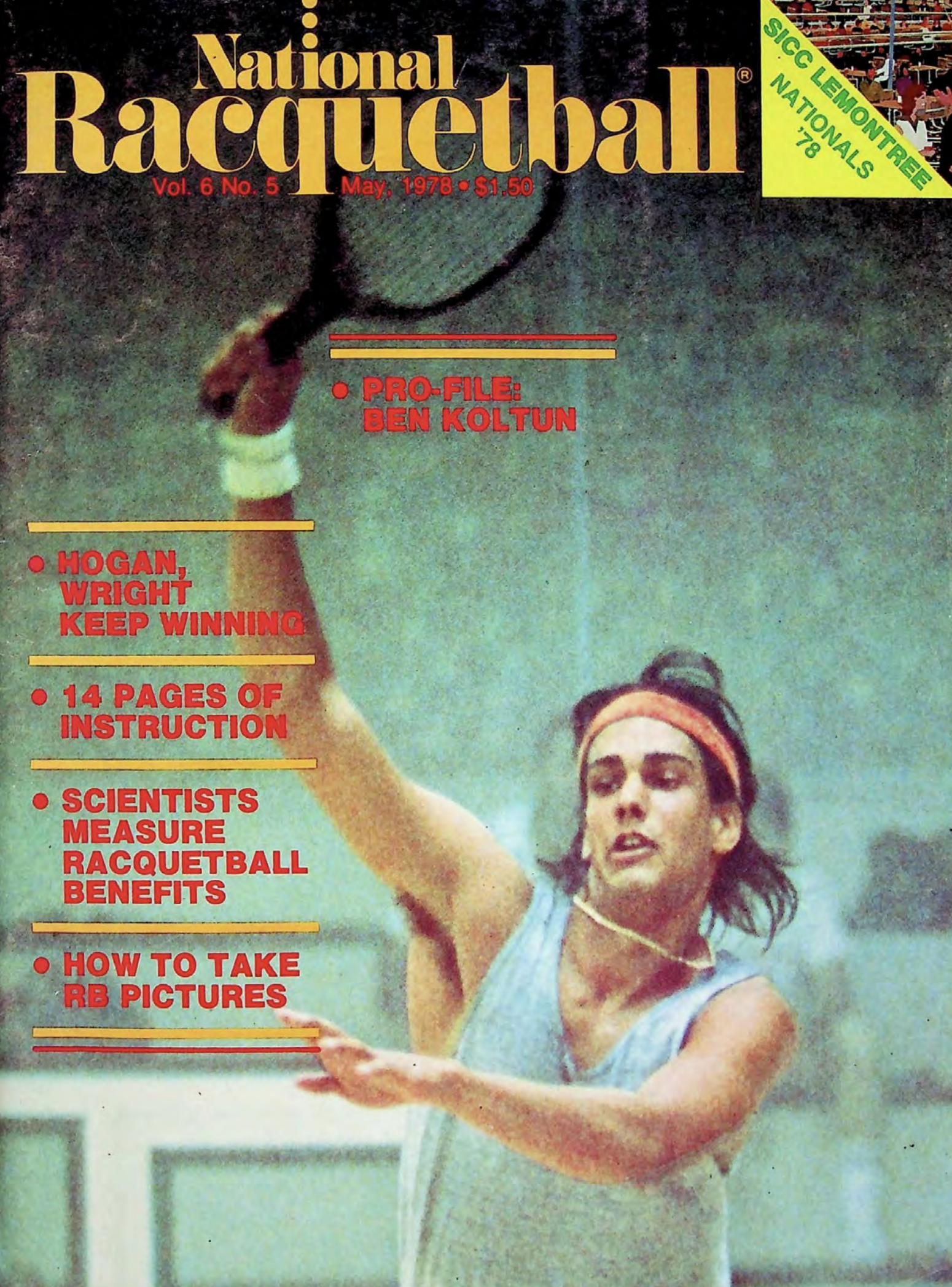


National Racquetball®



Vol. 6 No. 5 May, 1978 • \$1.50

SICC LEMONTREE
NATIONALS
'78

- **PRO-FILE:
BEN KOLTUN**

- **HOGAN,
WRIGHT
KEEP WINNING**

- **14 PAGES OF
INSTRUCTION**

- **SCIENTISTS
MEASURE
RACQUETBALL
BENEFITS**

- **HOW TO TAKE
RB PICTURES**

What's the best racquet in the game? Which racquet is recommended most? In an August 1977 survey by Western Union, court managers, pros, and racquet buyers at over 200 court facilities nationwide picked Ektelon by more than two to one.

Ektelon... the most recommended racquet in racquetball.

Here's why:



Unique Handle Construction

Ektelon racquet handles are virtually indestructible, yet lightweight. The aluminum frame extends all the way through the handle and is tapered at the end to maintain correct racquet balance. A locking pin secures the handle to the frame.

Ektelon offers the broadest selection of handle sizes and grip materials available.

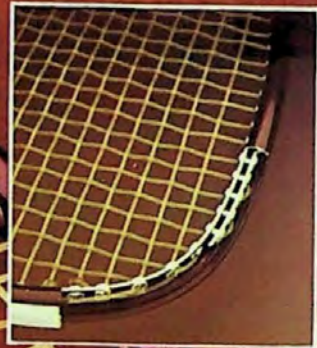
Made of Alcoa 7005 aluminum: light, tough, 32% stronger than the materials most other racquet makers use.

Frame is drilled *after* bending, to eliminate stress points, tighten eyelet fit, lengthen string life.

Full year racquet warranty, 90-day string warranty.

Exclusive Patented Milling Process

Ektelon "mills out" a strip of metal from the racquet head to help control weight, flexibility, weight distribution (balance point) and at the same time reduce vibration.



EKTELON®

All Ektelon racquets are manufactured in San Diego, CA
7079 Mission Gorge Road, San Diego, CA 92120

Ektelon is a registered trademark of Ektelon, San Diego, CA

NOT ALL RACQUETBALLS ARE CREATED EQUAL.



Some are rounder than others. At Seamco, we inject superheated rubber into our molds. This gives us a uniform wall thickness and a super round ball.

Technically, our racquetballs are within seventeen one thousandths of

perfect roundness. Our next closest competitor is "out of round" more than twice that figure.

Being the racquetball originator, no one has greater technical expertise to give you a better playing ball.

SEAMCO RACQUETBALLS

The official ball since the game began.

IF IT BOUNCES SEAMCO MAKES IT.



Copyright © 1978, Dart Industries, Inc., Seamco Sporting Goods Company, LaGrange, Ga. 30240. Call toll free 1-800-241-8111.

**WE'VE CAPTURED
ALL THE COLOR
AND ACTION...
of the '77 U.S.R.A. National
Racquetball Championships**

**... Now It's Available To You
On Video Tape Cassettes**

**IDEAL FOR CLUBS, PLAYERS
AND ENTHUSIASTS...**

**Taped from 3 different angles,
affording the best views of the action.
Slow motion and instant replay also!**

**30 Minute 3/4" Color Video Tape
Cassette... \$100 (incl. tax & ship.)**
Study selected shots in slow motion and the highlights of the Men's Quarter Finals, Semi-Finals and Final Matches. And Women's Finals, of course! Sound & Voice-Over commentary.

**30 Minute 3/4" Color Video Tape
Cassette... \$50 (incl. tax & ship.)**
Outstanding scenes promoting the '77 Nationals. Sound & Voice-Over commentary.

**30 Minute 3/4" Color Video Tape
Cassette... \$175 (incl. tax & ship.)**
Men's Final Match—complete!
Actual contest soundtrack.



**To order, call or write:
Ken Davidson (714) 298-9321**

All orders C.O.D.

Atlas Health Club
901 Hotel Circle South, San Diego, California 92138

National Racquetball®

Vol. 6 No. 5 May, 1978 • \$1.50

PAGE 12
NATIONALS
'78

Contents

Editorial

From Bob Kendler	6
The 22nd Point	90
National Commissioner	8

Upcoming Events

Midwest Site for Biggest Nationals	12
Official Entry Form	13
Luxury Setting for Championships	15

NRC Professional Racquetball

Tempe Pro Stop	18
----------------	----

Instructional

Forehand: Part One by Steve Strandemo	28
Back Wall Woes by Terry Fancher	34
Being Where You Should Be by Mike Yellen	38

Court Clubs

San Francisco Flocks to Ice House by Nick Longhurst	52
---	----

National Racquetball Extra!

USRA Amateur Racquetball	57
--------------------------	----

Meet Your State Chairman	60
--------------------------	----

Local Tournament Results	64
--------------------------	----

Features

PROfile — Ben Koltun by Dan Bertolucci	76
Stopping RB Action with Film by Arthur Shay	78
The Case for Casual by Trevor Swanson	73

Health

Scientists Nail Down Benefits by G. Sinclair and B. Goldsmid	82
--	----

Letters	86
---------	----

On The Cover . . .

Fast-rising Ben Koltun, former National Juniors champion is highlighted in PROfiles (page 76), while photographer Arthur Shay, who took the cover picture, explains how to take racquetball photos in the first of a two part series (page 78).

National Racquetball Magazine is the official publication of the United States Racquetball Association

And is published monthly by the National Racquetball Club, Inc.

4101 Dempster Street, Skokie, Illinois 60076, (312) 673-4000.

President and Publisher • Robert W. Kendler

National Director and Editor • Charles S. Leve

National Commissioner and Business Manager • Joseph Ardito

National Coordinator • Terry Fancher

Associate Coordinator • Dan Bertolucci

Design Director • Milton W. Presler

Managing Editor • Carol Brusslan

West Coast Editor • Nick Longhurst

Circulation Manager • Kip Fancher

Circulation Administrator • Jack Kendler

Photographic Consultant • Arthur Shay

Advertising information requests should be addressed to Joseph Ardito, Business Manager, National Racquetball Magazine, 4101 Dempster Street, Skokie, Illinois 60076. Copy subject to approval of the publisher.

All editorial communications should be addressed to The Editor, National Racquetball Magazine, 4101 Dempster Street, Skokie, Illinois 60076. Manuscripts must be typewritten and double spaced. Color and black and white photographs are welcomed. Please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope for return of manuscripts and photos.

Subscriptions are \$9.00 of one (1) year. Rates are for U.S., possessions, military and Canada. Foreign subscriptions add \$5.00 per year for postage. Second class postage paid at Skokie, Illinois and at additional mailing office. Postmaster send form 3579 to National Racquetball Magazine, 4101 Dempster Street, Skokie, Illinois 60076. (Please allow 8 to 10 weeks between the time subscription form is mailed and receipt of first issue.)

National Racquetball ©1978. All rights reserved.
Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited.

*Registered trademark of the
United States Racquetball Association

The Official Publication Of The U.S. Racquetball Association

What Was The Real Profit?

The enormous growth of our organization has triggered a lot of conversation relating to our earnings. This is perfectly understandable. At year's end big business looks only at the bottom line for its judgment of success or failure. I am afraid that by this standard we would come up short. Our bottom line at best is a standoff — sometimes considerably less.

That's not to say we couldn't run the national associations on a profitable basis. We could, simply by cutting out some of the programs we are involved in that don't necessarily pay their own way. Things like the National Juniors championships, or funding the state associations, or helping out young players with scholarships.

Our standards, you see, are different than let's say, football or baseball. We consider our relationship with the players and owners our most valuable assets. As you know good relationships don't always show up on the profit/loss statement.

We are young enough to remember when all we played for was fun. When it appeared some of our kids had great talent and wanted to put it into a career, we organized professional play. Those of you who know how close I was to Avery Brundage will understand this was an extremely hard decision for me. But right or wrong it was a fair decision done with a clear conscience.

Would you believe that we started out in 1973 with the grand sum of \$9,800 in total prize money? We raised it in 1974 to \$24,410. We raised it again in 1975, this time to \$40,750; in '76 up again to \$71,900; and last year the total of prize money distributed was \$135,900. By season's end our sponsors will have dished out another \$100,000 in 1978

prize money. That makes the grand total nearly \$400,000 in about five years. We call that progress.

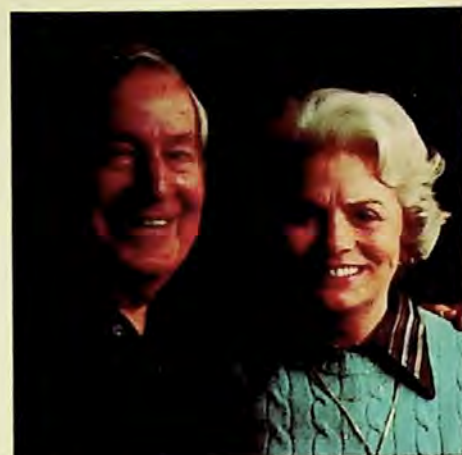
But that's only part of our story. If you put the above figures against our total income over those five years (an amount exceeding \$2,000,000) you see that not even 25 per cent of the association's income went to the pros. That means that the amateur sector of racquetball received the remaining \$1,500,000. They had to because we've spent every cent we've ever taken in *on the sport*.

We enjoy the unbounded admiration of owners who realize that everything we do is intended to increase the participation in racquetball throughout the world, and thereby increase and improve their business.

The faith all payers have in us is the source of considerable pride. They know we did it all for them and intend to do considerably more. You can't buy the wonderful rapport we have with players and owners. You must earn it!

This respect and good will does not show on our annual report. But believe me; that respect and good will *is* our real profit. Our word is held sacred by every owner who has ever dealt with us, and all players know we are totally dedicated to their well being. We are known everywhere as experts in racquetball and handball promotion and unequalled in tournament management.

When rumors reach us of competitors or troublemakers we just stand on our record which goes back 40 years. We know we have the entire racquetball fraternity in our corner, and they'll tell you we do what's right no matter what



the cost. Even some of those so-called competitors can't believe it when we come out with another huge promotion for the sport. And the manufacturers also know that we are loyal and honorable, that we deal straight with them. That honor is another part of our profit.

You see the only profit that means anything is the one that *doesn't* show on the books. The respect and good will is enough for us, for we truly feel that we are doing everybody a good turn by turning them on to racquetball — for the health of it.

Personally, I can assure you that every single cent that has ever come in here went right back out, and all of it for racquetball. If you don't already know, my wife and I receive no remuneration of any kind, and we aren't the only volunteers.

I hate to belabor the point, but Evie and I think we have something more precious than jewels — the trust of the manufacturers, the faith of the owners and the affection of the players.

They all know that we are not a syndicate, or self-serving. We have proven year after year after year that we are all part of the family — the little players, the big players, the poor players and the rich players. Every decision we make is based on principle. You always know where we stand. ●

Bob Kendler

"He that loveth not knoweth not God!
For God is love."

1 John

THE FUTURE OF RACQUETBALL LOOKS GREY.

And it's called the Leach Graphite-Performer.™

First there was wood. Then aluminum. Then glass-filled. And now, graphite.

And no one needs to tell you what graphite can do for a sport. Or sales.

And in the hottest, fastest-growing sport in the world, graphite is bound to be dynamite.

It's priced and designed to move, both off your shelves and on the court.

For starters, the Graphite-Performer is an incredible 250 grams light. Yet still packs the power of a heavier racquet.

It's rigid enough to virtually eliminate vibration and excess

flexing. Yet still keeps the control of glass-filled.

Its unique narrow-throat, one-piece construction (you won't find anything like it anywhere else) actually turns the entire string area into the sport's biggest "sweet spot."

And it feels great.

All for a suggested retail price tag under \$35.

That's right. Graphite for under \$35.

You can't miss.

The sport's most innovative racquet from the sport's most innovative name.

The competitively priced and designed Leach Graphite-Performer.

The future couldn't look brighter.



NUMBER ONE BY DESIGN



Another First

First with the pro tour. First with a monthly magazine. First with a separate National Juniors program. First to affiliate all 50 states. And now another big first for the U.S. Racquetball Association and National Racquetball Club.

National Racquetball, the official publication of both the USRA and NRC, is the first racquetball magazine to hit the newsstands.

Due to the outstanding efforts of managing editor Carol Brusslan *National Racquetball* has been accepted in a number of metropolitan areas for newsstand distribution. Among them are Chicago, Detroit, Milwaukee, St. Louis and San Diego. Each month our distribution broadens, and soon we'll be for sale on newsstands in many other parts of the country. The newsstand distribution was no accident. It came about after a great deal of thought and preparation and even then was not an easy task.

As you might imagine the newsstand magazine business is a highly competitive one. No magazine has a patron, it must stand alone against the others. If it sells it wins. If it collects dust, it fails.

The jury is still out on *National Racquetball*, but the indications are excellent. The initial reports have caused us to increase the number of

magazines to three of the newly created newsstand markets and we've alerted our printer to gear up for possible big increases in circulation.

And the number of subscribers continues to move forward by big margins. Our circulation department informs me that *National Racquetball* is averaging over 100 new subscribers daily.

Our most recent circulation figures have now touched 40,000 copies, an undreamt of figure only a few years ago. Monthly, coupled with newsstands has done the trick.

Nothing could be more important to an Association than its communications vehicle, its voice. The guidance and direction our subscribers have offered, coupled with the helpful and interesting contents, makes this magazine the leader in the field, years ahead of any other.

We've tried hard to give the racquetball public a well rounded monthly publication that serves all the needs in racquetball. Instruction should balance pro results; amateurs should be

highlighted; women must be informed; articles on your health through racquetball are invaluable. And plain, old interesting features play an important role.

And all this at what has to be the biggest sports bargain in history, \$9 a year. So let's not keep it a secret any longer. Inform your friends and foes alike. Spread the gospel of racquetball, *National Racquetball* style.

If you can't find a copy from a friend or at your club, check your newsstands. If they don't have it but want it, let us know. We'll see that they get it.

Again thank you readers and subscribers. As they say, "because of you, it's working." ●



ISN'T IT TIME YOU TURNED PRO?

With Saranac's R-70 PRO

Look for Saranac's PRO emblem on our famous racquetball glove acclaimed nationwide as the finest . . . "the choice of the pros!"

The PRO is crafted from Saranac's own native deerskin . . . hand selected to be naturally light and tacky. Designed with a snug-fitting elastic and fully adjustable Velcro closure, the glove offers extra comfort and a feel of confidence.



SARANAC GLOVE COMPANY

P.O. BOX 786 GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN 54305
PHONE: 414/435-3737

*An Invitation to Excellence for
Racquetball Court Investors*

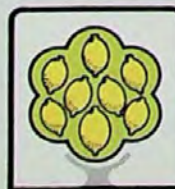
*You are
Cordially Invited
to visit the home of
the 1978
U.S.R.U.S.R.C.
National Tournament
at the
Sports Illustrated
Lemon Tree
Court Club*

*4900 Denton Road • Belleville, Michigan
Court Systems by Bauer Frampton*

Watch the pros play June 17-24 during the USRA/NRC National Tournament at the new Sports Illustrated Lemon Tree Court Club, 4900 Denton Road, Belleville, Michigan.

You'll see why Bauer Frampton builds the world's finest court systems and why Frampton F-62-SP panels are the world's premier court panels. You can play on Bauer Frampton Courts in most quality Racquetball and Athletic Clubs throughout the United States and Canada,

including future Sports Illustrated Court Clubs in Lansing, and Saginaw, Michigan, and Fort Wayne, Indiana.



COURT SYSTEMS

J. Bauer Corporation
10807 Lyndon Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48238
(313) 935-3400

Centurion™ — New carbon filled composite construction. Black heat-welded strings, plush raised-leather grip. 18.5 inches, 250 grams

Choose your weapon.

We make five great racquets, not just one or two. So more than just getting a choice of responsive aluminum or composite frames, you get a choice of strings, grips, weights, and even lengths. So choose your weapon. Choose a Spalding.

Futura™ — New metallic brown-anodized aluminum frame. Exclusive nylon/stainless steel impregnated strings. Rich raised leather grip. 18 inches, 260 grams

Top-Flite™ — Spalding's heaviest racquet built for power play and durability. Expanded teardrop head shape with clear tournament nylon strings and a top-grade leather grip. 18 inches, 285 grams

Smasher™ — Extra long, extruded aluminum frame, rugged steel eyelets, durable twisted nylon strings, leather grip. 19 inches, 270 grams

Rebel™ — New nylon/glass-filled composite, blue twist nylon strings. Raised stitch leather grip. 18.5 inches, 255 grams

SPALDING

Midwest Site Guarantees Biggest Ever Nationals

Gil Schmitt

The decision to take the 1978 National Championships into the midwest portion of the United States was not one that was made lightly. Many different ingredients were necessary for the USRA to elect to come east after two highly successful years in San Diego.

The selection of Sports Illustrated Court Club, Belleville, MI, was ingredient number one. The 12 court facility gives the tournament five additional courts over previous Nationals and the spectator court boasts nearly 600 seats, a tripling of capacity.

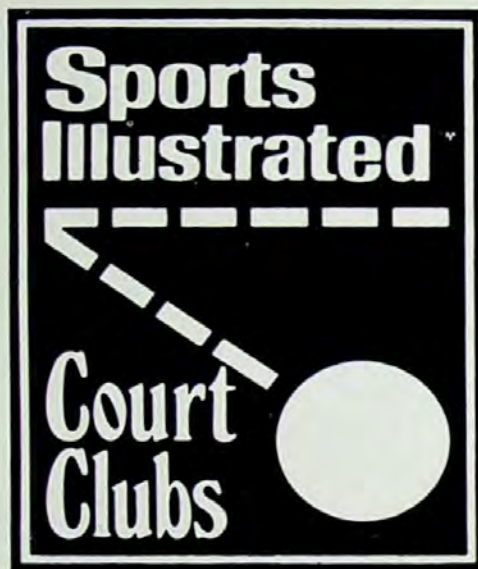
Another reason to come to the Detroit area was the fine track record that has been experienced in Michigan, going back to the early years of pro racquetball, when cities like Livonia and Lansing were stops on the tour.

The Michigan market has been good to racquetball, it's number three in size (behind only San Diego and Chicago) and the promotional benefits will do a good service to racquetball in that area.

But probably the biggest reason is simple variety. The USRA believes that it is healthier to move the National Championship tournament around the nation than to leave the event in one city all the time.

"I would never say a derogatory word about San Diego," said USRA president Bob Kendler, "because there's never been anything but fantastic success there. The Atlas Health Club (host in 1976 and 1977) was perfect as the site."

"But the support for racquetball is nationwide, and a great number of players from the eastern half of the U.S. were unable to afford the long trip west. By going to a more centralized location, we feel the tournament is open to more players."



Sports Illustrated is a Service Mark of Time, Inc.

In accordance with the USRA's policy of helping as many players as possible to the Nationals, and since a change was being made in site, the number of Regional championship tournaments was increased to 10 this season. The number of full or partial travel awards was increased in Open divisions from 16 to 50 to ensure that all Regional winners would have a chance to play in the Nationals.

So for the first time ever, the USRA/NRC National Championships will be made truly accessible to great numbers of midwest and eastern players.

"It looks like the entries will top the 600 mark easily," said Gil Schmitt, Director of Training for Sports Illustrated Court Clubs and tournament director for the Nationals. "We've been inundated with requests for entry forms, tickets, lodging and everything you can imagine."



Running the Nationals is no easy task and Schmitt and his staff have been preparing for the tournament for over seven months. They will be aided by specialists in tournament management brought in by the USRA, the USRA/NRC tournament staff and the Michigan Racquetball Association.

"Manpower will not be a problem," said Schmitt. "We just want to make sure that the tournament is an enjoyable experience for the losers as well as the winners."

So mark your calendars, — June 17-24, 1978, at Sports Illustrated Lemontree, Belleville, MI. ●

OFFICIAL ENTRY

Colgate Men & Women's 1977-78 National Pro-Am Racquetball Championships Co-Sponsored By Seamco/Leach

June 17-24, 1978
Belleville, Michigan

- Site:** SPORTS ILLUSTRATED COURT CLUB, LEMONTREE 49345 South I-94 Service Drive, Belleville, Michigan 48111, Phone (313) 699-0900
- Dates:** June 17-24, 1978
- Entry Fee:** \$50 in professional events, \$25 per person for first amateur event. If player enters second amateur event, add \$15.
- Entry Deadline:** *In our possession by 6:00 PM Thursday, June 1, 1978. Prescribed fee must accompany entry form. Entries received after the deadline, unsigned or without entry fee, will not be accepted. No phone entries will be accepted!*
- Sanction:** By National Racquetball Club (NRC) and United States Racquetball Association (USRA)
- Official Ball:** Seamco 559 (Green) in all professional events;
Seamco 558 (Black) in all amateur events.
- Eligibility and Rules:** All entrants must be current USRA members. Memberships will be available at tournament registration. Current USRA/NRC rules will govern all play. If two events are entered, players may have to play back to back matches. *Limit: 2 events maximum per player.*
- Awards:** \$30,000 total prize money in professional events. Awards to first four places in amateur events.
- Starting Times:** For starting times, please call (313)-697-6600 on June 12, 1978.
- Mail Entries:** To Gil Schmitt, c/o Sports Illustrated Court Clubs, 49345 South I-94 Service Drive, Belleville, Michigan 48111.
- Checks:** Should be made payable to SPORTS ILLUSTRATED COURT CLUBS, LEMONTREE

Tournament Headquarters: RAMADA INN, 8270 Wickham Road, Romulus, Michigan; (313) 729-6300; contact Jim LaBadie. Overflow accommodations will be referred to the following:
BRIARWOOD HILTON, State Street and I-94, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104; (313) 761-7800
or HOST INTERNATIONAL, Detroit Metropolitan Airport 48242; (800) 237-2543.

Please enter me in:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ Men's Pro Singles | ☐ Women's Pro Singles | ☐ Men's Open Doubles |
| ☐ Men's Open Singles | ☐ Women's Open Singles | ☐ Men's Senior Doubles |
| ☐ Men's Senior Singles (35+) | ☐ Women's Senior Singles (35+) | ☐ Men's Masters Doubles |
| ☐ Men's Masters Singles (45+) | ☐ Women's Open Doubles | ☐ Men's Golden Masters Doubles |
| ☐ Men's Golden Masters Singles (55+) | ☐ Women's Senior Doubles | ☐ Men's Super Masters Doubles |
| ☐ Men's Super Masters Singles (65+) | | |

Note: A minimum of 8 entrants or teams is needed for a division of play to occur. If 8 are not reached, then those players will automatically be placed in the next younger age group.

Waivers: I understand that it is your intention to have my participation hereunder recorded on videotape for presentation on television and elsewhere, and I expressly agree that you shall have the unlimited right and authority to use and exploit your coverage of the series, the videotape, and any and all forms of reproduction thereof in any and all media in perpetuity in whatever manner, and by whatever means, and wherever you may desire, without any obligation to pay any monies to me except as hereinabove expressly provided. Such recordings shall, without limitations, be the sole property of NRC/USRA to deal with, broadcast, sell, license, rent, exhibit, and otherwise use to reuse in whole or in part as the NRC/USRA see fit.

I further understand and agree that if I should reach the quarter-final, semi-final, or final round match in either professional division, I will wear a shirt bearing the name of the official tournament sponsors as provided at the tournament, or a reasonable facsimile approved by NRC/USRA.

I hereby, for myself and my agents, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against Sports Illustrated Court Clubs, Inc., the U.S. Racquetball Association, the National Racquetball Club and any of their agents, for any and all injuries received by me in connection with this tournament.

(Signature) _____

Name _____ Age _____ Club _____

Address _____ Phone _____
(Street) (City) (State/Zip)

Signature _____

Doubles Partner _____ Age _____ Club _____

Address _____ Phone _____
(Street) (City) (State/Zip)

Signature _____

Luxury Setting For National Championships

600 Spectators Will Sit in Tiers at Sports Illustrated-Lemontree



Sports Illustrated Court Club-Lemontree, home of the 1978 Colgate-Seamco-Leach Pro/Am national championships, is a new concept in luxury racquetball clubs.

The club in Van Buren Township, MI, west of Detroit, is built around an exhibition court and entertainment area.

The focal point of the club's second level is a three glass-walled exhibition court.

To right and left of the glass walls the floor rises in four tiered levels. Facing the back glass wall is a stage.

Under normal conditions the tiers are filled with cafe seating and booths line the wall on the fourth level. The entire area surrounding the championship court is a bar and lounge by day, a discotheque by night. Diners on all the tiers have a clear view of both the exhibition court and the stage.

In the evening a special dance floor is laid over the playing surface of the court, the doors of the back glass wall are thrown open and the championship court becomes a discotheque. Strobe lights and other discotheque lighting beam down into the glass walled dancing area. Live entertainment takes the stage.

For the June 17-24 tournament to determine the NRC/USRA champions the normal seating will be removed and special seating will be erected on the first three tiers and in the stage area to provide seating for a total of 600. This is believed to be the largest seating capacity for a single court of any racquetball facility.

Also on the championship court level is a large dining area under a vaulted cathedral ceiling two stories high, with planters dangling from exposed beams.

Huge blowups of famous moments and personalities in sports, from the photo archives of *Sports Illustrated* magazine and the *Time-Life* photo gallery, provide the decor of the lounge and dining area. The lounge will be open for use during the championships.

Lemontree's wall to wall viewing opportunities are not limited to its championship court. Behind the disco-dining area is an observation corridor which looks down into the 11 courts on the ground level. Four of these courts have glass back walls and all four can be viewed from the ground level lounge area.

Other amenities at the Lemontree club include luxuriously carpeted locker areas, whirlpool, saunas, drying rooms, fully equipped exercise rooms and an extra large pro shop. Carpeting and wood accents are used throughout. A spiral staircase connects the playing court level with the exhibition court-disco bar level.

The Lemontree club takes its name from the adjacent Lemontree apartment complex, the second largest in Michigan. SICC chairman Craig Hall is general partner of the apartment complex. Its amenities include a P.G.A. nine hole golf course, lakefront and marina, swimming pool, clubhouse and tennis courts. They will be the scene of special entertainment for entrants and visitors during the Colgate - Seamco - Leach championships.

To make up for the loss of dining and wining space to tournament seating a special hospitality area is being set up during the tournament. Initial plans (subject to change) are to house this in a big gaily striped tent on the club grounds.

The showplace of the Sports Illustrated Court Clubs chain Lemontree has been designed both as a fun place to hold a tournament and for year round racquetball enjoyment and conviviality. ●

The National Racquetball Championships

JUNE 17 THRU 24 AT
Sports Illustrated Court Club

Lemontree

BELLEVILLE, MICHIGAN

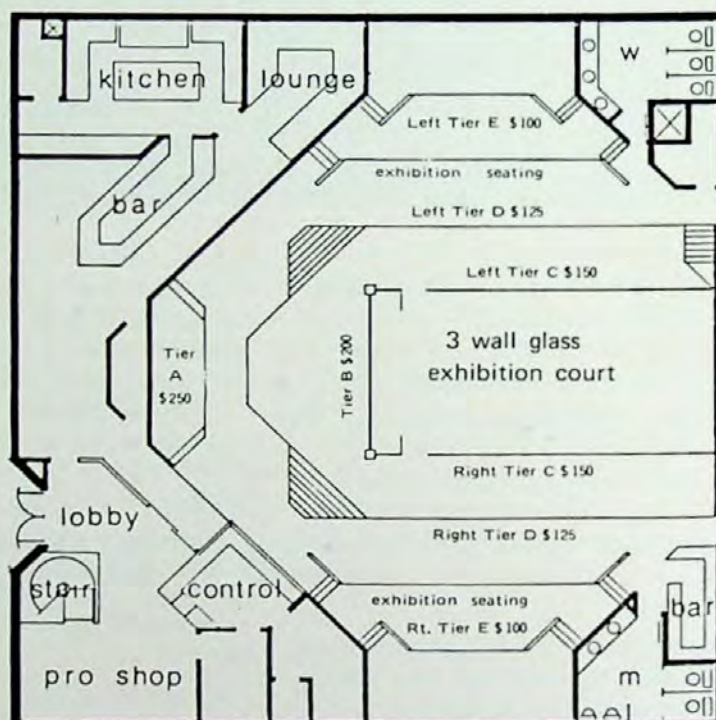
TICKET INFORMATION 8-DAY PACKAGE

- Reserved seat for 8 days around the Glass Exhibition Court
- One complimentary mixed drink each evening
- Admission to mid week lakeside party for players and ticket holders only
- Souvenirs of the tournament
- Complimentary program

The demand for tickets has been tremendous. Over 100 have been pre-sold. Send check and your seat selection with the coupon below to:

Grace McNamee
SICC Corporate Offices
26300 Telegraph Road
Southfield, MI 48034

For further information call (313) 358-0030.



PRICE STRUCTURE (Glass Exhibition Court only)

Tier A	\$250/ea.	(VIP Seating)
		includes private hostess for beverage service and plush seating (32 available)
Tier B	\$200/ea.	(60 available)
Left Tier C	\$150/ea.	(65 available)
Right Tier C	\$150/ea.	(65 available)
Left Tier D	\$125/ea.	(55 available)
Right Tier D	\$125/ea.	(55 available)
Left Tier E	\$100/ea.	(40 available)
Right Tier E	\$100/ea.	(40 available)

General Admission prices are \$5/day Saturday, June 17 thru Wednesday, June 21 and \$10/day Thursday, June 22 thru Saturday, June 24.

Entitles holder to standing room for Glass Exhibition Court, Balcony viewing on all other courts, and seated viewing on Four Back Glass Wall Courts.

I have enclosed a check in the amount of \$_____ for _____

of tickets _____ in _____ section

of tickets _____ in _____ section

Please send to

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

PHONE NO.: Home _____ Work _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: "1978 Nationals"

*If requested tickets are not available, we reserve the right to substitute the next lesser priced available tickets, the cost difference will be refunded. Sorry, but reservations can only be guaranteed upon receipt of your remittance.



The Dynaturf Advantage

We don't have to tell you the critical importance of installing a quality playing surface that will please players today and in years to come.

So start with a simple fact . . . the *DYNATURF* Company has had the best synthetic tennis surface for 10 years, and now has the best racquetball surface. So whether you're looking for a tennis surface, a racquetball surface, or both, remember, only *DYNATURF* can provide a secure, proven product preferred by both player and owner.

Evaluate how *DYNATURF* for racquetball and tennis measures up in terms of comfort, playability, appearance, longevity, maintenance and repair. Call collect today. ●

The
Dynaturf
Company

P.O. Box 2479, COLUMBUS, Ohio 43216 (614) 295-3776

In Canada G.E. McGuinty Construction Co. Ltd., P.O. Box 255, NORTH BAY, Ontario P1B 8H2 (705) 474-2220

Tournament Results

Richard Wagner was visibly nervous. His task was unenviable, almost dreaded. He was about to step onto the court to face Marty Hogan in the championship match of the Colgate/Seamco/Leach pro tour stop in Tempe, AZ.

That situation in itself is nerve wracking enough, but two other variables put additional pressure on the 22-year-old Wagner, who was making his first trip to the finals since April of 1977. One variable was that Hogan had been playing red hot all week, with no foe coming close to taking even a game, let alone a match. Secondly the match was televised over the Public Broadcasting System (PBS) in the Rocky Mountain Region.

Thus with Hogan at his best, ready to atone for his only loss of the season the previous month, and the TV cameras rolling, Wagner was already counting the \$2,000 second place prize, his biggest pay check in over a year.

Unfortunately he played like it too. Gone from the finals was Wagner's brilliant play, the back wall kills, front court coverage and mental sharpness — the qualities that were largely responsible for his upset wins over the likes of Jerry Hilecher and Charlie Brumfield.

The finals were a dud — 21-11, 21-6 for Hogan. For the record here's how it happened:

Wagner won the toss, took a 2-0 lead, held it to 4-2 and probably lost the game right there. Four times each player served at 4-2 and four times neither could score. The saying goes

Nobody Came Close

While all the other big names got knocked off along the way, Marty Hogan breezed to his fifth win of the season.



Hogan's intensity shows as he follows through in the finals.

Neal Asprea holds Hogan's winning racquet after Marty presented the Phoenix businessman with it as a souvenir of the event. Asprea helped underwrite the television cost with USRAINRC prez Bob Kendler.



Wagner completes his pet shot, a back wall kill with the forehand.

that if you can hold Hogan without scoring for three or four consecutive innings you've got a chance, but only if you can dent the scoreboard in the meantime. Wagner couldn't.

Seizing the opportunity Hogan finally tallied, three times over two innings to take a 6-4 lead and he never looked back. Soon it was 9-5, then 13-5, 18-10 and the 21-11 final.

The rallies were short, ending either on Hogan kills from ridiculous places and positions on the court, or on Wagner errors. Rich just never got untracked.

The second game was worse. Hogan jumped to a lead this time, 4-0 and 6-1, then 9-1, when Wagner, sensing inevitable destruction, called a time out to slow Hogan's race toward 21. Soon the lead was 12-2, and all but the most hopeful anti-Hogan forces gave up the ship.

Just in case Hogan rattled off five more, including two overhead kills from 39 feet into the left corner, one Wagner error, and two more kills to make the score 17-2. The final numbers were of Hogan's choosing.

The tournament, held at the luxurious Arizona Athletic Club, did not deserve such a nothing final. In fact hopes were high that Wagner would be a good match against Marty, based on his super earlier round performances.

In the semi-finals Wagner blitzed Brumfield, whose effort to make it two tourney wins in a row fell far short. The flu hurt Brum, but not nearly as much as Wagner's fine play.

Shooting superbly, especially off the back wall, Wagner bolted to an amazing 13-1 lead in game one as Brumfield moved lethargically and was unable to mount anything similar to an offense.

Oh but how the fortunes of the racquetball wars can change. From 17-7, the score became 18-10, then 18-12, after Wagner scored twice and Brumfield's only serious thrust of the night followed.

A kill, an ace that caught the left crack, a forehand error by Wagner, another kill and two passes made the score 20-18 and woke up the crowd. But Brumfield couldn't stretch the run any further, and when Wagner regained the serve he tallied the final point on a Brumfield skip ball off a back wall set up with his forehand.

Game two was all Wagner. After an early 3-3 tie, Rich ran up nine straight points over seven innings, plodding toward 21, while Brum sat on three. Soon it became 14-4, 17-5 and at 20-6 Wagner went out like a winner, blasting an ace for the match on a drive into the deep left corner.

In the top bracket Hogan surprisingly found his best friend, Ben Koltun, his opponent in the semi-finals, Koltun having eliminated the struggling Davey Bledsoe in the quarters.

As usual the early going see-sawed with Koltun taking a 6-2 advantage, Hogan 8-7, Koltun 9-8, then Hogan again 13-12, and as usual, for good.

With Hogan it happens so quickly and with such precision that it barely hurts. A backhand kill made it 14-12, an ace to the deep left corner was 15-12, a soft re-kill with the backhand made it 16-12, another ace on a blistering drive to the left corner was 17-12 and a forehand pass down the line right was 18-12. Koltun didn't make an error and Hogan had the game.



Wagner shoots from behind Brumfield in thier semi-final battle.



Koltun, whose game was "on" all week, goes for bottom board from deep court.

Ben was able to add four more points by holding Marty on 20 a few times, until another near ace on a drive serve to the backhand forced a skip ball and the game was officially Marty's 21-16.

The early second game was marked first by aces, three by Hogan, one by Koltun, then by poor shooting on Hogan's part. As Marty kept leaving up his favorite forehand shot, a wide pinch to the right corner, Ben followed it around and drove it down the left line for winners. The result was a 10-4 Koltun lead.

Hogan began mounting pressure and the gallery sensed the awful Hogan string of points that is so deadly to opponents. Koltun's lead was 12-7, then 12-8, 13-8 and Hogan gained the serve. It was like the kid taking his thumb out of the dike.

Two passes down the line right, a forehand kill cross court, a backhand error, a near-ace for a winner to the backhand, a forehand error, then a backhand error and an ace on a drive to the left, and the score was 16-13 Hogan. Just like that the game and match turned around.

Hogan came in at 16-14 and a near ace on a Z serve to the left was 17, an absolute ace on the same serve made 18, a backhand skip by Koltun was 19, a backhand cross court kill made 20 and the match was out of reach.

An inning later a forehand kill off the back wall into the right corner was the match 21-14.

The ability Hogan has to score in bunches was what outdid Koltun, whose game continues to improve with

each tournament. Containing Hogan is like trying to contain a great running back in football; you wait for him to break the long one.

The quarter-finals found the tournament's biggest surprise, Jerry Zuckerman, up against Wagner. Zuckerman, making his first trip ever to the quarters of a pro tournament, had upset seventh ranked Jay Jones in the round of 16 to earn a shot at Wagner. And Jerry gave it a full shot.

Playing probably one of the best games of his life Zuckerman amazed everybody by taking the first game from Wagner 21-16. Zuck shot well, especially with his excellent forehand, and Wagner for sure took his opponent too lightly.

"Having just topped Hillecher in the 16's," he said, "I was surprised to meet Jerry in the quarters. I guess I was taking him for granted."

Zuckerman didn't ease up in the second, going for a two-straight victory. This match was no picnic for either player, with game two tied at 14-all until Wagner hit a streak of his own to hold a 19-14 lead.

"That's where Zuckerman should have folded," said a brilliant observer. "But he didn't."

Instead the southpaw from St. Louis re-killed a Wagner shot with his backhand for 15-19, held Rich after a side out, and scored twice more on a forehand pass left and a forehand left corner kill for 17-19 and after regaining the serve, Wagner elected for a time out to think things over.

As the match got tighter so did the collars. Wagner had an absolute set up off the back wall when play resumed and he hit it into the floor. But

Zuckerman was unable to tally, leaving a kill attempt three feet high for an easy kill for Wagner.

And so it went until Zuckerman finally scored on a pass left down the line for 18-19; but that was all as Wagner put him out and added one of his own thanks to a skip by Zuckerman.

And when it finally came right down to it, Zuckerman was unable to accept the gifts offered by Wagner, and at 20-18 a backhand skipped in after a good Z serve for a 21-18 game two win for Wagner.

Wagner heated up his kill shot for the tie-breaker, pulling away after ties at 3 and 4, to a 10-5 advantage, mainly on right corner kills with his forehand.

All Zuckerman could do was hang on and finally the match was captured by Wagner with a backhand kill into the left corner, 11-5.

The other three games in the quarters found Brumfield stopping Craig McCoy, as he always does, this time with some work 20-21, 21-12, 11-5.

For Brumfield it was another tough day, although another win, as he labored to defeat David Fleetwood in the round of 16 by similar scores.

But McCoy, who probably has the most talent outside of Hogan in the top eight, still can't seem to overcome the Brumfield jinx. He won a thrilling first game, teetering on the edge of defeat to capture the 21-20 victory, seemingly enough to go on to win the match.

But in true Brumfield fashion the match is never over until the final ball skips in, and so it was in Tempe. With McCoy unable to find the range, Brum eased to a 21-12 second game victory and the match hinged on the half-game tie-breaker.

Jay Jones (center) who anchored the television broadcasts, interviews his two analysts, Brumfield and Jean Sausser.



Call it experience, call it psych or whatever you call it, McCoy is not McCoy against Brumfield. In a tie-breaker not particularly well played Brumfield stopped his former protege 11-5 to move to the semi's.

In the upper bracket Koltun upset Davey Bledsoe in the day's first quarter-final match 21-18, 21-12. Bledsoe is still mired in a slump that shortly will threaten his number three rank.

"I can't get into it," he said. "My timing is off. I don't think I'm spending enough time on the court."

Another problem was the "on" Koltun, who played one of his best matches ever. Shooting well, retrieving superbly and forcing many Bledsoe errors, Koltun won each game differently.

Down 13-7 in the first he rallied late in the game to capture the 21-18 decision, his last four points coming on an ace, two errors and a forehand kill.

Koltun broke open a tight second game with five unanswered points in the 10th inning to take a 12-11 lead to 17-11, followed by three more for a 20-12 advantage. Here it was Bledsoe errors (the last five Koltun points came on skip balls) that made the difference.

Hogan met Steve Serot in the evening's last quarter-final match and Serot, who's game has been steady — if not flashy — all season, gave as good a battle against Hogan as any of the others. The final was 21-15, 21-11, in a match that found Serot giving it a good effort, but as usual it was a story of too much firepower on Hogan's part.

The round of 16 had some superb matches, as the skill level of the pro division continues to increase and expand. Four of the eight matches went three games, including Wagner's 21-2, 11-21, 11-6 upset over Hilecher; Zuckerman's 21-20, 6-21, 11-5 shocker over Jones; McCoy ending Steve Strandemo's continuing comeback dreams 11-21, 21-17, 11-1, and Brumfield hanging on to squeeze by Fleetwood 11-21, 21-20, 11-3.

Some first round losers, who with a slightly better draw could break in: Charlie Rish who took it to three with McCoy before bowing 11-4 in the tie-breaker. Rish is a lanky hard-hitter with a wicked serve. Jim Owen, the tour's newest rookie, who lost in three to Mike Yellen 11-6 after splitting 21-15 games. And Bobby Bolan, who gave Serot a scare before succumbing 8-21, 21-11, 11-4.

Men's Pro (Qualifiers): Bolan, Thomas, Dern, Berberet, Larson, S. Wright, Bush, Meyers.

(First Round): Hogan d. Meyers 21-8, 21-15; Mondry d. Chase 20-21, 21-17 11-7; Yellen d. Owen 15-21, 21-15, 11-6; Serot d. Bolan 8-21, 21-11, 11-4; Koltun d. Thomas 21-9, 21-16; Morrow d. Schmidke 21-8, 21-7; Keeley d. Dern 21-18, 21-13; Bledsoe d. Bowes 21-8, 21-15; Hilecher d. Berberet 21-11, 21-10; Wagner d. Hemphill 21-6, 21-16; Zuckerman d. Larson 21-18, 21-11; Jones d. Zeitman 21-5, 21-7; McCoy d. Rish 21-10, 11-21, 11-4; Strandemo d. Wright 21-5, 21-8; Fleetwood d. Strom 21-20, 21-17; Brumfield d. Bush 21-14, 21-12.

(Second Round): Hogan d. Mondry 21-13, 21-9; Serot d. Yellen 21-17, 21-6; Koltun d. Morrow 21-14, 21-16; Bledsoe d. Keeley 21-7, 21-10; Wagner d. Hilecher 21-2, 11-21, 11-6; Zuckerman d. Jones 21-20, 6-21, 11-5; McCoy d. Strandemo 11-21, 21-17, 11-1; Brumfield d. Fleetwood 11-21, 21-20, 11-3.

(Quarter-finals): Hogan d. Serot 21-15, 21-11; Koltun d. Bledsoe 21-18, 21-12; Wagner d. Zuckerman 16-21, 21-19, 11-5; Brumfield d. McCoy 20-21, 21-12, 11-5.

(Semi-finals): Hogan d. Koltun 21-16, 21-14; Wagner d. Brumfield 21-18, 21-6.

(Finals): Hogan d. Wagner 21-11, 21-6.

NOTES OF THE TOURNAMENT . . .

The event was televised over Regional PBS by KAET-TV, Channel 8 in Tempe. Funding for the show was donated by USRA President Bob Kendler along with Tempe businessman Neal Asprea. Asprea has taken two young Phoenix players, Bob Bolan and Don Thomas under his wing, providing sponsorship through his Twin County Concrete firm. . . our usual thanks to Nick Longhurst for coordinating all efforts in that regard. . . the tournament was another combination pro tour stop and USRA Regional Championships. Some outstanding play highlighted the amateur divisions, including the surprising David Peck, El Paso, TX, who won the amateur Open Singles division and air fare to the National Championships June 17-24 in Belleville, MI. Localite Dennis Olson won the Seniors with a super 11-9 finish over Phil Grace; Bert Morrow captured the Golden Masters. . . The Junior Boys had a lot of play with a lot on the line - travel awards to the National Juniors upcoming this summer, and the winners were Beaver Wickham (17-and-under), Craig Dowd (15-and-under), Tim Converse (13-and-under). . . With all the action going every which way the Arizona Athletic Club and its great staff, along with the Arizona Racquetball Association, could not have been a better host. . . The A.A.C. is a beautiful facility highlighted by two glass-walled courts, swimming pool, lounge and bar, outdoor tennis and basketball courts, whirlpools, steam, saunas, massage and on and on. . . Carl Porter, Jr. who becomes more efficient every time we see him, was at his usual best, along with Ron and Kim Cole, David Michael and their entire staff. The A.R.A. with Chris Georges, Mike Grisz, Bill Rabe, Randy Shinn and, of course, Bob Hurckes and Chuck Hallock. The job couldn't have been done without their fine efforts. . . Always nice to see old friends Woody Woodman and Jan Thiessen down Ariz. way . . . Seamco's prez. Al Mackie and his lovely wife Nancy made the trip, back to their former stompin' grounds along with Rick Isaacson . . . Leach's Charlie Drake and Dave Armstrong also on hand to take in the action. ●



With the television lights glaring, Wright goes for a winner from center court in the finals against Harding.

Making Her Move

Shannon Wright overcame her only tough hurdle, a quarter-final match with Peggy Steding, to capture her second straight tour win.

In case anybody wasn't sure Shannon Wright is back. After a series of disappointing showings during the first half of the current season the 1977 national champion won in the near-dominating style that was expected of her all year.

The tournament was the Colgate Pro/Am Tour stop in Tempe, AZ, where the Seamco/Leach co-sponsored event filled the huge gallery for three straight nights. And the star of the women's show was the brash Wright, whose disdain for opponents is overshadowed only by her skill.

Shannon's championship match victim was Jennifer Harding, who seems to play her best when the finals are televised. Harding, playing out of the number two seed, was pressed only once en route to the finals, a difficult three game over Janell Marriott in the semi's.

But the key match of the tournament was actually the Wright-Steding quarter-final encounter. Through a quirk in the NRC's seeding method, Wright was playing out of the number six seed and drew number one Steding in the quarters. Usually a championship match the two ladies played just as if it were one.

As she often does Wright started faster than Steding, using strong serves and tough drives to keep Peggy in deep court and off balance. Steding, known as a slow starter, was just that, and the result was a 21-8 first game Wright win.

But the 42-year-old Steding finally loosened up, primarily on her serving. She tallied two quick aces early, hit a slow stretch and then roared home with a key ace at 20 to take the second game 21-17.

Wright came out shooting in the tie-breaker and the mini-game was never in doubt as Shannon's shots in the clutch were there. Utilizing good Z

serves to the forehand side, and hard cross court drives, Wright was the victor 11-2.

The championship match under the television lights followed the same pattern in both games. The play shifted from one side of the court to the other as Wright played to Harding's left-handed backhand and Harding did the same to Wright's backhand.

Ties were the early case occurring at 5, 9, 14 and 16. There Wright rolled out a backhand kill cross court, followed a few minutes later by a forehand, right corner kill and a V-pass left off the back wall. Harding responded with a time out, but Wright killed again a forehand straight in on the right for 19-16.

Two side outs followed until a pass right cross court was point 20. Shannon then called the psychological time out, serving and leading 20-16. Twice Harding held, but neither time



was she able to dent the point total. Finally on her third time serving for the game, Wright was able to come up a winner on a Harding backhand error on a blast right back at her feet. So it was, 21-16 Wright.

Game two found Harding exploding off the gun with a series of kills both forehand and backhand to take an 8-2 lead, which she promptly relinquished.

Two consecutive aces, a drive left and a Z to the right, made it 4-8, and after a hinder a backhand pass down the left line and another drive ace to the left made it 6-8 and Wright was on the move.

Visibly upset with herself for allowing a comfy lead to disintegrate Harding hit the next two into the floor, both backhands, both from deep court, both points and a tie at 8.

Shannon continued to build on her momentum and wasn't halted until she held a 13-8 advantage having held Jennifer scoreless for about 15 minutes. Harding, who often plays better when behind, made a move to get back into the match.

Actually Shannon aided the effort, hitting three straight into the dirt, making it 11-13. On the ensuing serve Wright buried a 39 footer with her backhand to regain control.

That was really the ball game. Shannon increased her lead to 16-11 and the closest Jennifer got was 17-13, but three more unanswered points by Wright (two forehand kills sandwiched around a backhand ceiling error) made it 20-13. One side out and a hinder later Shannon captured the \$1,000 first place check with a backhand cross court pass to the right, 21-13.

The semi-finals were of the greatest contrast. In the upper bracket Wright

met Sarah Green and it was *no lo contendre* as Shannon's power game was too much for the lithe Green 21-6, 21-8.

When Shannon is hot and her opponent is not, one has to expect scores like six and eight. Driving the ball superbly to both sides and serving exceptionally well, Wright had command all the way.

Such was not the case in the lower bracket where Harding had her hands full with Marriott, who had reached the semi's with a hard-fought win over close friend Kathy Williams. In three superb games of equal intensity Harding emerged the winner 21-16, 17-21, 11-7.

After splitting the two 21 pointers, Harding grabbed the early tie-breaker lead only to have Marriott make a concerted run midway into the game. Harding held her own, however, and finally put the match away with a forehand left corner kill for the 11-7 tally.



NOTES OF THE TOURNAMENT . . .

In the Women's Open for a trip to the Nationals at Sports Illustrated Court Club, Belleville, MI, it came down to Sally Murphy against Heims, and Murphy, who had one of the weirdest of tournaments, took the match 21-17, 21-15. Sally lost to Laura Martino in an attempt to qualify in the pro division, then came back and defeated both Martino and Heims, who also qualified in the pros. Looks like Sally wanted the trip to the Nationals more than her name in a pro box score . . . In the Girls Juniors 17-and-under Michele Busaca was the winner . . . Lynn Wojcik took the Girls 14-and-under. ●

Marriott contemplates the whims of life during a break in her semi-final battle with Harding.

Outside of the Wright-Steding quarter Marriott and Williams had the only other thriller. Rarely do the two players meet each other and as they play similar styles it made for an interesting match.

True to fashion they split the first two 21-15 for Marriott, then 21-14 for Williams. The tie-breaker barely accomplished its job with Marriott hitting well late for an 11-9 win.

In one of the other two quarters Green bested Jean Sauser, a surprise quarter-finalist who hadn't seen much of this round of late. But Jean had upset Karin Walton in the first round to gain entry to the final eight.

Sarah kept command throughout the first game, winning going away 21-9. But Sauser hung tough in the second and made a good match out of it 21-18.

In the lower bracket Harding breezed by Rita Hoff 21-12, 21-6 showing too much control for the St. Louisian.

Some good first rounders included Jan Pasternak's effort against Marriott 17-21, 21-6, 11-8. Pasternak, former two-time national champ, has had moments where her old form seems to be returning, but they've been balanced by poor showings and some tough draws.

Qualifier Diane Heims gave Green a scare 21-9, 6-21, 11-1 before Sarah got her game together; and as we've noted the Walton-Sauser first round battle was a good one.

Women's Pro (Qualifiers): Schmidt, Greer, Heims, Martino.

(First Round): Steding d. Martino 21-6, 21-11; Wright d. McDonald 21-11, 21-8; Sauser d. Walton 21-20, 8-21, 11-5; Green d. Heims 21-9, 6-21, 11-1; Marriott d. Pasternak 17-21, 21-6, 11-8; Williams d. Schmidt 21-12, 21-8; Hoff d. Carow 21-13, 21-7; Harding d. Greer 21-6, 21-18.

(Quarter-finals): Wright d. Steding 21-8, 17-21, 11-2; Green d. Sauser 21-9, 21-18; Marriott d. Williams 21-15, 14-21, 11-9; Harding d. Hoff 21-12, 21-6.

(Semi-finals): Wright d. Green 21-6, 21-8; Harding d. Marriott 21-16, 17-21, 11-7.

(Finals): Wright d. Harding 21-16, 21-13.

The Forehand, Part One

by Steve Strandemo

From *The Racquetball Book* by Steve Strandemo with Bill Bruns. Copyright ©1977 by Steve Strandemo and Bill Bruns. Reprinted by permission of Pocket Books, a Simon & Schuster Division of Gulf & Western Corporation.

Good court coverage can take you a long way in this game — but only if you have sound, fundamental strokes that produce the accurate shots you need to gain and maintain center-court positioning.

I'll start with the forehand, since it's the single most important stroke in the game. Not only can you play about two-thirds of the court with the forehand, but this is also the same basic stroke you use for your most common serves, the low drive and the Z. The forehand is such a "confidence" stroke for nearly all players that many professionals even run around their strong backhand in order to hit a forehand just three or four feet from the left wall.

The wrist snap is the single most crucial element in grooving a forehand that delivers both power and accuracy. In fact the only way to generate any real velocity on your shots is to *snap your wrist forcibly into the ball at impact*. As strong as you may be if you try to play with a fixed-wrist swing, like in tennis, you'll end up punching the ball weakly to the front wall. This may give you good control, but your shots will lack the sting to make you a threat against better players.

The Forehand Grip



This shows the proper grip, with the "V" formed by your thumb and index finger comfortably on top of the racquet handle.

The Grip

The racquetball racquet is so much shorter and lighter than a tennis racquet that you may feel the grip you use is unimportant. But if you don't have a proper grip, you will have to make subtle adjustments in your swing in order to have the racquet face vertical at impact. These "adjustments" lead to inconsistent shots.

Like most instructors, I advocate "shaking hands" with the racquet handle as you grasp hold, so that the "V" formed by the thumb and index finger is directly on top of the racquet handle. The racquet is small, but don't hold it like a club; have the index finger slightly extended. Maintain a fairly relaxed grip until just before impact, then tighten the fingers to ensure a solid hit. Holding a constant death grip on the racquet throughout every swing will lead to extreme fatigue in your forearm muscles and the chance of a strained hitting arm.

This is the grip as seen from below, with the thumb resting against the middle finger, and the index finger slightly extended.



The grip is held too deep in the palm and too far down on the racquet. You lose some control of the face of the racquet.



An Overview of the Ideal Swing

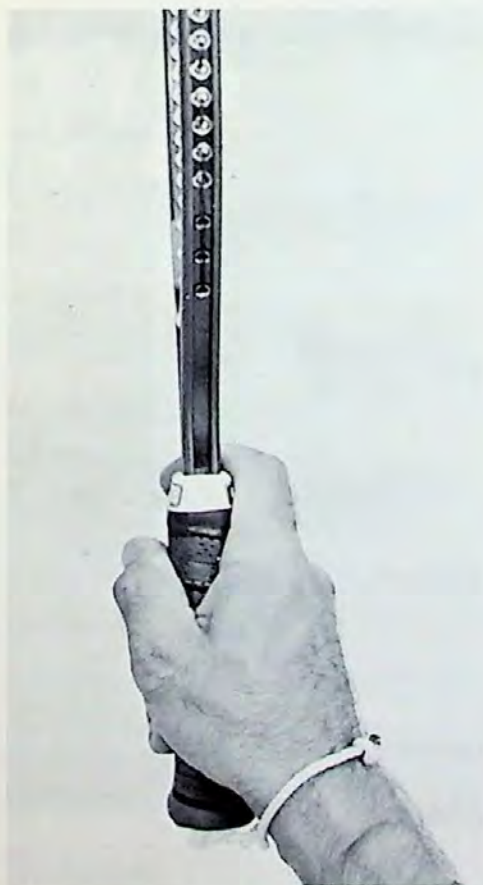
Ideally you want to reach the ball in time to set up properly and stride into the ball with a full-body swing. Because this is the stroke you want to build your game around, I'll discuss it first. But, eventually, as you try to maintain center-court positioning, the pace of the game will often force you to hit from an open stance with a shortened, but still forceful, swing. This "reflex" stroke is equally important in good racquetball and will be described later.

First let's assume that your opponent's shot is going to allow you to take a full swing. When you reach your hitting

location (with your racquet at about chest level), quickly put your racquet up into a set position at around head height, or slightly above, with the wrist cocked. Have your body turned so that your non-hitting shoulder is facing the front wall.

You must rely on experience to help you sense *when* to actually stride into the ball and *when* to start the downward motion of your hitting shoulder and racquet arm. But don't let these movements occur simultaneously or you will lose considerable power. You first want to step out about 12 to 20 inches and transfer your weight to this front leg.

The Full-Body Forehand Swing



The grip is held too high on the racquet. Choking up like this minimizes the amount of power that you can generate with the racquet.



The hitter has his racquet pulled back with his wrist fully cocked. His left arm is comfortably in front of his body, his knees are slightly bent and his back is fairly straight.



The hitter strides into the ball, then dips his hitting shoulder slightly to help lower the racquet. The right knee is starting to bend extensively and the left arm is starting to pull the body through the swing.

Leave your racquet up in its cocked position, for it must come through *last* in your stroking sequence.

Have your hitting shoulder and arm actually start down as you drive forward with your front thigh and uncoil with both hips into the ball. Bend your back knee and drop your hitting shoulder so that you can tuck the elbow in close to the body. Then pull through with your forearm while the wrist remains laid back, the racquet basically pointing to the back wall.

Just before impact off the front foot *snap that wrist forward*, and the racquet will come ripping through to

make contact. Let your wrist snap through completely and have the racquet remain at about waist level until safely after impact. Remember you want the ball to travel into the front wall on the same height, or lower, than it arrived, and this requires a flat, or level, follow through. The racquet will then come up naturally by your left ear.

Strive to maintain good body balance at the completion of your stroke so that you are ready to break in any direction for your opponent's next shot. Ideally you want to have a nice flowing motion from stroke to stroke.

Important Elements of the Swing

Following is a more detailed look at key elements in your forehand swing. You might find it helpful to take out your racquet, get in front of a mirror and go through the motions I'm describing. Check your body positions at different stages of the swing and start working on these correct "*feelings*" now — before you even go back to the court.

Lower Body Movements

By failing to use your lower body properly — the hips, the knees and the thighs — you create two problems for yourself. First you place excess pressure on your hitting shoulder and arm to produce the velocity you want on your shots. This strain can result in a



The racquet is laid back and the wrist is still fully cocked just before contact. The right arm is bent at the elbow and tucked close to the right side of the body, while the legs are generating power.



Contact is made off the front foot, with the racquet face vertical at impact and traveling on a straight line into the ball. Notice the extensive bending of the legs, and how the player's eyes are focused on the point of impact.



The wrist has snapped through the ball and the left arm has been thrown out of the way to give the racquet full clearance on the follow-through. The body stays low and the legs remain bent until the swing has been completed.

Seen from behind, notice how the right arm should be bent at the elbow as you drive into the ball, and how the elbow is tucked in close to the body. This enables the racquet to remain cocked until the last instant before impact, and you can approach the ball on a low, flat plane.

sore shoulder and/or a sore elbow. Second you have less consistency in driving the ball low into the front wall.

Here, then, are some thoughts about your lower body movements:

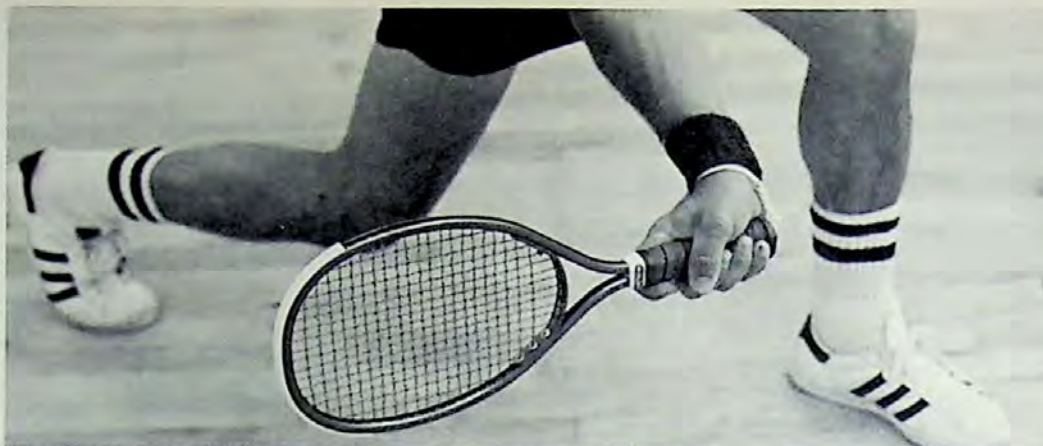
- When you can take a good, healthy stride into the ball, you form a solid base of support on the front leg. And by thrusting off this thigh as you stroke the ball, you generate considerable power.
- As the front thigh pushes forward, the back knee should start to bend. This helps lower your upper body so that the racquet can come through the ball on as flat an angle, or plane, as possible.



The racquet is pulled up behind the left side of the head on the follow-through, and the wrist has been fully snapped. Notice that the body has retained good balance throughout the swing.



In the sequence: (1) the racquet is laid back and the wrist is fully cocked; (2) the wrist is starting to extend and the racquet is coming into the ball; (3) contact is made off the front foot; (4) the wrist is still breaking as the racquet has snapped through the ball; (5) the wrist has snapped fully.



• Meanwhile your hips should be pivoting around to deliver their power. For imagery purposes you're actually driving your right buttock into the shot.

Getting Low to the Ball

To play this game right you want to drive the ball as low and on as straight a line as possible into the front wall. This means you must lower your hitting arm in such a way that the racquet can drive through the ball flat, on the same level as your wrist or slightly lower.

Moving to the ball with your legs already comfortably bent, and then

staying low with the body, is the most efficient way of setting up for low-drive and kill-shot attempts. But most people find it too difficult to use their knees this much; play is so continuous that it takes strong, youthful legs and good agility to keep scurrying about the court in a low position.

Fortunately, however, you can compensate on most balls by mastering your upper body movements and bending at the waist. If you drop your hitting shoulder as you start your swing, and tuck your elbow in about four or five inches from your side, you enable the racquet to come

through low and flat. It has a nice range over which to contact the ball and drive it low into the front wall.

However if you try to play with stiff legs and no bending at the waist, you must swing down at the ball on such an angle that you have only a tiny area in which to contact the ball properly. If your timing is slightly off, the ball will either go into the floor for a "skip" or high into the front wall.

The Non-Hitting Arm

Most people don't know what to do with their "other" arm. Through instinct or from their own experience in tennis, it often gets in the way and can limit the freedom of their swing. The problem often starts with the left hand. If you're in the habit of touching this hand to your racquet handle as you take the racquet up into its set position, that's like touching home plate every time. It keeps you from pulling the racquet up as quickly as you want, and as far back as you should. You'll end up punching at the ball rather than taking a full-body swing.

By keeping your left hand off the racquet you make it easier to keep the arm itself from getting too close to the body. Study the pictures here to notice how the arm should be pulled back out of the way as you take your swing. Then make sure you consciously check yourself during a match and as you practice.

The Racquet Arm and Wrist

In tennis, you might pay \$20 an hour to a pro who tells you repeatedly, "Hit with a fixed wrist." That kind of advice is deadly in racquetball. You want to use all the wrist action you can get on your basic forehand stroke; when you take an imaginary swing, there should be a "whooshing" sound by the racquet strings in the impact area.

Hip Rotation on the Forehand



This sequence shows the powerful rotation of the hips that you seek on your forehand swing. Notice in the two pictures how the left hip "opens up" while the right hip thrusts powerfully into the ball.



Stand in front of a mirror for three other crucial checkpoints: (1) Is the wrist cocked as you hold it in a set position behind your head? (2) Is it still laid back and cocked just before impact and ready to deliver an explosive snap? (3) Is the elbow bent and tucked in close enough to your body so that the forearm, the bicep and the shoulder can all uncoil at the ball?

If your hitting arm is as straight as a tennis swing, it will prevent you from snapping the wrist properly. You must bend the elbow, and have the wrist cocked back as you come into the ball. Then snap that wrist forward at impact.

Contacting the Ball

If you have time, and you can still maintain a good center-court position, let the ball drop as low as you can before you hit it. The closer the ball is to the floor when you make contact, the easier it is to keep it low on the front wall—providing, of course, you swing properly. But always remember, if you're going to play center-court racquetball, *you must learn to hit the ball at the height it comes to you, waist high or below*. Except on obvious "plum" balls, you won't have the luxury to maneuver yourself so that the ball always bounces nice and low around calf level. If you try to play this way, then you're letting the ball play you.

Meanwhile try to watch the ball make contact with the strings. This kind of focusing helps keep your head down through impact, and thus ensures a more solid hit and better accuracy. When you get too eager to see where the ball is going, you tend to lift your head up at impact, which in turn pulls your racquet up too soon.

The Follow-Through

Not only do you want to get down to the ball at contact, but you want to stay down until your stroke is completed. Don't abruptly pull up, also worrying about your opponent's shot. Tell yourself, "*Hit and stay down*," so that you drive the ball low with a follow-through that is complete and forceful. ●

Back Wall Woes

By Terry Fancher

Editor's Note: This article is excerpted from *40 Common Errors in Racquetball, and how to correct them*, by Terry Fancher and Arthur Shay, soon to be published.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2

Many players tend to regard the back wall as an enemy instead of racquetballer's best friend. Beginning players often rush to hit the ball before it can rebound off the back wall. Or even after letting the ball hit the back wall they lose that essential sideways stance and end up hitting the ball (if indeed they do) lightly, with the body erroneously parallel to the front and back walls. Often they make the additional mistake of letting the ball crowd their body, resulting in an awkward swing (Figures 1-3).

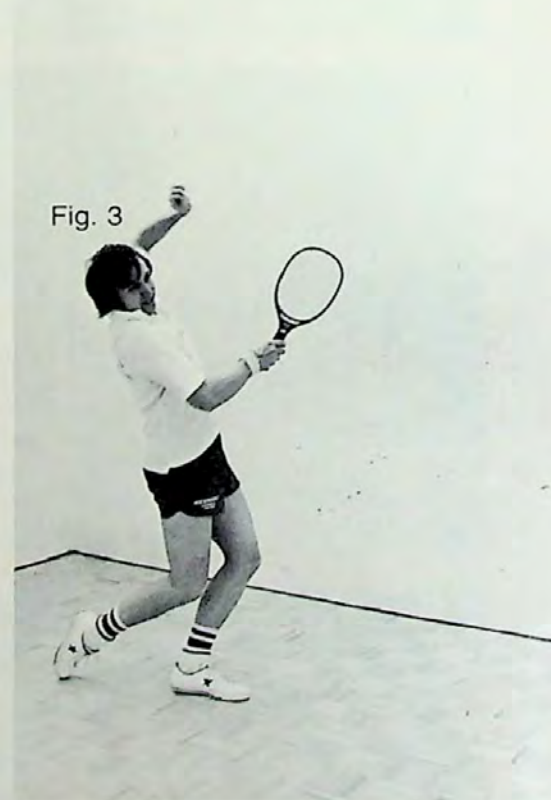


Fig. 3

A more experienced player will time the ball so that he swings his body into proper hitting position as the ball comes into range. The point is to keep the ball at a proper distance so that it doesn't crowd your shot (Figures 4-6).

The real trick is to face sideways (forehand or backhand, it's still sideways) and leave enough room for a



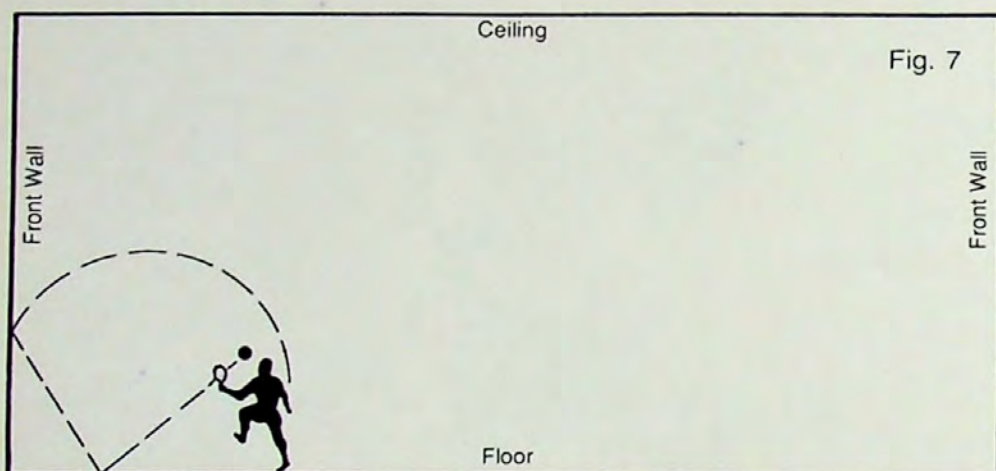
Fig. 4



Fig. 5



Fig. 6



full swing. This is often one of those racquetball situations in which there is more time to get set than you think.

Practice this shot by bouncing the ball so that it strikes the floor then back wall (Figure 7). As the ball rebounds off the back wall, use the fundamentally correct swing as shown in Figures 4-6.

Racquetball is a kind of instant chess, in which the time limit on decisions runs out every few seconds.

One of the decisions that's tough to make quickly is whether to take the ball in deep court or to let it hit the back wall and play it as it comes off. A wrong



Fig. 9



decision results in a poor shot, often an uncoordinated "*push*" instead of a stroke.

If the player does not stop his retreat to the back wall in time to allow for the ball to rebound to him, the ball will rebound in front of him almost out of reach and prevent an offensive, if any, return to the front wall (Figures 8-10).

Each instant decision must be based on whether or not you can get a good, full swing as you hit the ball. This series of decisions may be practiced by flipping the ball behind you to the wall and hitting a series of forehand or backhand returns, whichever body position is easier for you to assume under the stress of a fast shot.

When the player follows the ball to the back wall and allows for a rebound depending on the speed of the ball, he has ample time and space to execute an offensive back wall shot (Figures 4-6). ●

Fig. 10



Being Where You Should Be When You Should Be

by Mike Yellen

Mike Yellen is currently number 10 on the men's NRC pro circuit.



Mike Yellen shows how he serves, then moves rapidly to proper position, with his body at a diagonal, watching his opponent.

Position is one of the most important aspects of any game, whether it's at the professional or amateur level.

That's true in football, basketball, tennis — you name the game.

But it's especially true in racquetball. You'll win more — and have more fun — if you're in the right place at the right time.

If you're in the proper court position, you can:

- (1) Execute your game plan.
- (2) Be ready to re-kill your opponent's shot.
- (3) Eliminate unnecessary steps and fatigue.
- (4) Reach more passing shots.
- (5) Take offensive opportunities and higher percentage shots.

And (6 — a special note to C players) score points with less-than-perfect shots. If you can get your opponent behind you, your kills don't have to be roll-outs. Any low shot will be tough to reach.

Does all that sound good to you?

Then start thinking "center court."

Get back there immediately after you've hit a shot. Don't stand in the back of the court. Don't stand against the side walls. Try hard to do what the pros do: Get to the middle of the court and be ready.

Best Angles to Back Corners

On the serve I recommend that you stand at the center of the service zone. This allows the best angles to both back corners and opens the most options as you choose where you serve the ball.

Immediately after the serve back up a couple of steps behind the short line. Many C players back up too far, others stay right where they are.

If you've served to the left, you should await the return a couple of steps behind the short line and maybe one step toward the left wall.

If you've served to the right, you'll want to move a step that way. (See figure A). Get to the appropriate "X" quickly. From that court position you'll be ready

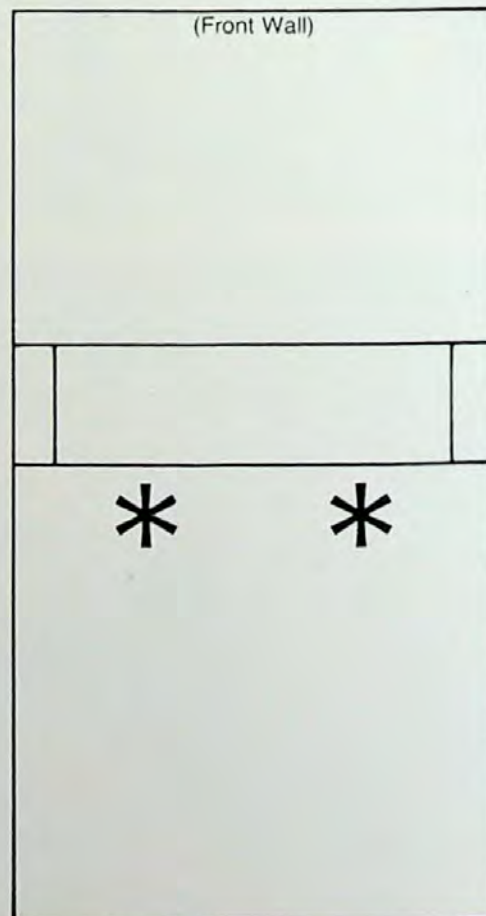


Figure A Positions After Serve

to do the six things I've already mentioned. In other words you'll be ready to win.

But here's an important point: Angle your body, with your toes along an imaginary line. (See figure B.) Let's say you have just served into the left back corner. Angle your body to the left, so your toes are pointing at the left front corner. Then just turn your head slightly toward your opponent.

If you're watching as that opponent sets up and begins to swing, you can more easily anticipate his shot and

react to it rapidly. (See photo.) If you're facing straight toward the front wall, you get flat footed and upright and you'll soon be receiving instead of serving again.

Watch the ball, watch your opponent's feet and body, then generalize where the ball will be going. Start moving AS he swings. You may be surprised at how many balls you really can reach.

CAUTION: Don't stand right in front of your opponent. You'll either get hit with the ball or called for an avoidable hinder.

Center court position is really a circular area, not specifically defined in size. But it's generally a couple of steps behind the short line, and a step or so to the side that the ball is on. (See figure C.)

When returning the serve start in the center of the court at the rear, about an arm's length from the back wall. From this position (See figure D), you'll be able to cover either side of the court and you'll cut down the chances of being aced.

The goal of the receiver is to achieve the position the server held. To do this you'll use a ceiling ball or passing shot

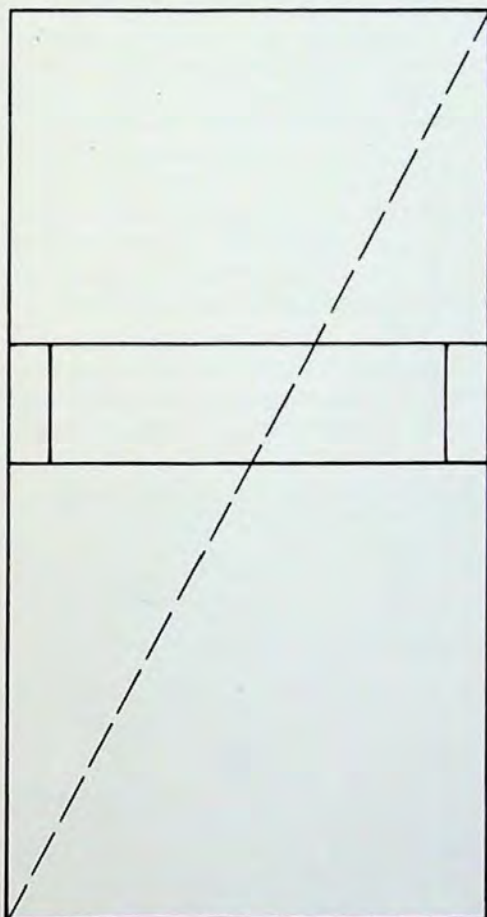


Figure B Imaginary Diagonal

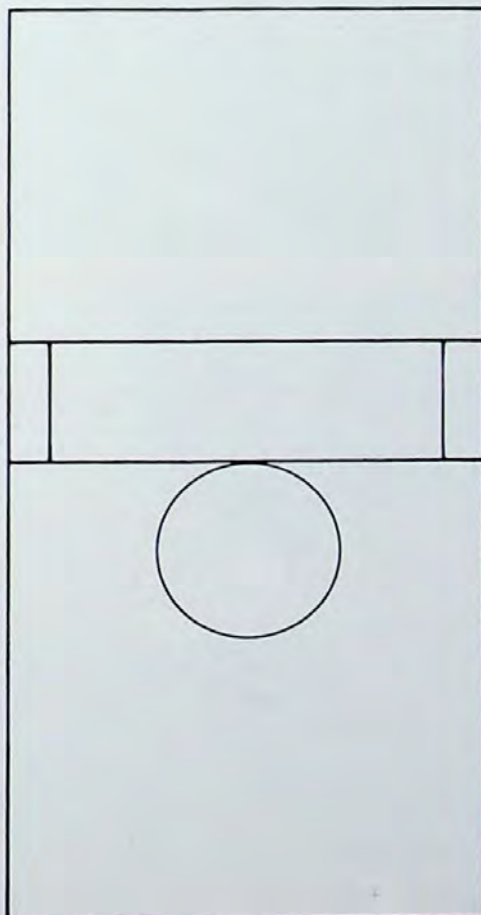


Figure C Center Court Position

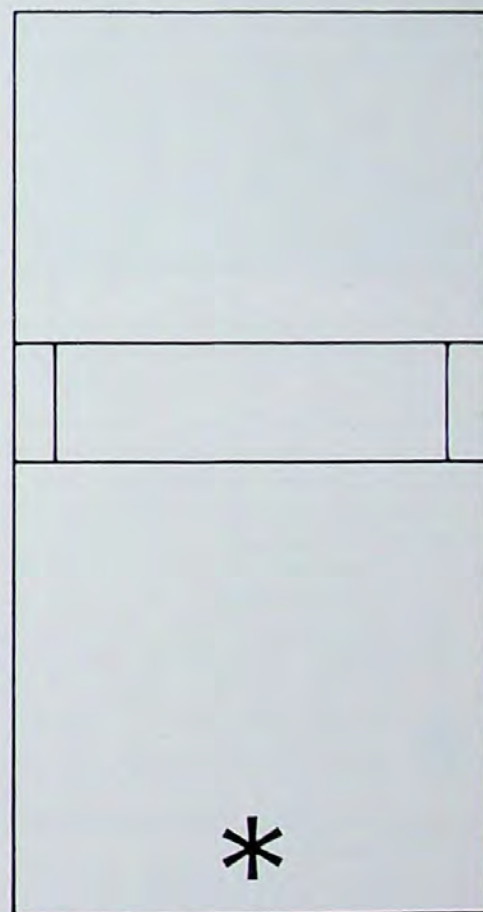


Figure D Position When Waiting To Return Drive

to force the server out. Then you move in. You've just switched spots — and you've gained the advantage.

Figures E, F and G show you what happens when the server hits to the left, and you return a ceiling ball along the left wall.

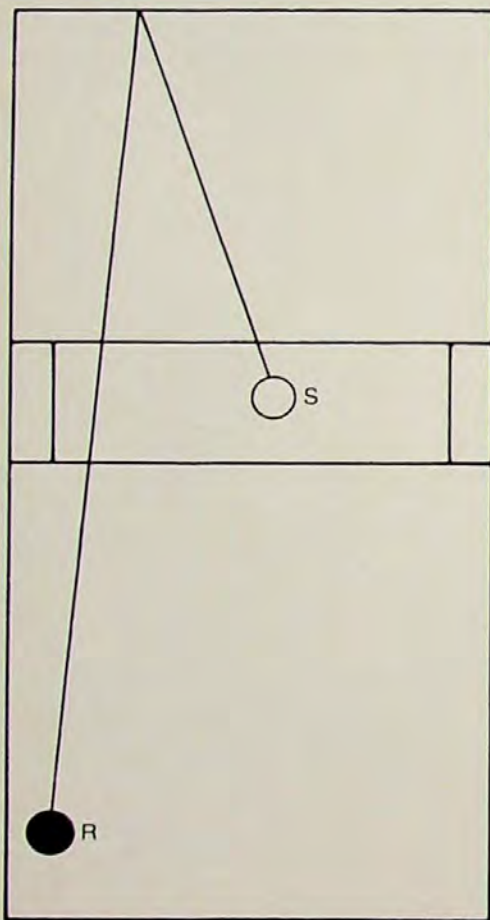


Figure E Serve

Figure F Return-Ceiling Ball

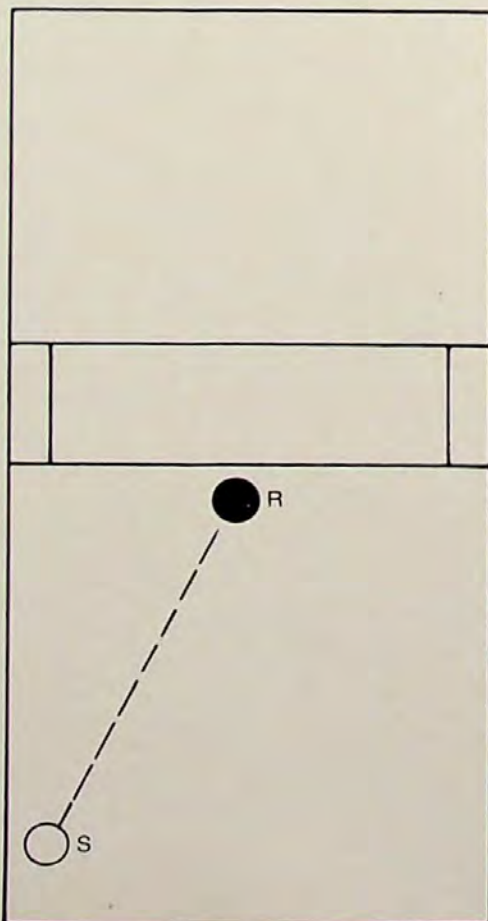
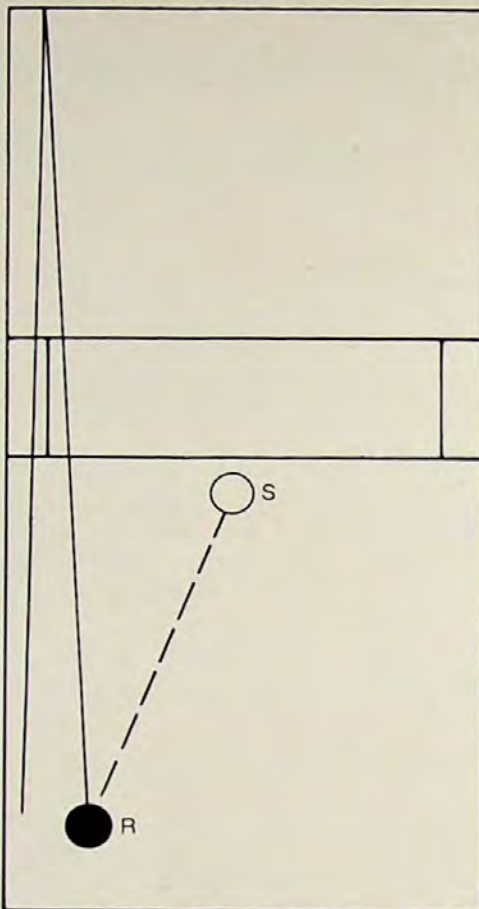


Figure G The Switch Is Made

IN and OUT

While you want to keep yourself *IN* center court position, you want to keep your shots *OUT* of center court.

- (1) If the ball passes through center court, it drives you away. You must move to avoid being hit either by your own shot or by your opponent.
- (2) A shot through center court gives your opponent the best and easiest opportunity to hit the ball, instead of forcing him to run for it.
- (3) You *GIVE* your opponent the center court position he wants without his earning it.

So kill the ball, hit a pass down the line or cross-court, or hit a ceiling shot. But work hard at keeping your shots out of the middle of the court. And remember, keep your body on that imaginary line as you await your opponent's shot — whether it's on the serve or during a long rally. It's the safest way to play. You'll be able to watch the ball and your opponent at the same time, so neither will come crashing into you from behind.

At the club I play at in Michigan I see lots of people get hit in the back of the head with the racquet, simply because they're watching the front wall instead of their opponent. Many players surrender the advantage of anticipation by rushing to center court with their eyes straight ahead.

Adjust that diagonal body position no matter where you are on the court.

And every time you hit the ball, get back to the circular center court position quickly.

From there you'll only have to move a few steps to reach most shots. From the back of the court it can be a long run to continue the rally.

Would you rather run 5 feet or 38 feet? ●

APRO teaches...Warmup

Author Chuck Wurzer is a member of APRO, the American Professional Racquetball Organization, which shares its teaching tips with readers of *National Racquetball*.

Being a former physical director of a YMCA and having competed in many sports such as football, hockey, boxing, basketball and baseball I know personally how important it is to warm up before playing racquetball.

As a professional, teaching at the Four Walls Court in Buffalo, NY, I have even added the importance of the warmup to my teaching program. I start off by telling my class that they should never start a game until they've prepared their bodies for vigorous exercise.

All teachers of racquetball should emphasize in the beginning lessons of all their programs that the correct warmup exercises are important. I have found that many teachers skip over this essential part of racquetball. Even the most professional athlete must warm up for racquetball. I once knew a tennis professional in perfect shape who just walked out on the racquetball court thinking he would naturally play the game. He did play exceptionally well, but the next day his arm and shoulder were practically paralyzed from all those ceiling and kill shots. Different muscles are used for



different sports and should be accentuated in certain warmup exercises.

All too many times when I am called on a court because of a bad injury to a muscle or ligament, I have found it to be the result of not warming up before starting to play. We must all remember racquetball is like any other sport. You never see a football, basketball, baseball or hockey team start their sport without the players warming up to prepare the body for play.

Of course the question is always asked, "How can we warm up before playing?" I explain to the class that there are primarily three ways:

Volley on the court with only one other player before you begin to play. Never try to volley with more than two players because you don't have enough chances to hit the ball.

Do a stretching exercise before going on the court.

Loosen up before going out on the court. One way is to pump the legs on a stationary bike or other exercise equipment.

Remember the simple safety rule **PREPARE THE BODY TO PREVENT INJURY.** ●



The Ajay Racquetteers

***They drive opponents
right up the wall.***

From our **Spoiler**, the largest legal racquetball racquet, down to the **Vendetta**, the lightest around, Ajays are murder on the court, but not on your pocketbook.

The Ajay lineup includes 10 models, 6 head shapes. And when it comes to value, they run the others off the court. See them at your sporting goods dealer or department. Gangbusters!

THE LINEUP

SPOILER—Top gunner! Largest legal sized racquet, yet lighter than most conventionals (265 grams). Oversized rectangle.

ENFORCER—Plays with authority! A light-weight (255 grams) that hits like a heavy-weight. Rectangle.

• **357**—Sneaky! New angular design for low balls close to wall.

BULLET—Right on target! A new elongated teardrop sweet spot.

AVENGER—Great follow through! Comes in three colors with popular elongated rectangle shape.

EXCALIBUR—Very sharp! Color-coordinated tournament nylon strings, aluminum frame in rectangular shape.

VENDETTA—Strong finisher! Lightest weight you can buy, yet a heavy hitter. Teardrop.

HUSTLER—Gets the job done! Composition rectangle frame.

CM300—Money player! Probably the best value you can buy. Teardrop.

DIGGER—Unbreakable! Great for beginners. ABS rectangle frame.

AJAY



GOLF CARTS, CLUBS, BAGS & ACCESSORIES
• BOWLING BAGS & ACCESSORIES • BILLIARD CUES,
BALLS & ACCESSORIES • TENNIS BAGS & ACCESSORIES
• RACQUETBALL RACQUETS & ACCESSORIES

Ajay Sports, 1501 E. Wisconsin, Delavan, WI 53115

Women In Racquetball



Carol Brusslan

Happy Day for a Racquetball Mother

We'll wager that this Mother's Day a million or so of the mothers among the estimated two million plus women racquetball players are getting a new kind of Mother's Day gift.

That gift might be court time, lessons or racquetball equipment — a presentation from grateful husbands and children who know that racquetball is making Mom a happier mother.

Some young mothers think Joe Sobek must have been thinking of them when he invented racquetball. At the very point in the day when a three-year-old's demands seem most outrageous it's time to dress the brood, drive to the racquetball club, put the kids in the nursery and become immersed — both physically and mentally — in an activity unrelated to motherhood. And if the nursery's a good one (as described here and in last month's *Women in Racquetball* section) everybody goes home a little happier.

To those familiar with our sport there's one particular woman who comes to mind when talk turns to racquetball and mothers. That mother — Goldie Hogan — is the subject of another feature in our women's section. At one time Goldie's children — Marty and Linda — might have worn shirts like the one in the photo. Now Goldie's *their* No. 1 fan.



—Arthur Shay photo

Court Club Fun for Those Too Young to Play

More than a half dozen ways for mothers and fathers to help keep kids happy in the racquetball nursery . . .

44

Goldie Hogan is Coach and Mom to two Racquetball Champions

She knows how to raise winning players . . .

47

Who's Playing Racquetball?

"A mimic of life" . . .

50

Court Club Fun For Those Too Young to Play

Doing Your Bit for a Better Nursery

by Mary Jane Bezark

This is the second of two stories on how to make children as happy in the court club nursery as you — their parents — are on the court.

You've checked out a nursery and a racquetball court and know it's safe and has good basic equipment. You've seen the supervisor is warm and savvy about kids.

Now what?

The child care experts we asked agreed that the best way to start a small youngster at a nursery is to stay with him the first time or two he's there. *"Children can get off on the right foot and have a really good experience at this kind of playroom or they can get a bum start and be miserable,"* says Wendy Born, a pre-school curriculum specialist for New York State.

"A mother needs to be patient at the beginning. If she dashes away and leaves her child the first day that child is not going to feel very good about joining the group from then on."

Your child knows what you're up to when you show her the court and let her try the game.

Linda Blumberg, a Highland Park, IL, psychiatric social worker and nursery school consultant, says that in the case of a child three years old or under *"I would plan to stay with him at the nursery a couple of times, about 20 minutes each and preferably both in one week, before I left him there."*

"Small children don't have much experience to fall back on when they have to deal with strange places and people, and they don't even entirely understand that they'll be going home after a while. By being on deck the mother can act as a kind of bridge to help her child establish rapport with the person in charge."

"Then too, while she's there and the child feels confident, he or she can explore the nursery and start to get a sense that this is his territory and it's a good place to be."

Dick Shay photos modeled by Sally Edwards and her daughter, Maggie, at Forest Grove Racquet and Swim Club, Palatine, IL.

Do you have an unusual program or physical setup at the child care center of your racquetball club? Let us know about it for a possible future story. Send ideas to Carol Brusslan, *National Racquetball*, 4101 Dempster, Skokie, IL 60076.



Step by Step into the Nursery

Lucinda Katz is an assistant professor of early childhood development at the University of Illinois Chicago Circle Campus, a racquetball player and mother of a three-month-old daughter. She suggests a slightly different pattern of visits. *"When I play I spend an hour on the court and half an hour changing. So if my daughter hadn't had much experience with separation and a care giver, I'd bring her to the nursery for about 90 minutes her first day and stay with her the whole time."*

"The next time I'd play a game, but I'd make sure I got back to her in 45 minutes, and I'd arrange for the care giver to call me if my child got really upset."

"My partner would certainly understand; after all I'm not going to give her much of a game if I'm worried."

Another way you can help your youngster is to show him — both when you visit and the first time you play — where the courts are and what you'll be doing while he's in the nursery. As Blumberg says that's necessary because, *"Until he's three years or more a child doesn't really understand that when his mother's not with him she continues to exist somewhere else and hasn't just evaporated."*

You can also ask the nursery supervisor to bring your child to see you at the court if he seems upset.

But what if the supervisor doesn't have a back-up person who can take over so she can leave the nursery even briefly? What can you do about that? And what can you do if the nursery begins to have more children than the maximum (five to eight) which most experts think one person can care for?

The solution for you might well be one that's being used at Racquetfun in Huntington Beach, CA. Mothers there take turns acting as the supervisor's aides, and in exchange they get free court time.

Filling the Gap

Some nurseries may have all the basics but not much variety in the play materials department. Luckily that's a gap you and some of the other mothers can fill with no-cost items.

There are, for example, lots of what Born calls, *"scrounge-type art supplies"* that the children can use for making paste collages. You can get wallpaper scraps from a paint store, scraps of fur from a furrier and bits of cloth and lengths of yarn from home. For a firm surface to paste their creations on the children can use styrofoam meat trays.

You can stock a dress-up corner



Beans shaken in an empty ball can provide background music.



Bring along some fur, glue and styrofoam meat trays.

Old clothes can stock a dress-up corner.



with old clothes, but Born advises "Instead of using Mommy and Daddy's castoffs that little children usually trip over, try older brothers' and sisters' outgrown things." And a collection of old hats is always popular with preschoolers, so ask your friends to add their fedoras and caps to those you pull from your storage closet.

Not quite free, but almost, is homemade play dough. A large supply will last at least a couple of weeks if you keep it in an airtight container. (You'll need 4 cups of flour, 4 cups of water tinted with food coloring, 2 cups of salt, 4 tablespoons of vegetable oil and 4 teaspoons of cream of tartar. Mix all ingredients, and colored water and cook over a medium heat until a ball forms. Knead while cooling.)

For drawing paper try a newspaper office. Katz says they often have

odd rolls of newsprint and will give them away to anyone who needs them and will pick them up.

To get a supply of musical instruments that are ideal for young children save your empty racquetball cans. Partially filled with dry beans they make perfect Indian rhythm shakers.

Volunteers trade nursery help for court time.



Hats are a hit.



Goldie Hogan is Coach and Mom to two Racquetball Champions

by Jean Sauser

Goldie Hogan



Linda Hogan has two family coaches – her mother and her brother, Marty.

What's the secret of raising your children successfully in racquetball? Goldie Hogan seems to know. She is the mother of not one, but two racquetball champions. In fact the Hogan name is fast becoming synonymous with championship racquetball.

Marty Hogan is currently the reigning king of the NRC Men's Professional Racquetball tour. The 19-year-old number one seed is by most standards considered to be the best racquetball player in the world.

Following rapidly in Marty's footsteps is younger sister Linda. The ninth grader at West Ladue Junior High is the National Junior Champion, Girls 14 and under.

The story of Linda's and Marty's success in racquetball is really the story of a loving and devoted mother raising her children in sports as well as life. In fact it was Goldie Hogan's original enthusiasm that led to Marty's and Linda's introduction to the sport.

"I worked at the St. Louis Jewish Community Center and I started playing racquetball," Goldie remembers. "I taught myself. That was 12 years ago. I got motivated and started getting Marty into it. He liked it and he just liked the idea of getting out on that court and playing."

Goldie and Marty played racquetball together in those early years and at that time eight-year-old Marty's number one ambition was to be able to beat his mother.

"When I beat him," Goldie smiles as she recalls, "he would say, 'That's it mom, I don't want to play anymore, I'm tired.'"

During these early years Goldie simply wanted her children playing racquetball because it allowed her to keep an eye on them while she was working at the JCC.

"I always felt good about working at the center because I could watch my kids while they were growing up."

Although Goldie had been competing in various racquetball tournaments in their home town of St. Louis, Marty's beginning in competition came a little later, when he approached his mother with the idea of playing the Nationals in 1969.

"The Nationals were being held at our Jewish Community Center," Goldie recalls. "Marty came to me and said, 'Mom, I'd like to play the Nationals.' 'I said, 'What!' half kidding half serious, 'that's a lot of money, a \$25 entry fee.' He earned the money shovelling snow, and entered. This is how he began."

Her word Isn't Law

Most racquetball parents would love to be in Goldie Hogan's place right now, and they could probably use advice from her in the art of being a good racquetball parent. When asked to give advice, though, Goldie is almost hesitant. She is careful to explain that her philosophy of raising children on and off the racquetball court is not universal law for all parents to religiously follow.

In describing life with Linda and Marty Goldie constantly uses the word "motivation". She clearly feels that when she successfully concentrates her energy on motivating her children to play, they usually play well.

"I am not a pusher, I'm a motivator," mother Hogan emphasizes.

"Playing the sport myself helps. I know how it is, I know there is an up and down time. With Marty, in his years of growing up, I never had to push but I never let him sway out of racquetball. Whenever I wanted Marty and Linda to practice I'd say, 'Come on kids, let's go play.'"

An often-repeated pleasure for Goldie Hogan: sharing a victory glow with her son, Marty, along with accolades from USRA president Bob Kendler (l.) and Joe Ardito.



Goldie's voice has an understanding tone as she describes the times when her children didn't want to play or practice racquetball.

"A couple of times Linda had plans with her friends or wanted to do something else and I said, 'Come on, let's go play racquetball.' 'No Mom,' she said 'I don't want to.' 'Most of the time when she didn't want to play, we didn't play.'"

Goldie readily admits that it is tempting to push Linda into playing racquetball more than she already does because of Marty's success and because the sport is reaching prominence so rapidly.

"It would be a waste for her not to play," she says concerning Linda's racquetball future. "Her ability is the same as Marty's. I see her court

sense along with her confidence building and I would like to see her succeed."

Resisting the temptation to push too hard Goldie continues to "motivate", as she puts it, her two young racquetball stars on and off the pro tour.

Numerous times she has been approached by racquetball parents who want her to work some kind of magic into their own children, turning them into the next Marty or Linda Hogan.

They Want a Son Like Her Son

"I've had comments made to me like, 'I want you to see my son and tell me what you think about him.' " Goldie sighs. "What they really want to know is, if they gave me their son, could I make him another Hogan."

How does she handle requests from

other parents to transform their children into Hogan potentials?

"I handle it in a gracious kind of way," she explains. "I say, 'Well, I don't know about that, it all depends on him.'"

Goldie Hogan does teach racquetball but avoids commitment that would drain her energy away from her children.

"I'm a racquetball instructor. Also I work out games for handball, racquetball and squash players. This is my job. I'll give racquetball lessons at my convenience. At the present time, however, I want to put my major efforts into my children."

Besides having the ability to motivate her children, Goldie claims that there are other ingredients that help her remain a successful racquetball parent and coach. These ingredients consist of her own love for, enthusiasm about and participation in the game of racquetball.

In fact any tournament that Goldie, Marty and Linda attend can be assured of at least three entry fees. Marty, of course, will be entered in the Men's Pro division, Linda will play the Women's Open and Pro divisions. Goldie herself can always be counted on to enter at least one women's event.

When not on tour, Goldie, who's divorced, lives with Linda in the St. Louis suburb of Olivette. Marty attends college in San Diego on scholarship courtesy of his sponsor, Leach Industries. Many times tournaments provide reunions for the three players. Goldie Hogan doesn't worry about her own tournament standings but does admit to having some different feelings about her daughter and son.

"When I'm watching my son play racquetball, I feel he's great. I never

'think anyone's going to beat him. Linda, at the present time, I'm not as fired up about, because I feel she has to grow. She's only 14. As for me I enter the tournaments to get exercise and I love the sport.'

A Heartbreaker

Goldie Hogan is among the many racquetball parents who've had the unpleasant experience of watching a child lose an important match in a racquetball tournament. Many observers feel that the most heartbreaking loss in the Hogan family had to be the 1977 Nationals held last June in San Diego. She was among the spectators who watched as Davey Bledsoe defeated Marty Hogan in the final match of the tournament.

Goldie maintains along with most observers that Marty should not have lost but she states, *"I did not feel bad about it. I was just concerned about how my son felt."*

Marty was temporarily down but made a quick recovery to the top of the racquetball tour this past fall, winning almost every tournament and regaining his number one spot.

In contrast to watching Marty play Goldie is not so conscious of winning and losing where Linda's concerned. The main word she uses when describing her feeling about her daughter's racquetball career is *"growth"*.

"She's only 14," Goldie says. "I don't want her to burn out!" So this year Linda's main energies will be spent completing her freshman year as well as playing tournament racquetball.

In addition to her own influence on Linda Goldie feels that Marty's success in racquetball has had a positive effect on his younger sister.

"I really think Linda's motivation is because of her brother," Goldie explains. *"She really admires her brother."*

This past summer, Linda entered and won the 1977 Juniors for girls 14 and under. Goldie was not able to attend the tournament, but Marty was. With a little coaching from her big brother and a lot of her own natural talent, Linda won the championship. Goldie says that the feeling between the three of them was summed up when Linda returned home with the title.

"Mom, I want you to know that if you had been there, I think I could have played better," Linda informed her mother.

"I think that goes to show you the feelings we have for one another," Goldie says with pride.

On the court Marty and Linda continue to grow and excel. Off court growth is also necessary in the opinion of the Hogans.

What You Can't Take Away

"Their education is very important. I think they need a college education," Goldie goes on to explain that her main hope for both her children off the racquetball court is for them to obtain college degrees.

"That's something nobody takes away from you," she says.

If Linda continues to excel at tournament racquetball, she will probably follow Marty's footsteps and play racquetball as a college student, too.

On and off court considerations for these two young racquetball champions is almost a full time job. Goldie Hogan readily admits that she rarely thinks of herself first. It doesn't seem to bother her that in these liberated days, most outsiders think she is too selfless.

"A lot of people say to me, 'Goldie, you're a jerk. Why do you put so much time into your kids?' My answer is this. My children are very important to me. I've enjoyed every minute of them. I love to be around my kids. For me they're not a bore and they're not a hang up. Right now if I can get Linda to excel like Marty in racquetball, get a scholarship and do something with her life, then I'll take time out for Goldie Hogan."

What would Goldie Hogan do if she took time out for herself?

"I'd like to travel," she explains. *"Even with all the traveling to pro tournaments, I don't get to see that much outside the tournament site."*

One cannot avoid asking Goldie if she thinks she might be living life vicariously through her children.

"Maybe," she answers honestly. *"I guess it's true. When I see them in there playing and I see them hit certain shots, I think I see me. I'd love to be able to play like that."*

If Goldie Hogan is living through her children, she has good reason to. She's found the secret of transmitting enthusiasm along with a winning attitude in racquetball to Marty and Linda Hogan. And besides most sports spectators, mothers aside, do live vicariously through the athletes they watch. What racquetball enthusiast looking in on a professional match doesn't let his or her mind wander into the daydream about becoming the best racquetball player around? In fact take a tip from this author. The next time you're daydreaming that you are the new Hogan of the racquetball world, don't forget to include a mother like Goldie in your script.

Who's Playing Racquetball?

Ellen Henle: College Dean who Juggles Children, Job and Racquetball

Ellen Henle has a few big priorities, and she's determined to make sure she fits them all in her life. She has a husband and two small children, a job as acting assistant academic dean at Oberlin (Ohio) College, an interest in historical research, a fondness for the martial art of aikido and an admittedly compulsive need to play racquetball.

"I started playing about four years ago – doubles, once a week, at night. I liked it, but I wasn't fanatical about it." After two years of this kind of routine Ellen and her husband Michael, an assistant professor of math at Oberlin, went off on leave. "I didn't play at all last year, and I felt just terrible." The five foot, two inchers considers racquetball a good sport for the short person because, "You're closer to the ground." Upon returning to Oberlin she found her whole approach to the game had changed. She now plays at least twice a week, beats her husband regularly, and has come in second in two tournaments. "I'm a competitive person. I don't mind losing if I've had a good game, but I don't like to lose by 10 points, and I don't like to win by 10 points."

Ellen's professional duties as a dean are "a mixed bag." She is responsible for determining off-campus credit policy: who can study away, where they can study

and what kind of credit should be given. She is also closely involved with Oberlin's "Winter Term", which is a one month period where a student may actively pursue an area of academic or personal interest.

Ellen and Michael juggle their schedules to spend as much time as possible with their children. While the seven-year-old is in first grade, the three-and-a-half year old goes to the Oberlin Early Childhood Center (of which Ellen is a board member.) Michael usually can arrange to be home to fix lunch.

Ellen likes to switch racquetball partners frequently in order to inspire better games. She estimates

she plays once a week with a student and once with a faculty member or friend. She also spends one night a week practicing aikido which she refers to as "the antithesis of racquetball." Aikido, she says, is a martial art of nonviolent self-defense. It requires learning to work with, rather than competing with another person.

Although she enjoys aikido, Ellen is adamant about the personal relevance of her favorite sport. "Racquetball," she says, "is a mimic of life. If you learn how to serve to a corner you can make other people run."

—Jennifer Alter



—Dan Freedman photo



Racquetball's a must in the busy schedule of college dean, Ellen Henle, who considers time with her family another top priority.

Treat yourself to a super Racquetball vacation in Aspen

Improve your game in Aspen! In July, The Aspen Athletic Club is sponsoring two 7-day racquetball instructional camps, led by our top national pros, Kathy Williams and Janelle Mariott.

You may stay nearby at The Gant, one of Colorado's most luxurious resort complexes, in fully furnished one- to four-bedroom condominiums with complete kitchens, balconies, fireplaces, and color televisions. Only a short stroll from downtown Aspen, The Gant has five tennis courts, two swimming pools and a courtesy van service.

The camp schedule allows time for all: excellent racquetball instruction and spirited play, plus relaxation and diverse entertainment in Aspen. Camp weeks begin on July 16 and July 23. The cost is \$175, plus lodging.



Please send information on the Williams/Mariott Pro Camp to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

The Aspen Athletic Club is designed for the active sports enthusiast. Located in downtown Aspen, the Club provides racquetball and squash courts, a swimming pool, complete exercise areas, Jacuzzi, steam, sauna facilities for men and women.



For further information, telephone or write:

The Aspen Athletic Club / Pro Camp

720 East Hyman Avenue, Aspen, Colorado 81611, (303) 925-2531

ASPEN ATHLETIC CLUB

SEAMCO®

San Francisco Players Flock To Old Ice House

by Nick Longhurst

The savage shriek of seagulls as they wheel and swoop above the decks of fishing boats moored in San Francisco's historic Fishermans' Wharf hasn't changed in a hundred years.

It seems like time has stood still in the carefully preserved docks where the high bowed boats still make daily fishing trips out to sea.

But just a few blocks away, razed buildings and boarded up warehouses mirror the progress which has gripped the bayside city. Time has marched on, and for many of the famous old streets progress has not been kind.

Like the old Ice House on Battery Street. Once it was close by the waters' edge and fishing boats tied up to take on the tons of ice needed in the days before refrigeration.

But then landfill extensions and a new road marooned it from the bayside, it's cavernous storage vaults, surrounded by thick insulated walls, emptied out of tubs of fish waiting to be sold for the last time.

The last few years were not too kind to the building, just a few blocks from the studio where the *"Streets of San Francisco"* was once filmed.

But now the Ice House is transformed with a three million dollar face lift which has turned it into one of the most searched-after spots in the hilly city.

It is now a racquet club and its 11 racquetball courts, set in a bright airy interior livened up with spectacular graphics, have magnetised San Franciscans.

So much so that the club sold out its complement of memberships — 1,500 at prices averaging \$400 for initiation and \$50 per month — two months before the club opened for business.

Now daily the occupants of nearby skyscraper offices in the financial district work out in the facilities which provide everything from racquetball to badminton.





"Real estate in the San Francisco city area is very expensive and we looked for a year for the spot which would be near enough to the market we were looking at," explains Peter Jones, one of the three young partners in the club operation.

"There wasn't a great deal of racquetball action in San Francisco. The University Club and Olympic club are very exclusive and none of the racquetball players I knew ever played at the Y.

"When we found the old ice house and looked closely at it, we realized it was just what we needed. Close enough to the city and on the bus route to Marin County where many of the commuters live."

But they almost lost it. The old building, which had stood empty for the past few years, was suddenly in demand.

"We almost lost it to a television network that wanted to turn it into a film studio," adds Peter.

The three partners knew that they would never get closer to the potential market they had in mind because there was no way racquetball could compete with office space on a rental cost basis. But the building, with 10 inch thick concrete walls and 150,000 square feet of space, was ideal.

Construction started in March of 1977. There were no extensive modifications necessary for the old structure. An architectural company, Gensler and Associates, planned a simple interior around 11 racquetball courts, a multi-purpose basketball, badminton open court area, three squash courts, a huge gym, and a snack bar. Two tennis courts even found their way to the roof.

Huge locker rooms and a backgammon, television lounge completed the picture.

As soon as the name went up outside the building a telephone answering



machine began to pick up messages from interested commuters.

And soon there were 800 slips of paper to be followed up on.

"The same people kept calling back. We didn't want to advertise because it was clear we were getting more traffic than we could handle. As it was it took us two months to digest all the inquiries," explains Peter.

"The response was phenomenal and it shows what a lack of racquet facilities there was in the city."

In fact things moved so fast, the projected second phase of building which was going to be done later — which included five racquetball courts — was started immediately.

Among a few surprises at the club female membership is higher than the national average.

"We originally settled on 1,000 men and 500 women members," explains another partner, Jim Gerber. *"But finally we arrived at 900 men and 600 women."*

The three partners had no qualms about adapting an old building to the racquetball purpose. They already have another club in operation in Mountain View on the South Peninsula near Stanford University, and that started out life as a cabinet making factory.

"It is possible to adapt buildings easily to racquetball," explains the third member of the triumvirate, John Melin.

"Financing the building of the club wasn't easy but it was finally done with the Bank of California. And without a doubt one of the things which swayed the bank was the fact we already had a good track record."

The three young developers found that there was a big gap in racquetball facilities in the Bay City, and that was obvious when they applied for zoning for the club.

New Court Clubs

Explains John, "The zoning officials didn't quite know what to make of us. Finally they created a special classification just for us."

Standard of play is still fairly low due to the inexperience of the majority of most of the members. Only two A players and a handful of B's head the racquetball playing ranks at the club, but internal ladders and competitions should one day make the Northern Californian players a force to be reckoned with. And the club, filled with young executives, may one day soon make its mark on San Francisco life.

"Most of the members here are the movers and doers of tomorrow. They realize the value of court sports like racquetball in getting to and staying at top shape," says Melin.

So next time you're in San Francisco take time out from the delights of historical Fisherman's Wharf and cast an eye over the old Ice House.

It's new name? It is up there in proud gold letters — the "San Francisco Bay Club."

Since this story was written the San Francisco Bay Club owners have made plans to build a second racquetball facility in their town. They'll convert the old "Streets of San Francisco" TV studio into the 15-court Telegraph Hill Racquetball Club. — Ed.

Club de Racquetball

DuVallon Itee

1977 Place Cota
Dubargar, Quebec G1M 3Y5

Court Jester

1166 U.S. Highway 9
Lakewood, NJ 08701

Center Courts II

8141 Orion
Van Nuys, CA 91406

Hank Sturm's Racquetball and Health Club

2121 38th Street
Kenner, LA 70062

J K Kourt House Inc.

208 McConnell
Laramie, WY 82070

The Las Vegas Sporting House

3025 Industrial Road
Las Vegas, NV 89109

North Lake Court Club, Inc.

3920 Florida Avenue
Mandeville, LA 70448

Plainview Racquetball Club

10301 Linn Station Road
Louisville, KY 40223

Spaulding Racquetball Club

2300 W. Sixth Street
Lawrence, KS 66044

The Sports Gallery

2560 E. Katella Avenue
Anaheim, CA 92806



STRONGWALL[®] IS FOREVER!

Because as pioneers in the manufacture and installation of specialized surfaces since 1938, we have developed the ultimate court surface, superior to both panels and plaster because:

1. It is seamless
2. Monolithic Strongwall doesn't flake, chip, peel, warp or discolor (indoors or out)
3. It is fast playing
4. It is spin-controlled
5. It is consistent in play over every square inch
6. It has uniform sound throughout
7. It resists ball marks and is easy to clean
8. It is fire-resistant
9. IT IS VIRTUALLY INDESTRUCTIBLE
10. No downtime or maintenance

What does this mean to you? It means you get the ideal playing surface at a remarkable savings. And our national network of authorized installers are experts, responsible for the complete surfacing work!

Shouldn't you investigate Strongwall today?

It's the ideal racquetball court surface!



Call or write for additional information:

Strongwall Systems[®], Inc.

299 Forest Avenue
Paramus, New Jersey 07652
(201) 262-5414

Unusual Opportunity

Major developer has racquetball, tennis, pool, lounge and health club facility available in Mt. Washington Valley, New Hampshire

If looking to own such a facility in a four-season area, please contact Bernie or Ed

(603) 356-2301 or 356-3487
write Box 121, Intervale, N.H. 03845

WE PUT IT ALL TOGETHER FOR YOU



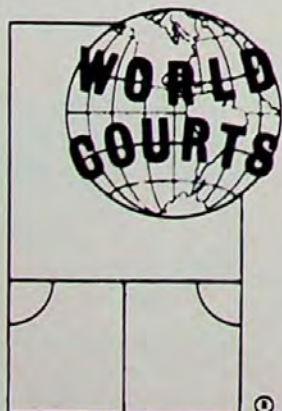
Are You Building New Squash, Handball, Racquetball and Paddleball Courts? Revamping or Repairing Your Old Ones?

NEVER A FAILURE!

**OUR P-62 HI-DENSITY LAMINATED PLASTIC PANEL SYSTEM
COMES WITH OUR FAMOUS DOUBLE GUARANTEE!**

LOWER MAINTENANCE COSTS

No Cracking or Chipping and No Painting Ever. A Mild Soap and Water Cleaning is All That is Ever Needed. No Wall Sweating.



A Total Court Package for Every Need!
For Further Details Call or Write:

WORLD COURTS, INC.

**554 MAIN STREET, DEPT. NR
S. WEYMOUTH, MASS. 02190
Phone (617) 337-0082**

Product of
Fibersin
Industries, Inc.

National Racquetball

EXTRA!

Nick Longhurst Named West Coast Editor

Nick Longhurst

National Racquetball and the U.S. Racquetball Association have announced the addition of Nick Longhurst to their full time staff as west coast editor.

Longhurst, 32, a native of Geddington, England, now living in the Los Angeles area, will do feature writing for *National Racquetball*, as well as coordinate television efforts for the USRA at various events.

A graduate of Northampton College of Technology in the northern section of England Longhurst left his own news agency in England in 1969 to move to Nice, France, where he was foreign correspondent for English newspapers and the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) Radio, covering "everything from the French Riviera social scene to Grand Prix tennis."

After doing television work on BBC TV, which included writing scripts and sports, Longhurst vacationed in Miami in August, 1973, and never went back home.

"I liked this country so much I decided to stay," said Longhurst, whose uncle is the famous golfer and broadcaster Henry Longhurst. "I did a good deal of traveling."

Longhurst first became introduced to racquetball when he was on assignment to do an interview with USRA president Bob Kendler at the 1977 National Championships in San Diego.

"I was a free lance writer at the time," said Nick, "and the interview with Bob Kendler was the first time I really got involved with racquetball."

From then until he joined the *National Racquetball* staff Longhurst contributed many including stories on Actor Wayne Rogers and Actress Adrienne Barbeau.

"There are many celebrities playing racquetball on the west coast," he said. "And I think the racquetball public would be interested in reading about them."

Nick also coordinated both of the NRC's televised tourna-



—Terry Muck photo

ments this season, with KOCE-TV in Westminster, CA., and KAET-TV in Tempe, AZ.

"The future of televised racquetball is tremendous," he said. "There's no limit to the potential of racquetball with TV."

Besides racquetball, Nick's hobbies include skiing, sailing and rugby, the sport, he says, that was truly his calling.

Welcome aboard, Nick!

Racquetball Word Spreads

Editors of three of the country's major newspapers thought racquetball would give their readers a mid-winter pick me up, as they published major features about our sport within one week in February.

The Philadelphia Evening

Bulletin quoted two stories on racquetball dress in *National Racquetball's* January issue in an article headed "Call it racquetball or raggedball — it's growing fast." In the *New York Times* a story that summarized the "four big four wall games"

(racquetball, handball, paddle ball and squash) included USRA National Director Chuck Leve's claim that "Anybody can play it . . . anybody old enough to walk and young enough to run." Los Angeles Times readers learned that "When hand-

ball's Big Daddy, Bob Kender . . . took racquetball under his wing, he tried to convince the handballers that the impending racquetball boom would give them, more, not fewer facilities from which to choose. He was right."

Ajay Sports Signs Glenda Pommerich



Glenda Pommerich 24-year-old professional racquetball player, now represents Ajay Sports, major producer of racquetball racquets and accessories located in Delavan, WI.

Wilson Names Steele to Racquetball Staff



W. Lee Steele has been appointed assistant business manager for racquetball products at Wilson Sporting Goods Company. His major responsibilities will include market analysis, advertising and promotion and new market development

Wanted

Pro Shop Buyer with retail soft goods experience to buy nationally for large racquetball club chain.

Send resume to: — Gil Schmitt Sports Illustrated Court Clubs 26300 Telegraph Rd., Southfield, Michigan 48034.

Since 1872 — Manufacturers of
The Finest in Hard Maple Floors
Specializing in Sports Floor Construction

Contact us for Engineering Data and
Specifications on our "Laytite"

Court Floor System
for

Racquetball — Handball — Squash



CONNOR
FOREST INDUSTRIES
WAUSAU, WISCONSIN 54401
P. O. BOX 847



John Newcombe doesn't play racquetball in tennis shoes. Why do you?

Or are you one of those still playing in basketball sneakers? Either way, you're selling yourself short.

Let's look at it this way; nobody moves around in tennis shoes better than a champion like John Newcombe. But even he needs a special shoe when he leaves the grass, clay and asphalt tennis courts for the hardwood floors of racquetball.

They can give you much better traction, with a suction tread gum rubber sole that grips so well you can practically scale the walls. They wear longer because of the double-stitched top grain leather,



canvas or composition uppers and durable toe overlays. And they feel better because of a contoured anatomical footbed and heel counter.

In Lotto's you'll move quicker and feel lighter on your feet. Ask to see all five Lotto racquetball models for men and women. It's the better way to go...and stop...and go...

Great racquetball shoes.

Lotto 

Lotto-Newk U.S.A., Inc.,
San Antonio, Texas 78216

A division of Program Tennis Service 





Racquetball

Canadian Racquetball on the Upswing

As you read in our April feature racquetball is becoming an important sport in Canada, with program financing coming directly from the government. Beginning with this issue we are going to be posting news of events in Canada and feature stories submitted by the Canadian Racquetball Association, the only official national racquetball organization in that country.

New Executive Director John Hamilton is enthusiastic about the monetary support given by the Canadian federal government through the Sport Canada Division of Fitness and Amateur Sport. *"I hope that the tremendous growth experienced in the States carries over into Canada,"* says John. The positive attitude toward the sport in Canada is evidenced by the fact that racquetball will be one of 18 sports played at the 1979 Canada Winter Games, the National "Games" for Non-Olympic athletes.

Reciprocal Membership CRA/USRA

The CRA has begun a cooperative relationship with the USRA and will eventually work in some parallel programs. The CRA has already begun a coaching program, and refereeing and junior development programs are also being designed. A national ranking system is also being ironed out. The official magazine, *Racquetball Canada*, is being expanded from four to six issues per year.

As a cooperative venture all Canadian and USRA memberships are reciprocal. That is a current member in either association automatically belongs to both. This membership privilege will enable members of the Canadian organization who show their CRA cards to participate in the National Championships in Belleville, MI, June 17-24. There are some excellent men

and women players north of the border and we hope to see them this summer.

Racquetball is soon to become an international sport as courts are being built throughout North America and the world. A cooperative effort will be needed to tie activities in the various countries together so that the sport can grow and prosper worldwide.

A New Trend in the Regionals

Historically regional championships have been one step below national competition for the players. Categories of play were the same as those offered in the nationals.

Now it seems that many USRA regional tournaments are expanding brackets of play for the men and women's B, C and novice divisions to accompany the newly added juniors age brackets.

This has come about due to several factors. First of all the open events of play sometimes discourage new players from taking part due to the high caliber of skill involved, therefore limiting the number of possible entrants. Also as more people take part in tournaments rather than simply watch others play, they are demanding that the B and C divisions be included, and rightly so.

It is a pleasant and welcome surprise to have this situation exist. Why shouldn't regional players be able to participate as well as watch the best players in their area compete for trips and prizes? Now they, too, can play.

Next year the USRA is going to recommend that all regional hosts have additional brackets of play whenever possible. We are happy to be reaching all levels of playing ability and not just the veteran tournament participants who have supported us for so long.



Terry Fancher

Meet Your State Chairman

Doug Clark — New Jersey

Racquetball in the Garden State is blossoming and helping the cause along are enthusiastic players like Doug Clark, our state chairman, and Frank Pescatore, co-state chairman.

Doug, a '72 graduate of Western Washington State, got interested in racquetball while playing on his college tennis team. After winning an intramural racquetball tournament he fell in love with the sport and almost ruined his tennis season. Doug's opinion of the game is shared by many: *"fantastic game for all ages."* He adds *"after teaching tennis and seeing a new player take several months to a year to successfully complete a rally, it's a real pleasure to see all members of the family able to enjoy playing together within their first few times out."*

The USRA has sponsored various activities in Doug's state, such as the Delaware Valley League, which was divided into a Pennsylvania and New Jersey division, with a total of eight teams involved. This year the New Jersey division has been divided into north and south sections with six teams in each section and an additional format for women's league play. *"With*



USRA State Affiliates

Alabama

Jerry O'Neal
c/o Nat'l Homes
Acceptance Corp.
Box 3436A
Birmingham 35205
205-324-3431

Alaska

Dan Dompier
2600 Devali St., #600
Anchorage 99503
907-276-0700

Arizona

Chuck Hallock
504 West Malibu Dr.
Tempe 85282
602-967-0001 after 5 p.m.

Arkansas

Bob Blake
2201 Braden
Jacksonville 72076
501-982-6209

California

Jerry Monell
2767 Ocean Front Walk
S. Mission Beach 92109
714-275-3344

Dave Gleason (Central)
The Sport Sole
4777 N. Blackstone Ave.
Fresno 94536
209-226-9232

Jerry Monell (Southern)
9453 Goodwick Ct.
San Diego 92123
714-275-3344

Colorado

John Mooney
3455 David Circle
Colorado Springs 80907
303-597-7775

Connecticut

Jack Fruin
c/o YMCA
842 Maine St.
Willimantic 06226
203-423-4951

Delaware

Terry Arnold
Marsh & Silverside Rd.
Wilmington 19810
302-475-2125

Florida

Rick Stevens
1831 N.W. 13th St.
Gainesville 32601
904-372-1229

Georgia

Wayne Vincent
3777 Vineyard Ct.
Marietta 30062
404-971-5441

Hawaii

Woody Cox
1527 Wilder #U-2
Honolulu 96822
808-941-3344

Idaho

Dirk BURGARD
130 N. Placer
Idaho Falls 83401
208-523-0600

Illinois

Tom Street, Alan Shetzer
570 East Higgins Rd.
Elk Grove Village 60007
312-439-3030

Indiana

Robert Tiedge
P.O. Box 1792
South Bend 46624
219-272-8808

Iowa

Tom Sweeney
415 14th St. N.E.
Cedar Rapids 52402
319-366-4558

Kansas

Steve Ray
10839 Woodward
Overland Park 66210
913-642-5220

Kentucky

David Fleischaker
628 Fincastle Bldg.
Louisville 40202
502-585-5369

Louisiana

Sanford Comeaux
P.O. Box 3644
Lafayette 70502
318-984-5753

Maine

Ken Astor, Kevin York
170 Rt. 1
Falmouth
207-781-4281

Maryland

Joy Nolte
Towson Court Club
8757 Mylander Lane
Towson 21204
301-821-0160

Massachusetts

Jim McConchie
12 "A" St.
Lincoln 01773
617-273-1025

Michigan

Dennis Wood (Chairperson)
2808 S. Deerfield
Lansing 48910
517-882-8789

Gil Schmitt (East)

2111 Golfside
Ypsilanti 48197
313-434-2111

Bob Dykstra (West)

2655 29th St.
Grand Rapids 49509
616-942-5190

Judy Huhta (Central)
2019 Lovington Ave., #204
Troy 48064
313-588-8249

Minnesota

Bob Adam, Sr.
7600 Park Lawn Ave.
Edina 55435
612-835-6515

Mississippi

C. T. Carley
213 Windsor
Starkville 39759
601-325-4915

Missouri

Ron York
1012 W. 104th St.
Kansas City 60114
816-942-6436

Montana

Russ Miller
Shepherd 59070
406-373-6390

Nebraska/South Dakota

Dick Kincade/
Chuck Erickson
222 N. 44th Street
Lincoln 68503
402-475-5686

Mark Hegg (Co-chairman)
Racquetball of Omaha
67th & Grover St.
Omaha 68106

Nevada

Dan Seaton
3727 Centennial Cir.
Las Vegas 89120
702-386-4011

New Hampshire

Tom Lancaster
Carriage Lane
Bedford 03102
603-472-5095

New Jersey

Doug Clark
23 Holmes Lane
Marlton 08053
609-983-4812

Frank Pescatore
(Co-Chairmen)
104 Allen Ave.
Allenhurst 07711
201-774-4835

New Mexico

Gary Mazaroff
Division of HPER
Univ. of Albuquerque
St. Joseph Pl., N.W.
Albuquerque 87140
505-821-0536

New York (Eastern)

Tom Flannery
3A Alpine Dr.
Wappingers Falls 12590
201-845-9040

New York (Western)

Jim Winterton
136 Greystone Lane #7
Rochester 14618
716-442-0114

North Carolina

Bob Baxter
P.O. Box 17732
Raleigh 27609
919-787-1208

South Carolina

Charlie White
RPA Clemson Univ.
Clemson 29631
803-656-2477

North Dakota

Sonny Lange
301 Eighth St. South
Fargo 58102
701-293-4247

Ohio

Ron Akins
2500 Hollyview, N.E.
North Canton 44721
216-492-7210

Oklahoma

David Rippetoe
911 N.W. 42nd Street
Oklahoma City 77118
405-528-2917

Oregon

Reed Fitkin
2510 Oakmont Way
Eugene 97401
503-687-2811

Pennsylvania

Jim Pruitt
K.O.P. R.B. Club
Flint Hill Rd.
King of Prussia 19406
215-265-8350

Rhode Island

Jerry Melaragno
15 Reva Street
N. Providence 02911
401-274-4900 #569

Tennessee

George Truesdale
Center Courts
2611 S. Mendenhall
Memphis 38118
901-794-7529

Texas

Dewey Strickland
201 Vanderpool
Houston 77024
713-868-3340

Utah

Randy Stewart
P.O. Box 1143
Provo 84601
801-224-6969

Vermont

Chuck Bigelow
41 Hillside Terrace
Shelbourne 05482
802-985-2760

Virginia

Ed Remen
32 Penny Lane
Sterling 22170
703-430-2552

Washington

Douglas A. Wilson
5817 57 Ave., N.E.
Seattle 98105
206-524-3037

West Virginia

Dave Taylor
Rec.-
Intramural Sports Off.
Stansbury Hall-W.V.U.
Morgantown 26506
304-293-5221

Wisconsin

Bob Keenan
P.O. Box 203
Wales 53183
414-646-3607

Wyoming

Barbara Williams
YMCA-417 N. Jefferson
Sheridan 82801
307-674-7488



Canada

Canadian Racquetball
Assoc.
333 River Rd.
Vanier City, Ontario
K1L 8B9
613-745-1247

the advent of so many new clubs in our area we anticipate more area tournaments and activities," Doug says.

To assist in this growth and keep operations running smoothly two worthy individuals have been added to the staff. From the northern end of the state there's new director Bob Nichols, a racquetballer of six years (second in this year's state doubles), a relentless worker and a person who loves racquetball and its players. Co-state Chairman Frank Pescatore represents the southern section of New Jersey. Pescatore moved to New Jersey from Wyoming, where he won the '74, '75 and '76 state championships.

Says State Chairman Clark "the growth of racquetball here has been amazing, but rumors have it that we should anticipate double the number of clubs by the end of this year. Racquetball, the game of the masses, is being built en masse. We're looking forward to great things. Anybody thinking of traveling into the area please drop us a line and we'll try and get you a game at a club very near you."



Spend a Weekend With Your Friends

Even Though Tournaments Are Costing More

by Al Shetzer and Tom Street

Guaranteed two matches . . . unlimited food and beverages . . . free shirt . . . see spectacular matches . . . meet new friends and renew old acquaintances . . . \$17.

An Illinois State Racquetball Association Sanctioned Racquetball Tournament is one of the biggest bargains around.

Recently, however, there have been some complaints raised over the rising cost of entries. Tournament fees of \$10 - \$12 two or three years ago, are now \$15 - \$17. Why?

Several things have occurred in the rapidly expanding racquetball world that have a direct bearing on tournament costs in this area.

The tremendous growth of racquetball over the last five years has seen the metropolitan Chicago area grow from practically no court clubs to over sixty. YMCA's and JCCA's, previously the only places with courts, also have increased their number of courts (on a more limited basis) to meet greatly increased membership demand.

Obviously one fast way to draw potential new members to a club was to hold a tournament. Since the single largest cost item in holding a tournament is the court costs, inexpensive tournaments were available because of the promotional value of the tournament. Not charging or greatly discounting the court fees kept the cost down.

Another area where costs have risen is on shirts. A couple of years ago the officers of the Illinois State Racquetball Association worked out a program with Leach Industries to supply screened shirts for all our sanctioned tournaments, at no charge.

This program worked out beneficially for both Leach and the Illinois State Racquetball Association and based upon our success Leach went national with the program.

However we have, perhaps, become too successful with our product (well run sanctioned tournaments). Where we had two to four tournaments a year with 75-100 entries, we now have 12-15 tournaments with 200-400 entries.

Leach couldn't be expected to continue to give us all these shirts for nothing; however under our new program they provide shirts which are screened, at reduced costs, for all sanctioned events.

This has helped tremendously. Our main problem now with the shirts is how many to order. Fifty extra shirts over the tournament's total entry cost \$125. Not ordering enough leaves an obvious problem.

Securing balls have also added to our cost. Seamco used to and still does provide up to 12 dozen balls free for every sanctioned tournament. This can get us through a 100 entry tournament easily, but we need 24-36 dozen (they sure disappear fast) to get us through 200-300 entries.

Even purchasing the extra balls at distributor prices adds \$1.25 to \$2 per entrant.

Trophies costs have also increased. Previous tournaments had only six brackets and gave awards for the first three places and first place consolation. (We won't sanction a tournament without a consolation bracket).

The addition of the Men's C, Women's B, C+, Seniors, along with awards for fourth place and second place consolation, requires 24 additional trophies. Thirty-six trophies cost approximately \$300 to \$360.

Hospitality is another large item with increased cost. We have double the people and try to provide adequately for everyone. As an example, the S&S Insurance Agency Tournament had 245 entries. We ran through six cases of apples and oranges and used 2,200 cups along with providing sandwiches for everyone for two days.

A basic budget for a 200-entry tournament looks like this:

Court Cost	\$1,600
Trophies	540
Shirts	500
Hospitality	300
Mailing	190
Printing	50
Balls	120
Sanction Fee	100
	\$3,400

At \$17 per entry we would break even, ($17 \times 200 = \$3,400$). However, how many shirts do we order? (Six weeks in advance of the tournament as required).

We have now reached a stage where the next improvement, i.e. cost reduction for tournaments, will have to come from sponsors outside of racquetball who recognize that sponsoring a tournament is a good way to advertise and achieve promotional value for their products.

Significant progress is now being made by the Illinois State Racquetball Association toward this end and you will see substantially lower fees for the State Singles & Doubles which are, in fact, the only two tournaments we actually run.

If you work in the area of marketing or sales promotion for your company or own your own company, consider sponsoring a tournament. We will accept full or partial sponsorship gratefully.

Remember in this area we are bigger than tennis and have similar demographics. Contact the Illinois State Racquetball Association office for information.

In the meantime, there is still no better way to spend a weekend for \$17 than enjoying a Illinois State Racquetball Association tournament.



Arizona Racquetball

"Racquets Rating" System Accommodates Changing Skills

by Richard Turek

The Arizona Racquetball Association has recently introduced a new concept which will revolutionize racquetball tournaments. Until now it has been difficult for tournament organizers to classify and seed events. Players usually entered a class arbitrarily, deciding themselves where they belong and sometimes taking unfair advantage. However if an Association member has access to a computer, the computerized Racquet Rating System solves these problems.

Based on an idea successfully used in other sports, each player is assigned a rating according to his or her skill. The ARA tournament committee initially assigns a rating to each player based on prior tournament performance. Starting with the best known player ratings are assigned proportionately on down to the beginning players. As new players enter a tournament they are assigned a rating based on their performance with rated players. The ARA has designated events to be as follows: Open-2000 and over, B-under 2000, C-under 1800, and Novice-under 1600.

Ratings Fluctuate

As tournament results are fed into the system a person's rating fluctuates according to the outcome of his or her match. Using the table here let's go through a few examples. We'll give player A a rating of 1910 and player B a rating of 1890. The computer knows who won the match and calculates the difference in rating points, 20, which falls in the first category. If player A won, he would gain 8 points; and player B would lose 8 points. If player B won, he would gain 8, and player A would lose 8. Simple so far.

Now let's give player A a rating of 1965 and leave player B at 1890. The difference is now 75, the third category. If player A won, he gains 5, player B loses 5. If player A lost, he loses 12 and player B gains 12. As the rating point spread gets bigger, the player who should win gains less and the other player loses less. But if an upset

The Arizona Racquetball Association Rating System			
Classes:	Rating Point Difference	Outcome	
		Normal	Upset
	0 - 25	8	8
Open 2000 +	26 - 50	7	10
B - under 2000	51 - 100	5	12
C - under 1800	101 - 150	3	15
N - under 1600	151 - 200	2	20
	201 - 250	1	25
	Over 250	0	30

occurs, the player who should win loses a greater amount of points and the other player increases the same amount to his rating. A running total is kept for all matches a person plays, and a net gain or loss is then figured to his existing rating, and a new rating is then established to be used in the next tournament. All ratings used in calculations are based on the existing rating going into the tournament. In other words, each player goes into a new tournament with a rating determined by his performance in previous tournaments.

Nobody's Locked into a Class

A nice feature of the system is that a player is never locked into playing the next class up if he should win the class he entered. Let's say, for example, player A had 1785 starting the tournament and increased it to 1805. He would have to play in the under 2000 class or higher in the next tournament. However next time, if he fared poorly and dropped to below 1800, he could reenter the under 1800 class for the next tournament. If a person should enter under 2000 class and wins it but still has a new rating of let's say 1975, he could still reenter the same class next time. Likewise if a person doesn't win the class he entered but increases his rating to the next higher class, he must enter accordingly for the next tournament.

A master file of all players is maintained with pertinent information such as name, address, phone, birth date, date

joined ARA, sex and rating. Because the system is computerized, maintenance of the file, such as change of address, etc., is done quickly. Results of large tournaments of even 400 to 500 players are processed in minutes.

A variety of printouts are available for the convenience of players and tournament officials. For seeding a tournament a printout in rating order lists who is at the top of a class. Other printouts are master file, alphabetically by rating; sex by ratings, and rating by class. Also printouts of juniors, seniors and masters are available for projecting who is qualified to enter these events.

Printouts of ratings are posted at local clubs reflecting the results of the most recent tournament. The ratings also are published in the ARA magazine which is mailed to all ARA members using the system labels. These gummed labels have the player's ARA membership number and expiration date for the player's convenience.

For more information regarding this system state associations may write Racquet Rating Systems, P.O. Box 32086, Phoenix, AR 85064.



Tournament Results

Reporters, take note: Help make our typesetter happy by sending us your tournament results typed double or triple (preferred) space with one-inch margins all around. Thank you.

Maine

Bob Waterman, Roy Lewis, Dave Inman, Tom Kelley, Jay Krause, Jim Purcell, Peter Libby and Bud Carter took part in the Booth Bay Harbor B Invitational Tournament for Maine residents Jan. 21 at the Booth Bay Harbor YMCA.

Krause defeated Lewis in the finals 21-16, 21-17. In the semi-finals Lewis defeated Inman 19-21, 21-5, 11-10 and Krause defeated Libby 7-21, 21-18, 11-9. Purcell downed Waterman 21-16, 21-17 in the consolations.

Idaho

The Idaho Seamco Open drew 62 entries from Idaho and Utah during the three-day tournament starting Jan. 6 at the Idaho Falls (ID) YMCA. Danny Green took first in the Men's Open, followed by Dirk Burgard and Tom Jones.

In the B Singles Lyle Bissel was first place winner, with Phil Baldree at second and Gary Painter taking third. Skipp Rudd won the C Singles while second and third place went to Kyle Stucki and Dean Packham, respectively.

Wisconsin

Ken Baron, a member of the Milwaukee Jewish Community Center, captured his second successive USRA sponsored Milwaukee Open Racquetball championship by turning back highly regarded Roger Siegrist, of Northridge Racquet Club, 7-21, 21-6, 11-10 Jan. 4-8 at Northridge Racquet Club in Milwaukee.

Dave Janelle placed third defeating youthful Steve Peck 3-21, 21-15, 11-7. In the semis Siegrist beat Peck and Baron beat Janelle. In the quarters Baron beat Art Guenther, Siegrist beat Jon Nelson, Peck beat Howard Spector and Janelle beat John Neville.

Connecticut

Buffalo's Charley Garfield, won the First Annual Connecticut Bloomfield Jaycees Open led by Tournament Director Gregg London on a snowy Super Bowl weekend Jan. 13-15.

The "Gar" effortlessly swept through some of the best racquetballers the East has to offer and won

first in the Men's Open as he beat Number One Seed and Connecticut State Champ Ron Mirek 21-4, 21-11. Artie Diemar took third in the Open and Jim Dollinger came in fourth.

In the Open Doubles Diemar and Dave Luft beat Garfinkel and Leo Marsoci, with third place honors going to Mirek and Harvey Meltsner. In bracket two of the doubles the Connecticut state closed doubles champs, Tom Waltz and Ed Castillo, lost to Mirek and Meltsner, state runners-up.

Howard Packer used a combination of ceilings, kills and drives to beat Jeff Hattem for the Mens B title. In Mens C Bob Simmons defeated Stephen Weitzer. Jim Reuschel defeated Phil Soule for the Senior crown.

Mary Dee won the Womens Open against Jackie Adler, and Margo Chase beat Ginny Derway in the Womens Bs.

—Jack Fruin, Jr.

Oklahoma

Racquet Time Courts of Oklahoma City hosted the First Annual St. Valentine's Day Doubles Tournament Feb. 10-12. One hundred sixteen entrants vied for trophies in the 10 divisions of doubles. Trophies were awarded for first, second third and consolation. The hospitality room was stocked with cheese, bread, crackers, fruit and Gatorade that all disappeared in the three days with no problem. Door prizes were given away Sunday afternoon with Mike Sticher, John Munneke, Jim Benien and Joyce Jackson going away winners.

Men's Open:

1st Jerry Linton-Jim Benien d. Kevin Chambliss-Jerry Myers;
3rd Gary Hinkle-John Scott d. Ken Smith-Robert Savage;
Consolation Mike Gann-Mike Jackson d. Jim McPherson-Marc Sanford;

Semi-Finals - Chambliss-Myers d. Smith-Savage;
Linton-Benien d. Hinkle-Scott.

Men's B:

1st Mike Jackson-David Curtright d. J. B. Smith-Randy Bailey;
3rd Gary Lohne-Joe Windes d. Mickey Canaday-John Munneke;
Consolation Robert Savage-Bobby Allen d. Gerald Beattie-Ron McClure

Women's Open:

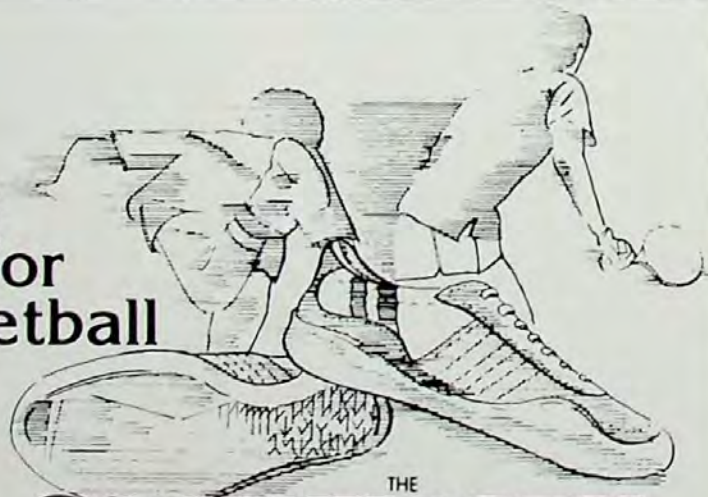
1st Joyce Jackson-Joan Lance;
2nd Beth Bunker-Jean Lehr;
3rd Jean Lance-L. D. Linton.

Mixed Open:

1st Jerry Linton-L.D. Linton d. V. Z. Lawton-Joyce Jackson;
3rd Hal Burba-Joan Lance d. Marc Sanford-Carl Burgtorf;
Consolation David Curtright-Jean Lance d. Mike Gann-Pat Gann.

—Joan Lance

Only
one
shoe is
made for
Racquetball



THE
COPENHAGEN

is molded to the foot, designed for quick movements,
reinforced where necessary, light & comfortable,
allows the foot to roll and gives a true grip.



PATRICK

You owe it to your feet

Patrick Athletic Shoe Company, 45 E. 30th St., N.Y., N.Y. 10016 212-686-8052

Mississippi

The Mississippi State Racquetball Championship Tournament was held in Jackson Feb. 10-12, after heavy snow across the entire state postponed the meet from Jan. 20-22.

Seventy-six entrants vied for trophies in four categories: A, B, C and Seniors. Randy Tillery easily won over a field of 18 opponents in the A category. In the final match he defeated Silvio Deitch 21-8, 21-8. In the semi-finals Deitch defeated Paul Solomon 19-21, 21-12, 11-3. Also in the semi-finals Tillery defeated Walt Mullins 21-9, 21-11.

Quarter final scores were Solomon defeating Nick Vesa 21-19, 21-17. Deitch defeated Chuck Miner 21-18, 21-12. Mullins defeated Jerry Grantham 21-17, 16-21, 11-10. Tillery defeated Bill Lynch 21-13, 21-14.

Scores for first round matches were Vesa defeating Mauricio Copete 21-18, 9-21, 11-9. Solomon defeated J. Glover 21-4, 21-8. Solomon defeated Willie Daniel 21-19, 21-2. Deitch defeated H. Windgate 21-11, 21-13. Miner defeated Steve Savage 21-9, 21-16. Sam Leddy defeated Barney Pool 21-11, 21-13. Grantham defeated Leddy 21-13, 21-11. Mullins defeated H. Dowling 21-6, 21-20. Lynch defeated R. Bailey 20-21, 21-11, 11-2 and Tillery defeated B. Anchor 21-3, 21-4.

The B class saw 14 entrants with the winning player being Phil Letard. Letard defeated Dale Barker 21-10, 21-9. In the semi-finals Letard defeated Mike Nickerson 15-21, 21-14, 11-8. The other semi-final match saw Barker defeating I. Lafleur 21-18, 21-20.

The quarter finals saw Letard defeat Bob Jones 21-6, 21-5. Also Nickerson defeated Willie Handy 21-16, 21-18. The quarter finals saw Lafleur defeating Pat Welsh 20-21, 21-18, 11-0 and Barker defeating Richard Russ, 21-15, 21-14.

First round matches in the B class saw Bob Jones defeat N. Cullen 21-11, 21-19. Nickerson defeated Jay Brain 21-3, 21-6. W. Handy defeated A. Yochin 21-8, 21-17. Lafleur defeated B. Jacobs 21-15, 21-12. P. Welsh defeated Jim Claypool 21-13, 21-18. R. Russ defeated Frank Bonner 21-13, 21-14.

Of the 36 entrants in the C category Glen Bohls was victorious. Bohls defeated Bill Brown in the final match 21-5, 21-17. In the semi-finals Bohls defeated Steve Broussard 16-21, 21-4, 11-4. Also in the semi-finals Brown defeated Herb Wilkinson 21-15, 21-18.

The quarter finals of the C division saw Brown defeat Frank Waltman 21-10, 21-8. Wilkinson defeated Greg Merritt 21-10, 21-13. Bohls defeated Tommy Moody 21-8, 21-12 and Broussard defeated Chris Michael 21-11, 21-3.

First and second round matches in the C division saw Waltman defeat Mullen 21-4, 21-10. Brown defeated A. Adcock 21-6, 21-13. Merritt defeated Jim Allmand 21-5, 21-10. Wilkinson defeated M. Almetica 21-14, 21-18. Tom Moody defeated Jim Thompson 21-17, 21-15. Bohls defeated R. Richards 21-18, 20-21, 11-8. C. Michaels defeated Gary Burkes 21-19, 21-11 and Broussard defeated Smith 21-14, 21-12.

First round matches saw Waltman defeat Larry Heatherly 21-10, 21-7. C. T. Carley defeated Tim Tune 21-18, 21-16. Jim Adcock defeated Stan Wood 21-7, 21-8. Brown defeated Jim Dollarhide 21-17, 21-11. Greg Merritt defeated Bill Williford 16-21, 21-18, 11-7. Allmand defeated T. Rains. Wilkinson defeated D. Kilbourne 21-1, 21-6. Almetica defeated M. Schultz 21-7, 21-3. Thompson defeated R. Butler 21-3, 21-0. Moody defeated Jones 21-15, 21-18. Moody defeated M. Jackson 21-10, 21-18. Bohls defeated M. Philpott 21-0, 21-0. R. Richards defeated Mark Siegal 21-1, 21-1. Burkes defeated Art Higbie 21-11, 21-16. Michaels defeated D. Marsails 4-21, 21-14, 11-5. Broussard defeated S. King 21-9, 17-21, 11-4. Broussard defeated L. Vargas 21-2, 21-6. T. Whittington defeated C. McKnight 21-14, 21-16. T. Smith defeated Arnita Wingate 21-7, 21-12. Whittington defeated Smith 21-0, 21-10.

The Seniors category saw last year's class A champion, Chuck Miner the winner. Chuck defeated Bill Lynch in the final match 21-18, 21-17.

In the semi-final matches Miner defeated Don Burton 16-21, 21-8, 11-6 and Lynch defeated Al Bullock 18-21, 21-18, 11-8.

First round matches saw Miner defeat Ken Carlson 21-16, 21-8. Don Burton defeated Willie

Daniel 20-21, 21-11, 11-6. Bullock defeated Jim McGee 13-21, 21-18, 11-2 and Lynch defeated John Tate 21-15, 21-15.

Perhaps the most unusual event of the tournament was the unexpected entry of a women racquetballer, Arnita Wingate. Although losing her first round match she went on to win her second match in the consolation bracket only to be defeated during her third match.

The increasing popularity of racquetball was reflected in the tournament results. All three winners of the three categories in last year's tournament were defeated this year and new champions now hold title.

—C. T. Carley

New Jersey

The Courthouse Racquetball and Handball Club of Mahwah attracted 165 entrants to its First Annual Members tournament Jan. 25-Feb. 5, only nine weeks after the 1,400-member club opened.

As many as 300 spectators watched the matches on courts that allow side and rear viewing.

Results:

Men's Advanced - Norris Dowdy Champion, Larry Jensen Runnerup.

Men's Intermediate - Jack McDonnell First, Wayne Jewell Second.

Men's Novice - Nick Nannas First, Dennis Textor Second.

Women's Advanced - Linda Nastasi Champion, Paula Vaccarelli Runnerup.

Women's Intermediate - Kim VonBartheld First, Anna Appell Second.

Men's Doubles - Carmine DeGennaro/Tony Zalenski First, Nick Nannas/Kevin Reynolds Second.

Mixed Doubles - Anna & Bernard Appell First, Sandy & Doug Hunter Second.

The men's intermediate matches were enlivened by the challenge of two women; Linda Nastasi and Paula Vaccarelli. Linda did especially well, advancing to the quarter-finals in the double elimination format.

The response and enthusiasm generated by the players and viewers alike shows that racquetball is "here" in Bergen County NJ.

WHY DEVOE'S LIGHTING SYSTEMS ARE the BEST??

No. 1 Manufacturer in the Racquet Sports

☐ Lighting Systems

☐ Low Voltage Control Systems

- Fluorescent
- Mercury
- Metal Halide

Save Energy With Devoe



- Cheapest Initial Cost
- Lowest Operating Cost
- Best Playability



For further information call or write:

DEVOE TENNIS SYSTEMS
800 Eastern Avenue
Carlstadt, N.J. 07072 • (201) 935-2300

Gentlemen:

Please send me more information on your ☐ RACQUETBALL SYSTEM

Name _____ Tel _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Ohio

The first Supreme Courts-WSPD-TV Channel 13 Greater Toledo Racquetball Championships produced 430 entries, Feb. 2-5.

The tournament was sponsored by WSPD-TV 13 and hosted by the Supreme Courts West and South in Toledo, OH. Norton Gutowitz was tournament chairman and Fred Zitzer tournament director.

Promotion and news coverage of tournament action by WSPD-TV 13 was superb. Matches were televised daily, with the action and results being shown on the Channel 13 sports program narrated by Jim Mengel, sports director. Exposure of racquetball to Northwest Ohio and Southeastern Michigan was fantastic!

Top male honors went to Mark Nash, with Sue Flanery taking the female crown. Tournament results from quarter-finals on are listed.

Men's A Quarters: Craig Koslen d. Gary Rupp 21-15, 21-19; Don Henderson d. Don Sanz 14-21, 21-6, 11-9; Nash d. Kim Hyde 21-17, 21-7; Rick Pinto d. Lee Vantrease 21-17, 9-21, 11-8.

Semi-Finals: Koslen d. Henderson 21-9, 8-21, 11-8; Nash d. Pinto 21-14, 21-5.

Finals: Nash d. Koslen 21-15, 14-21, 11-7.

Third: Pinto d. Henderson 15-21, 21-18, 11-3.



Toledo's Channel 13 sports director, Jim Mengel, right, filled in viewers on each day's action during a February tournament directed by Fred Zitzer.

Men's B Quarters: Mickey Kovack d. Al Brint 21-20, 21-10; Brian Kosier d. Rick Stohr 18-21, 21-19, 11-6; Tom Worrell d. Ken Morris 21-14, 21-11; Sam Gemus d. Bob Dugai 21-10, 21-6.

Semi-Finals: Kovack d. Kosier 16-21, 21-3, 11-0; Worrell d. Gemus 21-15, 21-10.

Finals: Kovack d. Worrell 21-18, 21-14.

Third: Gemus d. Kosier 21-14, 17-21, 11-2.

Men's C Quarters: Tom Constantino d. Jack Wall 12-21, 21-19, 11-9; Barry Ammons d. Omar Salem 21-10, 21-19; Bob Grayson d. Charles Wolford 21-3, 21-8; Doug Faison d. Jim Donaldson 21-18, 12-21, 11-4.

Semi-Finals: Constantino d. Ammons 18-21, 21-20, 11-3; Grayson d. Faison 21-6, 21-20.

Finals: Grayson d. Constantino 21-12, 21-16.

Third: Ammons d. Faison 21-16, 15-21, 11-9.

Men's Novice Quarters: Andy Zitzer d. Phil Hollabaugh 21-15, 21-13; Rod Hyler d. Bob Gannon 12-21, 21-10, 11-6; Leon McGee d. Mike Buchele 21-17, 18-21, 11-4; Paul Zitzer d. Olin Smith 19-21, 21-3, 11-7.

Semi-Finals: A. Zitzer d. Rod Hyler 21-8, 21-17; P. Zitzer d. McGee 21-17, 21-13.

Finals: A. Zitzer d. P. Zitzer 21-12, 8-21, 11-7.

Third: Hyler d. McGee 21-19, 9-21, 11-2.

Men's Junior Quarters: Randy Hendrickson d. Bill Bell 21-11, 21-12; Ross Silverman d. Kevin Pietsch 21-5, 21-14; Bob Birchall d. Justin Vantrease 21-12, 21-7; Mike Leibovitz d. Marshall McClurg 21-10, 21-17.

Semi-Finals: Silverman d. Hendrickson 21-19, 21-5; Birchall d. Leibovitz 21-5, 21-16.

Finals: Birchall d. Silverman 21-6, 17-21, 11-1.

Third: Hendrickson d. Leibovitz 21-10, 21-12.

Women's A Quarters: Sue Flanery d. Rita Cellura 21-19, 21-15; Mary Rose d. Jan Loren 18-21, 21-11, 11-1; Phyllis Vantrease d. Kathy Bell 7-21, 21-11, 11-5; Connie Conibear d. Dianne Hickman 14-21, 21-18, 11-7.

Semi-Finals: Flanery d. Rose 21-15, 17-21, 11-10; Vantrease d. Conibear 15-21, 21-10, 11-5.

Finals: Flanery d. Vantrease 21-10, 21-4.

Third: Conibear d. Rose 21-2, 16-21, 11-2.

Women's B Quarters: Diane Huerta d. Sue Goldstein 21-7, 21-5; Cindy Constantino d. Debbie Thornton 21-19, 21-13; Pam Green d. Jean Jones 21-4, 21-17; Cindy McDonald d. Ellen Freed 21-10, 21-16.

Semi-Finals: Constantino d. Huerta 21-16, 21-1; Green d. McDonald 21-14, 21-16.

Finals: Constantino d. Green 21-14, 18-21, 11-5.

Third: McDonald won on a default from Huerta.

Women's C Quarters: Grace Vereb d. Sandi Montgomery 21-9, 21-8; Sue Sanz d. Michelle Hyde 21-5, 21-17; Bonnie Bleim d. Sandra Koralewski 21-12, 21-5; Carolyn Peabody d. Cheryl Phillips 21-13, 21-19.

Semi-Finals: Sanz d. Vereb 21-15, 21-7; Bleim d. Peabody 21-19, 17-21, 11-2.

Finals: Sanz d. Bleim 21-18, 18-21, 11-7.

Third: Peabody d. Vereb 21-15, 21-17.

Women's Novice Quarters: Nancy Andrew d. Joyce Walters 21-19, 21-19; Marg Gray d. Marg Villbauer 21-2, 21-17; Sue Tarquinto d. Ev Gummon 21-14, 21-12; Kathy Missler d. Marg Norts 21-14, 21-3.

Semi-Finals: Gray d. Andrew 21-16, 21-11; Missler d. Tarquinto 21-7, 21-7.

Finals: Gray d. Missler 21-4, 21-4.

Third: Andrew d. Tarquinto 11-21, 21-17, 11-6.

The Supreme Courts are holding the Ohio State Championships May 18-20, 1978.

Rhode Island

The Second Annual Get Acquainted Tournament, held Jan. 27-29, marked the end of a two-month membership drive and started the second year of the Rhode Island Racquetball Association on a most successful note.

Twenty-six new members were signed up during the membership drive which represents about a third of the total number of R.I.R.A. members enrolled in its entire first year. The prize for the best recruiter (a new racquet) was won by Dennis Culberson who signed up eight new members.

Good competition, new acquaintances and lots of fun were enjoyed by all during the tournament. Over half of the 41 entries were new faces at R.I.R.A. events. And the newcomers certainly made their presence felt as they collected three of the four first place trophies!

The Womens Division was dominated by Jackie Rainey who went through the round robin event undefeated. Bee Lefkin, current R. I. Womens Champ, had to settle for second place.

Chuck Vehlow emerged as the new A Division champ, winning an extremely close and well played final match over Dennis Culberson 16-21, 21-15, 11-10. Vehlow earned his place in the finals by beating defending champions and current R. I. Open Champ Fred Miller in the semis 21-12, 21-10. Culberson was sternly tested enroute to the finals by Ed McGovern, but survived a hard fought semi-final match which featured crowd pleasing gets by both players 21-15, 19-21, 11-8.

The B Division was won by Mark Beckenbach over Howie Hawkins 21-10, 18-21, 11-1. The players seemed to alternate hot streaks in this final, but both were forced to play consistently well during the earlier rounds. Beckenbach played well to defeat top-seeded Dick Zotti in the quarters 21-20, 21-9, and Paul Gebhart in the semis 21-15, 21-14. Hawkins needed a very steady game to get past a stubborn Henry Fortes in a close semifinal match 21-15, 21-18.

Bill Hanson proved to be the only R.I.R.A. veteran to take home a first place trophy, winning the C Division by beating Bee Lufkin in yet another tie breaker 19-21, 21-18, 11-1. Although the caliber of play was surprisingly good throughout the C Division, special tribute must be paid to the other two semifinalists: Larry Reynolds who played amazingly well while coping with an ankle sprain, and third place finisher Dave Wehr who somehow summoned the stamina to play tiebreakers in three of his four matches.

Among those who helped make the tournament a success were the Providence Central YMCA staff. Howie Hawkins was responsible for floor managing, John Rosato for hospitality, Fred Miller for awards, Chuck Batcher for shirts and Dave Brown for refereeing.

A Division

First Round: Vehlow d. Bill Neri 21-6, 21-8; John Rosato d. Mike Osean 21-8, 21-18; Jerry Melaragno d. Don Krasko 21-8, 21-20.

Quarter-Finals: Miller d. Dee Habermacher 21-10, 21-10; Vehlow d. Rosato 21-9, 21-3; McGovern d. Melaragno 21-12, 21-4; Dennis Culberson d. John Kutys 21-5, 21-13.

Semi-Finals: Vehlow d. Miller 21-12, 21-10; Culberson d. McGovern 21-15, 19-21, 11-8.

Finals: Vehlow d. Culberson 16-21, 21-15, 11-10.

Third: Miller d. McGovern 21-15, 21-10.

Consolation: Neri d. Krasko 21-17, 21-5.

B Division

First Round: Beckenbach d. Brian Curtis 21-5, 21-0; Gebhart d. Normand Laliberte 21-5, 21-20; Rick Haynes d. Mark Grundy 21-19, 21-9; Hawkins d. Alan Soucy 21-7, 21-18; Peter Murray d. Barney Prignano 21-18, 21-14.

Quarter-finals: Beckenbach d. Zotti 21-20, 21-9; Gebhart d. Haynes 21-16, 21-20; Hawkins d. Murray 21-14, 21-4; Fortes d. Chuck Batcher 21-17, 21-20.

Semi-finals: Beckenbach d. Gebhart 21-15, 21-14; Hawkins d. Fortes 21-15, 21-18.

Finals: Beckenbach d. Hawkins 21-20, 18-21, 11-1.

Third: Fortes d. Gebhart (default).

Consolation: Zotti d. Soucy 21-8, 21-11.

C Division

First Round: Reynolds d. Tim Langan 21-17, 20-21, 11-6; Jackie Rainey d. Bob Silvestri 21-7, 21-19; Wehr d. Dick Harlow 21-6, 21-0; Jim Wade d. Bill Pires 21-4, 21-2.

Quarter-finals: Hanson d. Jonathan Red 21-7, 21-14; Reynolds d. Rainey 21-9, 21-10; Wehr d. Wade 19-21, 21-9, 11-7; Lufkin d. Ron Franklin 21-0, 21-3.

Semi-finals: Hanson d. Reynolds 21-13, 21-18; Lufkin d. Wehr 20-21, 21-5, 11-3.

Finals: Hanson d. Lufkin 19-21, 21-18, 11-1.

Third: Wehr d. Reynolds 16-21, 21-12, 11-5.

Consolation: Langan d. Pires 21-10, 21-4.

Womens Division (round robin)

First: Jackie Rainey 8-0. **Second:** Lufkin 6-2. **Third:** Peggy Whittemore 4-4. **Fourth:** Mary Paul 2-6. **Fifth:** Sharon Culberson 0-8.

—Jerry Melaragno

Missouri

The first annual Spaulding Valentine Racquetball Tournament was held Saturday and Sunday, February 11 and 12, at the Spaulding Manchester Club, 200 Enchanted Pkwy.

More than 100 women participated in the tournament, making it the largest women's racquetball event ever held in the St. Louis area. Entrants in the tournament ranged in age from 16 to over 50, and included housewives, teachers and the Illinois State Doubles Racquetball champion. Many of the women in the Spaulding Valentine tournament were competing in a sporting event for the first time in their lives.

First place winners of the Spaulding Ladies' Valentine Tournament were **Class A** — Del Lorella, **Class B** — Chris Hyatt, **Intermediate** — Darlien Young, **Novice** — Terri Tobey and **Sportsmanship** — Sandy Potts.

Texas

Results of YMCA Championships Feb. 16-18 at Houston Downtown YMCA:

Men's Semi-Pro - 1st Jim Austin, 2nd John Dunlap, 3rd Mike Zeitman.

Men's B Singles - 1st Carl Mauck, 2nd Don Mangum, 3rd Joe Perry. **Consolation** Denny Castillo.

Men's Open Singles - 1st Jeff Kwartier, 2nd Dan Groves, 3rd Pete Wright. **Consolation** Ron Meek.

Men's C Singles - 1st David Pearson, 2nd Mike LeGrange, 3rd Tom Sikorsky. **Consolation** Jackie Reid.

Men's Senior Singles - 1st Jim Austin, 2nd John Watson, 3rd Ken Kachlik. **Consolation** Rudy Gomez.

Men's Masters Singles - 1st Rick Richter, 2nd Simon Weiderman, 3rd Joe Joiner. **Consolation** Charles Perkins.

Women's Open Singles - 1st Susie Dugan, 2nd Janice Seagull, 3rd Carol Farrell. **Consolation** Chrys Cox.

Women's B Singles - 1st Dee Massila, 2nd Kathleen Fairchild, 3rd Charlotte Griffin. **Consolation** Melissa Stephens.

Women's C Singles - 1st Barbara Young, 2nd Karen Cerre, 3rd Candy Long. **Consolation** Gail Hall.

Dino Owens and Ray Smith were the big winners at the Third Annual Top of Texas Racquetball Championships Jan. 27-29 at the Amarillo YMCA.

Owens took the Open Men's Singles crown by topping Smith 15-21, 21-9, 11-2. The duo then combined to take the 21-20, 18-21, 11-4 victory over Jim McPherson and Mike Nugent. Also claiming titles in the USRA sanctioned tourney were Ted Heideman (B Men's Singles), Johnny Pierce (C Men's Singles) and Sandy McPherson (Women's Singles).

Results:

Open Men's Singles:

Championship - Owens d. Smith 15-21, 21-9, 11-2;

Consolation Finals - Terry Fleetwood d. Mark Dix 21-9, 3-21, 11-3.

B Men's Singles:

Championship - Heideman d. Tim Pace 21-17, 21-1;

Consolation Finals - Denis Jalbert d. Alonzo Ramos 21-13, 21-8.

C Men's Singles:

Championship - Pierce d. John Maynard 21-6, 21-11;

Consolation Finals - Jim Greene d. Richard Paris 21-15, 21-15.

Women's Singles:

Championship - McPherson d. Seree Clements, forfeit.

Consolation Finals - Christy Georges d. Mary Owens 21-6, 18-21, 11-0.

Open Doubles:

Championship - Owens/Smith d. J. McPherson/Nugent 21-20, 18-21, 11-4.

Consolation - Mike Robinson/Lewis Trammell d. Randall Burton/Mark Reed 21-9, 21-14.

INTRODUCING THE STRATFORD COURT DOOR PACKAGE:

**It saves you time, money and simplifies
your entire installation process.**

If you're building new or re-furbishing existing courts, you know that court availability is the name of the game. The Stratford Court Door Package puts you in the ball game... fast. It's a complete, pre-finished, factory-assembled door package complete with a solid core, plastic laminate door, patented adjustable aluminum frame and hardware. No components to buy. And only one supplier to deal with.



Just flush mount the complete package and you're done. It's precisely what you've been looking for to solve your court door problems.

Tell me more.

If you'd like to know more about how easily the Stratford Court Door Package can put you back in the ball game, write for our free brochure. Or call us at (408) 263-8686. We're at your service.



STRATFORD INDUSTRIES, INC.
2284 Paragon Drive
San Jose, CA 95131

Kentucky

The Fourth annual River City Open, played at the Louisville Athletic Club the weekend of Feb. 3-5, turned into a ladder tournament for the traveling Memphis State University team. MSU entered five into the 32 man Open field. They came away with the top three spots. In the finals, a pair of waterbugs masquerading as brothers, John and Keith Dunlap, battled through a lightning three games with John prevailing 15-21, 21-7, 11-3. The unbelievable gets and retrieves, as well as all the brotherly banter, kept the packed house in a state of suspended GASP. The lone non-Memphis semifinal survivor was David Brown, of the host club. By the end of the weekend Dave had developed a Southern twang, as he beat Memphis State coach Larry Liles in the round of 16, lost to John in the Semis, and finally succumbed to MSU player Jim Cullen for third.

The strongest division, from top to bottom, was probably the Womens. There wasn't really a weak link in the entire field of 16. First seeded Geri Stoffregen, won as expected but not before being pressed in the Semis by Bobbi Brennan before winning 21-15, 21-15. The finals were even closer, with the lithe Stoffregen finally edging Holly Rentz, 18-21, 21-15, 11-5. It was an exceedingly well played final, with Stoffregen's superior control and Holly's relative inability to do anything with the many back wall set-ups presented her seen as the deciding factors.

Kentucky's B ranks have lost another player as Jon Fleischaker fought his way through a tough 52 man field (again dotted with Memphis State folks) to win a final grueling match with game Bill Gurner 21-5, 19-21, 11-4. By the end of the match both players passed easily for well worn Seniors players. They were tired. Fleischaker had played two "Bragging rights" matches with members of the host club, and Gurner had gone to the third game for the third straight time. Tom Moore defeated Dave Marye for third.

Len Wilson won himself another Seniors title. He defeated Gary Marsh 21-14, 21-12 in a fairly routine match. In all candor, though, Gary left his game in the Semis where he went through an exhausting three game affair with Harold Huff. The scores of this decisive Semi were 21-20, 10-21, 11-8.

Bill Evans played two divisions, Open and Masters. Bill, who just turned 45, extended Jim Cullen to three games in the Open before losing. He won the Masters almost as he chose, defeating Leigh Jones in the finals 21-11, 21-12, after Leigh had pulled a big upset in defeating Don Detjen in the Semis. Bill had one very tough match with John Ohlheiser in the quarters.

Some random notes: Cincinnati's Luann Gifford continues to improve, upsetting highly favored Lynn Simon in the quarters. Refereeing assignments have gotten much easier with the stipulation that winners must referee immediately afterward. Many thanks to Seamco for continuing to supply balls to the tournaments.

Results

Men's Open

Quarters: J. Dunlap d. Johnson 21-18, 15-21, 11-1; Brown d. Shivel 21-14, 21-8; K. Dunlap d. Fleischaker 21-10, 15-21, 11-7; Cullen d. Dabney 21-12, 21-13.

Semis: J. Dunlap d. Brown 21-15, 21-11; K. Dunlap d. Cullen 21-15, 21-17.

Finals: J. Dunlap d. K. Dunlap 15-21, 21-7, 11-2.

3rd: Cullen d. Brown 21-14, 20-21, 11-3.

Men's B

Quarters: Moore d. Layne 21-18, 21-14; Fleischaker d. Kasten 21-8, 21-14; Marye d. Finn 21-12, 19-21, 11-10; Gurner d. Marcum.

Semis: Fleischaker d. Moore 21-14, 21-8; Gurner d. Marye 21-11, 19-21, 11-10.

Finals: Fleischaker d. Gurner 21-5, 19-21, 11-4.

3rd: Moore d. Marye.

Seniors

Quarters: Wilson d. Blankenship 21-1, 18-21, 11-1; Marsh d. Hogge 21-9, 21-14; Boggs d. Detjen 21-16, 11-21, 11-4; Huff d. Schmitt 21-16, 21-6.

Semis: Wilson d. Boggs 21-6, 21-11; Marsh d. Huff 21-20, 10-21, 11-8.

Finals: Wilson d. Marsh 21-14, 21-12.

3rd: Huff d. Boggs 21-2, 21-9.

Masters

Quarters: Detjen d. Dean 21-9, 21-8; Jones d. Whipple 21-15, 21-11; Evans d. Ohlheiser 21-17, 21-16; Gumer d. Ray 21-5, 21-11.

Semis: Jones d. Detjen 16-21, 21-9, 11-1; Evans d. Gumer 21-11, 21-8.

Finals: Evans d. Jones 21-11, 21-12.

Women's

Quarters: Stoffregen d. Ernst 21-8, 21-2; Brennan d. Mowery 21-16, 21-14; Gifford d. Simon 21-15, 21-16; Rentz d. Burke 21-15, 21-11.

Semis: Stoffregen d. Brennan 21-15, 21-15; Rentz d. Gifford 21-13, 21-12.

Finals: Stoffregen d. Rentz 18-21, 21-15, 11-5.

3rd: Brennan d. Gifford.

—David Fleischaker

THE FASTEST GROWING BUSINESS INTERNATIONALLY . . .

Handball/Racquetball Court Clubs
One-Day Regional Seminars Covering All
Aspects Of This Tremendously
Viable Enterprise

Now available-Needed "Tools"
New Seminar

Report Booklet — \$10 ☐
40-Minute Tape Cassette —
Feasibility of Court Clubs
— \$10 ☐

May 5-6 — St. Louis
Marriott Airport

May 26-27 —
Washington, D.C.
Marriott Crystal City, 1999
Jefferson Davis Highway,
Arlington, VA.

June 9-10 — New Orleans
Airport Hilton Inn

\$150 per person covers Friday nite get-together cocktail party/introductions & all-day Saturday sessions, reserved lunch.

Further details, mail to:

Mort Leve, Executive Director,
Court Club Enterprises
360 Park Drive, Northbrook, IL 60062



312 272-4508

Iowa

Power racquetball—drive serves left and right, quick, low rallies, and popping rollouts—has arrived in Iowa. The 1978 USRA State of Iowa Singles Championships were won by shooters Feb. 18 and 19 at St. Andrew's Court in Cedar Rapids.

Glen Withrow, teaching pro from Wildwood Courts in Bettendorf, pressured his way to the state's Open Men's championships without having to change shirts between games. We really don't know how well Glen can play.

Glen rattled Tom Callahan in the round of eight 21-6, 21-13 and in the semis dispatched Jim Woolcock 21-4, 21-11.

Scott Nau came up through the bottom bracket sweating past junior player Scott Schafer 21-11, 14-21, 11-5. Tracy Frank scared Nau in the semis 18-21, 21-8, 11-6.

Nau collided with a wall in the semis and limped into the club just before the finals were scheduled to announce his forfeit. Much tribute was paid to Nau for showing up—balloon knee and all.

Callahan took the Consolation Open over Schafer 21-8, 21-19.

Frank Low has changed to a power game and took the senior division without a doubt. John Rosenberg just off a week's skiing couldn't get five points in either semi-final game with Low, despite some pouting on the court.

Low's final opponent, Charles Schafer beat an ailing (shoulder) Don Glanzer in the senior semis 21-18, 21-8. Schafer was soundly whipped by Low 21-9, 21-9. Charles Schafer was considered the gentleman of the tourney with superb conduct on the court.

Results

Junior Mens

Semis: S. Schafer d. P. Dillo 21-4, 21-17; Tracy Frank d. S. Chadwick 21-14, 21-12

Finals: Schafer d. Frank 21-17, 21-4.

Women's Open

Semis: Ginger Mihalakis d. Deb Marting 21-4, 21-12; Betsy Olson d. Carol Murguria 21-6, 21-17.

Finals: Mihalakis d. Olson 21-7, 17-21, 11-1.

Men's C

Semis: Rus Hammer d. M. McGonigle 21-2, 21-11 L. Yeager d. M. Evans 21-14, 21-4.

Finals: McGonigle d. Yeager 21-17, 21-5.

—Tom Sweeney

New York

Leonard Gerber and Mel Besdin defeated Ron Crawford and Neil Schloss 21-3, 21-5 to win the 1978 Syracuse Jewish Community Center Central New York Doubles Racquetball Tournament held Jan. 30-Feb. 5.

Results

Quarter-Finals: Victor Katz/Mel Volinsky d. Doug Philo/Michael Collins 21-5, 21-14; Crawford/Schloss d. Ray Stein/Mike Janiak 21-16, 6-21, 11-5; Preston Prue/Bob Galvin d. Ed Stabile/Tony Manzi forfeit; Gerber/Besdin d. Pete Dowley/Stuart Hancock 21-1, 21-5.

Semi-Finals: Crawford/Schloss d. Katz/Volinsky 21-20, 6-21, 11-1; Besdin/Gerber d. Prue/Galvin 21-10, 21-7.

Consolation: Katz/Volinsky d. Prue/Galvin 21-15, 21-12.

California



Karin Walton, right, beat Judy Clemens in the finals of the Women's Open Feb. 26 at the First Annual Orange County Racquetball Championships held at King's Racquetball Court, Westminster, CA. Mark Morrow was Men's Open winner in the event which raised money for the Eddie West Foundation, named to honor the late sports editor of the Orange County Register.

MFMA HARD MAPLE... More than just a great floor!

The Maple Flooring Manufacturers Association offers even more than great floors. MFMA also offers a library of important information on the specification, care and marking of athletic surfaces. Court owners and potential owners of hard maple floors are invited to request this invaluable information at no obligation:



Maple Flooring Manufacturers Association, Inc.

1800 Pickwick Ave., Glenview, IL 60025 312/724-7700

- ☐ Game Markings Manual ☐ Sweet's Catalog
☐ Maple Floor Maintenance Guide ☐ Spec/Data

NAME _____ TITLE _____
COURT _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY/STATE _____ ZIP _____
TELEPHONE _____

NR

Montana

The Missoula City Racquetball Tournament Feb. 17-19 at the Courthouse Racquetball Club attracted 133 entries in what will probably be an annual event in Missoula.

In the championship series Greg Pekovich defeated Gary Nygaard for the Men's Open title. Pekovich is the current state champion and Nygaard was state champ until 1976. Pekovich beat Nygaard through a combination of skilled passing shots and several deep court kill shots. Nygaard gave a tremendous effort against his younger opponent in losing his second game.

In the Men's B Singles Bill Huffman, who is 44 years old, beat Greg Luckman, a University of Montana student, with experience and a power serve. Both players were left handed, which added interest to the match.

In the Men's C Singles Jack Tawney outlasted Steve Hackney and finally wore him down in the last game. Hackney is older and played a good, deliberate controlled game against Tawney, who is also a student at the University of Montana.

In the Women's Open, Donna Diefenbach, winner of the Big Sky Open Racquetball Tournament held in Missoula last December, beat Jeanette Crnich, a former state women's champ. Diefenbach beat Crnich on several close corner kill shots and many fast paced passing shots. Crnich played a good conservative, ceiling ball-kill shot game.

The only major upsets occurred in the Men's B Singles events, where Bill Huffman defeated Terry Zahn, the number one seed, and Greg Luckman defeated John Boyer, the number two seed. Luckman is the son of Joe Luckman, the current state Master's Champion. Tom Troxell, another seeded player, lost to Zahn in the early rounds.

Tournament committee members were Jim Hamilton — tournament director; Jim Mayes — manager/owner, The Courthouse Racquetball Club; Rick Buxton and Larry O'Herren — tournament co-workers, and Steve Bull, Rick Medvec, Eddie Carr, Steve Dahlstrom and John Lockridge — scorers, referees and floor managers.

Tournament Results:

Quarterfinals - Singles

Men's Open: G. Pekovich d. G. Peterson, 21-9, 21-7; Steve Bull d. S. Dahlstrom, 20-21, 21-15, 11-4; J. Lockridge d. E. Carr 21-9, 13-21, 11-10; G. Nygaard d. M. Riedel 21-6, 21-7.

Men's B: B. Huffman d. T. Boone 21-20, 21-16, 11-9; T. Zahn d. T. Troxell 21-15, 21-13; G. Luckman d. J. Boyer 12-21, 21-18, 11-8.

Men's C: J. Tawney d. B. McQuirk 20-21, 21-16, 11-9; M. Horner d. G. Johnson 21-19, 21-5; J. Brooke d. S. Swartz 18-21, 21-20, 11-5; S. Hackney d. J. Barrett 21-3, 21-2.

Men's Novice: J. Leonard d. A. Linstrom 21-8, 21-11; L. Fred d. A. Ronck 21-3, 21-6; R. Barraclough d. Sullivan 21-10, 21-10; D. Nordstrom d. J. Anderson 21-8, 21-18.

Women's Open: D. Diefenbach d. P. Guth 21-6, 21-12; D. Patnet d. C. Taylor 21-2, 21-2; P. Nygaard d. J. Harner 21-16, 21-7; J. Crnich d. K. Althen 21-0, 21-3.

Women's Novice: P. Madsen d. B. Johnson 21-6, 21-11; P. Shydian d. D. Lange 21-4, 21-14; K. Wyckman d. S. Leonard 21-1, 21-0.

Gary Nygaard, right, former Montana state champ, chases down a ball off the back wall, hit by Greg Pekovich, current state champion, who won the Missoula City Racquetball Tournament.



—Randy L. Rassmussen photo

Tennis Week

A Newspaper Presenting
Tennis Information by the Week
Instead of by the Month

SUBSCRIPTION ORDER

Enter my subscription as checked below:

☐ 1 year \$15.00 ☐ 2 years \$25.00 ☐ 3 years \$32.50

(Payment must be included)

NAME

ADDRESS CITY

STATE ZIP

SIGNATURE

TENNIS WEEK
Box 1706 FDR Station
N.Y., N.Y. 10022
(212) 355-3611

Quarterfinal - Doubles

Men's Open: S. Bull - J. Burns d. G. Peterson - W. Taylor 6-21, 21-11, 11-7; T. Boone - M. Mikleson d. M. McQuirk - R. Medvec; E. Carr - J. Lockridge d. D. Guth - E. Henry 16-21, 21-13, 11-4.

Men's B: J. Boyer-B. Huffman d. J. Tawney-M. Horner 21-9, 21-17; C. Steward-G. Luckman d. J. Hamilton-T. Zahn 21-19, 21-4; J. Bower-A. Thomas d. J. March-B. Brazeau 21-16, 21-16, D. Barrett-M. Smith d. B. Noonan-S. Criswell 21-11, 21-6.

Women's Open: P. Guth-P. Nygaard d. D. Patent-J. Wahlberg 21-17, 21-10.

Semifinal Singles

Men's Open: G. Pekovich d. S. Bull 21-3, 21-9; G. Nygaard d. J. Lockridge 21-10, 21-12.

Men's B: B. Huffman d. T. Zahn 21-20, 21-12; G. Luckman d. J. Boyer 12-21, 21-18, 11-8.

Men's Novice: L. Fred d. J. Leonard 21-14, 21-14; R. Barraclough d. D. Nordstrom 21-12, 21-19.

Women's Open: D. Diefenbach d. D. Patent 21-2, 21-2; J. Crnich d. K. Althen 21-0, 21-3.

Women's Novice: P. Madsen d. S. Johnson 21-2, 21-1; K. Wyckman d. K. Shydian 21-12, 21-13.

Championship-Singles

Men's Open: Pekovich d. Nygaard 21-18, 21-20.

Men's B: Huffman d. Luckman 21-3, 21-17.

Men's C: Tawney d. Hackney 21-4, 5-21, 11-4.

Men's Novice: Fred d. Barraclough 21-15, 21-5.

Women's Open: Diefenbach d. Crnich 21-12, 21-14.

Women's Novice: Madsen d. Wyckman 21-3, 21-12.

Doubles-Championship

Men's Open: Nygaard-Pekovich d. Carr-Lockridge 21-16, 21-9.

Men's B: Bower-Thomas d. Steward-Luckman 20-21, 21-18, 11-3.

Women's Open: Guth-Nygaard d. Patent-Wahlberg 21-17, 21-10.

Mixed Doubles: Pekovich-Diefenbach d. Nygaard-Nygaard 21-10, 21-19.

Consolation Results

Men's Open: Burns d. Henry 21-14, 21-12.

Men's B: M. McGinley d. C. McAfee 21-19, 21-11.

Men's C: B. Noonan d. G. Smith 21-17, 21-12.

Men's Novice: T. Peck d. R. Johnson 21-18, 21-15.

Women's Open: Guth d. Harner 21-7, 21-8.

Women's Novice: B. March d. P. Koprivica 21-3, 21-5.

—Jim Hamilton

Louisiana

The First Annual Louisiana State Racquetball Championships were held October 26-28 at Red Lerille's Health & Racquet Club in Lafayette, LA. Eighty-seven players participated in the tournament.

Irvin David, who is the tennis pro at Red's, was the tournament director. Under his direction the tournament was considered such a success that the state tournament is again scheduled to be held at Red's on September 16-18, 1978.

Results:

Men's Open: Billy Holiday d. Larry Bobbitt, 21-17, 21-16. David Marshall d. Cliff Zeairs for 3rd place, 21-16, 21-18.

Consolation: Mike Almerico d. Tim Hannon, 21-19, 21-17.

Men's B: Guy Faget d. Rick Chiquelin, 17-21, 21-17, 11-3. Harry Stelly d. Mike Kindl for 3rd place, 21-16, 21-6.

Consolation: Mark Comeaux d. J. Savoie, 21-12, 21-6.

Men's C: D. Clinkenbeard d. Bob Morgan, 21-17, 21-8. Jack Jones d. Steve Ohnimus for 3rd place, 21-20, 16-21, 11-9.

Consolation: R. Harris d. Pat Froeba, 17-21, 21-15, 11-6.

Men's Doubles: Bobbitt and Stelly d. Marshall & Fred Guillot, 21-16, 21-10. Zeairs and Warren Reuther d. Almerico & Paul Bruno for 3rd place (no score available).

Consolation: Bob Soule and Chiquelin d. Sanford Comeaux and Mark Comeaux, 21-20, 21-7.

Women's Open: Rene Hebert d. Froeba, 10-21, 21-13, 11-4. Kathleen Morgan d. Becky Roberts for 3rd place, 17-21, 21-9, 11-4.

Consolation: L. Simoneaux d. Candy Zeairs, 21-15, 21-4.

Seniors: Reuther d. Chuck Croft, 21-19, 21-18. Guillot d. Morgan for 3rd place, 21-11, 21-1.

Consolation: Donald Gunther d. Bob Baudry, 21-14, 18-21, 11-4.

—Larry Bobbitt



Upcoming Events

May 19-21

Northwest Tennis and Swim Club Invitational; Northwest Tennis and Swim Club, 5525 Cedar Lake Rd., St. Louis Park, MN, 55416, 612-546-5474, Ron Strom tournament director.

May 19-21

Northwest Tennis and Swim Club Invitational; Northwest Tennis and Swim Club, 5525 Cedar Lake Rd., St. Louis Park, MN, 55416, 612-546-5474, Ron Strom tournament director.

May 26-28

The Presque Isle Racquetball Open; Kings Court Racquetball Club, 100 Penn Briar Drive, Erie, PA 16509, 814-868-9262, Tom Thompson chairman; Entries close May 20.

July 14-16

Aquaternnial Tournament; Kings court, Roseville, 2560 Fry Street, Roseville, MN 55113; Kings Court, Edina, 7001 Cahill Road, Edina, MN 55435, 612-941-6391, Tuck Peterson tournament director.

July 28-30

Third Annual Wyler's Women's Open Racquetball Tournament; The Court House, 1901 Raymond Dr., Northbrook, IL 60062, 312-498-3626, Jim Verhaeghe tournament director.



Please include players' first as well as last names the first time you mention them in tournament results. And please type tournament results double or triple spaced. Thanks.

T-SHIRTS of FLA.

100,000 SHIRTS IN STOCK

COLLARED STAFF SHIRTS
T-SHIRTS
BAGS, ETC.

3780 N.E. 4th AVE.
FT. LAUDERDALE FLA.

305-564-4435



RETURN COUPON

RACQUETBALL SHIRT \$5.95

INCLUDES HANDLING & POSTAGE

LIGHT BLUE ☐ TAN ☐ YELLOW ☐

S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

PHONE _____

SEND FOR FREE CATALOG ☐

DEALERS INVITED FOR WHOLESALE

SILK SCREENING CUSTOM PRINTED

T-SHIRTS

KEMIKO TAKES YOUR BEST SHOT



This unretouched photo was taken 7 months after the walls were painted. The left side of photo (front wall) was painted with Kemiko Court Coat and the right side with a national brand 2 component epoxy. Neither wall has been cleaned. Kemiko Court Coat resists ball marks.

KEMIKO COURT COAT

is a urethane coating system proven to withstand the abuse of ball impacts on racquetball/handball courts. Kemiko Court Coat originally was designed for the space program where it protected external surfaces against extreme and punishing conditions.

The molecular structure of Kemiko Court Coat is so tight that it does not readily accept ball marks even after months of constant play. Kemiko Court Coat has a proven record of lasting much longer than other court coatings with minimum maintenance.

Use Kemiko Court Coat for new or existing courts. Eliminate the mess of paint chips and constant ball marking cleaning maintenance. All Kemiko Court Coat applications are done by factory-approved applicators.

- NEW OR EXISTING COURTS
- RESISTS BALL MARKING
- TOUGH AND FLEXIBLE
- LASTS YEARS WITHOUT RECOATING
- WASHABLE — EASILY CLEANED
- CAN BE APPLIED OVER VARIOUS SURFACES

Only KEMIKO provides Coating Systems for the entire Sporting Goods Industries. NAMES YOU KNOW USING KEMIKO:

L.A. City Parks & Recreation System
University of Calif. at Los Angeles; UCLA
North American Aviation
McDonnell Douglas
Anaheim Stadium
Stan Thompson Golf
Escondido Racquet Club

Aldila
Golfcraft
Acushnet
Delta Golf
Graffaloy
Carbonite
Fansteel

California Way
Garcia
Fenwick
Saddleback Court Club
Saddleback Community College
Supreme Courts
Walt Eagle & Associates

Commerce Club (R. B. Development)
The Aspens — Southwest Industries
Pasadena Athletic Club
Marguerite Center (Watts Western Co.)
Mission Viejo Co.
Escondido Athletic Club

QUALITY WITHOUT COMPROMISE SINCE 1930

At Kemiko we have been developing coating systems for concrete and asphalt for over 40 years; systems for decorating, preserving, waterproofing, and protecting these surfaces for home, industry, and recreational areas. The singular goal of our research and development — past, present, and future is to give you, the ultimate user, the best finishes for your particular needs.



Please write or phone (213) 579-6270

ADVANCE KEMIKO, INC.

2213 North Tyler Avenue • South El Monte, California 91733

Applicator Territories
open in some areas.

The How to Look While Playing Racquetball controversy continues, following two articles in National Racquetball criticizing the clothing chosen by most players. Last month we published a raft of letters for and against a better racquetball look. In this essay a California player plays down the importance of fashion on the racquetball court.

The Case for Casual

by Trevor J. Swanson

Racquetball players have been taken to task twice in recent issues of *National Racquetball*, primarily because of their attire. Chuck Leve and James H. Rutz both lament the general appearance of players, amateur and pro, male and female alike. We are compared to participants in tennis and golf — and found lacking. Leve and Rutz indicate that our unsightly dress and vulgar behavior are responsible for every kind of ill effect except hangnails in casual onlookers. The most serious charge is that this obvious lack of class will retard the growth of racquetball. Allow me to present the case for the unsightly.

First I offer no defense for those rare players with a puzzling personal antipathy to soap and water. To follow them on the court is to suffer a more outrageous assault on the senses than being abandoned in downtown Los Angeles during a full-scale smog alert. As everyone knows it is hard to play while holding your breath. One can only rephrase the sentiments of Rutz and advise those guilty players: "Get thee to a washery — and take thy clothes."

Second I must concede that racquetball players do sometimes exhibit the casual look. We have all, on occasion, viewed what appears to be a six foot bundle of assorted rags flapping about the court. I've been guilty of some lapses myself. My wife snickers at my horizontally striped shirt worn with vertically striped jogging pants. I have even overheard disparaging comments about my lucky red Adidas with the purple laces. The censoring of women playing sans bra seems a little out-of-step in these liberated times — say about 15 to 20 years.

But things are not always as they appear — or fail to appear. For those who decry our grace and style as compared to tennis, let me point out a crucial difference; one is primarily for participating and the other is mostly for watching. Any true aficionado knows which is more the participatory sport. Many of those perfectly matched outfits, Pierre Cardin suits, and cute little skirts on women are to be seen, not played in. When you see a woman at a racquetball court club, she is there to play, not to be observed in the socially correct situation.

The fact that racquetball is a participatory sport has an important corollary for those conscious of style; when you vigorously engage in a sport, you sweat. Supposedly, "horses sweat, men perspire, and women dew," but when I play, I sweat. There is no other description: water forms; drops drip off my nose; rivulets run down my neck; puddles collect in my shoes. The most wonderfully stylish outfit lacks luster when soaked; the most carefully coiffed hair looks matted when watery.

Further women who play racquetball perspire, and some even sweat. This is unlike more elegant sports where a few beads of moisture may dew the forehead when action becomes "intense." Fifty percent of tennis players do not have a problem with profuse sweat because they rarely keep the ball in play long enough to exert themselves. This is also true of golf, which approaches a leisurely Sunday afternoon stroll for action. Those who play racquetball, even



beginners, know that action is vigorous in their sport; when you have the ball captured in a reasonably small area, rallies lengthen — and perspiration follows.

Likewise it is easy to appear graceful in tennis, where you gracefully serve or gracefully return serve — and then gracefully walk two courts down to gracefully retrieve the ball. In racquetball the ball is almost always there, and you are there — lunging into corners, ricocheting off of walls, and sliding on the floor — to retrieve it. Admittedly, this is not graceful, BUT IT'S A LOT MORE FUN AND BETTER EXERCISE. I've seldom been accused of being graceful, having (at various times) hit myself in the shin, knee, elbow, and forehead with my racquet, and — in an exceedingly graceful moment — stepped on my racquet after a picturesque forehand kill.

The inescapable conclusions from a comparison of tennis and racquetball are:

1. It is *easier* to be stylish and graceful when playing tennis because, for most of us, there is a lot less play involved, and,
2. So what?

A healthy body, from engaging in an active sport, beats tarnation out of any devilishly stylish outfit enclosing an out-of-condition frame. Our values are topsy-turvy when we consider how we look more important than how healthy we are, or how much fun we have. Exercise is the name of the game, and it's more vigorous and more fun in racquetball.

Racquetball has yet to attain the "in" status of tennis, where it is often more important to be seen than to be "doing." Many associate tennis with the camera sweeping the audience for celebrities at Caesar's Palace during a Connors/whoever championship match. Celebrity tennis. If a celebrity, such as Wayne Rogers or Adrienne Barbeau, is associated with racquetball, they are *playing* the game. Participating, not spectating.

In terms of the top players in tennis and racquetball, I believe Hogan, Brumfield, Bledsoe, Wright, et al can compare with any of golf and tennis stardom. After all it was Chris Evert who made Hollywood dress designer, Richard Blackwell's, list of

"worst-dressed" women in 1977. Blackwell says of Evert, "If tailored is in . . . so is boring."

Finally Chuck Leve's fear that racquetball will never gain national, or international, prominence as long as we remain casual is groundless. One thing will bring racquetball into the limelight and money: adequate television coverage, as Bob Kendler has pointed out many times. In truth with the advent of sophisticated television coverage, utilizing several cameras and replay ability, will come the sponsor pressure which will mean stylish conformity for racquetball apparel. Hopefully the rest of us racquetball clowns will be able to continue in our same old sloppy fashion, having a good time and staying healthy.

In summary, as Diane Keaton, who also made Blackwell's "worst-dressed" list, would undoubtedly say about all this "style" flap, "well, ah, um . . . la de dah, yawn." ●

PRO SHOPS—STORES—YMCA'S

- BUY AT WHOLESALE FACTORY PRICES FOR • Leach • Seamco • Champion
- DELIVERY FROM STOCK • ON TIME

SEAMCO
#559

\$12.00 doz./6 doz. or more.
Case Lots Only



- All Racquetball Equipment In Stock For Immediate Delivery
- For A Complete Listing Of Items and Prices Write For Our 40 Page Wholesale Full-Color Catalog.



LEACH
SWINGER
RACQUET
1 doz. Quantity
\$10.90 Ea.



CHAMPION #610
RACQUETBALL
GLOVE
As Low As \$3.50 Ea.
PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

sports awards co.

4351 N. MILWAUKEE AVE., CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60641 • PHONE 312/282-8060

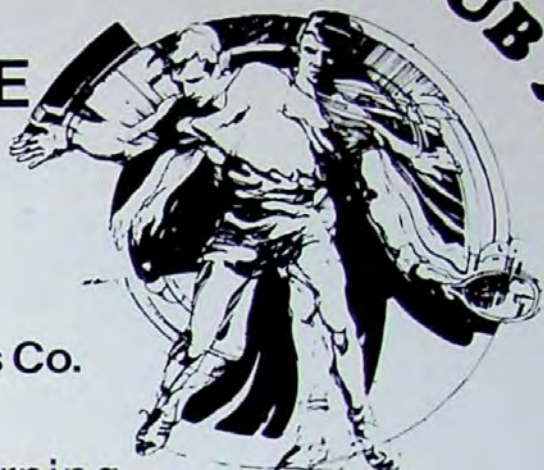
STORM MEADOWS ATHLETIC CLUB AT STEAMBOAT



DAVEY BLEDSOE
1977 Men's NRC National Champion
Wilson Racquetball Advisory Staff

THE DAVEY BLEDSOE RACQUETBALL RANCH AT STEAMBOAT

SPONSORED BY
Wilson Sporting Goods Co.



Combine a unique racquetball learning experience with the luxuries of a refreshing mountain vacation for the whole family.

DATES—Four one-week sessions

July 30—August 5	For beginners only (have played 1 year or less)
August 6—August 12	For beginners and intermediates.
August 13—August 19	For beginners and intermediates.
August 20—August 26	For intermediate and advanced.

PROGRAMS

15 hours of professional instruction both in the classroom and on the courts. Video tape analysis • films • and plenty of free practice time in preparation for handicap tournament on the final day.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

There will be free time every afternoon so that the entire family may enjoy the following activities together: tennis instruction • swimming • river rafting • trout fishing • horseback riding • 18 hole championship golf course • gondola ride • biking • hiking • barbeque party • jogging trails • village shopping • nursery and day care camp • night life and five restaurants.

RATES

Camp Cost (per student)	\$225.00
Room Cost (for 6 nights)	

Convertible I (Studio—maximum 4 persons)

Single occupancy	\$144.00 per person
Double occupancy	72.00 per person
Triple occupancy	48.00 per person

Convertible II

\$198.00

(Studio with additional bedroom and 2 baths—maximum 6 persons)

All camp participants will stay in the Storm Meadows Condominiums within 200 yards of the Athletic Club. All rooms (Convertible I & II) are fully equipped with complete cooking facilities, fireplace and panoramic view from your balcony.

FREE BONUS

In addition, each student will receive, as part of his tuition, a **Wilson** racquetball shirt, shorts and tote bag as well as a camp photograph for your family album.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Davey Bledsoe Racquetball Ranch • Storm Meadows Athletic Club •
Box 1566 • Steamboat Springs, Colorado • 80477 • (303) 879-1036

Please send me your complete brochure on the Davey Bledsoe Racquetball Ranch.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

(303) 879-1036 Box 1566 Steamboat Springs, Colorado 80477

Ben Koltun

PROfile Author Dan Bertolucci, who has been Ben Koltun's opponent on the pro tour, says "I can tell you - from personal experience - that Ben's performance lives up to his New Player of the Year award."



by Dan Bertolucci

Ben Koltun is probably the most improved player on the Colgate/Seamco/Leach pro tour today, but he didn't get there without hard work and dedication. Ben hails from St. Louis and started playing seven years ago at the age of 13 at the Jewish Community Center, along with other racquetball superstars like Steve Serot, Jerry Hilecher and Marty Hogan.

"I took up racquetball because it was a great workout and fun at the same time," Koltun says. "At that time I weighed close to 170 - a real blimp. My friends called me Maya the Elephant Boy. I lost 30 to 35 pounds playing four to six hours a day in the summer and weekends. Hogan and I came up about the same time, though he had been playing a few years before. Hilecher and Serot were the stars back then and I guess my dream was to be just like them - professionals."

Without a doubt Koltun has reached his goal. In 1975 he was crowned the National Juniors champ and he went on to win the 1976-77 National Amateur championships and the 1977 New Player of the Year award. He received \$5,000 to help pay for a college education. Ben is currently a sophomore at Meremec Junior College in St. Louis and he plans to attend the University of Missouri.

Although Ben hasn't won a pro tour stop to date, he is a threat to anyone he faces. His best finish this year has been making it to the semis twice, losing to Hogan in close contests. These performances have given him a number eight national ranking and enough winnings to continue to finance his college education.

Last season, Ben's rookie year, he lost many times in three games, but the close matches convinced him that he could beat any one of the top players. The lack of experience and exposure were two reasons why Ben felt he didn't

do better. Since last year Ben has combined his serve and shoot style with some court moxy displayed by players cut out of the control mold.

"I depend largely on my serves for many points in a game," Koltun says. "I feel my serve is among the toughest in the game. It's not as fast as the other players' (Hogan, Bledsoe, Hilecher), but from one point in the service box I have four serves which are very deceptive."

Ben credits his progress from top amateur player to eighth ranked professional to Trainer-Coach Joe Zelson (former Masters Doubles champ).

"I meet with Joe once or twice a week and we discuss, in detail, game plans, strategy and an analysis of my game. He plays with me and criticizes me, helping me achieve the purity of execution necessary for winning. He sees things I can't see and I feel that he's 100 per cent beneficial, and not just a crutch."

A typical day's schedule for Ben would include school until early afternoon and play for about an hour after a series of exercises that he and Joe developed, followed by individual practice sessions where he hits 600 to 1,000 shots and serves. Ben also does sprint running because he feels that *"in the third game, when you really have to go all out, you need to have the recovery that sprint routines help build up."*

When playing competitively Ben plays with Serot when he's in town, or with top area players. Sometimes he'll try some two on one and work with the local juniors, who all are after him.

Besides racquetball Ben likes music. *"I'm constantly buying new albums and tapes,"* he says. It's been rumored that if you ask him, Ben will sing like Elvis Presley — the only person besides himself who Ben claims is his idol. Ben collects every album, poster and other Elvis memorabilia, and even owns a black sequined suit like the white one the late singer made famous.

Ben's a winner when he's concentrating, as in this game against fourth ranked Jerry Hilecher.



Arthur Shay photos

In sports Ben was a star baseball player before he started playing racquetball. *"Hogan and I played in the same league on opposing teams. Ask him sometime about the triple I hit off him to win a game. I played football in ninth grade — well I made the team but got kicked off a week later for skipping practice. The only other sports I compete in now are tennis in the summer and a game that Serot and I play — squash. Oh I can't forget gin rummy — I play that a lot too."*

Ben and Marty Hogan have known each other a long time and people wonder what it's like to be the number one player's frequent roommate. Says Ben: *"I haven't played Marty that often, so I don't have to worry too much about beating the guy I room with."* ●

Stopping Racquetball Action With Film

by Arthur Shay



Dear Mr. Shay:

I am a long time lover of racquetball and avid lover of photography. I am trying to put both loves together.

I am forever humbled by your great work covering this difficult to shoot, fast moving sport. Your pictures are marvelous. I especially like the cover of the pro tour program. Your coverage of the pro tour in *National Racquetball* is superb.

I am a member of Kings Racquetball Court in Westminster, CA, and have a chance to shoot amateur racquetballers in action, on Kings' Royal Court. Could you please give me some tips on shooting racquetball. I would like to know the lenses used most often, focal length, type of film and at what speed you shoot, both color and black and white, and any special processing you use. Do you do your own processing? If so which developers are you using for which film?

Any information you can pass along to me will be greatly appreciated.

Jack Coots,
Long Beach, CA

Art Shay, *National Racquetball's* official photographer, was a wartime flier who holds five Air Medals and the Distinguished Flying Cross. As a *Life* reporter he worked on some 200 *Life* stories before becoming a photographer. He has had 1,000 pictures in *Life*, 1,000 in *Time*, 600 in *Sports Illustrated* (15 covers), 600 in *Fortune*. He has written and photographed 50 books, the last 10 being sports books, including five on racquetball. He has photographed annual reports and books for such companies as Motorola and Quaker Oats, Zenith and National Can. He was ABC-TV's still photographer at the Montreal Olympics and will travel to Paris this fall to cover an international gymnastic meet.

Art has been handball champ of SkyHarbor and the Court House in Northbrook, IL, and the past year has become an A racquetball player, thanks to a little coaching by Charlie Brumfield, Marty Hogan and Jean Sauser while working on books with them. He is entering the Golden Masters Nationals June 17-24, and will have a problem if he gets to the finals and has to photograph himself in action. For a man who did 50 of *Life's* Mafia stories this shouldn't be too hard.

Tips From One Of The Country's Top Sports Photographers

Part I

Each week, as interest in racquetball builds, I get a couple of letters from camera fans who play racquetball and want to photograph it. Last week's letter was from an already competent West Coast photographer named Carole Charfauros. This week's letter, printed on the opposite page, is from Jack Coots of Long Beach, CA. Jack, I know you'll pardon me for answering your letter so that thousands of other racquetball picture takers can learn at the same time.

Let me begin by saying that racquetball is one of the toughest sports to shoot by the light that exists in most courts. It is a fast game played in an enclosure that, 80 per cent of the time, doesn't offer a good photographic point of view. These opinions are shared by my 24-year-old son and fellow racquetball photographer, Dick Shay.

There is the balcony, which is fairly common, although a few courts don't even have balconies. Pictures from a balcony, however, tend to lose most of their drama. (Those "balcony" type shots of, say, football, cover the action O.K., but it's those ground level cameras and their zoom lenses that give you the feeling of being right there, which is the aim of good sports photography.) The high angle gives you more "coverage" in most sports, especially racquetball.

Let me begin by listing possible positions and situations for shooting racquetball from best to worst.

(1) The very best position is through a front wall made of glass such as the unique court of the Northwest Suburban Y in Des Plaines, IL. When the new English two way glass comes along, more and more courts will have a wall with spectators and



Shay shot this pro program cover photo from a front court window.

The photographer needs to lie down on the floor for the best posed player shot.

photographers looking in, players not disturbed by movements of the audience or photographers.

(2) Some clubs have a front window a few feet off the floor, center court.

Having a photographer shoot from this position doesn't bother such players as Charlie Brumfield or Marty Hogan. I shot them from that kind of window at the Tropicana courts in Las Vegas at the 1975 Nationals, and this picture is being used on the 1977-78 pro program cover. Evergreen Park (IL) Bath and Tennis Club is another club with a fine window in its front wall exhibition court.

(3) Kings Racquetball Court in California has a glass booth arrangement that's about six feet too high for effective action pictures. When the TV movie was made of a tournament there, this camera position had to be augmented by views from the back glass wall, low angle, and from the sides.

(4) When the court has side glass and back walls, it's possible to get fairly good racquetball pictures.

My favorite position is at the lower right hand corner for a back glass wall and about three feet from the front wall on the right side of a court with one glass side wall. This right side position gives you a good view of forehand and backhand shots. If there are two side walls, I will shoot from the left side for some of the matches.

(5) The worst alternates of all — maybe a tie with balcony pictures — are the "make believe," simulated action pictures. Pros will hold still for these before a match, but these pictures rarely have the spontaneity of hard-game action shots. Still, for the local newspaper photographer unfamiliar with racquetball and pressed for time, or for the club photographer who wants a record of a match a little different from a trophy picture — or to shoot your family star — it's a good idea to get on the court with

your two players, lie down on the floor about six feet from the front wall, and using a normal lens, get your players to try to volley softly from mid court, aiming over your head. (I've been hit in the lens and eye this way by no less a racquetball dignitary than Charlie Drake, the boy genius of Leach Industries.) Most press photographers are in a hurry to get back to the office with their racquetball picture, so this "posed action" is probably the best bet for them. If you are a manager hosting the press, this approach will help save time.

If you want the ball coming off the racquet in a shot you're posing on the court, and wait for what The Brum calls The Splat, it may be too late. Shoot just as the ball reaches the racquet. When you desperately want the ball in a posed picture, have the player hit right at you, or a little higher. Any player except Charlie Drake, that is. With the ball coming at you in a straight line the chances are good that it will appear in your shot.



Shay doing his job catching the important gallery people . . . this time it's Seamco's vice president Bob Coate at one of the four stops.

If you're stuck with a balcony, a normal lens will sometimes fill the frame with two players facing the rear wall as one of them makes a back wall shot. This doesn't happen too often, so you have to watch for it. I use the sequence camera (Nikon Fs and Nikon FM's), but that's an old *Life* and *Sports Illustrated* thing — to shoot like mad. (Covering a football game for SI I shot 28 rolls. Neil Leifer shot 31!) Actually if you know a little about racquetball and realize that from the time you push the trigger until the picture is taken takes about 1/30th of a second, you can anticipate good peak action shots one frame at a time. There's a moment of concentration as that ball hits the back wall and the player is setting up for the shot that often makes a good picture IF you lead a little, or anticipate the shot, allowing for that miniscule time lag of 1/30th of a second.

Those Disturbing Technical Questions, Starting With Black and White

This brings us to the questions that disturb most racquetball photographers — the technical questions.

Let's begin with black and white. Kodak's Tri-X or Ilford's new HP 5 films are best for racquetball. Rate the film at 800 ASA. (Tell your lab you want it developed at 800 ASA or "pushed one stop," which means the same, or do it yourself about one-third more developing time you'd use for 400 ASA black and white. D 76 developer diluted one to one at 68 degrees and developed for 15 minutes should give you 800 ASA. So should my second choice, UFG at five and one-half minutes. *But make a test first.* Most lab conditions and temperatures vary somewhat.)

Eighty per cent of all the racquetball courts I've seen are lit with arc lamp bulbs, usually six to eight fixtures to the ceiling. This should give you an exposure of 1/250th of a second at F:2.8. Be prepared to lose a few frames to "arc lamp shadow." When you have to shoot through glass, you'll usually be dealing with a green tint that cuts down the exposure by one-third to one-half stop. This brings you to F:2.5, about halfway between your F:2 and F:2.8 markings on your lens. Don't lean too heavily on your built-in camera exposure meter; it will register too much light from the walls. If you use your built-in meter, take a close-up reading of a player's face — not the white T-shirt — and use that. If you then shoot through glass, open up another half stop, as I've suggested. I've found that the 1/250 is fast enough to "stop" most action acceptably well.

Carole Charfourous writes to say she has a grain problem when she blows up her picture. Grain is almost always a function of over development. You should test a sequence — three frames to each exposure, then skip a frame with your hand held over the lens to give you a blank. Thus shoot 1/250 at F:2 three times, at F:2.8 three times, at F:4 three times and at F:5.6 three times. If your normal development (that is normal, pushed one stop) makes your 1/250 at F:2.8 negatives too heavy — too dark, too much exposure — the chances are an 8 by 10 enlargement of one of these frames will give you grain, a sort of mottled effect over the entire picture. Try the 1/250 at F:4 sequence. The enlargement should give you less grain.

The thing to do now is cut back on your development until you feel that F:2.8 at 1/250 gives you an acceptable 800 ASA negative. ●



Coming in June:
Part II of Art Shay's photo story, including taking color photos and choosing the right lens.

Scientists Nail Down Racquetball Benefits

Clock Calorie Costs, Heart Rate Rise

by Gary D. Sinclair, Ph.D. and
Bruce C. Goldsmid, M.P.E.,

School of Physical Education and Recreation, The University of British Columbia

The caloric costs of various physical activities are used in exercise prescriptions to assess the intensity of the activity and to estimate caloric expenditure. Although data is available for such sports as handball, squash, badminton and tennis, no values have been determined for use by racquetball enthusiasts or those not-so-skilled enthusiasts who play racquetball for its quality as an enjoyable activity with fitness benefits.

With this concern in mind we set out to measure the caloric costs and the cardiorespiratory response of men and women who were just beginning a racquetball instructional program.

A class of 22 students (11 men and 11 women) at the University of British Columbia received four sessions of basic instruction, which included specific skill drills, controlled competition with correction and competition without officiating. The classes prepared the students for participation in a formal singles competition during which the selected data was gathered.

During each game a portable spirometer collected a percentage of expired gas to measure energy used, and FM radio telemetry was employed to record heart rate patterns at each minute of the competition.

Electrodes attached to each player's chest and a transmitter taped to the side produced heart rate patterns on a Strip Chart Recorder.



A portable spirometer, measuring air the players breathed out, showed that male competitors used an average of 828 calories an hour.

Racquetball Passes Heart Rate Test

In order to improve one's present cardiorespiratory "fitness" level, the heart rate must be increased and maintained within an age-determined target zone for a minimum time period. The Canadian Home Fitness Test research recommends that regular daily exercise include at least 15 minutes of vigorous and continuous activity to provide a training effect for the heart and lungs as guided by their heart rate chart (Table I).

The results of our telemetry revealed that the average male heart rate was 177 beats per minute, with a high of 186 bpm and a low of 167 bpm (see Graph I), during an average game (21 points) of 14 minutes (14:06). Reference to Table I shows that for this age group (20s) the heart rate produced was certainly sufficient to produce the desired training effect.

Counting Off 828 Calories

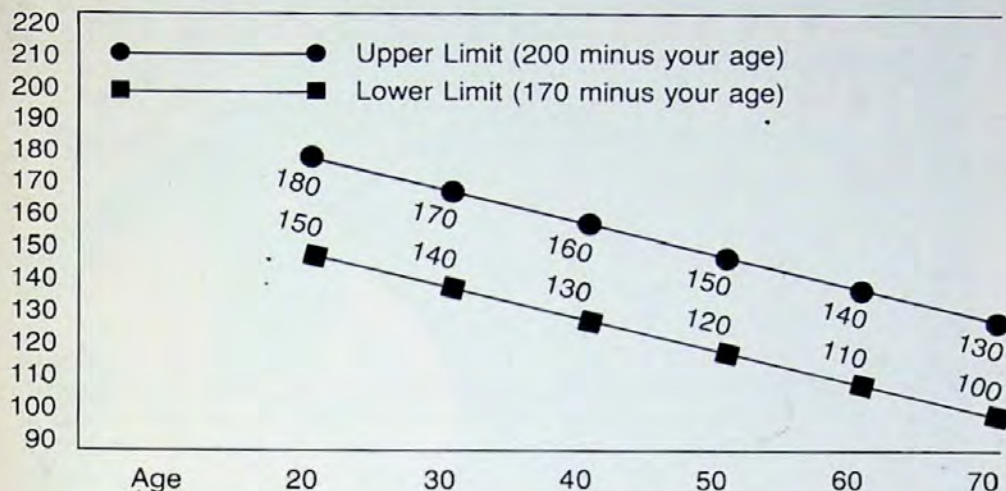
The caloric expenditure was calculated by standard procedures based upon the scientific determination of the player's consumption and carbon dioxide production.

Our data shows that, on the average, the male subjects utilized 828, and the female subjects 621 calories per hour. These values are equivalent to the utilization of .28 and .21 pounds per hour, respectively, of the body's store of carbohydrates and fat (see Table II).

Therefore if a person played at the level of intensity of this group of beginning racquetballers, and it is assumed that an increased skill level will result in an increased game pace, for one hour three days per week, approximately 39 pounds of stored energy (fats and carbohydrates) would be utilized. At this point we hasten to add that an individual would not necessarily lose 39 pounds of weight as weight loss is dependent upon a delicate balance

Table I**Age Determined Heart Rate Target Zones**

Heart Rate In Beats Per Minute



From: F. L. Katch and W. D. McArdle,
Nutrition, Weight Control and Exercise
 *Calculations determined for a subject
 weighing 68 kilograms (150 pounds)

From: Leader Manual, *The Canadian Home Fitness Test*. Health and Welfare : Ottawa, Canada, p. 14.

Table II**Average Caloric Expenditure**

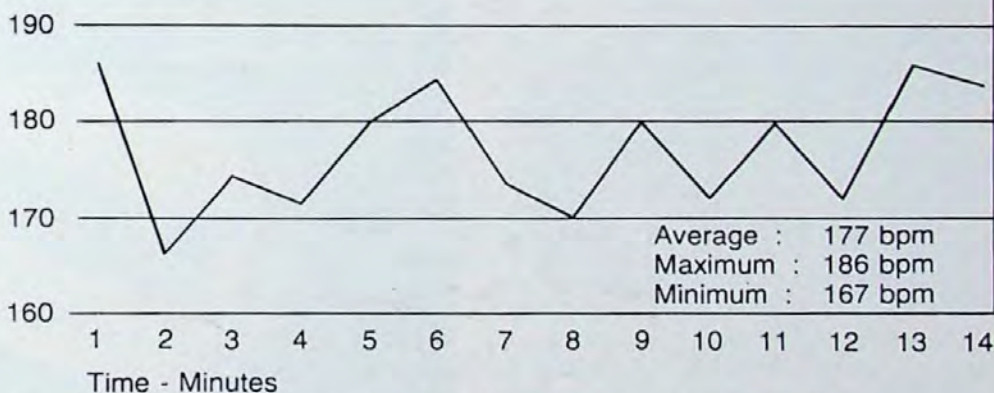
Category	Men	Women
Calories per minute	13.7	10.4
Calories per hour	828.7	621.0
Calories per game	205.3	199.7
Calories per kilogram of body weight per minute	10.8	11.1
Calories per pound of body weight per minute	23.8	24.5

Table III**Energy Requirements Of Selected Sports**

Sport	Cal/min*
Racquetball	13.7
Badminton	6.6
Cycling	4.4-6.8
Golf	5.8
Cross Country Running	11.1
Squash	14.4
Handball	10.2
Swimming (slow crawl)	8.7
Tennis	7.4
Volleyball	3.4

Graph I**Average Male Heart Rate Recordings At Each Minute During Game Play**

Beats per Minute



Age Group : 20-25 years. Average Game Time : 14:06 minutes.

between energy expended and calories consumed. During exercise the predominant component of the observed weight loss is perspiration and this loss of weight is readily restored by the ingestion of fluids. When the body is appropriately rehydrated, excess water is carefully regulated by the kidneys.

"Upstart" Game Equally Demanding

Supporters of the more established games of handball and squash will be shocked to learn that the young and less demanding, skillwise, upstart game of racquetball is equally demanding in terms of energy expenditure and cardiac involvement (see Table III).

Racquetball's unique flexibility, that is, its ability to allow anyone, regardless of sex, age and skill level, to participate

immediately and experience fun and success as well as a worthwhile workout, is the solution to many of our exercise prescription problems.

In light of the fact that we have observed many "pudgy" racquetballers who have not evidenced any significant weight losses, even though they have been involved for a substantial period of time, we offer a final reminder — in order to lose weight, one must work at both ends of the metabolic balance equation. If weight control is a serious factor, a game of racquetball should not serve as justification for a postgame beer or extra helping of food at dinner. Although it is an excellent method of expending metabolic energy, you must also cut down on caloric consumption. Racquetball is the fun method of "girth" control.

Portable Spirometer. This piece of apparatus is a rectangular, box shaped device (5" x 8" x 11") weighing approximately eight pounds and was carried on the player's back, pack-sack style, during the competition period. The player breathed through a two-way valve which permitted inspiration of atmospheric air while the exhaled air passed through a special meter where its volume was measured.

Three-tenths of one percent of this expired air was automatically collected in a small rubber bag attached to the meter. Oxygen consumption was calculated by analyzing the expired air for oxygen and carbon dioxide content and then energy expenditure, expressed in calories, was derived from the oxygen consumption data.

FM Radiotelemetry. Heart rate was monitored during actual game competition by use of FM radiotelemetry. The electrical activity preceding each heart beat was detected by electrodes placed on the player's breastbone and rib. This electronic signal was then transmitted to a receiver in the gallery which transferred it to a physiograph which, in turn, recorded it as a permanent tracing of the player's heart rate. ●

THE FINEST COURT WALLS AVAILABLE TODAY.

H & B proved its point at the University of Riyadh in Saudi Arabia, at Court Sports I in Elmsford, New York, and at the King of Prussia Racquetball Club, two of the finest facilities in the East, as well as our many installations throughout the United States.

HAUENSTEIN & BURMEISTER Court Walls are the finest and here are some reasons why:

- Minimum of interface seams with 5' x 20' panels.
- Ideal ball response with durable Formica® playing surface.
- No dead spots with Honeycomb core panels. Every square inch of playing surface is supported.
- Free-standing panels need no other support for attachment.
- Our customers are satisfied & will verify it.
- Fully guaranteed installation.

**Call or write for
information**



TELEPHONE: (612) 721-5031

HAUENSTEIN & BURMEISTER, INC.
2629 - 30TH AVENUE SOUTH • MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55406



Wood Floors.

Give a lifetime of performance and wearability, because they are more than skin deep.



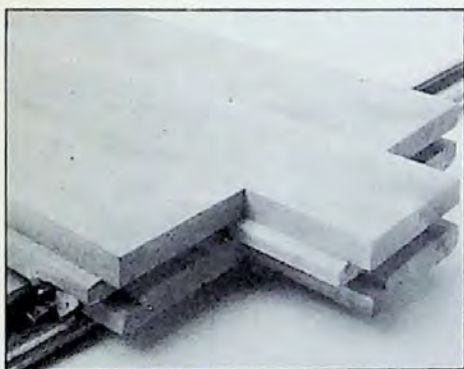
Wood floors . . . unlike thin, synthetic type floors . . . are constructed of sufficient mass to control the transmission of cold and condensation from a concrete subfloor to the playing surface. A most important construction consideration in the building of Racquetball/Handball Courts.

Robbins, now offers a choice of four, hardwood maple floor systems. The superb construction of each of these floor systems make them less affected by variations in temperature and/or humidity . . . resisting warping, twisting, excessive swelling and shrinkage. Your assurance in having a wood floor

system that will last the "lifetime" of your courts, with a minimum of maintenance.

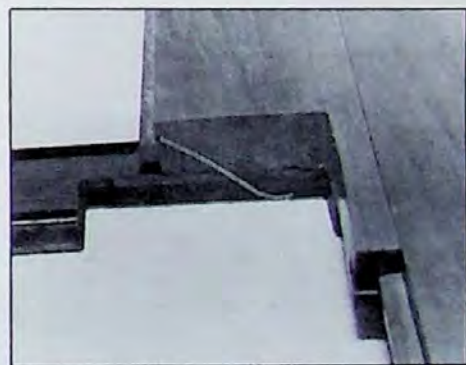
For the player, Robbins wood floors give fast action . . . with *uniform ball bounce* as the ball comes off the floor without loss of energy. Furthermore, the high resiliency of Robbins wood floors *reduces player fatigue*.

With Robbins, the name in hard maple floors, there is a choice . . . Lock-Tite; Strip-Tite; Permacushion; Cincinnati Sectionals. For Complete details and specifications just write, or give us a call.



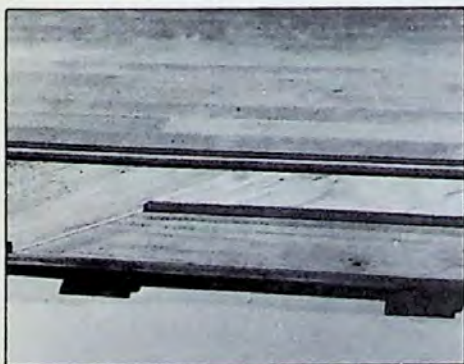
LOCK-TITE®

High quality steel channels and clip fastening system to withstand the extremes of moisture and humidity.



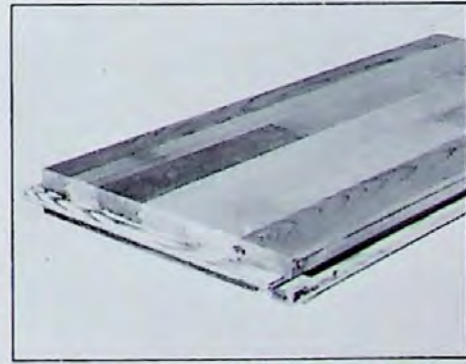
STRIP-TITE®

Combination of clinching and high density hardwood gives maximum hold down strength.



PERMACUSHION®

The hard maple floor system that floats on cushioned sleepers. Shock absorbing, economical and versatile.



CINCINNATI SECTIONALS®

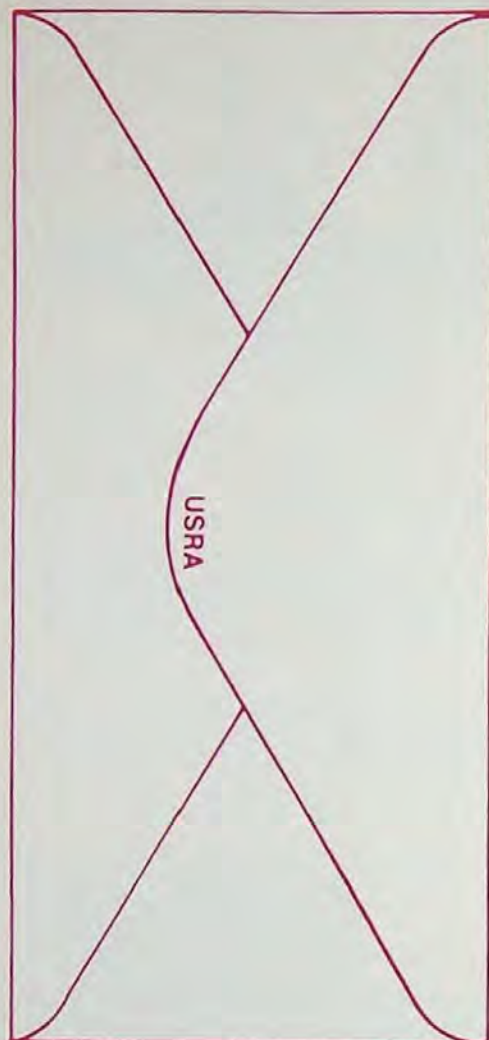
Prefabricated, installation is accomplished quickly and easily.

Manufacturer of nationally famous Precision Courts wall & ceiling systems for Racquetball/Handball Courts



3626 Roundbottom Road / Cincinnati, Ohio 45244
(513) 561-5805





Racquetball Hot Bed

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Kendler:

Just a brief note to tell you how much we all appreciated your gracious hospitality to us old Masters players last Friday at your lovely home. It was the highlight of the trip for me.

It is easy to see why Chicago is a hot bed of racquetball under your guidance and leadership. Please continue your efforts on our behalf.

William J. McLaughlin, Jr.
Buffalo, NY

Coming Home

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Kendler:

Thank you so much for the support you gave to the Masters Invitational Racquetball Tournament and for the wonderful reception we had at your home. All of us really appreciated everything.

I sincerely hope that your prediction about handball making a comeback will come true and I, too, hope that someday the I.R.A. will come back "home" where it belongs.

Del Daines
Indianapolis

A Friend Reports

Dear Bob:

The January issue of *National Racquetball* will become a collector's item. Only a few of the current readers can appreciate what the future holds for you until they read this particular article.

Personally, I can see you and Mr. Lincoln "chewing the fat" and actually playing a bit of handball. . . . Won't that be wonderful! Especially when we know you would not permit this transfer unless you were accompanied by that very lovable, wonderful wife of yours.

I do sincerely want to congratulate you upon being the recipient of the 1977 Humanitarian Award.

Next in order, let me congratulate all of you, with you of course, as the Number One boy, on an organization you have put together and making a monthly bulletin out of *National Racquetball*. The Industry will find this to be of great help for many reasons, such as staying current on developments — good advertising — "quality" — plus all the available information that will help stimulate and maintain the national interest in racquetball — which is just now starting to mature.

I hope you take good care of yourself in this rather rugged winter and you haven't missed much by not being in Florida. Our weather here has been rather cool. Keep your face to the wind, Robert, and don't be surprised at anything that may happen.

Best wishes,

D. B. Frampton

Sauser Says "Thanks"

Dear Mr. Kendler:

I would like to thank you for adding money out of your own pocket to the Women's Pro purse at Marietta, Georgia. Once again, your foresight in the matter of the value of women professionals in racquetball is greatly appreciated by this pro.

There are more and more women playing racquetball well on a competitive level. Payment to the round of 16 will encourage more good women into the pro ranks if it eventually becomes policy.

Thanks for a step in the right direction.

Jean L. Sauser
Northbrook, IL

Sauser's Mother Says "Thanks"

Dear Joe:

Would you please convey my thanks to the NRC for the many courtesies extended me in Omaha. I had a great time.

Virginia Sauser
Morton Grove, IL

Hoff Says "Thanks"

Dear Mr. Kendler:

I just received a memo from Chuck Leve regarding an increase in the prize money for women, and I am truly excited. Most of all I want to thank you for your generosity and support of professional racquetball. This is my first year as a professional and I feel that the sport and the NRC are very good to me. Most important are the fantastic people I have met through racquetball — to me that's worth much more than winning every game.

I have only met you once, but feel that you are one of these very nice and genuine people. Thank you so much for your support.

Rita Hoff
St. Louis, MO

Wonders if Daughters Cramped Mothers' Style

Dear Carol:

Omaha, Nebraska, in the middle of January brings to mind severe cold, wind and snow. If not mistaken it snowed each day that we were there, and it was cold, with the wind causing temperatures to drop even lower. So all preconceived ideas of Omaha were fulfilled.

But Omaha was chosen as the site for the first Womens Pro-Am. Another first was a fiery new cheering section composed of some of the mothers of the women pros. The general consensus of the Pro's: Omaha was a smashing success — the tournament and the time spent with mothers.

The tournament was run efficiently, from the starting times to the hospitality provided. The constant flow of spectators was most reassuring and a fine compliment to work done by Dick Kincade, Tom Schuessler and their staff. The warmth and friendliness of the staff at Sports Courts helped us forget how cold it was in Omaha. Dick Kincade accommodated us at every turn, while he and his staff spoiled the mothers with corsages and a brunch.

The mothers — the real untold story! They can be characterized as avid spectators and ladies who enjoy laughing and having fun. They each added their own flair: some quiet, except during the matches; some (or one) telling jokes; some always laughing or talking, and many dancing. At times some of us wondered if we were cramping their style! What an incredible group of women who sure added warmth to Omaha and the first Womens Pro-Am.

In all we enjoyed having the mother's with us in Omaha, and many thanks to Dick Kincade and his staff for making the first Womens Pro-Am such a tremendous success.

Rita Hoff
St. Louis, MO

Queen Of The Court In New Hampshire

Dear Sirs:

Thank you for special mention in your February issue with reference to the cross country skiing out on "back 40" of the Fountain of Youth Court Club and Health Spa.

We have something very exciting for our ladies after exercise class Monday through Friday mornings. It's Queen of the Court. Each gal pays a one time fee of \$3 and challenges the winner of the previous game in our one court designated for them. Two gals start it off and the winner stays in continually if she can. Many different players have a chance, because a not so good player can "take" a really good player if she's getting tired. It works for the men at their designated hours, and is especially fun for our 50-year-olds.

One more suggestion. My hubby John and I own and operate our club from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. each day of the week. Our children — 17, 15, 13 and 9 — place well in their junior tournaments here in the East, and my husband does well in the seniors. Why can't there be a senior division 35 and over for us gals?

Nancy Brown
White River Junction, VT

We're happy to report that there will be a Senior Women's division at the Nationals June 17-24 in Detroit. Hope you enter — ED.

Thanks From Bill Tanner

Dear Evie and Bob:

I certainly enjoyed seeing you the other night. It was very nice of you to have all the old folks out to be treated with such great hospitality. You are two of the most charming people I know, and I'm sorry that Pearlina wasn't with me to see your lovely home.

Bob, it's always an inspiration to be with you and to discuss racquetball with you. I know that you will continue to lend your support toward helping racquetball develop into one of the greatest sports in America today.

Pearline and I extend a standing invitation for the two of you to visit Memphis any time that you can work it into your schedule.

Again, a special thanks for a great night. I'm looking forward to talking with you in the near future.

William B. Tanner
Memphis, TN

Thanks For The Tournament Memories

Dear Dan (Bertolucci) and Friends:

The effect, comments and memories of your stay still linger. This was the most spectacular racquetball event that I have even been connected with, and I sincerely appreciate your advice, your expertise and your compliments. There is no doubt that we will soon be working together again.

David Michael
Tempe, AZ

It's How You Play The Game

Dear Sir:

At group tournaments good sportsmanship awards are usually given to junior age boys and girls. I wonder if this wouldn't be a good idea for adults as well as the young people at every amateur and professional tournament. In a way I would rather receive a good sportsmanship award than a trophy for winning the match.

Claude A. Frazier, M.D.
Asheville, NC

National Racquetball Story Helps Kidney Patients

Dear Editor:

We have read with interest your article "When a Transplant Patient Beats His Surgeon." We found the entire article to be sympathetic to and knowledgeable of the problems that patients experience and we want to congratulate you for your fine journalism. This type of presentation does tremendous good in informing the general public of the problems that kidney patients experience, yet optimism prevails among patients for continued useful lives in spite of a disease that not too many years ago would have been fatal.

Warmest thanks for your efforts on behalf of kidney patients.

Lynn Shimp
Des Moines, IA

RAINBO
ALL PURPOSE RACQUETBALL
EYEGUARD

NEW!!

STYLE, COMFORT, PROTECTION AND LOW PRICE COMBINED IN AN INDESTRUCTIBLE SPACE AGE PLASTIC EYEGUARD. COLOR CO-ORDINATE WITH YOUR FAVORITE PLAYING OUTFIT. PACKAGED BY THE HANDICAPPED. LIGHTLY TINTED TRANSLUCENT COLORS OF YELLOW — BLUE — GREEN — RED — ORANGE (GOLD) OR CLEAR.

FOR LOW PRICES CALL COLLECT: LLOYD DISTRIBUTORS (213) 999-4330
P.O. BOX 3000, CALABASAS, CALIF. 91302 DISTRIBUTOR INQUIRIES INVITED

Endless "Thank You" List

Dear Bob:

We have just completed a very rewarding experience hosting the Southwest Regional Championships and the NRC pro tour. We must say that it was the most exhilarating (and exhausting) five days in any racquetball history.

The list appears endless in the "thank you department." The Arizona Racquetball Association takes great pride in our tournament committee who literally slept at the facility. In addition to organizing the entire event they all somehow managed to participate in the tourney as well. Our sincere appreciation goes out to Chris Georges (Tourney Director), Bill Rabe, Mike Grisg and Randy Shinn.

The beautiful facility proved beyond a doubt that it ranks at the top in the nation. Thank yous go out to Ron and Kim Cole, David Michael and the entire Arizona Athletic Club staff for their exhausting efforts in hosting an extremely successful tourney.

Words cannot express what is felt for the next group of people for they reside at the top of our list. (We expected to see them jump into a phone booth and exit wearing a red cape, blue tights, and a big red "S" because they truly are supermen!) Our deep gratitude extends to Joe Ardito, Chuck Leve, Terry Fancher and Dan Bertolucci. It is quite apparent to see why the NRC/USRA is so well organized. Since we are on the subject of organization, we think it only appropriate to mention the persons who are the organization (aside from the amateur level). The touring professionals are to be commended. Their skill, conduct and friendly personalities were beyond reproach. One can easily see why racquetball is making such an impression throughout the nation.

Last but not most assuredly not least we wish to thank the persons who gave their assistance in other ways and without them a tournament such as this would not be possible — Colgate/Palmolive, Leach Industries and Seamco Sporting Goods. Their financial

assistance has been tremendous to our sport. Financial assistance also arrived from you, Bob, as well as Neal Aspren for television taping of the men's and women's finals through our local PBS affiliate KAET Channel 8. We appreciate this sharing, especially for those who could not attend the Sunday matches.

As I stated earlier the list is endless and we sincerely hope that it *remains* this way. We have a great sport and without all of the involvement of these millions of people on our "endless list" we would not be able to experience an organization of this magnitude.

Bob Hurckes
Chuck Hallock
Scottsdale, AZ

SOLARI EYE GUARDS

MAXIMUM EYE PROTECTION-TOTAL VISIBILITY

★ RACQUETBALL ★ TENNIS ★ HANDBALL

- New revolutionary patented vertical split bars deflect the ball, preventing serious eye injury.
- The vertical and horizontal fields of vision are virtually unobstructed.
- Solari Eye Guards are made of the space age super light-super strength Poly-Carbon.
- One size fits all faces.

ARE YOUR EYES WORTH
\$19.95?

Ophthalmologists (eye doctors) writing in Journal of the American Medical Association reported 7 out of 10 racquetball sports related eye injury cases require retinal surgery.

DOMESTIC & INTERNATIONAL DESIGN & MECHANICAL PATENTS PENDING



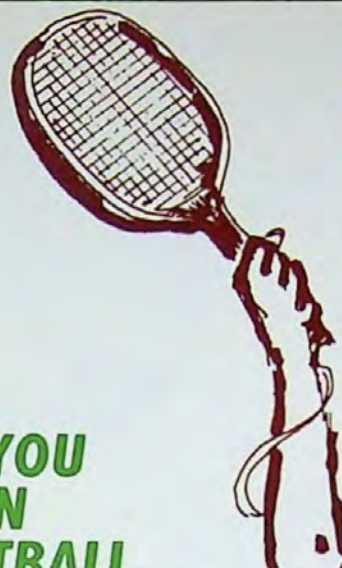
SOLARI™ SPORTS PRODUCTS
A Division of Solari Mfg. Inc.
1670 Cordova Street
Los Angeles, CA 90007

My check for \$_____ is enclosed plus \$1.00 for shipping and handling. Calif. residents add 6% state sales tax.

- ☐ Pro Model, \$19.95. Colors: Black with Gold Trim, Frost with Silver Trim.
- ☐ Deluxe Model, \$16.95. Colors: White, Red, Blue.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____

©Solari Mfg. Inc. 1978



WHEN **cpi** SERVES, YOU GET THE RETURN

BEFORE YOU INVEST IN RACQUETBALL

discover how
you get the
fastest dollar
return with **CPI's**
total package...

- Site selection and acquisition
- Design and layout
- Complete architectural services
- Complete materials package, all meeting USRA standards
- General contractor coordination and construction management
- Installation
- Pre-opening membership sales program
- Operation consultation: controls, procedures, activity planning
- Personnel training
- Marketing/advertising program
- TAX ADVANTAGE CONSULTATION

CPI and Bauer-Frampton, manufacturers of premier F-62-SP court panels, are affiliate companies in the racquetball industry.

BAUER
FRAMPTON

cpi

COURT PLANNERS
AND INVESTOR
SERVICES, LTD.
575 Underhill Boulevard
Syosset, New York 11791
(516) 364-9270

Yes, please send me more information
on CPI's total racquetball package.

name _____

company _____

address _____

city _____

state _____

zip _____

phone () _____

MAIL TO: Court Planners & Investor Services, Ltd.
575 Underhill Blvd., Syosset, N.Y. 11791

It's That Time Of Year Again

You can tell when it's approaching. The snow melts, the ground thaws, the tulips and crocuses poke their noses toward God Sun.

I speak of spring, the signal that racquetball's National Championships are only as far away as the life cycle of those tulips.

Before the tomatoes and radishes are barely into Mother Earth, the 1978 National Champions will have earned their crowns, this year from June 17-24 at Sports Illustrated Court Club in Belleville, MI.

Next month's issue of *National Racquetball* will feature a look at most of the top pros and their chances of coming up ripe with the titles.

But no matter who wins what this June, every player there with any hopes of winning any division, will go through the emotional agony of competing for a national title.

Perhaps there's more outside pressure on the professionals, for their living and future depend on how well they do. But the pressure cannot be ignored in the amateur events, especially when the quarter-finals and semi-finals approach.

The best don't always win at racquetball's national championships, but as with most other tournaments, in any sport where the national title is on the line, the winners are the ones playing best on that day or that week.

So hundreds of players will be tuning their games, conditioning their bodies, exercising their psyches to be able to endure and withstand the pressures of the Nationals.

"I could lose every tournament all year," Charlie Brumfield once said, "but if I win the Nationals it was a good season."

The intensity of the Nationals epitomizes the pressure. It is at long last the one tournament of the year in which there is no tomorrow. A loss during the season and there's always the next stop. The next stop after a loss in Belleville is Kelcy's Bar.

The air is electric at the Nationals. It is the one tournament where nobody laughs and those who smile are deceived by their eyes. Friends are friends only to avoid solitude.

The card games lack interest, the movies drag, the time prior to matches passes like torture.

Yet the play is brilliant. The shots crisp, the kills dead. The cracks open up for the skilled, the ready and the confident. Those who know they can win survive — those who fear they might lose vanish.



And when it is all over, those who emerge with the title of National Champion are truly the National Champions. For to win this tournament is truer a test than any other because it tests more than just your racquetball skills.

The Nationals tests you as a person. Your desire, your will, your mind, and your soul. Guts, determination, savvy call it what you will. The men and women who win their titles this June will have them all.

There will be pain, there will be tears. There will be drama, excitement and surprises. This, my friends is what the National tournament is all about.

It's the best. ●



named "official" for racquetball

Champion
GLOVE MFG. CO.
2200 E. OVID DES MOINES, IOWA 50313

The National Racquetball Club made the choice. Yes, the pro's selected Champion's Model 610 as the "official glove" because of design and superior performance. Soft, thin deerskin palm . . . double thickness terry cloth back, wrap-around Velcro wrist strap, Helanca stretch design . . . are all preferred features. That's why amateur, as well as professional, racquetball players like the Champion Model 610 glove. At your YMCA, Racquetball Club or Sporting Goods Dealer.

A LOT OF WOMEN WILL TAKE US TO COURT BECAUSE OF THIS.

Racquetball is the fastest growing sport in the world.

And an estimated 40% of the players are women.

**EXHIBIT
A**

Yet no one has come up with a glass-filled racquet designed especially for them.

Until now.

Leach introduces the Lady Swinger, the sport's first glass-filled racquet for women.

The Lady Swinger is a racquet dedicated to the proposition that women are every bit as serious on the court as men.

It's a natural competitor.

We've modified the basic teardrop shape to turn the entire string area into one big sweet spot, for more accuracy.

It weighs in at under 250 grams, making it easier to swing.

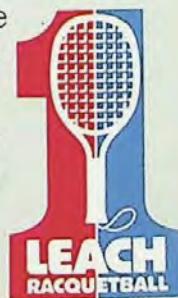
And the Lady Swinger's narrow-throat design and comfortable 4" grip put a stop to rotational torque on occasional miss-hits around the edge. So it's easier to control.

It's a superb price competitor too, with a suggested retail under \$20.00.

That's right. The first women's racquet for under \$20.00.

And backed by a full one-year guarantee covering both strings and frame.

The Lady Swinger. It's a great new racquet from the company amateurs and pros alike have been taking to court for years. And winning with. We rest our case.



NUMBER ONE BY DESIGN



5567 Kearny Villa Road, San Diego, CA 92123