

"THE FIRST ANNUAL BERLIN WALL TOURNAMENT"

Handball

THE OFFICIAL VOICE OF HANDBALL, RACQUETBALL & PADDLEBALL



▲ Reading from left to right; Stuffy Singer, Marty Decatur, Jimmy Jacobs, and Captain Tom Vail, pose under the "taped" letters of the U.S.H.A., as they contemplate the many lives that have been lost at this infamous wall. The picture was taken prior to their doubles match against the wall — inaugurating "The First Annual Berlin Wall Tournament".

▲ In back of the sign which reads, "You Are Now Leaving The American Sector", the threesome applies the finishing touches to the first Berlin Wall Court.



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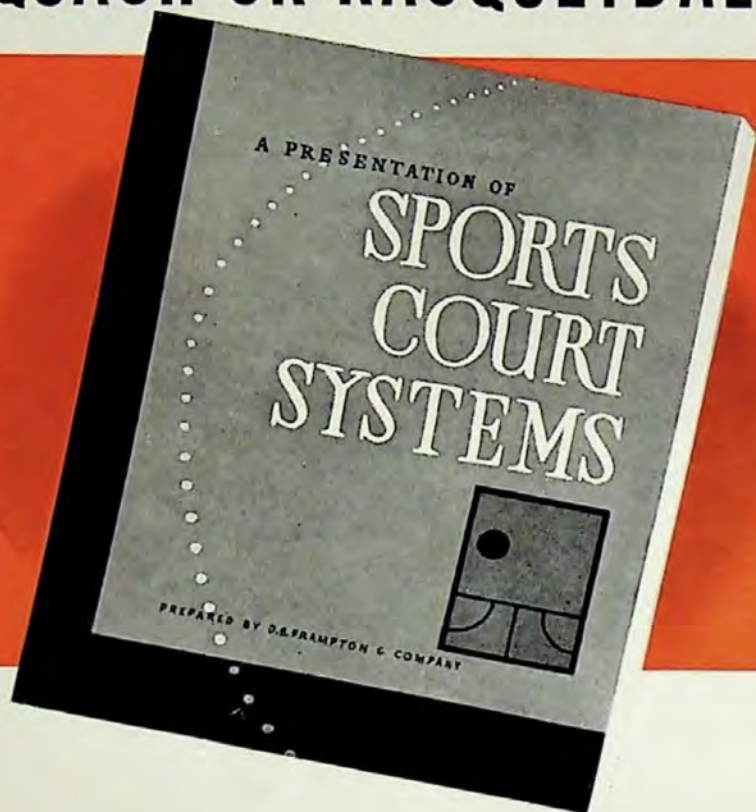
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HANDBALL

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ON THE COVER

Handball was stimulated thoroughly in Germany and England as a result of a two-week exhibition-clinic tour by three USHA champion representatives — Jim Jacobs, Marty Decatur and Stuffy Singer. Jim's humorous inimitable style of reporting with a liberal sprinkling of pictures starts on page 6 along with a sincere rebuttal from a rather maligned Mr. Singer. Sgt. John Mooney was the gracious host guide for the entire tour and the U.S. Air Forces in Europe were rewarded with a look at the advanced tactics for the game and an opportunity to attend well organized clinics. It is hoped that the handball activity at these bases will spread out to the civilian populace of European countries and thus pave the way toward full Olympic Games representation.

As we continue to enjoy the boom in handball/racquetball play throughout United States, Canada and Ireland, it is only apropos that we reflect that just a year ago Abe Lincoln the Handball Player was featured on the cover of our magazine. There are no doubts that this great American had an impact on our game just as he had on our way of life. As we move on to new plateaus it is with thankfulness to those who came before us for it was their enthusiasm and love for the game that started that little pellet rolling.

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*Deceased

National Junior Winners . . .

Christian Over Ginty—Under 19; Nati Alvarado, Mexico—Under 17; Shreveport's Mike Lloyd—Under 15

Hail to the new USHA Junior champs!

Under 15 — Mike Lloyd, Shreveport; under 17 — Nati Alvarado, Juarez, Mexico; under 19 — Rick Christian, Van Nuys, California.

These are three youngsters who have a very bright national handball tournament future.

For 18-year-old Rick Christian it was a glorious victory after two years of runner-up frustration. The full-bearded, personable youngster showed improvement and a needed confidence backed by a recently won Southern California singles win. Ken Ginty, now a Manhattan College freshman, had beaten Rick last year for the under 19 honors and it looked like he would breeze to a repeat as he literally powered his way to an easy 21-7 first game win. But, Rick steadied himself, changed from a cross court game plan serve to hard reverses mainly to the left and showed better steadiness and control in the volleys.

El Paso's Bob Lindsay had not exaggerated when he extolled the skills of his across-the-border protege, Nati Alvarado. Nati quickly became a gallery favorite with his cat-like moves and coolness under fire. Actually Billy Goldstein pressed our first USHA national foreign champion more in the semis than Gary Stedman did in the finals.

Mike Lloyd, son of a fine Masters performer, Dr. Cecil Lloyd, at 14 displays a thorough knowledge of the game's fundamentals and overcame the power shots of Cincinnati's Jack Roberts in our under-15 bracket.

To Ken Ginty's credit was an all-out comeback effort in the third game against Christian. Trailing 11-18, Ken battled back on sheer determination in the 80-plus degree sunshine drenched new Flamingo Park court. And, when the match determination came right down to the inevitable 20-20 it appeared a repeat crown was within his grasp. With Ginty in service, the boys exchanged ceiling shots . . . then Rick gambled, shot off a Ginty return ceiling that came low off the back wall. He put it in, regained the serve and won with a right hand kill.

Steve Adelman, St. Louis' under-15 winner last year, apparently hampered by a sore left shoulder, was rudely eliminated in the semis by Californian Gary Stedman after commanding an 18-9 lead in the third game of their match. Stedman appeared dog tired and completely out of contention but after consistent volley ending points and an ability to get the serve back, got the elusive No. 21 to count the big win.

The other St. Louis champ hopeful, Ted Yevelson, could not score a third straight national USHA junior title. He had won the under-15 in 1969; the under-17 last year; and now at 17 was gunning for the last peg of victory. Seeded No. 3 Yevelson met an improved



KEN GINTY . . . relinquishes crown in under-19 won in 1970. Manhattan College freshman will have a lot of titles coming.

Brewer Kitchings of Birmingham in the second round and was unceremoniously "dumped" in three. After losing the initial game 21-11, Yevelson came back strong and his 21-4 evening up game win made it appear he would take this match. But, he was ragged in the finale and Brewer took advantage to win. Ted has another year in this competition.

Disappointing also was No. 4 seed in the under-19, Vern Roberts Jr. and just as disappointed was his father, Vern Sr., an outstanding tournament performer for years. The junior Roberts lost to Yevelson in the under-17 finals last year, then again to Ted in the finals of the Midwest Junior divisional this season at Lake Forest College. After showing well against St. Louis' Barry Goldstein, Roberts just couldn't cope with Ginty. Roberts had beaten Barry Goldstein of St. Louis in the divisional but this time out saw the tables turned in an exciting all-out three game match in the quarters.



RICK CHRISTIAN . . . After two years of frustrating runnerup roles Van Nuys youngster wins the big under-19 prize.

Vern Jr. salvaged the consolation prize in the schedule for quarter-final losers, beating first Tim Hardy of Denver, then Brewer Kitchings.

Barry Goldstein won the special Dr. Maury Fox "Most Improved" trophy award for his strong showing and a deserved third place win over Gene Craft, Florida native and now a freshman at the University of Texas.

Doug Glatt, youngest player at 11 ever to participate in the national juniors, shows tremendous potential. The pint-sized southpaw from the Encino Health Club is a tough competitor and should go on to the top plateaus.

There were 27 entrants in the under-19, coming from South Boston to Southern California, from Minneapolis to Great Falls to Birmingham. For the first time we had representation from Denver. Two protege offsprings of confirmed handballers, Tim Hardy, son of John Hardy; and, and in the under-17 bracket, Mike Davidson, son of Jo Davison.

Barry Goldstein, winner of "most improved" and third placer over Gene Craft of West Palm Beach and now a frosh at U. of Texas, will be back next year for another try at the championship. As will his teammate Ted Yevelson, who was bitterly disappointed in losing his first match to another fast-improving youngster, Brewer Kitchings Jr., of Birmingham.

The new high of 23 entrants in the under-17 presages the number of younger boys now being introduced to the game. Another of the Goldstein clan, Billy, was the best competition for winner Nati Alvarado, and he, like his brother, Barry, has a very bright future. Father is Al Goldstein, winner of many big tournaments with Dr. Stan London out



MIAMI YMHA PLAYOFFS . . . Under-15 title and third place playoffs staged at YMHA courts. Back (l to r)—Dr. Cecil Lloyd and his champion son, Mike, Shreveport; Joe Ardito, USHA National Tournament coordinator; Jack Roberts, runnerup, with his Dad, Vern Roberts Sr., Cincinnati. Front (l to r)—Louis Grilla, Miami Beach, third place winner; Paul Froncca, San Antonio, fourth place.



IN THE UNDER-17 CLASS . . . Mort the Sport with Gary Stedman, left, who showed vast improvement, finishing runnerup . . . and Nati Alvarado, our first Mexican native champion from Juarez in his first National Juniors tournament. Nati drew the raves of veteran observers as a real potential open champ of the future. He has received fine basic instruction from El Paso's Bob Lindsay.

of St. Louis, and proud grand-uncle is our former national commissioner, Hyman Goldstein. And Cousin Stan Goldstein was a two-time national intercollegiate doubles champ when he was at Washington University of St. Louis.

Steve Adelman was expected to be the final round opponent for Alvarado but "blew" a big lead in the third game against Gary Stedman in the semis. The St. Louis lad oozes confidence and perhaps fails to maintain a fast enough tempo. He definitely is a "star of the future" and has three more years of national junior competition. Adelman salvaged third place with a three-game win over Billy Goldstein.

Two more sons of fine players dominated the under-15 "incubator" division. Mike Lloyd, 14, demonstrated that he has learned his basic fundamentals thoroughly from his father, Dr. Cecil Lloyd of Shreveport; and, Jack Roberts, 14, growing fast with real good power, is using the "serve and shoot" modus operandi as learned from his dad, Vern Roberts Sr., of Cincinnati. Young Mike showed that placement and a variety of shots spells win at this stage of development. We mentioned 11-year-old southpaw Doug Glatt of Northridge, Calif., and an Encino Health Club product, as a future book potential.

NOTES OF THE TOURNAMENT:

It was a wirephoto finish but the two new courts at Flamingo Park were ready for the Juniors, and provided a needed touch for this championship event . . . it's always "meet and greet" time at the Miami Beach mecca . . . right from the home town, Buddy Perelman, president of Horwich Center handball club . . . Mickey Unroth, the Toronto lefthand

standout . . . Dr. Silverman, who won the Masters one-wall with Vic Hershkowitz just a few years ago . . . Ken Smolack who couldn't "carry" your reporter . . . always good to renew friendships with the ol' Brooklyn Central Y commissioner, Barney Goldstein . . . Joe Brotman, always a leader in Beach handball doings . . . syndicated cartoonist Syd Hoff, looking fit . . . Al Levine, playing that left side as well as ever . . . "The Great" Koran, hobbled with knee miseries . . . surprising vacationists . . . the Marty Decatur, and his fight film boss, Jim Jacobs and his gal . . . Ruby and Nancy Obert . . . Ruby, fighting the flu, warmed up in the sun and watched his better looking half play paddleball. The paddleball courts looked like a Normandy invasion with so many players scattered around it was hard to determine who was playing. Bill Segal hosted a marvelous cocktail party at his home and proudly showed his Japanese gardens . . . Danny Flower served as bartender . . . Bob Davidson still spry as ever and giving hints to all the youngsters . . . Bob Lewis serving as mediator for the in and out doubles teams on challenge play and giving every assistance with the tournament. Fred Lewis always a valuable aide in tournament proceedings . . . and, "import" Sid Semel, our Southeast commissioner, did a good job as floor manager at Flamingo . . . Joe Ardito did the same job at the YMHA . . . excellent cooperation and coordination from Bob Silver, physical director at the YMHA . . . arranged for the housing and food and the rock festival that followed the banquet. Gordie Focht chaperoned the seven San Antonio entrants . . . Gordie's a former junior himself. Tom Dix was in charge of the St.

Louis contingent and is able to control them well. Wally Ris of Broderick came over from Ft. Lauderdale for the finals . . . he's re-elected president of the Southern California Handball Association.

* * *

TOURNAMENT RESULTS: Under-19.

First round — Brad Cline, Miami def. Keith Moore, Charlotte, 21-10, 21-2; Tom Lynch, Chicago, def. Bob Elsham, Minneapolis, 9-21, 21-9, 21-18; Tim Hardy, Denver, def. Dan Poppelreiter, Chicago 21-8, 21-15; Barry Goldstein, St. Louis, def. David Luft, New York, 21-11, 21-6; Thomas Blaikie, Miami Springs, def. Stu Kirzner, New York, 21-0, 21-6; Tim Boland, Great Falls, Mont., def. Gil Serrato, Watsonville, Calif., 21-10, 21-6; Brewer Kitchings, Jr., Birmingham, def. Eric Kaplan, Brooklyn, default; Rich Urrutia, Pleasant Hill, Calif., def. Mark O'Leary, S. Boston, 21-3, 21-8; Art Diemar, New York, def. Bob Kilcoyne, Chicago, 21-2, 21-12; Jim Benincasa, Hollywood, Fla., def. Bill Baraban Kansas City, 21-4, 5-21, 21-16; Bill Arsenault, W. Palm Beach, def. Alex Rivera, San Antonio, 21-2, 21-2.

Second round — Ken Ginty, New York, def. Cline, 21-2, 21-5; Hardy def. Lynch, 21-8, 21-9; Goldstein def. Blaikie, 21-13, 21-6; Vern Roberts Jr., Cincinnati, def. Boland, 21-14, 21-14; Kitchings def. Ted Yvelson, St. Louis, 21-11, 4-21, 21-14; Craft def. Urrutia, 21-13, 21-6; Diemar def. Benincasa, 21-19, 21-19; Rick Christian, Van Nuys, Calif., def. Arsenault, 21-8, 21-13.

Quarter-finals: Ginty def. Hardy, 21-1, 21-5; Goldstein def. Roberts, 20-21, 21-16, 21-14; Craft def. Kitchings, 21-13, 21-11; Christian def. Diemar, 21-5, 21-8.

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Decatur-Jacobs and Somebody Named 'Swinger' Exhibition Tour of European U.S. Air Force Bases

By JIM JACOBS

In October of this year, Marty Decatur, Stuffy Singer, and Jim Jacobs were invited by the United States Air Force to give handball exhibitions and clinics throughout the European theater.

Our hosts were: Bob Segien, Major Rene Miller, and tour guide Sgt. John Mooney.

The trip started in the nation's capitol, where the group became a "three-some" with the addition of our "expert" cameraman, and journeyman handballer, "Stumpy Swinger".

We realized Stump would be a sixth finger when, upon arriving in Weisbaden, Germany, we discovered that Mr. Swinger's 11 pieces of luggage — containing ten doubleknit suits, six jump suits, and one pair of handball gloves were not aboard our plane. It took 24 hours to recover his essentials! From then on, everything (if handled by Stumpy) got worse.

In our first stop at Weisbaden we were billeted at the General Von Steuben Hotel, a military installation. We soon discovered that our military orders, and passport, were our two most precious possessions. At the \$2 a day charge, even the miniscule USHA per diem could possibly suffice. (That is, of course, if the USHA Nationals were held in Weisbaden.)

By the grace of God, all of the details were beautifully handled by Bob Segien who, (in spite of the constant screwing up of Stubby Slinger) managed to get us everywhere at the appointed hour. His patience, tested to the ultimate on the two occasions he had to get Slinger out of jail, was only equalled by the hospitality of Bob and his gracious wife Marge.

On the first afternoon the threesome was asked to give a clinic and show a handball film at the General Hap Arnold High School gymnasium. Five hundred young high school athletes, (sons of U.S. servicemen), attended the one-hour clinic and rap session. Jim Goodwin, a high school football coach and excellent handball coach and excellent handball player, handled the arrangements. At the conclusion of the clinic the entire assembly was asked to select "one" outstanding athlete from amongst their ranks to play that afternoon in the handball exhibitions at the air base. Unani-



LOTS OF LOCAL TALENT . . . At Weisbaden, Germany, on the first stop, the fine group of players included: Top (l to r)— John Mooney, Mike English, John Jones, Jim Goodwin, Marty Decatur, and Stuffy Singer. Bottom (l to r)— Jim Jacobs, Ed Gold, Bob Songer, and Red Horton. Sgt. Mooney was host guide for the entire tour and competed on even par with his esteemed guests in doubles. John had won the USAFE (U.S. Air Forces in Europe) with his partner, Ed Gold, last year. Throughout the tour John had his share of victories against the three 'names' to a point where it started to become embarrassing.

mously, all heads, and pointed fingers, were directed to one young fellow, by name—John Jones, who was the high school "all star" athlete. It was as if there was no other choice!

That afternoon, having never stepped on a 4-wall handball court, — a very young, and inexperienced John Jones took the measure of a very old and experienced Stumpy Singer. Strike up one victory for Hap Arnold High School, and one defeat for The Hollywood YMCA.

The very promising Ed Gold, a hard hitting and enthusiastic right court partner for John Mooney, provided many exciting kills, and lightning retrieves, for the packed gallery. With the help of a crooked referee, (Bugsy Singer) the team of Decatur and Jacobs managed to perpetuate their win streak.

At this point it must be established that Snuffy Singer was invited along to replace the genius of Izzy Mankofsky. At the last moment Izzy was unable to make the trip, thereby leaving the assignment to the dubious skills, and shaky hands, of Spuffy Singer. Speaking on behalf of the dynamic duo, Stub's photographic ability is to Izzy's, what the

putrid locker room stench is to a sweet smelling rose.

On to the second stop, Ramstein, Germany. We were all "shocked" when we entered the N.C.O. Club and a room full of "One Arm Bandits" (slot machines to those who don't live in Las Vegas.) They took every coin from a nickel to a quarter, — and "took" is a very appropriate term. It was in Ramstein that Marty and I were first exposed to Stuffy's compulsive gambling. At all hours of the day and night, Stuffy could be found dumping all of our per diem money into these insatiable monsters. Would you believe that this is the same Stuffy Singer who masquerades as an investment and pension planner for the unsuspecting? In all fairness, (like in all of his handball matches) he managed to lose as much with his left, as his right.

After appearing on television in Ramstein, the handball exhibition and clinic was given at the Air Force Base. Mike Mojer, Crosby Winn, John Mooney, Ed Gold, and John's son "Jack", made up the group that gave the exhibition.

In each and every stop in Germany, the brightest and most enthusiastic root-



ONE WALL (BERLIN, THAT IS) . . . Capt. Tom Vail (front left) and Stuffy Singer attempt to dethrone the undefeated doubles team of Marty Decatur (rear right) and Jim Jacobs. The platform in the background overlooks the ominous Berlin Wall where people can get a view of the somber Eastern zone.



THE INTRODUCTION . . . Three West Berlin youngsters are given basic instruction in the sport of handball by the four 'heroes' in the background. Boys (l to r)— Peter Waber, Gunter Schneider, and Hans Junemann. At their first try both their athletic ability and enthusiasm was tremendous.

er was John Mooney's lovely wife, Rose. John's fine performance was chiefly due to the encouragement supplied by the familiar voice in the gallery. This was particularly true in John's singles match against Sulky Singer, who could not emotionally cope with the fine ability of John, nor the sweet observation of "Rose", chiefly, "Nice try Stuffy!!"

Next we were scheduled to play at "Hahn Air Force Base", approximately 60 miles away. We were advised that the trip, by car, would take approximately an hour and a half. We placed our trust to Knucklehead Singer, — who was also in charge of all maps. Four hours and dozens of curse words later, we arrived on the scene. (With Stuffy still hovering over his maps of "France") P.S. We were still in Germany!!

We had a wonderful feeling walking onto the court and finding about 35 young students who had been invited to our exhibition by Phil Kinyon, athletic director of Hahn Air Base. It wasn't until later that evening that we found out that Phil was a former "Olympic Games Wrestler". It was revealed when Stuffy told Phil that he wanted "private" quarters for the evening, "or else!!!" The "closet" that Phil deposited Stuffy into revealed that Phil had no sense of humor, and that Stuffy had no talent for wrestling.

Our handball exhibition and clinic at Hahn was probably one of the most exciting (for us) as the youngsters displayed great enthusiasm and interest in everything we explained and demonstrated. Afterwards they wanted a souvenir, and Decatur's gloves were the objective. They cornered the poor skinny fellow in one end of the handball court, and the result was they got their wish.

On to Bitberg Air Base, two hours away. Stuffy is now in charge of our "laundry". We make the trip in the

estimated two hours as a result.

Our host was Captain Thielke, who was alienated 30 minutes after we arrived by our dapper, and continental, third leg, Stuffy Swinger. This occurred when the four of us were driving to the gym area and Captain Thielke yelled out of the car window at a "gorgeous" blond, "Hi Myrna!!" Stuffy, (not to be outdone) blurted out, "Yea, Hi Myrna!!!" The good Captain turned around, (and that's not easy when you're driving) and glared at our "X," wrestling champion, stating with jaw squared and ready for combat, "THAT'S MY WIFE!!!" Singer scores again!

Our exhibition in Bitberg was highlighted by the wonderful play of Colonel



THE EUROPEAN 'HANDBALL' . . . Confusion over stories of team handball out of Europe can be explained with picture of balls they use — similar to soccer-basketball. In East Berlin, in a small sporting good shop were found these non-USHA sponsored handballs. Jacobs: 'We all bought one to bring back for Bob Kender to copy.'

Hailing who hit more kill shots in one game than we had seen on the entire tour. An old Jim Jacobs was pressed to the limit in salvaging a one game victory. (And his pride.)

Afterwards Col. Hailing took the trio to his home in still another demonstration of the brand of hospitality we received on our tour. Stuffy, upon learning that Colonel Hailing was, in fact, a practicing gynecologist, serving the wives of overseas U.S. personnel, accepted the invitation as a harbinger of great things to come. As usual, we should have left Stuffy in the "John". Col. Hailing's wife and children entertained us royally!

Our next stop, "Berlin," has to be entered by air because of its location in "East" Germany. Aboard the plane we were asked to sign a "release from Air Force Responsibility" in the event the plane crashed, or was captured by the Russians. Stuffy refused to sign as he took the position the release was anti-Semitic.

It was in Berlin where we met a truly "great" person, and wonderful representative of the Air Force, "Captain Tom Vail". Throughout our four-day stay in Berlin, Tom was our Mr. Everything. He showed us all of the sights, including the 24 hour night life.

Our exhibition in Berlin consisted of two hours of solid play. After the "handball" session was over, we were challenged to a "paddleball" match by the Base commander, Colonel Gail S. Halvorsen, nicknamed "Candy Halvorsen". A result of his exploits as a Lt., during the Berlin Air Lift, when he made it a practice of always dropping a load of candy bars to young children while parachuting the other necessities of life. It turned out that Colonel Halvorsen was a marvelous paddleball player, and if not for the cheating, and illegal blocking, of Stinky Singer, the newly formed-dynamic duo of Halvorsen and Jacobs

(From previous page)

would have been victorious. In this particular case, evil triumphed over the good guys!! We were not surprised to find out that Tom was an excellent handballer, and as a result, invited him to be our fourth in a doubles match against the "Berlin Wall". (Tom gasped . . .) (Apparently it was against the law to play anything against the Berlin Wall, let alone handball.) Tom saw his bright young Air Force career disappearing in the shadows of the ominous Wall.

In choosing the exact site for our adventure we were rather discourteously chased away by a patrolling police car, manned by "armed West Berlin police."

Stuffy, thinking the guards understood no English, cut loose with his now famous phrase, "Screw off!!!" Four hours later, Col. Halvorsen was able to extract Stuffy from the detention area where he had been placed. (With our blessing!!!)

The next morning, equipped with a movie camera, we returned to the location we had scouted as the site for the first Annual USHA Berlin Wall Championships. Prior to the start of play, trying to advertise and promote the tournament, we taped our affiliation proudly, in bold 2-inch Johnson and Johnson adhesive.

The turnout consisted of three young West German boys. (As pictured.) They were fascinated by the play and were thrilled to get an opportunity to have a go at it themselves.

In spite of the "gallant" effort in doubles competition by Tom Vail against the undefeated dynamite team of Decatur and Jacobs, Stuffy proved to be too much of a "load" for Tom to carry on his back. Time and time again, Stuffy erred, to the blazing speed and overpowering strength of the New York Bombers.



DIFFERENT ANGLE OF BERLIN WALL . . . Photo taken from an overlooking platform reveals the barbed wire fence, the tank traps, and the barren area called the 'Death Zone' which is heavily mined every six feet. One look over the Berlin Wall says more, and reveals more, than we could possibly describe with words.



STOP IN RAMSTEIN, GERMANY . . . Pictured at top (l to r)— Jim Jacobs, John Mooney, Crosby Winn, Marty Decatur. Bottom (l to r)— Stuffy Singer, Ed Gold, Mike Mojer, and John Mooney's son, Jack, a promising high school athlete and did well playing Jacobs a game of singles.

Once again it was Stuffy's lack of control which almost did us all in. In typical temper tantrum fashion he hurled the elusive ball over the top of the wall, into the heavily mined area on the other side. Fortunately, a few moments later, the ball came sailing back simultaneously with a raving from the other side, "Schlognoy!!!" It wasn't until that evening that an interpreter explained to Stuffy the meaning. It could be loosely interpreted as meaning, "Screw Off!!!"

That afternoon we decided to go through "Checkpoint Charlie", where one passes on entry to "East Berlin". Our

objective, (Plan "R" for "Recover") to get back the other two Ace handballs which Stuffy had hit over the wall. Our most serious moments of the two weeks were spent in the two hours in East Berlin. The desolate streets, and generally depressed atmosphere — brought us back to the harsh reality of where we were. We entered a sporting goods shop in East Berlin and were shocked to see non-USHA handballs on the shelf. (Pictured) We purchased a ball for each of us as memento of our visit into the Eastern sector.

We want to express our thanks to Tom



WELCOME DOUBLES CHAMPS . . . At Alconbury in England the 'dynamic duo' of Decatur and Jacobs pose in front of a sign which proclaimed them undefeated for a mere '77' years. (Actually, it was meant to indicate the numeral '11'). RAF base appearances climaxed wonderful two-week series.



THE SWITCH TO PADDLES . . . Colonel Gail 'Candy' Halvorsen, commander of U.S. Air Forces in Berlin, champion paddleballer, teamed with a 'reluctant' Jim Jacobs to play the untried, uncoordinated and desperate team of Decatur and Singer. Halvorsen managed to survive with his life in spite of the three flailing paddles he constantly had to elude.

Vail for the sensational time in Berlin, and also, for tolerating Stuffy at the Berlin Wall.

On to jolly old England and R.A.F. Lakenheath Air Force Base. It was there that Marty and I were delighted to see a sign that read, "Decatur & Jacobs — Undefeated in 77 years". Stuffy threw, — (a now typical) temper tantrum as his name, and his impressive list of credentials (one singles title) were conspicuously absent.

In the exhibition, Major Don Beerline displayed a fine all around game and the packed audience enjoyed the competition. Afterwards, Major Beerline was joined by the base commander, Col. Johnston, in a challenge paddleball match against the reigning tour champions, Decatur and Singer. In a hotly contested, one hour, struggle, the vastly underrated host team was narrowly defeated by Decatur's play and Singer's antics, 21-19.

The highlight of the day for Jimmy came that evening at dinner, when, a dear old friend (from his teen years in Los Angeles) walked into the dining room. Jimmy remembered his buddy as Bill Goldfein, — but it was now "Col." Bill. Col. Goldfein, having read of the tour being in Lakenheath, flew in an air force plane in lousy weather, to meet with Jim after 24 years. It was really a great reunion!!

Our last stop on the tour was Alconbury Air Force Base. The trio was subjected to a "marvelous" 40 by 20 court, lit, however, with (tricky) strobe neon lighting. The effect of the strobe lighting gave the ball the appearance of a "long black line". One was never able to be certain of its location, and consequently



GOD SAVE THE QUEEN . . . Sgt. John Mooney, and three Stateside stalwarts, stand in front of one of the English exhibition-clinic sites — the R.A.F. Lakenheath Air Base. The game of 'fives' originated on the steps of the Eton school's library, so the story goes. Now, there are indications that the game of handball as we know it is gaining popularity.

Stuffy, (sporting his contact lenses) did not quite reach the plateau of mediocrity he had established through six previous exhibition defeats.

It was after this exhibition that we had to part with Sgt. John Mooney, who had been responsible for our sensational two weeks in Europe.

We would again like to express our gratitude and appreciation to Major

Rene Miller and Robert Seigen for the magnificent two weeks that were arranged through their efforts. The opportunity to play, and teach handball, as USHA representatives will remain one of the greatest experiences of our handball careers.

Lastly, (but not least important) we would like to thank Stuffy Singer for all of his contributions to our tour: Namely

.....



VISIT TO TEMPELHOF CENTRAL AIRPORT in Berlin . . . Four of base's players (1 to r) — Richard Boggs, John Banyl, Dave Parcell and Tom Vail, join Marty Decatur, Stuffy Singer and Jim Jacobs for handball clinic. The clinic picked up a wealth of practical knowledge and the touring players tabbed the handball facility the best visited in Europe.

Stuffy Singer Tosses Rebuttal At Tour 'Traitors'

Dear Mort:

I would like to thank you for showing fantastic astuteness by enabling me to "rebut" some of the ridiculous accusations perpetrated by those New York nothings, better known as "The Over-The-Hill Gang" — AKA Jiminy Jerkabs and Morty The Caterer. I have never been so humiliated in all my life, and I welcome the opportunity to refute some of their statements.

- (1) ACCUSATION: Travels with eleven pieces of luggage . . .
REBUTTAL: Anyone who knows me knows that I wouldn't be caught dead with only 11 pieces of luggage.
- (2) ACC: Twice being bailed out of jail . . .
REB: The only time I've ever seen the inside of a jail was, while in New Orleans, attempting to bail out Messrs. Jacobs and De-Tailor for stealing a street sign.
- (3) ACC: Being involved in nickel-and-dime gambling . . .
REB: To my knowledge, no commanding officer in his right mind would allow one-armed bandits on his air base.
- (4) ACC: Allowing feminine wiles to interfere with my handball playing . . .
REB: I've at least won National Championships since I've been married; Jokeobs can't say that.
- (5) ACCUSATION: Losing matches to a tour director . . .
REBUTTAL: I've never lost a match to an overweight E-9 in my life.
- (6) ACC: Being the worse navigator of all time . . .
REB: In ten years of playing handball, I have never gotten lost on the way to or been late for an appointment at Hollywood Y.M.C.A.
- (7) ACC: Wrestling with an Olympic Games Wrestler in a closet . . .
REB: If there were such a person, and he were an Olympic Games wrestler, the two of us never could have fit into a closet.
- (8) ACC: Being in charge of laundry . . .
REB: The inference being that if I was in charge of laundry, I would probably wash it and the whites would probably turn out blue.
- (9) ACC: Making overtures to an officer's wife . . .
REB: I only make overtures to enlisted men's wives.
- (10) ACC: Accepting hospitality from a practicing gynecologist . . .
REB: I wouldn't even shake hands with one of 'em.
- (11) ACC: Refusing to sign a release for the possibility of crash landing over East Germany, because it was Anti-Semitic . . .
REB: Are they inferring that East Germany is some kind of athletic club?
- (12) ACC: Losing at the Berlin Wall to the Overaged Wonders, because of "blazing speed and overpowering strength of the New York Bombers" . . .
REB: If they had such "blazing speed and overpowering strength" they would have been playing in the National A.A.U. Championship instead of fooling around in Germany.
- (13) ACCUSATION: Throwing a temper tantrum because a National Singles title of mine was not listed on a sign . . .
REBUTTAL: Everybody knows that I never deserved to win that one anyway. (Right, Paul?)
- (14) ACC: Barely winning a racquet-ball game.
REB: Why would I play the game? I don't even read that section of HANDBALL magazine.
- (15) The constant, intentional misspelling and ridicule of the Biblical name "Stuffy."
They're pickin' on me, Sunny.

Last, but not least, I would like to take this opportunity to tell all of the gullible reading public that, not only were all of these accusations totally and completely untrue, but the fact of the matter is that I never made such a trip with those two horrendous prevaricators. During the period of time that I was supposedly on this trip, I was in actuality, laid up with a cast from hip to toe, due to my recent knee operation (new excuse).

In their article, the two gentlemen stated that they had photographic evidence. I would like to see such evidence, even though I wouldn't put it past

North Dakota . . .

Dave Rubin and Neil Reuter reign as the 1972 Class A Grand Forks handball champions, winning the title in weekend tournament action at the YMCA Family Center Jan. 15.

The winners downed Ron Ten Haken and Captain Felix David 20-21, 21-9, 21-6 in a hard-fought final. Rubin and Reuter handily defeated Pete Purnish and Brian Brewer 21-8, 21-11 in the semi-finals, while Ten Haken and David dumped Tom Devine and Walt Wasdahl 21-2, 21-8 to reach the championship.

Dick Dahl and Gary Pladson lost their first game and then came back to beat the semi-final losers and capture third place in the tourney.

In class B, the team of Pat Dirk and Frank Gelling took top honors by besting Ken Koch and Dan Goodwin. The Dirk-Gelling tandem actually had to play Koch and Goodwin twice in the double-elimination event, winning 21-14, 19-21, 21-20 the first time and 18-21, 21-13, 21-5 in the second contest.

Ten teams competed in the A division and four in the B group.

Upcoming handball action at the YMCA Family Center include the North Dakota State double's tourney Feb. 18-19-20 and the City Single's event March 17-18-19.

North Dakota Open Singles — April 28-30, Fargo-Moorhead YMCA.

Fargo-Moorhead team beat Grand Forks 18 games to 8 in a round robin intercity osted by the winners. Each group fielded five A class and two B class doubles teams. Only unbeaten A class team was Bob Evenson-Ray Arechigo, Fargo. A permanent traveling trophy rotates between the two cities.

them to have also fabricated it. (Mr. Jellocups is still fooling around in the film business, you know.) In any event, I am totally and completely disappointed in the two gentlemen from "The City." I feel that such conduct is completely unnecessary, as well as being derogatory. I would like nothing better than to never speak to either of them again, at least until I file suit and see them in court . . . or "Seattle" . . . or 12 months or 12,000 miles, whichever comes first.

Sincerely,
Stuffy Singer

Zero In on April 15-22 National Open Dates

Washington Athletic Club Committee Has Been Working Over Year On Pre-Tournament Planning; 22nd Annual Promises to be 'SUPER'

Planning for the 22nd edition of handball's most prestigious tournament — USHA's National Four-Wall Open Championships — commenced more than a year ago in Seattle. USHA Executive Secretary Mort Leve met with Washington A.C. Handball Commissioner W. O. "Slim" Wintermute and his committee, and about six months later met again with Tournament Chairman John Bowen, USHA Referees Chairman Dan Callahan and the tournament committee heads. All aspects of national tournament scheduling and financing was covered and since that time a most complete job has been accomplished.

A multi-million dollar addition to the Washington A.C. in Seattle provides us with six standard courts. Overflow early round matches, if necessary, can be played off either at the YMCA or Seattle University. The three new courts all have glass in the lower back walls for lounge area viewing. The championship court will be the same one used for the outstanding 1963 national championships, with glass from about 7-foot height level in the back wall.

John Bowen reports the "package" advertising-reserved seat

plan has worked out real well. All that is left on a reserved basis are 27 seats. With a limitation on seating capacity it is expected that there will be a complete sellout by the April 15 starting date.

The victory of Gordie Pfeifer, representing the host organization, over Paul Haber in the third annual USHA National Invitational Singles at Birmingham last December, provides a natural setting for another possible meeting between the two. Haber, winner of the "Big One" five of the last six times out, can tie Jim Jacobs' six USHA open national singles titles. In the nine short years that have transpired since the competition was held in Seattle, '63 winner Oscar Obert and runnerup Johnny Sloan have disappeared from championship contention.

All roads will lead to Seattle, April 15-22. We are listing available housing below and recommend that you make your reservations as soon as possible. You don't need "April in Paris" because "April and Handball in Seattle is a much better SHOW!"

USHA HANDBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS — APRIL 15-22, 1972, Washington Athletic Club, 6th & Union, Seattle, Wash. 98111.

RE: HOTEL/MOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS.

The following list of lodging facilities has been provided for your convenience by the W. A. C. Handball Committee. May we suggest that reservations be made as soon as possible by you personally, as there will be other conventions, as well as a large number of handball players in Seattle at this time.

Brochures may be obtained by either contacting the Ath-

letic Department of the W.A.C., or writing directly to the following hotels or motels listed below.

Maurice Bush will serve as our Housing Coordinator and if he can be of assistance, direct your correspondence to him at the Washington Athletic Club.

Thank you. Willard M. Fenton, Athletic Director, Washington Athletic Club.

The Windsor Hotel (across street) Sixth & Union Sts. Seattle, Wash. 98111	\$10.50	\$12.50	\$12.50	\$18.00 for triple
Roosevelt Hotel (2 blocks away) 7th at Pine Street Seattle, Wash. 98101	\$10.00 & up	\$16.00 & up	\$15.00 & up	No charge for children under 14 years of age.
Kennedy Hotel (3 blocks away) Fifth & Spring Sts. Seattle, Wash. 98101	\$12.50	\$13.00	\$13.00	\$18.00- 22.00
America West/6th Ave. Hotel (8 bl. away) 2000 - 6th Avenue Seattle, Wash. 98121	\$14.00	\$18.00	\$16.50	
Washington Athletic Club Sixth & Union Sts. Seattle, Wash. 98111 (avail. to members of Recip. Clubs with Introductory card)	\$15.50- 25.50	\$20.00- 30.00	\$20.00- 30.00	Cots for children — FREE
Olympic Hotel (1 block away) Fifth & University Sts. Seattle, Wash. 98101	\$15.00	\$22.00	\$22.00	No charge for children under 18 years of age.
Hilton Hotel (next door to W.A.C.) Sixth & University Sts. Seattle, Wash. 98101	\$17.00- 25.00	\$21.00- 30.00	\$21.00- 30.00	

Pfeifer Over Haber in USHA Invitational

Washington A. C. pride and joy gives 120% effort performance in 'hungry' win over a surprisingly worn down #1 Haber climaxing 4-match 36-hour grind

Gordie Pfeifer, the Tacoma "bomber," representing the Washington Athletic Club, won a big one when he beat Paul Haber in the Third Annual USHA National Invitational at the Birmingham YMCA. 32-year-old Gordie showed no signs of arm weariness as he blasted his way through four impressive wins in the space of only 36 hours. And, against an obviously worn Haber he parlayed a game plan of low bullet reverse serves to the right with an all-out amazingly high shooting percentage from all areas of the court with final scores of 21-16, 21-14.

Haber couldn't bounce back on Sunday after his doubleheader against Dr. Claude Benham and Pat Kirby. The 21-13, 21-9 scores over Benham do not indicate the momentum Paul had to maintain to beat this man. Every point Haber made had to be earned with concentrated effort. And, then the followup in the late afternoon was strictly a last-ditch affair. Against Kirby, Haber must match a terrifically fast pace and exhausting volleys. Pat was an easy 21-5 first game victor and had a commanding second margin but then, as the case was in the Round Robin Classic last October in St. Paul, Haber fought back to even the match. After holding a big lead in the finale, Haber saw Kirby cut the margin down and he again had to give it the 120% effort to win the match. In the locker room afterwards Haber suffered 45 minutes of muscle spasms and cramps, and just could not recuperate within the next 18 hours.

For the first time a "tennis seed" was employed in a USHA national event and it raised havoc with some of the top seeds in the first round. Pfeifer was down 14-20 to No. 2 seed and defending champ Dr. Steve August in the first game and then won it 21-20, and was trailing 14-17 in the second and pulled that one out to win the match. Ray Neveau, the "Oshkosh Bull," knocked out No. 3 seed Lou Russo, 21-13, 21-13. Lou wasn't in sharp form and just

couldn't cope with Ray's strong court coverage and sharp shooting. Fred Lewis, an alternate choice, scored a minor upset, in eliminating No. 7 seed, Terry Muck. Terry, like Russo, just hasn't been playing enough.

Kirby, always looking like the class of the tournament, polished off Dr. Gary Rohrer in his initial test, and then was at his Irish Whip best in taking Phoenix' Dave Graybill in the quarters. Neveau started his second day morning with a win over Don Ardito, Chicago, who had stopped Tom Koyaytich, Milwaukee, 21-8, 20-21, 21-18.

It must be remembered that the entire tournament is wrapped up in a short span of a little more than 36 hours . . . and with four matches necessary for the championship round you can readily understand the stamina angle. The second day separates the "men from the boys." There's nothing but star-studded attractions, morning and afternoon. Haber-Benham; Graybill-Kirby; Neveau-Ardito; Lewis-Pfeifer.

Ray Neveau had one good game against Pfeifer, then faltered and was "creamed," but good in the second game, 21-3.

Randy Essel, the Cleveland "brick layer," now working out of Birmingham, was the most improved performer who gained a big step forward in winning the Tournament of Champions. Randy, one of our Junior alumnus, has shown steady development and now is on the threshold of doing big things. He certainly scored some real wins in beating Dr. Gary Rohrer, John Brinn, Dick Miller, and Ernie Ortiz to win this future book potential phase of the big weekend.

The format for the Tournament of Champions is a 16-player bracket with the winners of the first round then being joined by the losers of the first round of the National Invitational bracket. Unfortunately, we had key defaults that "watered down" the impact of having these "seeded players" coming in. Jim Jacobs defaulted. Then oddly enough, Ortiz got two free passes, in the quarters and semis that propelled him into the finals . . . After Russo had beaten Orlando's Tom Kelly, 21-19, 21-11, and Roy Gelber, 12-21, 21-16, 21-12, he left the premises. Dr. Steve August played one match against Steve Lott, winning 21-8, 21-15, then he also went AWOL. We have a plausible "grievance" from Ortiz on all this and it is carried on page 25.



THE CHAMP HITS A SNAG . . . Gordie Pfeifer (r), the strong armed Tacoma bomber, sets up a natural return possibility with Paul Haber in the Aprils nationals at his home Washington A.C. court as he gains biggest win of his career in 3rd National USHA Invitational at Birmingham.

—Photo by SID SEMEL

NATIONAL INVITATIONAL SINGLES:

First Round: Paul Haber, Chicago, def. Jim Jacobs, New York, 21-13, injury default; Dr. Claude Benham, Chesapeake, Va., def. Al Drews, Cleveland, 21-19, 21-15; Dave Graybill, Phoenix, def. John Brinn, New York, 21-11, 21-12; Pat Kirby, New York, def. Dr. Gary Rohrer, St. Paul, 21-13, 21-12; Ray Neveau, Oshkosh, Wis., def. Lou Russo, N.Y., 21-13, 21-13; Don Ardito, Chicago, def. Tom Kopaytich, Milwaukee, 21-8, 20-21, 21-18; Fred Lewis, Miami Beach, def. Terry Muck, St. Paul, 21-18, 21-6; Gordie Pfeifer, Tacoma, def. Dr. Steve August, Los Angeles, 21-20, 21-17.

Quarter-finals: Haber def. Benham, 21-13, 21-9; Kirby def. Graybill, 21-4, 21-17; Neveau def. Ardito, 21-5, 21-11; Pfeifer def. Lewis, 21-13, 21-12.

Semi-finals: Haber def. Kirby, 5-21, 21-18, 21-19; Pfeifer def. Neveau, 21-17, 21-3.

Finals: Pfeifer def. Haber, 21-16, 21-14.

Third Place: Kirby def. Neveau, 21-11, 21-9.

TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS: Merlin Kilbury, Little Rock, def. Bob Harbatkin, NY, 21-17, 20-21, 21-16; Dick Miller, Greensboro, NC, def. Terry Blankenship, Lubbock, 21-2, 21-11; Cecil Lloyd, Shreveport, def. Sol Barth, Atlanta, 21-4, 20-21, 21-11; Randy Essel, Cleveland, def. Kent Gieselman, Memphis, 21-4, 21-12; Tom Kelly, Orlando, def. Don Littrell, Knoxville, 20-21, 21-14, 21-9; Roy Gelber, Miami Beach, def. Brewer Kitchings III, Birmingham, 8-21, 21-19, 21-8; Ernie Ortiz, Tampa, def. Frank Olvey, Birmingham, 21-8, 21-16; Steve Lott, NY, def. Jim Trosper, Athens, Ga., 21-18, 16-21, 21-17.

Kilbury def. Jacobs (default); Miller def. Drews, 21-12, 21-14; Brinn def. Lloyd, 21-6, 21-14; Essel def. Rohrer, 14-21, 21-18, 21-16; Russo def. Kelly, 21-19, 21-11; Gelber def. Kopaytich, 21-18, 21-12; Ortiz def. Muck, 21-6, 18-21, 21-20; August def. Lott, 21-8, 21-15.

Miller def. Kilbury, 21-20, 21-9; Essel def. Brinn, 21-18, 21-12; Russo def. Gelber 12-21, 21-16, 21-12; Ortiz def. August (default).

Semi finals: Essel def. Miller, 21-18, 21-12; Ortiz def. Russo (default).

Finals: Essel def. Ortiz, 21-14, 21-7. Miller 3rd place (default).

NOTES OF THE TOURNAMENT:

Stuffy Singer underwent a knee operation the week before the tournament and hopes to be back in shape for the Seattle nationals in April . . . Billy Yambrick

is out two months with hepatitis so this occasioned the additions of Ardito, Kopaytich and Lewis. Just for the records Mort the Sport took four out of five games from Sid Semel (moral victory for Sid). Jim Tanner was a veritable one-man gang, attending to all whims and odds and ends; Semel was a most efficient floor manager. "X-rated match" when Haber plays and Benham is the referee . . . Basket of fruit and candies for each participant added the touch of the well known Southern hospitality. The Tutwiler was hqs. with hospitality room well stocked with chicken legs, drinks, etc. Neveau is reported to have taken a full tray of the chicken legs to his room for a late hour snack.



CONVERT??? Looks like Rev. Walter Skutar (right) is administering pledge to Dr. Jim Tanner. Scene — Birmingham YMCA lobby.

Saturday nite banquet at the City Club in downtown Birmingham was a real good one with short speeches, camaraderie, and good time had by all. Excuses for the losers. But the best one by Ernie Ortiz, after getting AWOL defaults from August and Russo to spring into the finals: "I had too much rest!" And, he has a point for he came to play and players owe an obligation to the host, the ticket holders and their fellow players. Gordie Pfeifer wanted to win the big one and played inspired ball.

Bob Davidson was singularly honored for his many contributions and coaching of "his boys." Rev. Walter Skutar from Roanoke, his new hqs. Now driving a Caddy around . . . business must be good.

Bid for the fourth USHA National Invitational Singles comes from Mel Gorham. He would place the tournament at his San Diego six-court facility and promises the same outstanding hospitality that was given to the first International Racquetball Association invitational singles last Labor Day weekend . . . complete with barbeque outings, banquet, excellent housing at the nearby Catamaran.



TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPS . . . Randy Essel (1) has 'arrived' on the national championship plateau level. The Cleveland native, now working out of Birmingham, was beautiful in nailing down the Tournament of Champions bracket, beating Ernie Ortiz in final round.

Akron Open . . .

Pat Kirby, New York, won the 8th Annual Akron, Ohio YMCA Open Handball Singles Championship Jan. 14-16, defeating Dr. Gary Rohrer, St. Paul, 17-21-21-11, 21-17.

Kirby made the finals by defeating Vern Roberts Jr., Cincinnati, 18-21, 21-13, 21-18 in the quarter-finals, and Al Drews, Cleveland, in the semi-finals 21-20, 8-21, 21-15. Rohrer defeated Chuck Sammarone, Youngstown, in the quarter-final round 20-10, 12-21, 21-8, and Randy Essel, formerly Cleveland now Birmingham, in the semi-finals 21-20, 8-21, 21-15.

The big upset of the tournament was Essel's complete domination of Terry Muck, St. Paul, in the quarter-finals. Essel easily defeated Muck 21-8, 21-10.

The doubles championships went to Ken Fusselman, Warren, and Bill Willing, Massillon, Ohio, as they won over Ken Eby and Jim Cosentino, Chicago, 21-7, the second game had to be forfeited due to an injury to Eby's shoulder. Fusselman and Willing defeated Phil Collins and Jack Gordon, Chicago, 21-3, 21-5 in the semi-finals. Eby and Cosentino defeated George Coleman and Vern Roberts Sr., Cincinnati, in the semi-finals 21-12, 18-21, 21-9.

A total of 64 singles entries and 24 doubles teams competed.

Steve George, chairman, and the Open Committee are to be congratulated for an excellent job.

NOTES: This was Pat Kirby's fourth straight Akron Open win, and his "victims" are most imposing . . . Paul Haber (1969), Dr. Claude Benham (1970), Lou Russo (1971).

—DONALD NELSON

Handball Rarity—Haber vs. Jacobs in 1st Round

'Tennis Seed' produces crowd-pleasing confrontation between two greats in USHA's 3rd National Invitational Singles at Birmingham with Haber a winner

Everybody's asking, "How come Haber played Jimmy Jacobs in the first round of the National Invitational singles?"

Actually, several factors were involved: (1) The "tennis seed" was used and with Jacobs seeded No. 9 this would pair him with Haber in the opening play. (2) Host Chairman Jim Tanner asked Paul if he would agree to play Jim first and got an OK. (3) This was the one way a confrontation could be arranged as Jacobs realizes at 41 that he cannot go on successive days against top flight foes without having his back conk out. (4) It added a needed stimulus at the gate and a match that was eagerly awaited.

As it turned out the match disintegrated into a default in the second game when Jacobs suffered a leg cramp. Damp conditions in the court occasioned by a combination of muggy weather and packed gallery led to a drawn-out first game, interrupted continually by a mopping of the court, change of gloves, and the usual time outs.

The following day we interviewed Jacobs at length.

Most important in the Jacobs offensive arsenal are his "hooks" and this he appeared unable to accomplish in the match.

Saturday, Dec. 11. . . "Neither one of us could throw hooks. The floor was very 'tacky' so what happened is that despite the fact I put a big spin on my serve (at the third point) . . . served a reverse and when it left my hand I thought it would take a sharp break but on hitting the floor it kept going straight. The spin of the ball on this wet floor does not grab and as a result goes straight. Therefore, the hooks were non-existent."

—In your original game plan were you going to use the cross-court serve (the serve he reverted to as a result)?

"I was going to use the cross-court serve (also called the "Scotch Toss" or "Z" serve) for the first three or four minutes and then go to the hook serves for the remainder of the match. But, as it turned out it would have been silly to keep trying to hook the ball as it wouldn't take and it would just 'break' our arms. Of course, they wiped up the floor a half a dozen times but that didn't help because the tackiness is still there. On a dry surface the spin of the ball will hit the wood and jump. Simply, the hooks were eliminated for both of us."

—In the second game you were winning 9-7 when you got a leg cramp. When you get such a cramp won't it alleviate after 15 to 20 minutes and allow you to continue to play? Or, are you left stiff?

"When you get a cramp like that it will go away. All you have to do, as you said, get off of it for 15 or 20 minutes. If you come back to play again it will come right back. You can't ask a crowd to sit around for 15 or 20 minutes while you are sitting around waiting for a leg cramp to go away."

—It's an injury. In handball we do allow cramps in the injury category. I understand that in tennis they don't.

"There were extenuating circumstances, which as you know: the crowd waited for various periods that added up to over an hour and a half in the first game with the various wipe ups, and then the crowd was forced to move over to the adjacent court for the second game. There comes a point where you just can't keep telling the people to wait, wait, wait. It was an unusual evening. You can't discount Haber's great ability but a combination of his skills and a wet floor are not the best conditions to play under."

—One of your real strong points in your prime was your ceiling game and in the exchanges with Haber he has that beautiful left hand off the best ceiling shots down the left



THIRD PLACE PLAYOFF . . . Pat Kirby back from a disheartening three-game semi final loss to Paul Haber the night before to notch third place over the always dangerous Ray Neveau.

wall you could throw at him. Of all the ceiling shots you made he only missed one. Which seems to indicate that although you still have fine control of your ceiling game it isn't effective against him.

"Absolutely. The only thing that we both use the ceiling for is to wait for the offensive shot. Neither one of us can score 21 points off the ceiling. I mean, over the course of the game, the ceiling shots are more or less like breathers. But, in order to score 21 points I'm not going to get 21 nor is he off the ceiling. He's very accurate off the ceiling and I'm comfortable up there also. Most of the better ball players are not truly comfortable with the ceiling shots because it's an overhand stroke. In the first game I might have lost three or four points on Paul's left hand kills of the ceiling return. But neither one of us are going to lose a match on the ceiling. Usually, Mort, the game is won or lost on the serve. Matches I've played over the years are decided this way. I base a great deal of my game in getting a weak return off a strong hook serve. However, last night my serve was not much."

—But, you take a player like Pat Kirby. He throws no hooks but is very effective on the fly shot. It isn't what we would call the conventional fly shot . . . he doesn't have to bend real low . . . it's that Irish Whip.

"It's true, but how many fly kills do you get off a top handball player? Whenever you get a fly kill it's because the man you're playing has made a bad shot and returned it to the center of the court. The only way you can take the ball out of the air is if it comes out to the center of the court, or somewhere in that area . . . generally speaking 21 points are made by kill shots. And you get those kill shots off poorly placed opponent's shots. And, the easiest way to get a setup in handball is to serve well. You're going to get a few points off errors, a few points off the ceiling but a majority of your 21 points you should be able to get off a weak return of your serve."

"Even in the second game, although I had a slight lead, it was impossible to hook the ball. I got a couple of points

with a left hand serve that was effective more as a change of pace than anything else. Fortunately, one of them hit the crotch for an ace."

In closing, Jim pointed out that at this stage of his career his hook serves are more important than ever. He doesn't have the ability to wear down opponents as he did 10-15 years ago. Like the counter-puncher in boxing Jacobs was the conservative player, going for "safe" kills, maneuvering constantly, and when he did go offense he worked with the percentages. He counted on his opponents to make mistakes.

* * *

Prior to the championship match between Gordie Pfeifer and Paul Haber on Dec. 12 we sat next to Pat Kirby, to "pick his brains" a bit and utilize his know-how as color man in the finals. Pat had lost one of those heartbreaking three-gamers to Haber the night before.

—“Pat, you had a real easy time the first game.”

“Paul was probably not mentally up to it the first game, possibly a little stiff. I had an easy time but that didn't mean the match was over because I had won the first game by such a big score (21-5). In the second game I had a big lead, 13-4, and what happened is that I either had a slight 'mental breakdown' or he just got on his game, that's all.”

—“In the third game Haber got the big lead.”

“Exactly, he got a 14-4 lead, got a mental lapse, and I got back on top again, and then it was nip and tuck to the finish.”

—And, when it gets to 19-19 it's a matter of who gets the breaks, right?

“Well, it's who pulls off the crack shot . . . lucky shot . . . or, who get the 'apple' the biggest. The determining shot was the one he killed in the left corner with his left hand from deep court when I was serving the 19-19. It was a great shot and he took it about 2 inches high off the back wall.

“I really enjoy playing Haber everytime we meet . . . much more than I do playing anybody else.”

Prior to this Pfeifer-Haber match we discussed serves to be used effectively against Haber. Kirby prefers the cross court that Paul must take shoulder high and totally discounted the values of the low driving serve. This, we had talked with Gordie the night before at the banquet. Gordie felt his game plan would be to stick with the low driving serve to Haber's right and this ultimately proved to be the winning answer.

Interjecting, we mentioned the story about Haber's appearance at the L Street outdoor courts in Boston where they play without a back line. Paul was able to acclimate brilliantly and beat the local champ. Despite John "Apple" Walsh's disclaiming of any honor compared to former Boston top players, this was considered quite a feat. Kirby, used to the big playing areas in Ireland, went to L St. for the first time last Summer and found this brand of play to his liking, besting the champ, 21-11. The only change of rule they have in Boston's L St. court is that you must serve to the opposite side of the court from where you stand. So, there's little way you can fool them on the serve. You just try to keep them from slugging it against the upper wall and come out about 70 feet. Kirby's skill at killing into the corners from 40-60 feet amazed the Bostonians.

—When we asked Kirby about condition of the court having a bearing on whether the ball would hook or not, he disagreed sharply with Jacobs.

“No, I think it's all wrist and elbow action. I think it should take a lot more with a damp floor. If your shoes will stick to the floor, why shouldn't the ball? ?? It's the same reaction as I see it.”

—What is the secret of hopping the ball? Is it all the wrist action and letting the ball get low, stroking it as it descends?

“I really couldn't say other than the wrist action. I personally can't hook the ball, except by accident at times.”

—Do any of the Irish players hook the ball?

“No. Except I will say that the lefthanders seem to get a natural hop, probably from the fluid motion they possess.”

—Haber, of course, discounts the importance of learning the hooks until a player is able to fully control all phases of his game. There are no values, as he puts it, to putting stuff on the ball if it can't be controlled.

“I've had the best of them such as Jacobs and Hershkovitz show me how to hop the ball but still I haven't been able to master it.”

* * *

Prior to the final match, Jim Tanner introduced third place playoff winner Pat Kirby and fourth-placer Ray Neveau. Of Neveau, he said: Ray is always a wonderful asset to our tournaments. He has character as well as ability and in Birmingham we love him.” Of Kirby, “In 1968 Pat came here and won the national contenders. This is the first time we had seen big league handball in Birmingham and we all thought he was the best player in the world. After that match with Haber yesterday there are some of us who still think he's the best in the world. On some days he is the best, and on some days he isn't.”

From South America . . .

Dear Bob:

Greetings from South America!

We are very fortunate to have two regulation courts here in Bogota, Columbia — largely due to the efforts of Tony Pacz. We have a small group of players to furnish competition and a growing group of young players. As you may know Bogota is located a bit above 8500 feet. This makes conditioning important. The rarified air is offset somewhat by the fact that it is quite cool to cold here most of the time in spite of being near the equator.

I would like to make a comment on Mort Leve's article in the Dec. issue. He states, “Does the player or referee call the double bounce or wrist? Our answer — if a referee is sure he sees a double bounce or ball off the bare wrist then he can make a call. If he (the referee) is in doubt he must rely on the players. However, most of your top tournament players refuse to call double bounces or wrists on themselves because they feel many of their opponents don't and this becomes a vicious cycle.”

Many of us, of course, play outside of tournaments where there are no referees. Obviously the responsibility to call a double bounce or wrist must fall on the players. Who, in the name of sportmanship, would want a point, or to win, knowing he wasn't abiding by the rules? I suggest that handball provides the best chance to develop sportmanship on an individual basis that exists — you know if you are playing by the rules or not. Let's all try to teach sportmanship. Incidentally the criteria for a “wrist,” according to the rules, is anything above the pad of the hand — not only above the glove on bare flesh. Here's to better sportmanship — the other great benefit of handball.

Thanks so much for the HANDBALL magazine and your efforts to develop handball and its association.

CARLTON A. INFANGER
American Embassy (USAID)
APO New York 09895

National Invitational Singles Play-By-Play...

Paul Haber meets his Birmingham 'Waterloo' against a revved up Gordie Pfeifer after finding that he, too, is not immune from the rigors of two-in-a-day schedule

FIRST GAME — HABER-PFEIFER.

Dr. Claude Benham the referee.

Haber opened with a cross court serve, with his game plan simply to get as many balls as possible to Gordie's left hand. Right at the onset Pfeifer turned his right ankle but was able to resume play after a short timeout. Later Haber told us he felt shoulder pain in the cross-court serve and had to switch to the lob to the left serve.

Pfeifer started right off with the low hard serve to the right and gained the first point of the match with a kill off the back wall. It was 2-0 on an ace to the right — too hard to handle. 3-0 on a flubbed right hand ceiling attempt, then 4-0 on a serve that seemed to skid a little coming off low on the side wall deep. At this juncture, your reporter remarked, "This is liable to be a surprising match." Haber finally put him out with a scoop right hand kill from three-quarter court.

Paul picked up two points, one on a strong right hand pass to Pfeifer's left, and then on a Pfeifer back wall error. Haber tried to go down the left alley but the ball came off the side wall and allowed Gordie to use his right and was put out on a sharp straight kill.

4-2 Pfeifer. Another erratic ceiling shot by Haber and Pfeifer kills in the left corner for 5-2. 6-2 with Haber missing going to the ceiling with his right. Kirby — "It's unusual for him to miss one like that." It was apparent even this early in the match that Haber was not sharp at all. A left hand error by Haber off the back wall — 7-2. Pfeifer attempted to shoot from deep court with his right and missed. Avoidable hinder called on Haber as he didn't give Pfeifer enough room to shoot and Gordie regained the serve.

Pfeifer couldn't take advantage, missing with an overhand shot from deep court. Haber shoots one in with his right, 3-7. 4-7 as he takes a return of his lob service off the back wall right but Haber missed.

7-4 Pfeifer. Gordie get one off the back wall, shoots down the right for a pass, 8-4. Loses serve as Haber kills off deep right wall. After a long volley Pfeifer misses in a dive to retrieve with his left. This was the one and only time Pfeifer switched from his "game plan."

Gordie regains serve as Haber misses with his left. 9-6. Around the walls shot by Haber after a long volley and Gordie misses with his left. Haber volleying well but unable to put the ball away and finally Pfeifer gets a shot and kills. Pfeifer calls double bounce on himself and loses serve. Quote from Mr. Anonymous — "I want to hear Haber make that call!"

6-9. Brilliant volley. 7-9. Lob left. Haber comes up with two points to close the gap. Pfeifer regains the serve with a straight fly shot. Gordie scores an ace to the right for 10-8. Overanxious, Pfeifer misses off the back wall. 8-10. Haber double shorts. Gordie goes to 11-8 on a back wall kill. Off the back wall to Haber's left and he misses, 12-8. Pfeifer counts another ace to the right, 13-8. Gordie gets a weak return off the serve but puts it into the floor. Haber can't count and Pfeifer gets the serve back.

13-8. Again, Pfeifer misses his opportunity. Tries to fly with his right into the right corner and misses. The gates are wide open as Haber is ragged, indeed. Haber gets a weak return on the lob serve and kills to the front wall with his right. 9-13. Haber moves back into the game with a left hand, left corner kill. 10-13. Lob to left on serve is too hard to handle, 11-13. Haber yelps at hinder call . . . time out for wiping floor. 12-13 on fly Haber kill. Paul gets 13-13 on

straight kill. Change of gloves and serve as Pfeifer passes to the left.

13-13. Driving shot by Pfeifer passes Haber to left. 14-13. Another avoidable by Benham. Kirby agrees . . . Haber could have moved. 15-13. Gordie goes to 16-13 on a setup kill, then Haber gets serve and retaliates with a sharp right hand kill off serve for 14-16.

15-16 on volley return to right that Haber kills from deep court. Pfeifer regains serve after Haber misses opportunity to kill off back wall. Gordie scooped it with his left. 16-15. Gordie moves to 17-15 on a strong right hand kill off the back wall. Good percentage of kills for Pfeifer from deep court. Score goes to 18-15 after long volley and Pfeifer shoots for pass with Haber hollering for a hinder. Paul just can't make his shots. "Definitely a hinder," Kirby. That could be a vital call in this first game. Pfeifer tries a fly from three-quarter court and misses.

15-18. Time out Haber. Paul changes to the low power serve to left. He volleys, keeping the ball to the left but Pfeifer puts in a surprising left hand kill.

18-15. Pfeifer shoots from deep court, goes high with Haber on top of it and kills it with his left. 15-18. Haber goes ceiling left on volley, comes off to Pfeifer's right and he puts it away. 18-15. Gordie gets his fourth ace to the right 19-15. Long volley ends in a hinder. Still 19-15. Another long volley ends with Pfeifer missing with his left. 15-19. Lob serve to left. Haber gets Pfeifer out of position and flies to right corner 16-19. Pfeifer shovels in kill as Haber doesn't move in and gets the serve back. Pfeifer passes down left with strong right hand for 20-15. Brilliant retrieves by Haber and finally he misses with a right and Pfeifer wins the first game 21-15. Haber goes off court muttering "Blind ———!"

The second game followed the same general pattern. Haber was definitely not up to his usual game. He wasn't forceful with his shots. Ceiling left during volley as Pfeifer opens second game serving and misses. Haber tries a change of pace reverse to left on serve for short, then goes to lob. Pfeifer shoots for kill to regain serve, no score.

Pfeifer jumps to a 2-0 lead on an opening ace to the right and a return off his serve that he takes off the left side wall with his right and kills. Gordie shovels in a left corner kill with his left and Haber hollers that he is screened, but he is well behind the play.

0-3. Haber misses off the back wall with his left. 3-0. After a short volley Haber hits the crotch left and regains service. Paul uses lob to left but volley ends in hinder . . . Quote Haber, "I don't get those!" 1-3 on ceiling left that Pfeifer can't handle. Fly kills Haber from three quarter kill with his right into right corner, 2-3. Service changes hands three times. 3-2. Paul misses his shot with a right, 4-2. 5-2 on a kill off the back wall.

Deep court return coming off to Pfeifer's right and he kills it . . . keeping up his very high percentage of kills. Gordie misses on a shot and Haber puts it away, 2-6. Long volley ends in point ending shot, 3-6. Weak return by Pfeifer off the lob serve and Haber fly kills with his right into the right corner. 4-6. Then it's 5-6 on fly kill off weak serve return. 7-5 for Pfeifer on ace to right after regaining serve. Haber gets the serve back on ceiling left that Gordie is unable to return.

5-7. Again the lob serve but it comes off to Pfeifer's right

(to page 41)

CAROM SHOTS

Egon Teichert, who has done some outstanding photography work for us at several national tournaments, had a "Tournament Handball" exhibit through January to February 11 at the Focus Gallery, 163 W. 74th St., New York.

* * *

Plans are going forward for the 6-court facility in Long Beach, Calif., with Ben Agajanian, the former star pro football place kicker, chief operator.

Marty Schlesinger, alumnus of Castle Hill (1932-33), now plays out of the Mid Valley YMCA in Van Nuys, Calif. Some of the other N.Y. oldtimers play there, many in their mid-50s and going great. Marty signed up some "young guys" in Reseda, who couldn't find enough four-wall courts so they built one at their insurance offices."

* * *

May 18-20 — Third Annual Invitational at the New York Athletic Club.

Refereeing handball is the only job where a man must be perfect the first time and then improve over the years.

* * *

Nick Martinez, firmly entrenched in Albuquerque, was a Holiday visitor in our area. I won't mention the scores but your humble editor was able to win a match in two for the first time ever. Nick was a former Evanston Y champ, and is known well around the tournament trails. Reports that Albuquerque is another city very "ripe" for a private handball/racquetball installation.

* * *

George Brotemarkle also in town on business. Bob Kendler hosted a nite out for our faithful USHA treasurer and hall of famer, and then some doubles action was arranged the next day with Ken Schneider, Gus Lewis and Dick Segil.

New courts in the offing — Panama City, Panama. The Circle Club is interested in adding one-wall and four-wall courts.

The Hideout, Lake Ariel, Pa. Following in the path of other resort areas. Currently planning to build handball courts. "I want to do all I can to insure we get the highest quality courts available." Richard M. Ott. Note: You can be sure we followed up on this.

* * *

Officers of the Southern California Handball Association for 1971-72. Wally Ris, re-elected president; Rudy Concha, vice president; Ted Hilgenstuhler, vice

president & consultant; Ed Malmuth, vice president & membership; Manuel Ductor, secretary; George Brotemarkle, treasurer; Arnold Aguilar, consultant; Al Gracio, rules, referee chairman and tournament coordinator.

* * *

Also new court information from Wally Ris . . . Encino Club in Van Nuys building two new courts and will use 3M Tartan flooring . . . Sunny Hills Racquet Club in Whittier has completed two 20 x 40s and will open in early Feb.

POTPOURRI . . . Wayne Thomis is an old friend of the handball wars at Chicago's Town Club in the 1950s. He has been aviation editor and feature writer for the Chicago Tribune for more than 30 years and is currently delving into the intriguing Howard Hughes autobiography mystery. Wayne was one of the newspapermen selected to interview Hughes via conference telephone and is absolutely certain that this was actually Hughes' voice . . . he also has the utmost belief in Hughes' integrity . . . has flown with him, known him once as a gregarious person. In total, Wayne is of the opinion that this entire episode is one of the slickest "con" jobs ever perpetrated and that it will be unraveled.

* * *

USAF United Kingdom annual tournament will be held in late Feb. at the RAF Lakenheath. Jim Jacobs & Co. had an exhibition and clinic there.

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Four Decades of Service . . .

Al Stein of New York 92nd Street YMHA honored upon retirement as head of physical education department for his many achievements

The mother of Al Stein once told her son "If you want to be a happy person, do things for people."

This parental advice aptly sums up the way the Y's Physical Education Director has spent his 41 years in the Physical Education Department — years full of devotion to the needs of the amateur athlete and physical fitness enthusiast.

While the announcement of his retirement at the end of the year came as a surprise to those who still retain the image of the Y's popular director as a "youthful gym head who can beat anyone in any sport," it is typical of the 67-year-old Stein that he even now is planning a myriad of activities for his post-retirement years.

Sitting in his small, cluttered but cozy 4th floor gym office recently, he discussed the long trip that took him from Russia to 92nd Street and Lexington Avenue.

For those interested in facts and figures, Al Stein was born in the Crimea in 1905, arrived in New York with his family three years later and graduated from Erasmus Hall High School. His college career began at CCNY (pre-med) and then switched to the Newark Normal School of Physical Education and Hygiene where he received a BPE degree.

Al (and he's "Al" to everyone), spoke about his first tour of the 92nd Street Y gym in 1930, led by one of basketball's all-time great players and coaches, Nat Holman, then the Physical Education Director here.

This visit led to his appointment as Holman's assistant at the Y. Prior to that Al had been the Physical Education Director at the Perth Amboy YM & YWHA, where he first developed his famous calisthenic drill.

As he spoke, the sound of "his" nightly drill filtered in thru the office door — a drill that has been a regular part of 92nd Street Y's Phy Ed program since Al's first day on the job forty-one years ago.

"But whereas the Perth Amboy gym, because of its size, gave members a minimum choice — 'you played volleyball on Tuesday or you went home' — the 92nd Street Y was by contrast a giant department store in the field of physical education facilities," Al emphasized.

"We had — and still have — the facilities to offer basketball, volleyball, handball, jogging, wrestling, yoga, fenc-



A FOND FAREWELL . . . Al Stein, given send-off testimonial dinner and \$5,000 present for round-the-world trip, gets congratulations from his successor, Morty Sloman, and Jim Jacobs. Through the years a succession of top-flight handball players represented the 92nd St. Y under Al's leadership — dating back to Ken Schneider, Sam Haber . . . to Marty Decatur, Lou Russo, Pat Kirby, Jim Jacobs, and Lou Kramberg.

ing, ping pong, running, weight lifting, swimming and exercise drills, etc."

"And all can be going on at the same time," Al added.

Under his leadership, the 92nd Street Y also became the nation's first completely coed gym, with athletic and swimming programs for both men and

women.

Nine years after Al joined the 92nd Street Y's Phys Ed department he succeeded Holman as its Director.

In this important job, Al developed scores of innovations for what was soon called the largest and most comprehensive

(to page 41)

22nd Annual National U. S. Handball Association Four-Wall Championships Washington Athletic Club Seattle, Washington — April 15-22, 1972

IMPORTANT: All entrants for these events must present current USHA 1972 membership cards. Renewals and new memberships may be obtained at the time of registration at the tournament site, or by mailing \$3 for one year; \$7 for three years to: USHA, 4101 Dempster St. Skokie, IL 60076.

EVENTS: Singles, Doubles, Masters and Golden Masters Doubles, Masters Singles, Consolation Singles. If preliminary round play is necessary in any of these tournaments it will precede first round scheduling. Consolation Singles is for those eliminated in preliminary and first round of Singles (64-player bracket).

DEADLINE FOR SINGLES ENTRIES: 6 p.m., Wed. April 12. Deadline for Doubles, Masters Doubles, Golden Masters Doubles, Masters Singles, Sunday, April 16, 6 p.m.

OFFICIAL BALL: Spalding ACE

TROPHIES: One set of trophies, designating champion, 2nd, 3rd, 4th places; first place Consolation.

Please enter me in the events checked. Enclosed is the sum of \$ for entry fee. Payment of fee must accompany entry forms. MAIL TO:

John W. Bowen, Chairman
Washington Athletic Club
1325 Sixth Ave.
Seattle, WA. 98101

() **MASTERS DOUBLES** with (partner need not represent same affiliation). One player, 40 or older; partner, 45 or older.

NAMES
or a player to be named prior to entry deadline.

ENTRY FEE \$15.00 per man

Print Name

Address

City and State

YMCA/Club/Center

Zip Code Tel. No.

* NOTE: Player can enter only ONE Masters event.

() **GOLDEN MASTERS DOUBLES** (partner need not represent same affiliation). Both players must be over 50.

NAMES
or a player to be named prior to entry deadline.

ENTRY FEE \$15.00 per man

() **MASTERS SINGLES**

NAME
Player must be over 40. ENTRY FEE \$15.00

PLEASE ENTER ME IN THE

() **SINGLES**

NAME

ENTRY FEE \$15.00

() and/or **DOUBLES** with (partner need not represent same affiliation).

NAME
or a player to be named prior to entry deadline.

ENTRY FEE \$15.00 per man

In consideration of my entry being accepted, I, the undersigned, intending to be legally bound do hereby for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, waive, release and forever discharge any and all rights and claims for damages which I may have or which may hereafter accrue to me against the W.A.C. the U.S.H.A. or the Tournament Committee for any and all damages which may be sustained and suffered by me in connection with or entry in and for arising out of my traveling to, participating in, and returning from the WAC/USHA National Championships to be participated in Seattle, Wash. on April 15-22, 1972.

SIGNATURE

SIGNATURE, PARTNER

Texas-Lake Forest Supremacy Battle Looms

In 1972 Annual USHA Nat'l Intercollegiates

Lake Forest College, located 33 miles north of Chicago's downtown "Loop," will host the 17th annual USHA-sanctioned and sponsored National Intercollegiate championships, March 3-5.

University of Texas and Lake Forest College wound up as co-champions last year in the tournament held at the University of Tennessee, and with both teams retaining all of their personnel it appears they will again dominate the team honors.

Wes Yee, Lake Forest A singles, will defend his national title, and Jeff Barnes, Texas, will be gunning for a turnabout after losing in the finals. This will be Yee's final year of competition along with his teammates, Dave Smith in B singles, and Steve Jamron-Willic Yee in doubles. Barnes is a junior, and the defending double champs—Joe Hero Jr. and Terry Hankins are a junior-senior combine. The deciding factor may well be in B singles. Texas figures to be stronger in this bracket than they were last year. Dick Staley won the B, rep-

resenting Florissant Community College of Suburban St. Louis. Wayne Lee of Texas gave him a tough three-game match. This season several players are fighting for the B position for the Longhorns.

There is always the unknown element in intercollegiate handball. Individuals coming in without a full team from their particular schools could very well play the role of spoilers. Steve Smith, representing the U. of Michigan, is reported to be playing strong ball and could fall into that category. We also have singles representatives like Steve Lott and the Straus twins (they go to different schools in the New York, City area). Ken Ginty, 1970 under-19 national junior winner, and runnerup to Rick Christian in 1971, will represent Manhattan College. Roy Gelber, another youngster, is at Florida State.

The field figures to be as strong or stronger than any yet for this USHA event. But, the spotlight will be on the team competition—both Texas and Lake Forest "hungry" for the undisputed championship.

NATIONAL INTERCOLLEGIATES

March 3-5, 1972

SITE: Lake Forest College, Ill. (33 miles north of Chicago's Loop).

ELIGIBILITY: See accompanying USHA Intercollegiate Handball Rules and Regulations.

Must also be current (1972 member of USHA — can sign up now or at tournament site.)

ENTRY FEE: \$5 per player. Player can participate in one event only.

HOUSING AND FOOD: Housing is planned at nearby Ft. Sheridan. College cafeteria will be available at reasonable prices.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: Wednesday, March 1, 1972.

OFFICIAL BALL: Spalding ACE.

TROPHIES: First three places in all events. First place in consolation events.

Send entries to: Mike Dau, Athletic Dept., Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, IL. 60045.
Tel. No. Area Code 312, 234-3100.

Please enter me in the () A singles () B singles () Doubles

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(Please print)

Address City State Zip

Partner's Name
(Please print)

Address City State Zip

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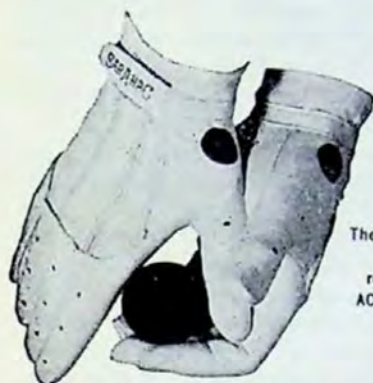
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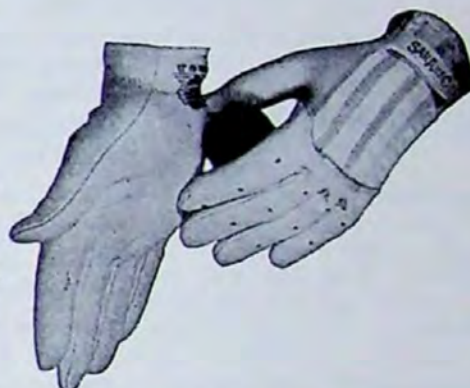


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If a supply is not available at your "Y", Club or Center . . . ask your Athletic Director to order direct from the United States Handball Association.

1972 HANDBALL TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

Feb. 26-March 4	Southern Calif. Assn. Masters Doubles Los Angeles A.C.	Rod Rodriguez, LAAC Fred Rader
March 3-5	PITTSBURGH INVITATIONAL Golden Triangle YMCA	
March 3-5	USHA Memorial Singles/Double Denver YMCA	Phys. Director
March 10-12	California State Mel Gorham's Sport Center San Diego, Calif.	see entry blank page 57
March 11-18	Southern Calif. Assn. Open Singles Hollywood YMCA	Phys. Director
March 17-19	U. of Texas Singles & Doubles	Pete Tyson
March 19-25	USHA Central Singles U. of Ill. Circle Campus	USHA Hqs.
March 25-April 1	Southern Calif. Assn. Open Doubles Newport A.C.	Ath. Director
March 24-26	Mardi Gras Invitational New Orleans A.C.	Joe Hero
April 28-30	GREAT LAKES OPEN Eric (NY) Central YMCA	Bill Daisly
May 5-7	Tall Corn Invitational Des Moines, Iowa YMCA	Phys. Director
May 5-7	Washington State Spokane, Wash.	Athletic Director
May 18-20	3rd New York A.C. Invitational	Joe Ingrassia
May 19-21	Blossomtime Bellingham, Wash.	Phys. Director
May 26-28	King County Open White Center (Seattle)	Phys. Director
June	Apple Blossom Wenatchee, Wash.	
July	Sunfair Yakima, Wash.	
August 3-5	Seafair Seattle, Wash. YMCA	

USHA DIVISION TOURNAMENTS

March 9-12	CENTRAL—Tulsa, Okla. YMCA	Gary Merryman, S.E. YMCA, Tulsa, Okla.
March 9-12	SOUTH—U. of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tenn.	Phys. Director, YMCA, Knoxville, Tenn.
March 9-11	ROCKY MOUNTAIN Deseret Gym, Salt Lake City	Athletic Director
March 24-26	NORTHWEST Vancouver, B.C. YMCA & A.C.	
March 23-26	YMCA NATIONAL Norfolk, Va. YMCA	Phys. Director
March 3-5	USHA NATIONAL INTERCOLLEGIATES Lake Forest College, Ill.	USHA National Office

USHA OPEN NATIONALS

April 15-22	USHA OPEN NATIONALS Washington A.C., Seattle, Wash.	USHA National Office
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Mel Gorham Clubs Planned Nationwide

San Diego builder, successful with initial six-court facility has complete A-Z flexible format for handball/racquetball 'ripe' areas

Mel Gorham of San Diego has announced most ambitious plans to spread his sport centers nationwide. With an initial highly successful operation of six courts, Mel now has "firm plans of establishing three more facilities here in San Diego, one in Omaha, and one in Atlanta. We will be the operators of all the facilities in San Diego County and all the facilities outside the County we prefer to form syndication, limited partnership, a partnership, joint venture, lease-type agreement or franchise-type operation."

The United States Handball Association national office gets countless inquiries from interested builders and this will be their opportunity to combine efforts with a proven going operation.

Mel is now definite about a model facility and through experience with his initial Center has improved on it in several ways. "All of our future facilities, regardless of where located, will go under the name of Mel Gorham Sport Center and will have a minimum of six courts, or more if ground space is available. Every one of our facilities will have a tournament court with adequate seating to accommodate galleries for exhibitions, clinics, and tournaments. We will expand the area behind the rear glass wall so that every tournament court in each individual facility will have a minimum seating capacity of 300 people."

Gorham plans to bring into San Diego all of his operators or franchise holders and put them through a manager train-

ing program as he feels his method of operation is of the best. "We will also provide continued help in terms of a tournament director who will handle the tournaments for all of our facilities throughout the country and we will provide the services of a press and public relations man to handle the grand opening and each tournament." It is felt that such specialized assistance would greatly help in the successful promotion of a facility. Also, Gorman would provide the services of a roving manager, to assure proper operation of the facilities with emphasis on services to the members, location, tournaments, continued public relations, maintenance, and any other additional items necessary.

Servicing would be provided for centralized purchase in the "pro shop" such as racquets, racquetballs, handballs, gloves, shorts, t-shirts, and shoes. With proper controls over products used at the facilities there would be an assurance of the very best.

Mel adds, "We will use the benefits of our background in constructing courts and provide all the engineering plans and specifications in construction of the facility, with the full knowledge that the courts would stand for 100 years with a minimum of maintenance." He feels certain that the courts would compare with any others in the country, and, "I don't believe anyone else could offer the complete package of construction from the ground up, management, and servicing."

All of the facilities would have the fol-

lowing basic items:

- Minimum 6 handball/racquetball courts (more if possible).
- Separate men and women locker-shower-sauna-massage-sun room-jacuzzi.
- Deluxe lounge with at least beer bar or perhaps liquor as need dictates or clientele requires.
- Pro shop.
- Tournament court with minimum 300-seat capacity.
- Spectator gallery for each court.
- Large locker rooms with full-size lockers.
- Heat and air conditioning (air conditioning only if weather requires).
- Carpeting throughout.
- Well designed and color coordinated.
- Superb lighting in each court.
- Proven court construction.

There are other important ingredients that combine for the ideal facility. It would require a lengthy treatise to cover them all but briefly included would be: proper intercom system, proper lighting, proper drains, location of court switches, size of hot water heaters, electrical services, provisions for live TV, speaker for tournaments, centralized entrance sign-in and products purchase.

The pilot operation has given Mel Gorham and his associates the needed experience and background of this kind of facility. The nationwide market is "ripe".

Interested persons can write or call Mel Gorham: Mel Gorham Sports Center, 960 Turquoise St., San Diego, Calif. 92109. Phone—Area Code 714. 488-8361.

Pacific Northwest Handball League in Three Classes

Here in the Great Pacific Northwest we have a Handball League during the months of September, October and November.

This league is by classes A - B - C; and there were 44 teams in the league for the year 1971. Each team consists of six players.

The schedule is that of a Round Robin, each "match" consists of two singles matches and two doubles matches for a total of four points. At the end of the season, the team having won the most points is the winner of that class.

There were 12 "A" teams, the farthest from Seattle being Yakima; and the Washington Athletic Club won honors by winning 39 points and losing five.

There were 12 Class "B" teams, with the farthest away from Seattle being McChord Air Force Base; and the Washington Athletic Club came out on top by winning 38 and losing six.

There were 20 Class "C" teams, which were split into two divisions of ten each. The Tacoma Fire Department won one division, and the Tacoma Handball Club won the other.

In the past, at the end of the "season", we have had a handicap doubles quickie in connection with passing out the awards. This year, we are having an exhibition between Gordon Pfeifer and Dave Graybill in connection with the awards presentations.

We believe this Puget Sound Handball League is unique, as we are not aware of any other such league in the country. However, there may very well be; and we would be interested in hearing from anyone who has similar competition.



THE GALLERY CHAMP

For thirty years I've played this game
Handball is my middle name
As I progressed from "D" to "A"
I suffered losses along the way
But there's a place I can't be beat
Up in the gallery that's my meat
Watching the play I show great class
My eyes dart swiftly, my mouth moves fast
"Move!" I shout, "Get away from the wall
Bend low, you jerk, when you hit the ball"
Any poor play I bellow with a sneer
"I've seen better heads on day old beer"
A gallery champ I'm proud to be
But when I'm on the court, don't yell at me!

WES HICKS

Diamond Masters . . .

Dear Bob and Mort:

My arduous search for a partner in the coming "Diamond Masters" in Seattle has been unexpectedly and extravagantly rewarded. You could never guess where I found him. In my own club, the Hollywood Y.M.C.A.!

He is Jess Kirkpatrick, famous quarterback of the University of Illinois, who lives in Palm Springs and comes in to play handball semi-occasionally. Yesterday I met and played with him for the first time. He is terrific and exactly the kind of partner I need to carry me with my trick knee. He has a patented right-hand kill off the back wall into either corner, a left fist shot straight back along the left wall, and a hop serve better than Jimmy Jacobs. All I need do is retrieve the ball and count the points. Incidentally, Bob, you know him well because years ago you beat him for the championship of a tournament (only because he got out of a sick bed to play).

There is a slight age deficiency. Next April he will lack five (5) months of being seventy-five (75), but our combined ages will be more than one hundred fifty (150) years because I will be seventy-five (75) years and eleven (11) months. Jess believes it is right to forgive the technicality because if you buy something for 74½ cents you are automatically taxed on 75 cents. I think it is right because we'll put on a good show. Bring on the competition!

See you in Seattle, April 1972.

SID WEISMAN

The Champs Enjoyed Juniors . . .

Dear Mort:

Marty and I considered it a great treat to watch the new breed of handball players this past week at the National Juniors Tournaments in Miami.

The caliber of play throughout the tournament was exceptional, and all of the young people displayed a brand of handball, and court generalship, beyond their years.

The 21-20 third game finals in the older group characterized the evenness, and solid play, of the entire week.

It was a real pleasure for Marty and I to play an exhibition match before these discriminating, and marvelously enthusiastic, handballers from across the nation.

Once again we would like to express our gratitude, Mort, to the tournament committee, the United States Handball Assoc., and the handball competitors for their participation in making the National Junior Tournament a rousing success!!

Jim Jacobs &
Marty Decatur

Our Under-15 Champ

Dear Mr. Leve:

I just wanted to say that I thought the National Juniors Tournament was a fine tournament. I enjoyed it very much. This was my first national tournament and it makes me want to participate in more of them. The USHA did a nice job in setting it up.

Mike Lloyd
Shreveport, Louisiana

Junior Champ Thank You . . .

Dear Mort:

During the past four years I have been able to participate in the USHA National Juniors. I cannot let this go by without giving you my thanks. Now that I am no longer eligible to participate in the juniors it is easy to look back and see all the help that the USHA has given me.

During those four years you have made housing arrangements for me and the other guys, offered us three meals per day, a fine banquet, and the much needed financial support. Also, there was always someone there to discuss my game and offer any pointers or help that might have been needed.

I am, indeed, fortunate, to be able to participate in the juniors. If it hadn't been for men like Ron Cole, Bud Cosby and Chuck Hilton of the Mid-Valley YMCA, and Marty and Stuffie Singer of the Hollywood YMCA, I wouldn't have been able to be there. These men made it their business to get me to the juniors by raising the financial help that I needed. To them and many, many more, I owe a very big thanks.

Once again, I'd like to thank the USHA for their help and support. I sincerely hope I will be able to participate in USHA tournaments for many years to come.

Rick Christian
Van Nuys, Calif.

NOTE: This is what makes the juniors so satisfying.

Albuquerque Accolade . . .

Mr. Kendler:

Just recently I participated in the Joe Maloof Handball Tournament in Albuquerque sponsored by the Albuquerque Handball Association. And what a great association it is! The hospitality shown me was fantastic. All the players were

friendly, many were interested in what kind of facilities we had in Phoenix, and they certainly proved again that handballers are truly a unique group of sportsmen.

I just wish to take this opportunity to thank again Carl Brand of the Albuquerque Handball Association and all of the Albuquerque players for the hospitality, including the excellent banquet held at Kirtland Air Force Base following the tournament. This was my first tournament outside of Phoenix, and I couldn't have made a better choice.

DAN McPEEK
Phoenix, Arizona (YMCA)

Charlotte, N.C. News . . .

Dear Mort:

It was sad, sad news to hear about the passing of Larry Rothenberg. He and I had been playing singles twice a week for many years and having a big time. He was in great shape when I last saw him in May and we were planning future handball activity. He certainly loved the game and promoted it wherever he was.

We have just found a place here in the Charlotte Y to put up two front walls for inside one wall handball and are trying now to get them put up.

We have just completed our "Project 80" in a blaze of handballs with Morris Gamble (44) teaming up with Lee Kerlin (36) taking the tough final match from Al Clark (44) and Bob Greene (35). Jimmy Teague and Burr Shoupe his father in law at a total age of 98 years gave everybody a fit including the finalists. The winners decided to take Paul Haber's book as their prize so we can look for an improvement in their playing.

A total of 76 players signed up in the Jack Spiers Handball League. The Y handball courts looked like Grand Central Station on opening night and a real competitive spirit was generated. The Seals under Jack Saltzger, Hal Harrigan, Eddie Sloan, Bill Chater, Oregon Rogers, Jim Batte, Keith Moore, Tom Harris and Jim Miller eked out a win with 1470 points over the Gorillas with 1459 points. Boy, is that close for a round robin tournament!

Lou Pesta has just moved to Charlotte from Detroit. He had so many handball gloves we thought he was the Saranac rep. Lou tells us Dr. Scapis recommends lots of gloves even for us lesser handball players. Lou has fitted in nicely here.

Ben Burnette of Jacksonville shows up once a month to renew handball rivalries he started with the Charlotte gang when they used to play for the Carolinas title when Ben lived in Charleston. Ben is still competing with the good younger players.

JACK SPIERS

A Just Tribute . . .

Gentlemen:

Please make note that on February 17, 1972 a Testimonial Dinner will be held in Philadelphia honoring JOE SCHWARTZ, who has been a "Mister Handball" in our area for the past fifty years. He and he alone has done more for us handball fanatics than words can ever say. At age 85 we wish him well, and a never ending Thanks.

Irvin H. Gaines

NOTE: Joe Schwartz has been a pioneer tower of strength in the Mid-Atlantic area, and has always stood for fair play, better tournament conditions, and always for the promotion of the game — the very tenets upon which the "Players' Fraternity" is based.

Legitimate Gripe . . .

USHA Grievance Committee
c/o Mr. Robert Kendler

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

For the "BETTERMENT OF HANDBALL" I feel it very necessary to forward the following:

I have just returned from the Third National Singles Invitational Tournament of Champions' Classic held in Birmingham, Alabama — and although I should be jubilant and excited by a second place finish in the Tournament of Champions — I am greatly disappointed.

I traveled 26 hours round trip — with great anticipation of meeting as many of our ranked players as possible — but was denied the opportunity when two of them who had been first round losers — nonchalantly and graciously "FORFEITED" after one additional round of play.

CHEATED were those who worked so many hours to plan a superb affair; CHEATED were the fans who purchased reserve seats to offset expenses; and CHEATED was I — who proudly and eagerly looked forward to the action. Accepting FORFEITS have NEVER been to my liking unless absolute MUST.

If those who are considered the "ELITE" fail to cultivate feelings for others — OTHER THAN THEMSELVES — I daresay our GAME will fail to reach the PINNACLE it richly deserves.

I may be out of order — but the good Lord well knows — obtaining expenses and support to participate in tournaments — is far from easy.

For the very FIRST TIME in my life — I will have SECOND THOUGHTS as to my future play in other classics.

Since My LOVE AND CONCERN for our GAME is most important to me, I feel a solution to our "FORFEIT" problem is a MUST — PRONTO!

We cannot allow a handful of "INDIVIDUALS" to tarnish our wonderful SPORT!

Ernie Ortiz
Executive Director
Big Brothers of Tampa

Mr. One-Wall Replies

Dear Mort:

Well at last I have made ACE, and now Handball Magazine. I am very grateful for the recognition and particularly for the nice things said about me.

Now, past age 83, I have given up most all of my handball activities. I have enjoyed every minute of my more than half a century in handball during which time my only motive and objective was in the growth and development of our great game.

Although we did not see eye to eye in the administration and procedure there was never any question but that the USHA, under Bob Kendler's dedication contributed in no small measure to the top position handball enjoys today in our National Sports. We disagreed chiefly on tactics only. I admired him as being a most successful business man, fine family and particularly for his legal adoption of orphans and deserted children. Notwithstanding our personal disagreements handball grew and developed to its present high rating in sports — and after all that's all that counts.

ACE Magazine under your skillful supervision has been a major factor in the present popularity of handball — a job well done. I have been a subscriber to ACE since its first edition. It was always attractive, good reading and informative — giving encouragement and publicity to many rising and new players.

Again many thanks for the article and with all best wishes for a most Happy and Healthy New Year,

C. J. O'Connell,
New York

ADD LETTERS...

From The 'Ol Sod' . . .

Dear Bob:

I hasten even at this late hour to thank you and your associates for the hospitality shown to me and my friends during my recent visit.

Someone once suggested that we Irish had a monopoly of 'hospitality' and the gift of the gab — they must never have visited Chicago. Even my wife and 12 children have much more regard for me since they read your most flattering article in your handball magazine. Two days ago the trustees of a youth centre offered us (The Irish Handball Council) a site for a handball complex. This will be our first International Standard Glass Court, with the help of God — and a lot of friends.

Bob, I would like very much to perpetuate your memory in some way here in Ireland. Anyone who has done as you have done, and who has loved even as long as you have, should take an honoured place in this little country — the cradle of Handball. Have you any suggestions? I don't expect you to build us a ball court.

We await your Irish visit, and we would be glad to have our boys give yours a game, especially when we have a standard ball court. Convey to Mrs. Kendler and your friends, Joe and Mort, the wishes we extend to you for a very happy Christmas.

Yours sincerely,

James J. Jennings

Note: James Jennings enclosed a real collector's item — a 100-year-old Christmas card for Evie Kendler.

More Dissenting Votes . . .

Dear Mr. Kendler:

This letter was a must for me to write after reading in the X-mas edition of "Ace" (I will always call it that) a letter from Bruce Hendin, Director of Health and PhyEd. at the St. Louis JCCA, in which he expresses his feelings against the name change of Ace to Handball. The only way I differ from Bruce is that I do not think changing the name was a "small thing" and I am asking you to print this, hoping that it might stimulate more letters to be written. Within my group of friends there are many disgruntled subscribers who don't like the change but are too apathetic to write and think their letters will be inconsequential anyway. I say to everyone: Write and express your opinion!

In answer to whoever it is that answered Bruce's letter: About that "girlie" magazine named Ace — SO WHAT (I say) — what difference does that really make? And I ask you: How many letters did you receive complaining about the name Ace and asking for it to be changed for *THAT* reason? — or for any other reason?

You said the name "Ace" means little or nothing to all those libraries, but what about us — your subscribers — did you think about what it means to us? You say it's your effort to get exposure for the magazine, well, I know that in order to gain things you have to give things up, but, in this case I don't think the exchange is worth it. ACE is worth more to me than some publicity. I can guess that you probably don't agree with me there.

Count this as the *SECOND* letter you have received outright complaint over the change in name. I have three

brothers (two older) who share my feelings — with Bruce that makes *FIVE AGAINST*.

Chuck Dohman

Rainbow Beach Handball Club
Chicago, Ill.

NOTE: We all love the name "ACE" Chuck, but the change was made with all due consideration. You just concentrate on the aces when you play . . . the name of the game is *HANDBALL*.

Motivating Play . . .

Dear Mr. Kendler:

The Waterloo, Iowa Y.M.C.A. is a small organization with two "ancient" (we still have the center line down the middle of the backcourt) courts.

Since coming to the Y from St. Louis JCCA last July, I have been doing everything possible to strengthen the "court sports" in Waterloo. I have started an instructional class for youth free of charge, from which I have three boys ages 10 and 11. They are ready for tournament play, who have never set foot on a court until the class began October 14. I've started a handball and a racquetball club for adults who will aid in setting up tournaments; play "ladder" tournaments among themselves and hold clinics throughout the Waterloo area.

Interest in the "court sports" have grown considerably since I've come to Waterloo especially in the area of youth participation which has here-to-fore been zero. This has even been reflected by our adults who are starting to bring their children down and play games with them.

George Wosmansky

Director, Physical Education

Caution Necessary . . .

NOTE: Once in a while we will read or hear of someone passing away after collapsing on the court. Without background information, which will invariably explain simply sound reasons why this happens and how it could be prevented, many will believe that the strenuous aspect of play is the cause. Just recently we were sent a newspaper clipping from Knoxville that stated in the lead paragraph: "Darris L. Ball, 47, vice president of Hurley Associates, an insurance agency, died Friday afternoon at Fort Sanders Hospital after he collapsed while playing handball at the YMCA."

The accompanying letter tells the real story. Nowhere in the article are there the underlying factors involved.

* * *

Sirs:

The man mentioned was a friend of mine. I have been enjoying the benefits of handball for many years, and I am a member of USHA, and Darris Ball had expressed an interest in learning the game.

He was 50 pounds overweight, 47 years of age, but otherwise in good health. Since he was not accustomed to physical exercise, his physician and I both advised him to lose the excess weight and get in shape gradually before starting handball. However, he started playing with some other beginners. His death was due to acute coronary insufficiency.

My point is this: Handball is a great conditioner and the best recreation I know. However, a man who is overweight, over 40, and not accustomed to regular exercise should get himself in condition prior to getting on the court, especially to compete with other players.

Bob Greer

Knoxville, Tenn.

Action People Need Protection They Can Count On. So . . .



We'll replace your EYEGLASSES AND CONTACT LENSES as fast as you can go through them

\$1 for first month's Membership. Offer Expires Midnight (Date)

Here's a new plan that's geared to fit your active life. It guarantees you and your entire family reduced rates on all your eyewear needs, speedy "emergency" service on all corrective lenses, impact resistant eyeglass lenses and your choice of over 150 attractive frame styles and colors. But you must enroll before Midnight of the date shown above.

Replacement Plan Saves You Money On Every Pair of Glasses You and Your Family Will Ever Need.

Now there's a plan that gives all U.S.H.A. members a well deserved break on the cost of their corrective lenses. As its name implies, The Eyeglass and Contact Lens Replacement Plan was designed to help you save money replacing lost, broken or stolen eyeglasses and contact lenses. But this valuable protection doesn't stop here . . .

The Replacement Plan guarantees you big savings on every pair of glasses or contact lenses you and your family will ever wear . . . even if you order a new pair because of a prescription change . . . even if you just want to change styles! There's no proof of loss required!

Handy Catalogue Means Fast Service

You'll be pleasantly surprised to see how easy it is to take advantage of the savings offered by the Replacement Plan. We supply you with our unique Fashion Catalogue which gives you your choice of over 150 frame styles and colors. Whenever you decide you want or need a new pair of corrective lenses, just send in our simple request form along with your prescription. Our team of skilled technicians will get your glasses, prescription sunglasses, or contact lenses back to you in a matter of days. That's all there is to it. You get a perfect pair of lenses every time . . . and at a very considerable savings!

\$1 "Trial Membership" Offer Ends Midnight of the Date Shown

We don't expect you to purchase anything without seeing, "first hand", how it can benefit you. That's why we make this fabulous \$1 offer with our Money-Back Guarantee.

To get your 1 month "Trial Membership", just fill in this simple Enrollment Form and mail with only \$1.

When you receive your Plan take your time and examine it carefully in the privacy of your own home. If, for any reason, you are not completely satisfied, mail it back within 15 days and your dollar will be promptly refunded. However, if you wish to continue to save big

money, you'll want to take advantage of these low Membership Fees:

	Individual	Family (Husband, Wife and all dependent children)
1 Year Plan	\$12.00	\$17.00
3 Year Plan	\$25.00	\$35.00

These low rates are all you pay for this Plan regardless of your age or the size of your family. What's more, after your \$1 Trial Membership, you may charge the remainder of your fee on your BANK-AMERICARD and MASTERCHARGE.

Here's What You Get!

The Low Membership Fee shown above entitles you to these Money-Saving, Replacement Plan Benefits: Contact lenses — all kinds and colors, single vision and bi-focal — for less than one-third of what you'd pay anywhere else; eyeglasses — single vision and bi-focal — also at a savings of at least two-thirds . . . including frames! That's why the Replacement Plan is so attractive to so many of America's eyeglass wearers. The low cost of your membership fee is more than made up with the purchase of a single pair of glasses!

Impact Resistant Lenses

All eyeglass lenses are impact resistant and fully meet the specifications of the American Nat-

ional Standard Institute. Also available at reduced rates are colored lenses — including the new miracle Photogrey, invisible bi-focals, plastic lenses and all the latest metal frames and fashion tints. See your catalogue for full details.

These Are The Only Exclusions

The Eyeglass and Contact Lens Replacement Plan brings you all the benefits mentioned above with only these few exclusions: the cost of professional services; cosmetic contact lenses; cataract, telescopic lenses and "baseball" bi-focal lenses. ALL OTHER CORRECTIVE LENSES ARE INCLUDED.

How Can We Cut Our Cost So Low?

We eliminate the middleman — it's as simple as that! Because the Replacement Plan sends your glasses directly to you and your contact lenses straight to your eyedoctor, you get your corrective lenses at Laboratory Prices! Ordering your own eyewear cuts out high mark-ups and saves you money!

Join Now!

This is one plan that really works to save you money. With your active life style, you can't afford to be without the Replacement Plan. Take advantage of our Money-Back Guarantee and mail your Enrollment Form and \$1 in the special envelope today.

Act Now. Special \$1 offer expires Midnight

Do not delay. Fill out . . . and mail Enrollment Form today with only \$1 (regardless of the number in your family) to: Universal Service Agency, Inc. Valley Forge, Pennsylvania 19481.

OFFICIAL ENROLLMENT FORM

NAME ☐ MR. ☐ MRS. ☐ MISS First Middle Initial Last
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
DATE OF BIRTH _____ AGE _____ SEX Male ☐ Female ☐
Month Day Year

OCCUPATION

I also apply for membership for the other members of my family listed below:

NAME (Please Print)		RELATIONSHIP	SEX	DATE OF BIRTH			AGE
				Month	Day	Year	
1							
2							
3							

I hereby enroll in the Replacement Plan and enclose my \$1. I understand the Plan is not in effect until actually issued. If for any reason I am not completely satisfied with this Replacement Plan I may return Membership Certificate for cancellation within fifteen (15) days and my payment will be promptly refunded.

Signature X _____ Date _____

Perpetuation fund support . . .

From Des Smith, Milwaukee . . . "I am happy to answer the call to give something to this sport that has given so much to me. Actually there are two factors involving my contribution; one is the earnest desire to contribute to handball and the other is a testimonial to you Bob Kendler, for what you have done for handball and your desire for handball living long after your fruitful days."

From Walter Bell, Torrance, Calif. . . "When I stop and think of all the benefits that I have received from playing handball the past 29 years, it is a privilege to contribute to the Handball Perpetuation Fund. My thanks to you, Bob, for making handball as popular as it is today and making it possible to say it in a tangible way."

. . . From Art Patch, president of the new Milwaukee Handball Club in suburban Wauwatosa. . . "It is with appreciation and satisfaction that the Milwaukee Handball Club sends to you the enclosed contribution."

From Les Shumate, Denver. . . "After reading your message on the back of this month's Handball Magazine how could anyone who has benefited from our great sport, that

owes its actual existence to you Bob, pass up the opportunity to help perpetuate it."

From Dr. James Tanner, Birmingham. . . "Your back page message in the December issue of Handball magazine was terrific. The Birmingham Handball club contributes \$100 to the USHA Handball Perpetuation Fund. I hope that we will set an example that all the Handball Clubs in the country will happily follow. I would also like to donate \$100 in the name of Alan Clark for a Life Membership in USHA for him. As you know, Alan is really the man behind the scenes of Birmingham handball. He's the guy who does all the work and who really merits all the credit that I receive."

From Marty Rosen, Columbus, Ohio. . . "You've always impressed me so very much in your many efforts to improve the lot of the handballer."

From Rod Guest, Detroit. . . "Beautiful idea. Don't thank me. I thank you. Will donate another hundred if you play me a game next Labor Day when you are in Detroit for the National Three-Wall."

Denver 'Boom' . . .

Dear Bob:

You didn't have to do it Bob; that is making me a Lifetime Member of the USHA. I will never live long enough to repay you and the USHA for the many benefits, pleasures and happiness given me for just being a part of our Players Fraternity. Anyway thanks a million for the honor and the gold plated Membership card.

Channel 6 TV here in Denver has a new program once a week called COMPETITION, and it is produced by Irv Moss, former sports writer for the Denver Post. We had their photographer take movies of the finals of our USHA 3-State tournament singles two weeks ago, between Bob Brown and Buzz Shumate. A few days later Buzz and Bob were invited to the Channel 6 studio to narrate the film and be interviewed by Irv.

The new courts at Colorado University are beginning to take shape; the concrete work will be finished in April and the whole building completed by the end of '72, according to Bill Apenzeller. Bill is recovering from a severed Achilles' tendon after 6 weeks in a cast. Bill said to tell you that now he knows what you had to go through with your problem when yours was torn. The Boulder Y has just finished three more standard courts.

We definitely have a date for the 1976 Olympics Handball Demonstration, Bob, and Apenzeller thinks that you and I should play an exhibition to prove that two "Old Goats" can still play. .

Will look forward to seeing you and Evie in Seattle.

LES SHUMATE
Denver

Special enrollment given USHA Life Insurance Plan . . . All members under 60 can get up to \$20,000 coverage . . . reduction in premiums for members under 50

Rates reduced . . . new coverage available

NEW ENROLLMENT PERIOD ENDS MARCH 31st FOR USHA LIFE INSURANCE PLAN

Robert W. Kendler, president of the United States Handball Association, has announced a Special Enrollment Period for the USHA Life Insurance Plan. From now until March 31st, all USHA members under age 60 are eligible to apply for this outstanding low-cost Life Insurance Plan.

LOWER RATES GO INTO EFFECT APRIL 1, 1972

According to Mr. Kendler, there will also be a reduction in premiums for members under age 50. These lower rates will go into effect April 1, 1972. If success can be measured in figures, the USHA Life Insurance Plan has surpassed most of its kind. An outstanding percentage of USHA members are already participating in the plan. Consequently, this collective group purchasing has enabled the premium rates to be reduced.

Accounting for another factor involved in premium reduction, Mr. Kendler reports a change in processing procedures. The USHA Life Insurance Plan is now administered by the Albert H. Wohlers & Co., 720 Garden Street, Park Ridge, Illinois 60068. All payments, claims and questions will be handled through that office.

USHA, constantly striving to update and improve its Life Insurance Policy, has also increased available coverage. Recognizing the need for additional protection, USHA has increased the maximum coverage to \$20,000. In addition, dependent coverage is now available for the first time. The wife of a USHA member can be insured for \$2,500 and, for only \$2.35 semi-annually, all dependent children 14 days to 21 years, regardless of number, may be added to a member's policy providing up to \$1,000.00 of life insurance. Both the new increased coverage and dependent coverages are available to current as well as new policyholders.

All USHA, INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION and NATIONAL PADDLEBALL ASSOCIATION members are eligible to enroll if they apply during the Special Enrollment Period ending March 31, 1972. For complete information, turn to pages 44-45.

USHA LIFE MEMBERS

Contributing to the USHA HANDBALL PERPETUATION FUND

DON BARRINGTON, Cincinnati
WALT BELL & SON, Los Angeles
BIRMINGHAM HANDBALL CLUB
ED BOETTCHER, Dallas
CHUCK BOLEY, Grand Forks, N. Dakota
GEORGE BROTEMARKLE & SON, DONALD,
Los Angeles
JUDGE GERALD BROWN, San Diego
BROWNSVILLE (NY) HANDBALL CLUB
JOE CAMDEN, Detroit
ALAN CLARK, Birmingham
BOB DAVIDSON, Miami Beach
PHIL ELBERT, Maywood, Ill.
BILL FEIVOU & SON, JERROLD, Los Angeles
HAROLD J. FILSINGER, Eggertsville, N.Y.
& SON, JOHN, Town of Tonawanda, N.Y.
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JOE VASQUEZ SR. & SONS,
JOE JR., STEVE, San Bernardino
JACK ZIDEK, Chicago

*Deceased

To those who have given of themselves and their substance, the United States Handball Association expresses its deep appreciation. As we near the quarter century in our history, — it is heart warming to witness the continuing dedication and the personal contribution of these faithful friends of handball. In looking forward to the many challenges of the future, we are confident that with this priceless ingredient, all of the objectives of our Association will be realized.

The trustees of the USHA Perpetuation Trust: Robert W. Kendler, Kenneth Schneider, George Brotemarkle, Joseph Ardito, Richard Roberson, Les Shumate, Dr. James Tanner, Bruce Collins, Dan Callahan, Joseph Shane, Jim Jacobs, Ed Kelly.

CANADIAN HANDBALL ASSOCIATION OFFICIALS

NATIONAL DATES . . .

Edmonton, the "Klondike City" of Alberta, has gone and done it again!

We have just released the dates of March 16-17-18 for the biggest, boldest, best 1972 Canadian National Handball Championships!

All games will be played on the 7 courts of the University of Alberta Physical Education Building. The final games will be played on the 2 glass-walled courts for full spectator viewing. With these excellent facilities at hand, we intend to videotape the final games and would expect a capacity gathering for the best handball in Canada.

We will be holding all classes of play, including a Junior Championship. A tear-off entry form is included on page 31.

R.J. (Skip) Smiley,
Publicity Chairman.

President

BRUCE W. COLLINS

410 Bentall Bldg., Edmonton 15, Alberta

Executive Secretary

KEN SHEARER

10820 - 82 Ave., Edmonton 60, Alberta

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National Press Chairman

HAROLD McCLEAN

Farr Ave., Sharon, Ontario

National Rules Chairman

HAROLD McCLEAN

Farr Ave., Sharon, Ontario

National Construction Chairman

ART KRUGER

14605 - 123 Ave., Edmonton 42, Alberta

Third Annual Golden Horseshoe Tournament in Hamilton, Ontario, in mid-November was a great success. Players from the Lake Ontario area joined with players from Philadelphia and Montreal to make this an enjoyable weekend of handball.

Early round upsets: Ed Mazur, Toronto, over Maione, Montreal; Ritchie, Hamilton, defeating St. Louis, St. Catharines; Craig Cooper, Toronto, blasting Mike Monk, Montreal.

Into the third round Mazur continued playing excellent ball, then ran out of gas against Dave Pasternack after extending the match three games. Fred Featherstone defeated Owen Maher, and Barry Leech in complete control over Tom Pritchard, Buffalo. Stan Oprendeck ran into a hot Stan Bargman who looked tired but played the corners to his advantage . . . also got a lot of breathing time with the soft serve down left side.

In the semi-finals, Featherstone chased Dave Pasternack to three games before losing. He had a chance in the third game when he was serving and the score tied at 20-20, but again I think condition played an important role. Fred was a little leg and arm weary. Watching Rochester's Pasternack play ball, one would wonder how he loses games; two good hands and his off hand serve is as good as anyone's. Leech, relaxed and very confident, just playing control ball defeated Stan Bargman in two.

In the finals Leech employed soft cross court serves and a few hard serves down the left side to pound out a decision over Pasternack. This year Barry has solved his foot problem and seems eager to play the type of ball that wins tournaments. His court position was very steady and even after hard "gets" he was able to control the game. I hope his play continues the rest of the year because, with his dedication, look-out. Nice win Barry. Now let's get the elbow in shape.

What can one say about Pasternack? Those of us who have watched him play feel disappointed when, on a lot of balls, he just gives up. Albertson of Rochester was the referee for the finals and did a commendable job.

Bargman and Featherstone playing game to 31 for third spot. Bargman 31, Featherstone 14. Obviously, Fred, the more tired of the two from his hard match with Pasternack in the semi, could not keep up with Bargman, who was tired but showed lots of desire to outplay Fred and win.

The doubles entry was a little disappointing with only ten teams. Stan Kray and Ron Sibbald, Toronto, defeated Doug Smith and Juan Puig, Hamilton,

21-8, 21-9. Sibbald playing the right side like it should be played and Stan, a natural left, had too much moxie for the Hamilton team.

Always nice to watch Ron play as he exhibits so much class and is very seldom out of position. I have seen Kray roll out balls from the back wall more in other matches but he had enough kills to help win this one. Smith and Puig looked a little arm weary from their three-game match with the Montreal team in the semis. Juan, who is originally from Valencia, Spain, plays a style similar to the Irish. He says he used to play on courts 80 feet long. He shoots with both hands like Maher, but is not as accurate.

Nick Rassenti and Dominic Sylvester took third place via a flip of the coin over Jack Pelech and Stan McDougall. Pelech and McDougall upset the top seeded team of Bob Thoms and Harold McClean to gain the semis.

Longest distance travelled by competing players was Montreal. The fellows drove over 400 miles to play and seemed to enjoy themselves. Maione ran up against Mazur, and Monk couldn't get started against Craig Cooper. Bob Robitaille mentioned that there might be an Eastern Provincial Tournament held in Quebec this Spring. Glad to see the boys from LaBelle Province and wait until next year. Allouettes, that is.

Would like to mention a few of the work horses: Irish Joe McKenna who was everywhere; Bob Sutton, Dirk Bylsma and Stan McDougall, and of course Mustachio — George Patsios, who picked one winner in the match which nearly broke me. He won a cold one off me picking Mazur over Pasternack in the second game.

Saturday night a delicious buffet was enjoyed by all and of course the Red Lion Room was the unofficial crying room. See you next year.

HAROLD McCLEAN

Montreal . . .

A handball league was started recently in the city of Montreal. Five teams compete against each other every week. The league consists of teams from Pales-tre Nationale, YMHA, Centre Cultural Sports, Central YMCA and N.D.G.

One of the large newspapers, The Montreal Gazette, gave quite a writeup on the league and the benefits of handball. The Times Journal of Thunder Bay, Ontario also carried a writeup.

HAROLD McCLEAN

Alberta . . .

The Alberta Open Handball Championships for the 1971-72 season were recently completed in Calgary, Alberta at the Calgary Central YMCA.

Seventy-two entrants, playing in singles, doubles, master's doubles and junior play highlighted one of the best-attended tournaments in the region. Players from Vancouver, B.C.; Edmonton; Alberta; Great Falls, Montana; and Calgary made this a top-flight competition.

In the singles competition, the action was evenly paced, and the tournament favorite Bob Wilson, playing out of the Vancouver Downtown Y, defeated Chris Ripplinger, Calgary Central Y, 21-16 and 21-12. This was Wilson's third time in a row winning the Alberta Open singles title. Wilson defeated Malcolm Lyle, Calgary, in two straight, to reach the final, while Chris Ripplinger beat Bill Adam, Vancouver, 21-6 and 21-2 on his way to the final match.

In the Open Doubles event, it was Bob Wilson and Bill Adams, Vancouver, defeating Ron Billig and Ed Walsh in a real thrilling final. The control of Wilson and Adams serve were pitted against Billig's uncanny kill shot and Ed Walsh's aggressive style of play. But, as the games wore on, it was the Vancouver pair coming out victorious. This, by the way, was Wilson's best showing at an Alberta Open to date.

In the Master's portion of the draw, it was a real highlight, as the competition was balanced, and displayed the knowledge garnered by these "old-timers." Good timing, a fine touch, and court position, accounted for the difference in Bob Dixon and Dave Kushner, Edmonton, defeating Jim Thomson and Ray Belway, Calgary, 21-20 and 21-11. Dixon's left hand, and the Calgary pair not adjusting soon enough, always kept them playing a catch-up type of play. Kushner seemed to have real estate claims on the right court, as time and time again it was this court position that added a point or ended a volley.

In the Junior side of the draw, it was Tom Cole, Great Falls, over L. Homenuk, Edmonton, in a game highlighted by hustle and power that these juniors seem to be thriving on. Cole of Great Falls defeated M. Boverman, Edmonton, to advance on one side of the draw, while Homenuk bombed Tim Hookenson, Calgary, 21-2 and 21-6 to advance on the bottom half of the draw.

Consolation Round winners were: Singles: George Bestianich, Calgary, over Bob Cummings, Edmonton.

Doubles: Ken Shearer-Bill Fallow, Edmonton, over Carter-Kolstad, Great

Manitoba . . .

The first annual Manitoba Closed Handball Championships were held at the University of Winnipeg Dec. 8-11. Pat Dunn swept the tournament winning both the singles and the doubles events. In the singles Pat defeated Ron Mruss in two straight games and then Ron and Pat teamed up to win the Doubles championships defeating Dick Archer and Norm Duncan. After losing the first game Pat and Ron came on to defeat Dick and Norm in two straight games with the score in the second game 21-20. Ken Murray won the Consolation singles event defeating Ed Kohut while Harry Sirette and Sid Gleneske defeated Dennis Liebrecht and Ed Prichard to win the Consolation Doubles event.

The Molson sponsored Challenge Ladder at the University of Winnipeg was won in November by: A - Pat Dunn; B - Bob Kohut; C - Bob Drobko.

In December — A - Ron Mruss; B - Gord Kolka; C - Bob Drobko.

For the third year in a row players from Grand Forks North Dakota won the Challenge Plaque defeating the home Winnipeg teams.

USHA official representatives in the Canadian Nationals—Dr. Steve August, singles; Ray Neveau and Simic Fein, doubles. Other top rated U.S. entrants will include Gordie Pfeifer, Tacoma; Steve Lott and Fred Lewis of New York in the doubles.

Falls.

Juniors: D. Mortimer, Calgary, over Gord Connolly, Calgary.

Master's Doubles: Spady-Boland, Great Falls, over Schwan-Furman, Edmonton.

This year's tournament had many extras associated with it, and tournament committee members Jim Westerman, Eric Dahlberg, Alan Day, Stan Fisher, Chris Ripplinger, Adrian Bussoli and Herb Martin should be congratulated. These extras included: a laundry service for competitors, complimentary coca-cola for competitors, a hospitality night, a number of special prizes awarded at the banquet, special hotel rates for competitors — all of which added to a quality tournament.

This tournament marked the first time that the University of Calgary handball courts were used, and provided a great deal of interest to the university community. Special thanks to Ralph Klimov of the Beachcomber Restaurant, who made his facility available for the tournament banquet.

Stan Fisher, Physical Dir.
Calgary Central YMCA

1972
CANADIAN OPEN AND CLOSED
4 WALL HANDBALL
CHAMPIONSHIPS
at
Edmonton Alberta
March 16, 17 and 18
Sanctioned by
CANADIAN HANDBALL ASSOCIATION
and
The United States Handball Association

Sponsored by the Alberta Handball Association and the University of Alberta - Edmonton.

IMPORTANT: All entrants must present current USHA (1972) membership card and all Canadian entrants must have current CHA (1972) membership card.

EVENTS: Singles...Doubles...Masters Doubles...Junior Singles. Competition Starts Thur., March 16, 7:30 a.m. Local players may be requested to play first round matches on Wed., March 15. Contestants are limited to ONE event only.

FACILITIES: 7 courts at the University of Alberta, 2 courts with complete glass backwall.

Alberta Handball Association
c/o Ken Shearer
10820-82 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta

In consideration of your accepting this entry, I do hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators or assigns, waive and release any and all rights and claims I may have against Alberta Handball Association, the Edmonton Handball Association, the Edmonton Central Y.M.C.A., the University of Alberta, the C.H.A. and the U.S.H.A., for any and all claims for damages, loss or injuries incurred by me at said tournament, or any of the events connected herewith.

NAME.....
Address.....
City.....State/Prov.....
Zip.....USHA Card No.....
Phone No. (Home).....(Bus).....

ENTRY FEE: \$15.00 per player.
All Juniors: \$7.50 per player.
Make remittance payable to: Edmonton Handball Association.

ENTRIES CLOSE: Entries must be received by Wed., March 9. Send entries to: Ken Shearer, 10820-82 Ave., Edmonton, Alberta.

OFFICIAL BALL: Spalding Red Label ACE

TROPHIES: To be awarded first three places in all events.

PLUS: Banquet Friday night, Souvenir shirt to each entrant, Refreshments.

Please check events entered.

- () Singles
() Junior Singles
() Doubles
() Masters Doubles *

Partner's Name.....
City.....

* One partner 40 years or older, and one partner 45 years or older, by initial date of tournament. Please be prepared to verify age.

ENTER NOW!

Katz Wins Florida State 3-Wall Invite Over Haas

The Second Florida State Three-Wall Invitational Singles was held Nov. 20-21 on Kiwanis Island, located at Merritt Island (near Cape Kennedy). The tournament was a rousing success with 25 entries from all over the state. Two regulation courts were available.

Paul Katz, 39, Orlando, with a fine exhibition of hooks and reverses, defeated



HAAS (left) and KATZ

Billy Haas, plus-40 youngster from Miami Beach, 21-15, 21-17. Paul threw his hooks against Haas' excellent ball control and voice comments. It was two days of good handball and sunshine. Both are predominately four-wallers but looked like they were born to the three walls.

Katz defeated Roy Gelber, Miami Beach, 21-15, 21-2; Marv Sherzer, Miami, 21-16, 21-9, and George Poe, Merritt Island, 20-21, 21-0, 21-6 to gain the

finals while Haas bested Dr. Steve Schnell, Gainesville, 18-21, 21-14, 21-13; Joe DeBella, Orlando, 9-21, 21-11, 21-20, and Tom Veal, Miami 21-12, 21-11. Schnell defeated Gelber for third place and Veal won the consolation over Bill Arsenault, Gainesville.

Dr. Schnell is a Gainesville dentist who has the only four-wall court right in his spacious home. He was a dark horse in this one, upsetting Tom Kelley, Orlando, in the quarters.

The outstanding game of the tournament was a comeback victory by Haas in the quarters over DeBella. DeBella is a strong three-waller and won the first game, 21-9. Billy came back 21-14 and then found himself down 10-20 in the third. The crowd of 80 felt that the match was over but scrappy Haas, with his consistent ball control and many facial expressions and accompanying wit, whittled the lead down point by point. At 20-16 Joe drove three balls into the floor, and at 19-20 Billy got the serve and went out.

Many thanks go to the help of three local players — George Poc, Jack Maegher, and Mike Didyle, for their help during the tournament. Also appreciation to Bob Austin, District 2 recreation director in the county for the use of the courts (we think they're the best in the country).

RICH ROBITAILLE
President, Merritt Island
Handball Association

La Crosse' Brown Wisc. Y Winner

Orley Brown, physical director at the La Crosse YMCA, swept past Scott Kapus, Wausau, 21-13, 21-15, to win the Wisconsin State YMCA singles championship held at the La Crosse Y Jan. 7-9.

Brown combined an effective power serve down the left wall along with deadly side wall-front kills and kept Kapus in the back court much of the match, neutralizing his strong right hand. Kapus came out shooting in the first game and moved to a 5-point lead before Brown began to move the ball and take advantage of Kapus' left hand errors. Brown scored on flat kills into the right front wall or corner. Kapus showed the La Crosse gallery a fine right hand kill shot as he repeatedly rolled out balls from the deep court and passed Brown to the right. But it was Brown's consistency in shooting that marked the difference as Scott's errors come on left hand

returns, either missing or setting up shots.

In the semis Brown defeated Bob Diener, Fond du Lac Y, 21-18, 21-10; and Kapus outlasted Lou Guillou, Centerville, 17-21, 21-15, 21-12. In the quarters Brown had to go three tough games with a fired up Chuck Howland, Madison, while Kapus powered his way past John Bigley, La Crosse, 21-11, 21-15.

In the consolation bracket semis Tom Nissalke, La Crosse, won on a forfeit over Pete Harris, while Gene Fladen defeated Dave Kjos 21-4, 8-21, 21-10. In the finals Nissalke displayed a fine edge in downing Fladen 21-11, 21-9. Nissalke showed promise as one of the up-and-coming young players in the area.

The Tournament Committee would like to especially thank Arrie "The Greek with the Roman Nose" Nichols and Army Gallup for their indispensable support of this event. A fine tourney was had by all.

John Bigley, Chairman
La Crosse Handball Committee

Norfolk, Va. . . .

1971 — a recap, and a year of change!

During the midst of a \$1 million addition to the Norfolk Y we were able to complete all annual tournaments. We now have four courts at the Y, one with a glass back wall, and a modern health club.

The season began with the C tournament finals played in 50-plus degree court temperature. First place — Don Ray; second — Jim Bishop; third — Mike Plunkett; fourth — C. Castle. Next the B's: first — C. Chandler; second — G. Allen; third — Bill Whitbeck; fourth — Jim Bishop. A tournament: first — Fred Denuccio; second — George Pfeiffer; third — Walter Wales; fourth — Bob Woodhouse.

Our Summer ladder was won by Dr. Claude Benham, as usual. Dr. Benham plays with a 3½ to 1 point ratio regard of whom he plays. Other top finishers were Denuccio, Bill Moulton, Jerry Rowe and Allen.

We were able to hold our Virginia State Open in October and once again Dr. Benham was the winner. He was pushed in the finals by Jay Rowe, Richmond. Dick Miller, Greensboro, finished third by defeating a very exciting young player, D. Crocker from Ohio. Crocker was unseeded and had some tough matches and showed real potential.

Fred Lewis and Jerry Greenside won an exciting doubles. Kous and Miller took third place from Tom Ciasulli and J. Scola. The Masters division singles was won by Denuccio over Wales with Richter taking third over Tavares.

One of the best annual tournaments is the annual Turkey. Top four finishers get "birds". Woodhouse beat Denuccio for the big bird. Other turkey winners were Norman Stone and Wales. In the Turkey play each weaker player is given a handicap according to whom they play. Biggest upset was by Tim Fallowell with a 19-point handicap. Benham had fought back in the third game to a 20-19 lead. Fallowell got the serve back and scored 2 points to win.

The glass back wall has added new enjoyment to the game at the Norfolk Y and should add much to the overall program.

—JIM BISHOP
Secretary,
Norfolk Handball Club

Please let us know at least six weeks in advance, if you can, on any address change. HANDBALL Magazine is mailed 2nd Class and is not forwardable. Be assured of getting your bi-monthly issues regularly and keep us current on your present addresses.

**March 23-26
1972**
Norfolk, Virginia

45th National YMCA Four Wall Handball Championships

Singles · Doubles · Masters Doubles

- EVENTS:** Singles · Doubles · Masters Doubles
- ELIGIBILITY:** YMCA membership 30 days prior to tournament and present membership card on request.
- SCHEDULE:** Contestants notified of first match time. Yours may be anytime Thursday morning to Friday evening.
- RULES:** Unified playing rules for four wall courts, AAU, JWB, YMCA ('68)
- AWARDS:** Given for first four places in each event.
- ENTRY DEADLINE:** Postmarked not later than March 13, 1972.
- ENTRY FEE:** \$10 per man per event. Fees non-refundable. Must accompany entry form to be eligible. Entries without fees returned. Fees cover hospitality room, banquet and tournament T-shirt. Make check payable to YMCA Handball Club.
- COURTS:** Four air-conditioned regulation. One glass wall.
- ACCOMMODATIONS:** YMCA residence with 80 brand-new rooms opening February 1972. Individual showers. \$7.00 per room. Plush! Single occupancy only.

DETACH AND RETURN TO:

Dick Husband, Tournament Director
OR Jack Michael, Associate Physical Director
312 West Bute Street, Norfolk, Virginia 23510

Phone: (703) 340-2330 (Office)
486-4582 (Home)
622-6328 (YMCA)

PRINT NAME _____ DOUBLES PARTNER _____

ADDRESS _____
Street and Number City State Zip Code

ENTER ME IN: ☐ Singles ☐ Doubles ☐ Masters Doubles

Please reserve a room for me at the YMCA on the following nights:

Date

Date

Date

Date

RESERVATIONS HELD UNTIL 5:00 P.M.

Pfeifer Fair Haired 'Local Hopeful' in Nationals From: Seattle Post-Intelligencer

Gordon Pfeifer is burning up the handball courts again. Bill Fenton and his Washington Athletic Club associates are not about to reach for the fire extinguisher.

Pfeifer upset the fabled Paul Haber last weekend in the finals of the United States Handball Association invitational tournament in Birmingham, Ala.

The tournament was limited to 16 of the nation's top players. Gordie knocked off three of them in six straight games, then applied the coup de grace to Haber in the final, 21-16, 21-4.

That means Haber will have fire in his eye, if not in his boiler, when the U.S.H.A. holds its national open championships at the W. A. C. next spring. Fenton is the home club's athletic director; his top soldiers in preparing for the big show are John Bowen, tournament chairman, and Dick Aguirre, president of the W. A. C.'s Handball Club.

Haber, in recent years, has become the most publicized player in handball history through his fine disregard for training and his superconfidence. He has been known to go directly from the cocktail lounge to the four-walled court and still put his opposition away with ease.

Haber beat Pat Kirby in the semifinals at Birmingham before coming up against Pfeifer. Kirby, from Ireland by way of New York, has won several "world" and national titles; before Pfeifer reached his peak, Pat had been one of the few who could hold his own with Haber.

One of Pfeifer's friends, Ben Mitchell, says Gordy's start in handball was accidental.

"He (Pfeifer) is a slow-pitch player of some note. One day a teammate suggested he go down to the club and play handball as a conditioner for the upcoming softball season."

That was about five years ago. In two months, Gordy lost 20 pounds. He also became "hooked" on handball. In six months he had advanced through the novice, C and B Classes and was winning in Class A company.

Pfeifer, an outfielder, managed and played for the Heidelberg slow-pitch team for seven years. Under his guidance the Heidelbergs won the Northwest regional title five straight times.

Gordy came West from Pittsburgh at the invitation of Uncle Sam and was stationed at Fort Lewis. After military service he settled down in Tacoma, married and there now are three little Pfeifers.

He was proficient in all the regular sports and received numerous college-scholarship offers. At 32, it is evident that handball is his bag. Kirby, Haber and those others will have no picnic here next April.

Company Court . . .

Gentlemen:

This is in answer to your request for a short write up on the unusual handball court that we have.

The original idea behind the court was to make exercise facilities readily available to us at any time during the day. The court is not regulation size. It measures 18 x 30 x 12 feet. It is air conditioned and has shower facilities. It is not our intention to make this a truly commercial project. We maintain a limited membership, as we only wish to cover our expenses. This also means that the court is never crowded.

We have used the court extensively and would thoroughly recommend the idea to any company that has the space available.

KENNETH HARRIS,
Harris Commonwealth Corp.
Reseda, Calif.

Handball Instruction ??



INTRODUCING THE GAME . . . Pete Tyson, University Texas handball mentor, visits Austin elementary schools to demonstrate basics of game. However, here with this comely young teacher, Pete looks more like a ballet instructor . . . and it wouldn't be sary for the gal to play the game without gloves . . . without shoes!

SIOUX FALLS OPEN . . .

Bill Nelson, Port Edwards, Wisc., and Jim Ricketts, Sioux Falls, won the Second Annual Sioux Falls Open doubles handball tournament Dec. 10-12 at Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Bill and Jim defeated Keith Metcalf and Bill Rawlings, 21-14, 21-10. Third place was won by Rich Rawlings and Gene Richards, St. Cloud, Minn. Rich and Gene defeated Bill Bauerly and Roger Hansen, Sioux City. Paul Connelly, Sioux Falls, and Don Evans, Minneapolis, won the consolation event beating Harry Musser and Arnold Wells, Mankato, Minn.

Entries came from Mankato, Minn., St. Cloud, Minn., Mason City, Iowa, Sioux City, Iowa, Marshall, Minn., Omaha, Aberdeen, S.D., Port Edwards, and Sioux Falls.

Quarter Finals: Nelson-Ricketts def. Thompson-Jennings 21-5, 21-14; Bauerly-Hansen def. Whittaker-Conrad 15-21-21-9, 21-19; Raylings-Richards def. Hill-Alexander 21-19 15-21, 21-16; Metcalf-Rawlings def. Scott-Dardis by forfeit.

Semi Finals: Nelson-Ricketts def. Bauerly-Hansen 21-9, 21-10; Metcalf-Rawlings def. Rawlings-Richards 21-18, 20-21, 21-13.

Sioux Falls Golden Pheasant Singles Tournament is scheduled March 17-19. For entries and information contact Jim Ricketts, 2912 E. 12th, Sioux Falls, S.D. 57103. Last year Rich Hill, Omaha, defeated Dick Fedro, Des Moines, for the championship.

COLUMBUS INVITATIONAL . . .

John Ochocki defeated fellow Cleveland Jim Sanders 21-2 and 21-18 to win the annual Columbus, Ohio Invitational Singles. In the semi-finals Ochocki defeated a vastly improved Bill Roe of the host Y.M.C.A. 21-10 and 21-14 and Sanders beat Frank Payne of Dayton 21-12, 21-16.

Kent Fusselman, Warren, and Bill Willing, Canton, combined to form a "super" doubles team which was not extended during the entire tournament. In the finals the fine Cincinnati "masters" team of Vern Roberts, Sr. and George Coleman gamely jumped off to a ten point lead but Fusselman and Willing recovered for a 21-18, 21-10 victory.

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High School Handball Proves Successful

Don Davies, Berkeley, Calif. Prep School Athletic Director
Guaranteed Handball Would Become School's Most Popular Sport

By DON DAVIES
Athletic Director,
Berkeley High School
Berkeley, California

It took five years of pushing and hustling, often talking with individuals who had never even seen a handball court. I even guaranteed that within two years handball would become the most popular sport at the school. I discussed the advantages of playing the game from the fitness and motor learning points of view. I discussed the advantages of practicing tennis in the courts and having the girls learn racquetball. I used every bit of influence I could muster.

The result: eight, outdoor, four-wall, 20 x 40 courts. Unfortunately the money for the partial ceiling and viewing platform was not available, and problems do exist, but the facilities are adequate for teaching the game to high school students.

Handball has indeed become our most popular elective physical education activity in a program which emphasizes lifetime, carryover sports. Too many high school programs throughout the country continue to stress football, basketball, softball and other team sports when they should be offering tennis, handball, golf, badminton, racquetball and other dual and individual sports. If the general public would spend only a small percentage of the money on individual and dual sports that they pour into programs such as football we would have a much healthier America.

The courts are constructed with a cement floor and a cement front wall. The side and back walls consist of a special heavy waterproof type plywood material on 2 x 6 studs, painted with a special waterproof paint. So far the walls have held up perfectly. A mistake was made on the 2½' x 4' doors. The doors should have a metal encasement and frame because of the warpage and wind problems. We are now experimenting with a hanging door. When the money becomes available we will add a 15' partial ceiling and a cyclone type fence material for at least an additional 15 feet. The viewing platform will also be added when the money becomes available. We had to settle for a 16 foot height because of the surrounding neighborhood and cost-construction problems but this does not effect our teaching units too severely.

We currently give 500 tenth grade boys per year a beginning course in handball.



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During the student's junior and senior years he may elect the advanced handball course. This spring we will have an interscholastic handball team with varsity standing as part of our 14 sport interscholastic athletic program. Since no other high schools in the area have handball teams we will have to compete against clubs that have high school players or play the "B" class men in the various local clubs. High school athletics

are controlled by the California Interscholastic Federation relative to eligibility and competition. Handball, however, is not listed as an official approved sport so we are free to compete with teams outside the jurisdiction of the C. I. F.

My greatest thrill so far, in the handball program, is developing boys who, after only one year, give many of the local Y.M.C.A. men all they can handle.

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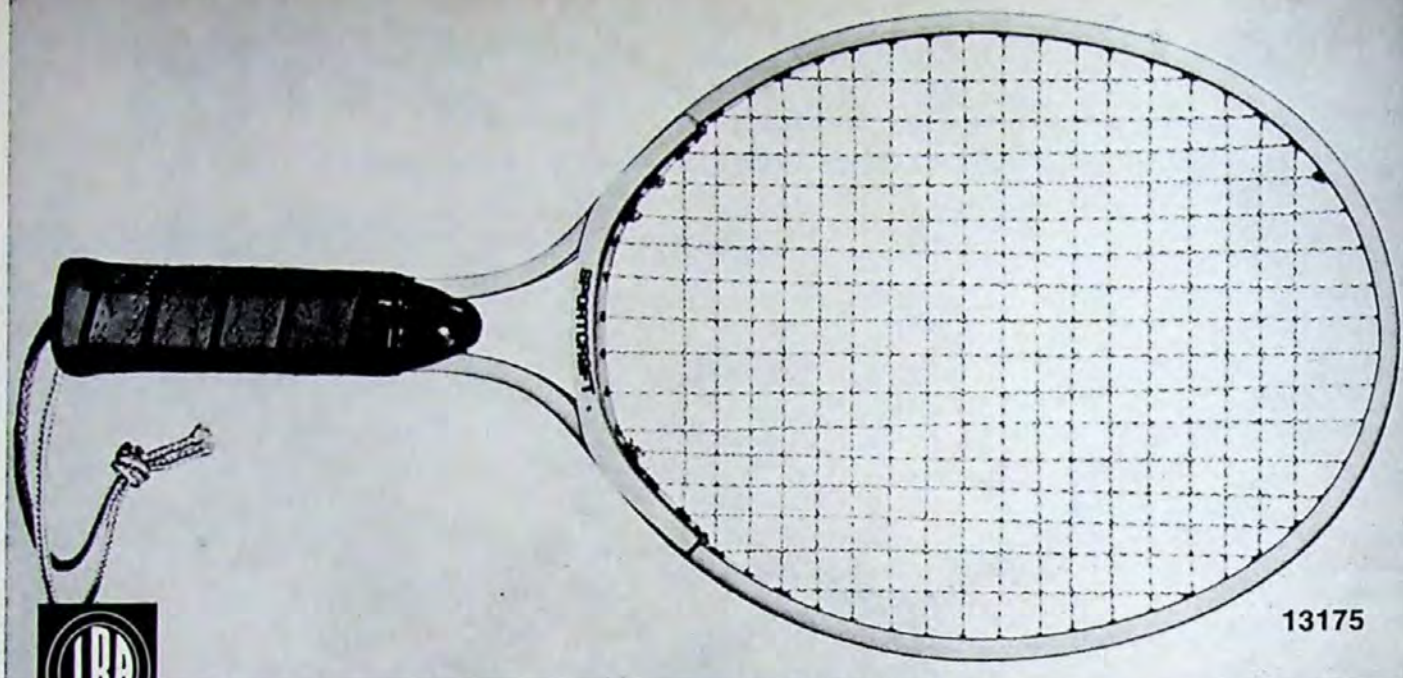
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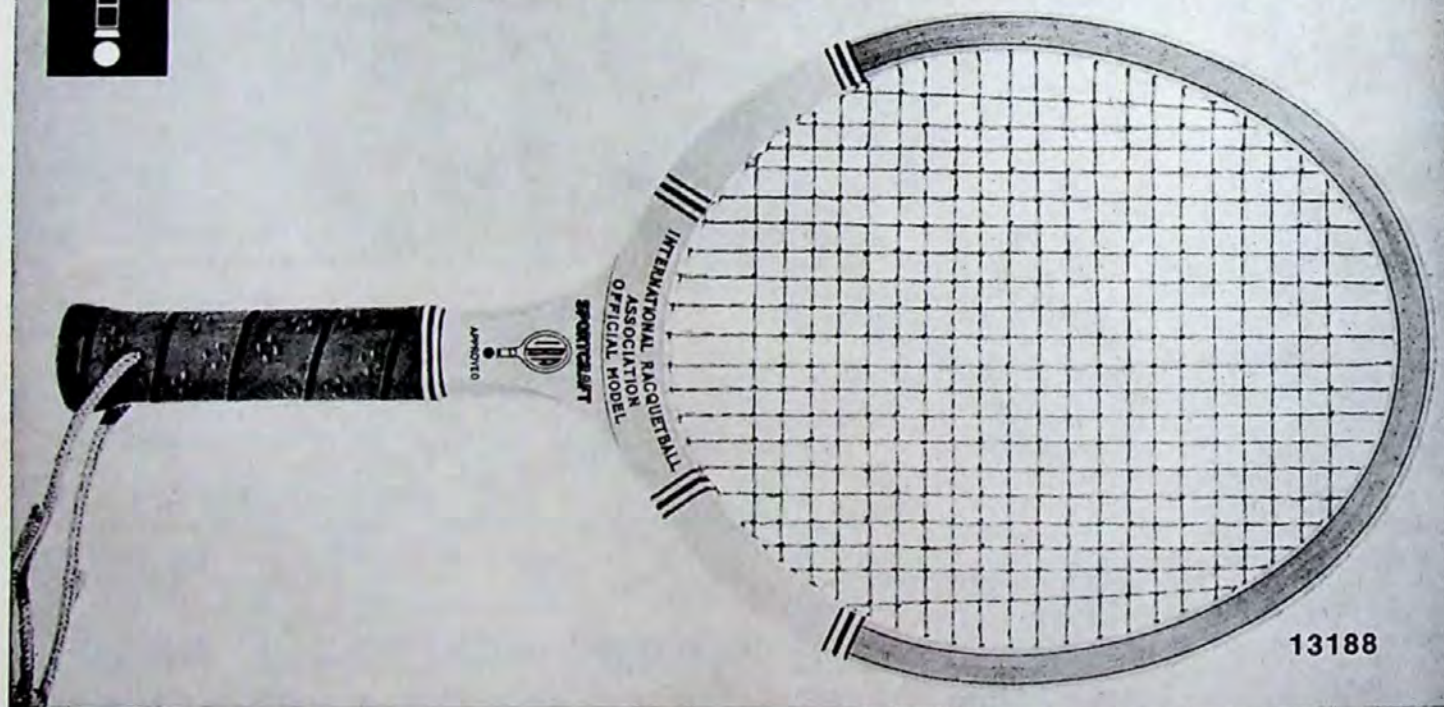
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IN THIS ISSUE...



IRA International tournament chairman DeWitt Shy (left) chats with Memphis State University president, Dr. Cecil Humphreys on the balcony of MSU's showcase glass court. Both men report that all systems are "go" for the tournament, which is expected to draw more entries than any previous racquetball event.

A first class five days is in store for the men and women who will converge on Memphis for the tournament. So be ready, one and all to enjoy yourselves.

ALSO...

National Paddleball Championships are scheduled for May 4-7 at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. Dr. Andy Kozar reports all pre-tournament affairs are running smoothly. You'll find more on the NPA tournament, plus an entry form beginning on page IRA-19.

* * *

Instructional articles greet the reader on pages 14-15 of the section with two fine pieces, one by Steve Keeley on the ceiling ball and another by professor Saul Ross on positioning. Both are a must for the racquetballer looking to improve his game.

* * *

"I'll win the rematch," says Dr. Bud Muehleisen after analyzing his hands vs. racquet loss to Paul Haber (page 51). For the post match interview with the loser, check page IRA-25.

TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE . . .

The smiling faces to the right are the Memphis Racquetball Association tournament committee for the upcoming IRA International Tournament February 23-27. In the BACK ROW are (l. to r.) Philip Baum, co-chairman advertising; Cecil Pinner, signs and posters; Mack Thrasher, publicity; Giles Coors, reception; Sol Kirschner, co-chairman advertising; Geddes Self, Exhibitors; Dr. Bailey Prichard, women's activities; Henry Morgan, Banquet. FRONT ROW (l. to r.) Joe Tagg III, Hospitality; Lige Turman, Memphis State facilities; Smith Schippers, Floor Manager; Judd Williford, ticket sales; DeWitt Shy, Tournament Chairman.



Biggest And Best Internationals Ready; 300 Entries, Red Carpet Treatment Expected

A year of planning, organization and plain, old hard work will culminate late this month in Memphis as Memphis State University and the Memphis Racquetball Association host the 4th International Racquetball Association Championships.

As most racquetballers know by now, the Memphis edition of IRA's finest promises to be the biggest tournament in our history with over 300 entries expected in six brackets of play.

The tournament opens Wednesday morning, February 23 with open singles play the probable choice to go on first. Players should, unless notified to the contrary, be ready to play Wednesday morning at 9 a.m. Open doubles play will commence on Thursday along with the Masters and womens events.

The Memphis Racquetball Association under the leadership of DeWitt Shy has done yeomans work in setting up the

tournament. The local organization and populace of racquetballers have been overwhelming in their support of MRA and IRA in preparing for the big one. And the players will not be let down.

The nine court Memphis State facility, with the 315 seat glass gallery court, will be taxed to its limit to get the hundreds of matches in on time. The courts are easily accessible from both men and women locker rooms and play consistent and live.

Hospitality rooms will be set up at Memphis State and the Holiday Inn I-55, which will serve as tournament headquarters. There will be plenty of food and beverage for players, wives and guests.

Another feature of the tournament will be the product display booths featuring racquetball gear from all of the major manufacturers of balls, racquets, gloves,

uniforms and gym bags. Players and spectators will get a chance to observe first hand the racquetball wares and question representatives of each firm.

Smith (Smitty) Schippers will be floor manager of the 1972 Championships and Smitty will be ably assisted by Sidney Semel, long time USHA contributor and presently USHA Southern Regional Commissioner.

The annual tournament banquet will be Friday night, the 25th. The players convention meeting to discuss rule changes, election of officers, election of board of directors and 1973 tournament bids will take place Thursday night. This meeting is open to IRA members only and will be highlighted by President Robert W. Kendler's annual address.

For further information on the tournament contact DeWitt Shy, tournament chairman, 424 Falls Building, Memphis, Tennessee 38103; phone, 901-527-3493.

CAUTION: Make the right Reservations!!

Information published in the December issue of Handball Magazine regarding Holiday Inn tournament headquarters gave the incorrect address of the Holiday Inn in Memphis.

Reservations should be made at the Holiday Inn I-55, 1441 E. Brooks Rd., Memphis, Tenn. 38116. The Inn is about three miles from Memphis State University. For reservations phone 901-398-9211.

For those people who made reservations at the address listed in the December issue, fear not. They have automatically shifted to the correct Inn.

Do You Qualify For Masters?

Some confusion has sprung up regarding the age qualifications for participation in Masters events in IRA-sanctioned tournaments. To set the record straight:

Masters singles: 40 years old or older as of the start of the tournament.

Masters doubles: One partner 40 or older and one partner 45 or older, or both partners 45 or older as of the start of the tournament.

There is never any leeway or exceptions. Master players, may, however, compete in open events if they so choose.



WYETH CHANDLER
MAYOR

City of Memphis
Tennessee

February 23, 1972



Greetings to the Delegates of the
Fourth International Racquetball
Association Championships:

It is with great pleasure that I extend an official welcome on
behalf of the City of Memphis to all players and visitors to
the Fourth International Racquetball Association Championships
on February 23 through February 27, 1972.

We are indeed proud that Memphis has been chosen as the site
for your 1972 tournament.

We are delighted to have you visit our city and hope you will
enjoy your stay in Memphis. It is also our hope that you will
return again.

I look forward to attending as many of the matches as possible.

Yours very truly,

Wyeth Chandler
Wyeth Chandler

WC:mh



RACQUETBALL

ROOM BY *Chuck Leve*

Predictions have a funny way of coming back to haunt the one who makes them. And even Jeanne Dixon is wrong sometimes. Despite the hazards involved I am going to tell you who will win what in Memphis, and why.

All eyes will be focused on the open singles bracket where a year ago Bill Schmidtke, coming from his number seven seed, raced by the big names for the title. Not so this year. No man has ever won the open singles title twice in the short history of IRA, let alone back-to-back. And I don't think the trend will stop in Memphis. Not that I'm superstitious. I just don't think Bill can put together as amazing a streak as he did in Salt Lake.

Who then? My pick is Charlie Brumfield, and those who have been around the circuit this year will find the choice not surprising. Charlie came within an eyelash in IRA's inaugural tourney in St. Louis four years back. After another second place in 1970 he lost in the round of 16 to Charlie Garfinkel last year.

Brumfield's game is peaking and the only thing that will keep him from winning the title is if he has peaked too soon. The big entry expected in Memphis will be to Charlie's advantage, with a few easy rounds giving him the time to sharpen his game.

But the biggest reason Brumfield will win is that he will want it more than anybody. Charlie has something to prove; to the spectators, to his peers and most of all to himself.

He's the man who told me last year after his loss to Garfinkel, "I'm never playing singles again," and promptly spent the summer "off" season in Michigan playing strictly singles against Keeley, Finger and Lawrence.

Brumfield will win, but he won't have an easy time of it. His biggest challenges will come from Schmidtke, Finger and, if he can participate, Keeley. If Ken Porco is healthy and plays only singles, he too will be a factor.

In open doubles I look for the young Steve Serot-Biron Valier team to take all the marbles, assuming that Brumfield and Dr. Bud Muehleisen do not enter the open. Here again, the big entry will be to Serot-Valier's advantage, giving them the few matches to adjust to each other's game, now that Valier has moved to Houston from St. Louis.

With the unfortunate and untimely injury to Mike Zietman (broken vertebrae suffered in a recent car accident), it now looks like Ken Porco will have a tough time defending his open doubles title. Ken will likely team up with Bill Evans, 1971 Southern Divisional open singles champ who, like Porco, is from Louisville. And if Ken tries to go both ways, that will make it even tougher. The Porco-Evans team will be good, but I don't think good enough.

Injury also demolished the 1971 third place team of Charlie Garfinkel and Chuck Wurzer. Garfinkel, competing in the recent Cleveland open suffered a clean collarbone separation that will keep

him out of action for months. It is ironic that Garfinkel should be hurt and miss the International tournament, as it was the concern over Wurzer's recuperation from knee surgery that was uppermost in both their minds.

I don't think Schmidtke and Finger, who showed poorly as a team in Louisville this year will make a go of it in tandem and if Craig plays with long time partner Paul Lawrence, they could have the last few days of tourney off. And I wouldn't be surprised to see the 1970 champs, Don Wallace and Bob Yellin, who were eliminated in their first match last year, to be among the leaders this time around.

But my pick is Serot-Valier for the championship, in three games.

Masters singles seems to be the only "easy" pick for me since Dr. Muehleisen just turned 40. Dr. Bud, barring injury, should have no problems in the Masters. His strongest opposition will come from Giles Coors, last year's champ and maybe even Glenn Turpin the 1970 winner.

A healthy Gene Grapes, Joe Zelson and Dr. Bill Sellars will be in it into the last few rounds. Earl Dixon and DeWitt Shy, both contenders are hampered by injuries.

Masters doubles is the hardest for me to pick, mainly because I haven't seen enough of the Masters players in real tourney action. If Muehleisen teams with a steady right side man they will be extremely difficult to top, but I look for the Dr. Vince Cutshall-Don Erickson team to repeat their 1970 championship.

It appears that Muehleisen will team with Dr. Chuck Hanna in open doubles and they will certainly add to the quality of the field there.

Last years runners-up, Smitty Schippers and DeWitt Shy have been hobbled by injury and illness as well as the added burden of hosting the tournament. If

Tourney Week . . .

With the International tournament expanded to five days this year an additional day gives players more free time to get to know each other and the city of Memphis.

The extra day also gives IRA a chance to set up a first class players convention meeting (Thursday night) followed by the Board of Directors meeting.

The convention will include motions for rule changes, election of officers and board of directors, and 1973 tournament bids. Any IRA member who wishes to have a rule change brought before the convention should make his request in writing and present it to IRA Executive Secretary Chuck Leve before 5 p.m. on Wednesday. The proposed rule change should include the present rule number and the proposed re-wording.

Tournament bids should be made in writing to Leve at the tournament press room and presented by the same time. The press room will be adjacent to the glass court during the tournament.

Another highlight of the players convention meeting will be the appearance of IRA President Robert W. Kendler who will give his annual "State of the Association" presentation. Kendler has been keeping close tabs on the development of racquetball and will be looking for any comments or criticisms from Association members.

The tournament banquet will be Friday night and it should be a gala affair, as should the hospitality rooms both at Memphis State and the Holiday Inn headquarters.

All in all it promises to be a real racquetball treat, with congenial hosts, fantastic play and true Southern hospitality awaiting players from all over the nation.

they play I don't see them as a factor.

Grapes and Alan Schattner took Cutshall-Erickson to three tight games a year ago and could be the darkhorse team in Masters doubles. Once again Grapes' injuries, or lack of, will determine how far his team goes. Gene played in constant pain in Salt Lake City.

That leaves us with the women's singles event and I see Jan Pasternak repeating her title in 1972 and probably over Bette Weed last year's runnerup, or newcomer Jan Campbell.

I'm not counting out any of the St. Louis group of gals, who have shown me too much skill and determination in the past to be ruled out in the future. But I truly don't think any other woman has the all around game that Pasternak does. And another year will have made her just that much tougher.

So Brumfield, Serot-Valier, Muehleisen, Cutshall-Erickson, and Pasternak, look out! You may have just been given the biggest spider bite of your racquetball careers.

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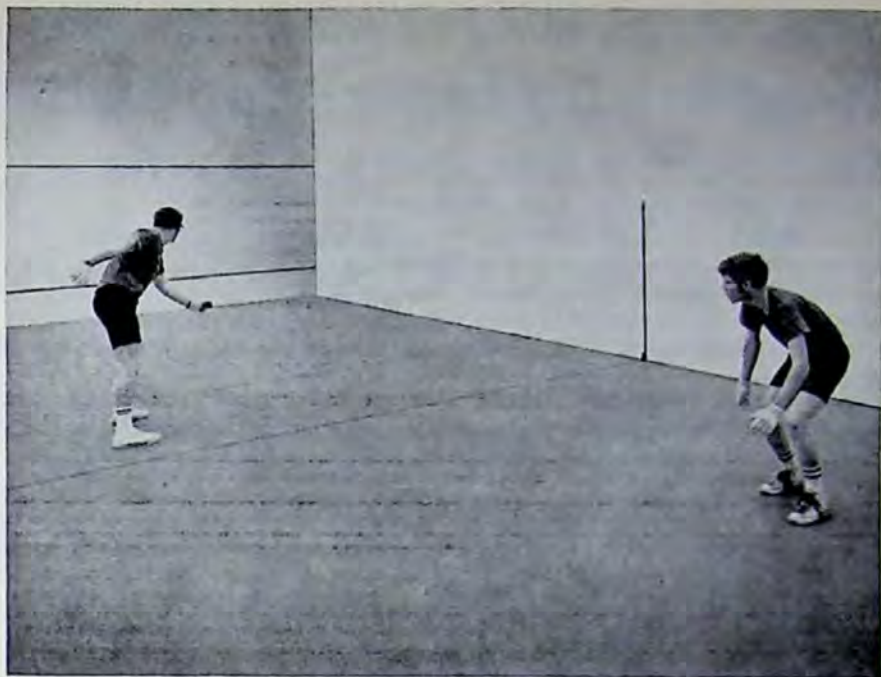
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Keeley Tops Brumfield In Singles, Teams With Drake For Doubles Title At Gorham's San Diego Tourney

Mel Gorham's inaugural Holiday Tournament, held the weekend before Christmas, drew nothing but raves from the 161 entries who descended on the six court San Diego facility.

The tournament was organized with five events — open singles and doubles, B singles and doubles, and Masters singles.

Open singles turned out to be a show-down match between two of the finest players in the game today, Charlie Brumfield who earlier this year copped the first National Invitational Singles title, and Steve Keeley, who taught both Charlie Garfinkel and reigning International Champ Bill Schmidtke some respect for the young in that same tournament. Brumfield and Keeley earned the right to meet each other by knocking off Roger Souders and Charlie Drake, both from San Diego, in hard-fought semi-

final action.

It was all Brumfield in game one as Keeley repeatedly erred from deep court with his shot attempts. Steve finally began to get the range, and it was he who had the last laugh, 4-21, 21-17, 21-16.

Keeley made his trip from Michigan really worthwhile by teaming up with Drake to outlast all open doubles competition. Keeley-Drake, seeded #1 because of their strong showing in the Louisville Invitational, lived up to their reputation by ousting the determined team of Carl Loveday and Bob McNerney in the semis, then moving on to outslug Brumfield and his partner, a fine lefty, Dave Charlston, in the finals.

Perhaps the best doubles of the tournament, however, was reserved for the other side of the semis as Brumfield-Charlston somehow got by the stellar



STEVE KEELEY follows through with kill attempt as Charlie Brumfield tries to regain position from deep court. Keeley bested Brumfield in tough, three game match.

cast of Dr. Bud Muehleisen and Dr. Charles Hanna (look for them in Memphis). The match lasted over two hours and both teams felt they got their money's worth.

The master's singles event was won by John Halverson, also of San Diego. A lot of people can run all day, but John can run all day and not sweat. He plans to visit Memphis this year and have a playing discussion with Giles Coors to see who really deserves that Master's title, although they both might get some argument from Muehleisen.

The B events brought players out of the woodwork and all enjoyed the tournament pressure and clean competition. Pat Moran, a strong local sandbagger, won six straight matches to grab the first place B singles trophy over Stan Alvarez, a dark horse entry from La Mesa, California. Alvarez although slowed by the fatigue factor brought on by playing both events, still managed to team with Richard Marrs to knock off a spirited Los Angeles team in the finals of B Doubles.

Although this year a women's event was not part of the agenda, several of the girls got out and tested their skills against the men. Jan Campbell, a 19-year-old San Diego coed deserves special mention. Although she has played racquetball only one year, Jan managed to make the quarterfinals in B singles and the semifinals in B doubles.

Mr. hospitality, Mel Gorham, lived up to his reputation by hosting a cocktail party Friday night as the first day of competition came to a close. He also hosted a lavish buffet lunch Sunday during the final events of the tournament.

We hope to make the tournament an annual affair, frequented by players from all over the country.

CHARLIE DRAKE

Chambers Takes Carolinas Open

The first annual Carolinas' YMCA Racquetball Championship Tournament was held at the Raleigh YMCA in Raleigh, North Carolina on Friday and Saturday, October 29-30 and boasted a field of 39 players representing four Associations including Wilmington, Greensboro, High Point and Raleigh.

Norman Chambers, Raleigh, slammed his way to the Open Singles Championship with a 21-15, 21-8 verdict over Luther Green, also of Raleigh. Chambers, the pre-tournament favorite, used his powerful kill shots with pin-point accuracy to baffle his opponent.

Also competing in the Open Singles Division was Hal Lackey of High Point, a leading handball player in the southeast and current Carolinas' Open Singles Handball Champion. Lackey, in his quest for a double court-sport crown, wore down stubborn Dr. Mac McAllister, a Raleigh dentist, in a three-game quarter-final duel only to succumb to Green in the semi-finals 21-8, 7-21, 21-16.

In the Open Doubles Division, Bill Gilliam and Jim Lovett of Raleigh teamed to upset top-seeded Larry McGee and Terry Smith also of Raleigh in a come-from-behind victory 17-21, 21-10, 21-10.

Joe Lee of Raleigh rallied to overcome a 2-12 deficit to snatch a 21-19 first game win from Ed Whitehurst of Raleigh and continued his stellar play to wrestle the second game 21-17 for the Masters (over 40) Singles Championship.

Two out-of-towners, Reverend Herb Penry and Don Keils of High Point combined their talents to claim the only non-Raleigh championship of the tournament by downing L. T. Wadsworth and Gene Perry of Raleigh 12-21, 21-7, 21-6 in the Masters Doubles event. Wadsworth is the Carolinas' YMCA Racquetball Commissioner.

In the over-50 Golden Masters Singles Division, two Raleigh players, Bob King and Elmer Wellons battled it out for two games which saw King emerge victorious 21-7, 21-12 to win the title.

Three close, hard-fought games were necessary in the Golden Masters Doubles championship match before the Raleigh combination of Jarvis Lawrence and Charlie Goodno subdued tenacious Bill Wilson of Raleigh and his partner Larry Fladd of Wilmington 20-21, 21-19, 21-15.

The team victory and trophy was won by Raleigh, the host Association, with a score of 81 points. High Point was second with 19.

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Improve Your Game: Use The Ceiling Ball

By STEVE KEELEY

Racquetball is advancing not only regarding numbers of players, but also concerning the quality of court play and strategy. I feel, however, that the game is still in the infancy stage in both aspects. This instructional article deals with the biggest and most recent change in court play and strategy: the ceiling ball.

No one shot has changed racquetball more than the ceiling ball. No one shot will affect the future game more than the ceiling ball. And no one shot is hit with less precision, accuracy and grace (even by the top players) than the ceiling ball.

There are three basic but little known and little used facets in hitting the accurate ceiling shot with the minimal amount of effort. The ball must be propelled off the racquet with (1) the proper spin, (2) the correct amount of power and must (3) strike the ceiling within a proper distance range from the front wall.

Let us deal first with the spin that must be placed on the ball as it leaves the face of the racket. Putting "bottom spin" on the ball will cause it to bounce higher and carry farther to the back wall as it rebounds off the floor. To make an analogy, ask any adept handball player how he spins the ball when going for the ceiling. As with handball, the racquetball must be undercut.

Assume from this point that the player is hitting the ball with his backhand, since 90% of the time in singles play this will be the stroke employed. Stated in short, the ball should be undercut such that it will impart a spin that goes from top to bottom as the player views it from the backcourt.

It is far easier to perform than explain the spin factor, and an amount of practice will allow the player to prove to himself the importance of spin. A small dab of light colored paint on the black racquetball will enable one to easily follow the spin on the ball as it travels toward the ceiling.

How hard should one swing at the ceiling ball? Naturally the stronger a player is the less he will have to exert himself. Ken Porco (5'9", 212 lbs., — no adipose tissue), one half of the reigning national champion doubles team, has no problem in hitting overpowering ceiling ball time after time due to his tremendous strength.

But to those of us with a degree of power that is nearer human nature there is still hope. Do not hit the ball as hard as possible when going for the ceiling for two reasons: (1) it will cause the "fatigue factor" to set in earlier, especially if the match goes three games, and (2) there is not a direct relationship between the amount of force imparted to the ball and the distance the ball will carry to the back wall. Prove this point to yourself by standing a few feet from the back wall and hitting a series of ceiling balls with varying amounts of swing strength. One will discover that somewhere between one half and maximum power will be the optimum force required to stroke the proverbial "effortless ceiling ball."

Concerning the distance from the front wall that the ball should strike the ceiling, one again need only observe a proficient handball player in action. However in racquetball this all important "distance range" is even more significant since the ball is less lively. The optimal distance range (i.e. distance from spot on ceiling where the ball strikes to the front wall) is between 2-5 feet. The further one strays from this range the harder the ball must be hit to obtain equivalent bounce and depth of carry to the back wall.

Do not dismiss the ceiling ball as a strictly defensive shot. Charlie Brumfield, winner of the 1971 IRA National Invitational Singles Tournament showed that this stroke can provide an important offensive thrust to one's game as he had his frustrated opponents scraping the side wall while on tiptoes in futile attempts to return his near perfect ceiling game.

Unless a "superball" is being used there is little difficulty in the ball carrying too far and actually coming off the back wall for a kill setup. Another aspect which must be considered is how near to the left side wall should the ball be propelled (assuming one is right handed and swinging with the backhand). Suffice it to say that one should strive for the "wallpaper ball"; that is the ceiling ball that runs along the left side wall so closely in its course from the front to back wall that it will seemingly adhere to the plaster of the side wall. It is tough to return such a shot and not that difficult to hit, especially if the ball is struck with proper bottom spin.

It should be mentioned that the nearer to the front wall that one is positioned when he goes to the ceiling, the less effort is required to shoot the ceiling ball. But this is of academic interest only since one has no control over the location of the ball when he hits it.

Also when the player is positioned nearer the front wall (half court for example) he may hit the "front wall first" ceiling ball. This entails thrusting the ball upward such that it strikes first the front wall, and then ceiling to floor. The ball cannons off the ceiling with such speed that it often strikes the player before he is able to react. This corollary off the normal ceiling shot is especially effective in the doubles play.

Therefore the goal of this article and of the ceiling game is an effortless, perfectly placed ceiling ball. The technique has been outlined but it cannot be overemphasized that this goal comes only through practice: the degree of practice relating to the degree of perfection.

This practice should be performed by oneself at first, then in practice games and finally in tournaments. The previously mentioned Charlie Brumfield gained the ability to hit the excellent ceiling ball by taking a few balls into the court and ripping off 500 ceiling balls (he counted them) in single daily practice sessions.

Why is the ceiling ball such an effective shot? This becomes apparent when one attempts to return a ceiling ball with anything but another ceiling ball. There is no other effective return off this stroke because a straight or cross court drive is extremely difficult to execute from deep-court. I feel there is no such thing as an effective lob in racquetball, a return kill from shoulder high with the backhand is obviously a poor percentage shot, and an around-the-wall-ball (Z-ball) is a more reliable return although again it is difficult to hit off a well placed ceiling ball. Thereby any return off the ceiling shot other than another ceiling ball will more often than not result in a "plum ball" with the opponent making cannon fodder of the poorly hit return.

The rapidly expanding game of racquetball is undergoing tremendous changes and I am among the few players who feel that the ceiling game will figure more and more into future strategy and game plans. My only fear is that racquetball singles may eventually evolve into a game of ceiling after ceiling ball until one player makes an error allowing his opponent to put the easy kill "pumpkin ball" away.

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40 - 44	56.00	42.00	28.00	7.15
45 - 49	84.60	63.45	42.30	10.05
50 - 54	127.40	95.55	63.70	14.65
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(If additional space is needed, attach separate sheet)

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Correct Positioning: Key To Top Racquetball

By SAUL ROSS

Football is a game of inches. Baseball is a game of inches. Hockey is a game of inches. These statements have been made countless times by T.V. announcers and analysts as they describe the game in progress. Indeed, all sports, including racquetball, can be described as a game of inches.

What does this concept — a game of inches — mean specifically for racquetball? Inches can mean the difference between a player missing and hitting the ball; or the difference between merely getting your racquet on the ball for a soft return (and setting up your opponent for an easy kill shot) and hitting the ball so that you place your shot where you want, even executing a kill shot. A key factor in determining which option you exercise is positioning.

Positioning refers to the place on the court that a player selects at various times during play in the game; it is his physical presence at a certain spot that is the instant response to his analysis of five variables:—

- 1 — The type of shot he himself has just made.
- 2 — The position of his opponent in relation to the ball.
- 3 — The expectation of the type of shot his opponent can use as a return.
- 4 — The area of the court he should be in to receive the return shot.
- 5 — The type of shot he will use next.

It is obvious that a player cannot think of each of the five factors separately and independently because in that time his opponent's shot would be past him for a point. Instant assessment is required based on anticipation.

Anticipation consists of three components:—

- 1 — Knowledge of racquetball, that is a general knowledge of how the game is played.
- 2 — Knowledge of your opponent, his strengths and weaknesses, the patterns in his play, and the preference he has for certain shots.
- 3 — Knowledge of yourself, your own strengths and weaknesses, the patterns in your own play, and the preferences you have for certain shots.

Experience is a major asset in attaining the knowledge required in the three areas mentioned above. Anticipation is based, in part, on the knowledge gained through experience, but experience is not the only factor. Movement is another important factor.

To make "anticipation" successful it is necessary to hit

and move. Once you have played your shot it is necessary to move into position — that is to position yourself on the court where you anticipate it will be easiest for you to play your opponent's return. There is no time to stand and admire your shot. Movement is required, based on the assumption that no matter how effective your shot was, your opponent will somehow manage a return. Hit your shot and move into position.

Hitting your shots when you are on balance and in control of your movements will enable you to move into position more easily. The follow-through of your stroke is another factor that must be considered. A good follow-through is an integral part of any good stroke but due to the speed of racquetball the follow-through cannot be exaggerated, but should be somewhat curtailed, and done in such a way as to help you move into proper position.

The best court position to assume in singles is in front of your opponent, between the two service lines. This gives you command of the court and puts you in the best place for kill shots. This position enables you to maintain the highest number of shot options, and therefore the best percentage shots. Staying up front puts you in position to get to the front wall for possible saves on kill shots and yet it also allows you to move to the back of the court to play backwall shots. Command of the front court, through proper positioning, helps you to determine the tempo of the game and permits you to command the game.

The need for proper positioning starts right with the service. After hitting the ball, preferably to your opponent's weakness, you need to move into position. This is particularly true if you serve from the side of the court instead of the center of the court. A good serve, hit from the center of the court, may mean that the only move required is shifting your weight to the balls of your feet so that you can move a little quicker.

The return of service must be followed by a move to get into position, hopefully up front. You can use the momentum of your follow-through to initiate the movement into the center of the court so that you are in better position to play the next shot and also take over the front court.

Following the service and return of service during all rallies it is not good enough to only hit the ball. To put yourself in position, and make the inches count in your favor, you must always hit and move.

Need Scorecards?

The International Racquetball Association has added another helpful product, the official IRA scorecard, to its ever-increasing line of racquetball items.

Each card can score one three-game match and has spaces for time outs, service, event, player's name(s), and referee's name. But the most important facet of the scorecard is actually on the reverse side, where IRA has printed some helpful hints to referees.

The combined efforts of IRA Rules Chairman Chuck Hazama, Dr. Bud Muehleisen, and IRA Executive Secretary Chuck Leve has gone into this card in the hopes of aiding referees to understand their responsibilities.

The cards are available now at the nominal price of 2¢ each. That's right! Two pennies per card. Order now before the tournament rush by sending your check or money order to IRA, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, Illinois 60076.

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FROM LEFT TO RIGHT THE top four finishers in the New Castle, Pa. Masters Singles Invitational tournament: Joe Zelson, fourth, Dr. Bud Muehleisen, first, Dan DeVitto, tournament co-chairman, Gene Grapes, second, and Dr. Bill Sellars, third. Muehleisen amassed a perfect score in the round robin tournament by not losing a single game. Grapes did almost as well, winning all of his matches except a 31-11 loss to Muehleisen.



PERSONALIZED SOUVENIR T-SHIRTS . . . That's what the players got, among other things at the New Castle tourney. The players: (left to right), Dr. Al Price, Phoenix; Sam Caiazza, New Castle; Chet Howard, Madison, Wisc.; Ivan Bruner, Madison; Zelson, St. Louis; Muehleisen, San Diego; Mayor Charles A. Cialella, New Castle; Fred Rizzo, Hawthorne, NJ; Sellars, Houston, TX; Grapes, Pittsburgh; and Dr. Ray De Pue, Knoxville.

Muehleisen Cops New Castle Invitational

Dr. Bud Muehleisen captured the first Annual Masters Invitational Racquetball tournament, November 19-21 at the New Castle, PA YMCA. Muehleisen never lost a game in the tournament and based on the point system used, amassed a perfect score of 82.8.

Gene Grapes, of Irwin, PA finished second with 75.8 points, Dr. Bill Sellars third with 70.6 and Joe Zelson fourth with 61.4.

The tournament was limited to 10 players who played one 31-point game against each of the remaining nine opponents. Each man played three games per day, receiving .2 points for each point scored plus 3 extra points for winning the game.

Muehleisen was never extend with the best score against him being 15 points by Chet Howard, Madison, Wisc. who finished fifth. Grapes lost only to Muehleisen, 31-11, and won his remaining eight matches by 10 or more points each.

The New Castle racquetball community went all-out to ensure the players a first-class time, beginning with the appearance of Mayor Charles A. Cialella of New Castle at the airport to transport the players by limousine. Mayor Cialella is one of New Castle's biggest racquetball enthusiasts.

All the players were guests of the YMCA's Board of Directors luncheon, treated to dinner by James Scarazzo, president of the Greater New Castle Racquetball Association, and another luncheon Sunday given by Ed Van Dusen.

Tournament co-chairmen were Sam Caiazza, the only local entry, and Dan DeVitto. Caiazza, the IRA Masters consolation singles champ last year in Salt

Lake City, could manage only eighth place in the tournament, but earned far more than that with his fine showing off the court.

"I would like to thank all the people who helped make this tournament a success," said Caiazza, "especially Mayor Cialella, Jim Scarazzo, Dick Davis, Ed Van Dusen, Dan DeVitto and Bob Phillips, YMCA physical director. They all did a great job."

Closed circuit television was set up to

accommodate viewers who could not get in to see the matches. Gifts and awards were presented by Mrs. Sam Caiazza, the Greater New Castle Racquetball Association and the Rockwell Standard Corporation.

RESULTS:

Muehleisen 82.8, Grapes 75.8, Sellars 70.6, Zelson 61.4, Howard 59.8, Fred Rizzo 53.4, Ivan Bruner 51.6, Caiazza 48.8, Dr. Al Price 33.4, and Dr. Ray DePue 31.6.

Hold 1st South Carolina Tourney

Bobby Brien captured the first ever racquetball tournament held in South Carolina during the weekend of December 11, 1971, defeating Jim Ryan 21-10, 21-18.

The tournament was held at the Green-

ville YMCA and since most of the players had been playing for less than one year the tournament achieved its primary goal: to bring all the area players together in fellowship.

Both finalists have made their marks in other sports. Brien is a local country club tennis pro and Ryan is a past Greenville city handball champ.

Twenty-one players entered the tournament, a remarkable number when one considers that in December, 1970 there were only five players to be found in the area. Through clinics, classes and personal contacts, there are now about 60 men and women playing regularly.

The tournament ran two weeks with an exhibition match and rules session inaugurating play. Burney Caffrey captured third place and Ted Adams, fourth.

To anyone visiting the Greenville-Spartanburg area and wishing a game with some of our top players, please contact this writer at 654-2400, Clemson, South Carolina.

CHARLIE R. WHITE

Trost Wins In Milwaukee

Dan Trost, MAC in Milwaukee, copped the Milwaukee IRA racquetball singles and doubles championship in a recent tourney held at the Jewish Community Center in December. His partner in doubles was Mike Mullins.

Trost defeated Joe Carini, MAC 21-5, 21-7. On the way to the title, Trost just about annihilated every opponent he met. His first victim was Bradley Brin, 21-2, 21-6; Aaron Feldman was next, 21-7, 21-5; and then Dr. Richard Rech fell 21-8, 21-5.

In the doubles play, Trost and Mullins whipped the defending city champions, Tom Sanicola and Larry Altman 21-5, 21-8. Joe Janik and Dick Rech placed third.

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SAM VENEABLE'S LIKEABLE face will become a familiar one to paddleballers attending the NPA National Championships May 4-7 in Knoxville, Tennessee. Veneble, a veteran University of Tennessee athletic event troubleshooter, will serve as tournament director. Veneble, along with the entire University of Tennessee's athletic department, is predicting a top notch NPA tournament, including play on the showcase UT glass court. Quite a treat is in store for paddleballers from all over the nation. It will be a great one, and we'll see you there!

Michigan Paddleball Championships Set

The Kalamazoo YMCA is hosting the 1972 State of Michigan Paddleball Championships. Dates are April 7-8-9 at the four court facility.

Tournament chairman is Bob Brewer, an active YMCA member and avid paddleballer. Bob and YMCA physical director Steve Holcomb will combine their efforts to make the 1972 Michigan tourney a success.

The tournament is open with the entry fee being \$6 per player in singles and \$8 per team in doubles. Play will be conducted in open singles, open doubles and masters doubles.

Holcomb is expecting over 70 entries to invade the Kalamazoo Y and the competition will be outstanding. Trophies will be awarded to the top three places in each event. Refreshments will be served at the YMCA.

The Kalamazoo Y is located at 1001 Maple Street, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49001. Checks should be made out to the Kalamazoo Y and sent to the above address, attention Steve Holcomb.

Participants are urged to make housing arrangements in advance. Information on convenient lodging is available from the Kalamazoo YMCA.



NEW PHYSICAL EDUCATION BUILDING — The NPA Championships will be held May 4-7 in the new P.E. Building on the University of Tennessee's Knoxville Campus. The building is bordered by the Tom Black Track, which features a Tartan covered surface, tennis courts and intramural fields.



PLEXIGLASS COURT — This handball-paddleball court, enclosed by Plexiglass to the floor, will be used during the National Paddleball Association Championships May 4-7 at the University of Tennessee's Knoxville campus. The court is located in the University's new Physical Education Building.

National Paddleball Championships Slated; Knoxville, University Of Tennessee Ready

A new physical education building, set in the heart of the University of Tennessee's scenic Knoxville campus, will be the site of the National Paddleball Association Championships May 4-7.

The new building, which officially opened its doors last fall, houses the offices of the UT School of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation, hosts for this year's NPA Championships.

"We feel we have the facilities and the enthusiasm to conduct an outstanding tournament," said Dr. Andrew Kozar, head of men's physical education at the school. "Our building contains 11 new handball courts, including one enclosed by Plexiglass to the floor, and we are located in one of the finest recreational complexes in the nation."

Kozar said that the Plexiglass court as well as the school's other facilities were praised almost to a man by competitors participating in the USHA National Intercollegiate Handball tournament held at UT last March.

"And our enthusiasm for paddleball and handball here is graphically demonstrated by the fact that our courts are booked solid from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. six days a week and we are contemplating staying open until midnight," Kozar said.

Although details for the NPA Championships are still being worked out, Kozar said that every effort would be made to have singles and doubles competition at the Masters level as well as open singles and doubles play. He added that he had insured the NPA of a successful tournament by naming Sam Veneble, associate professor in the school, tournament director.

"Veneble has been an official in every possible kind of sporting event," Kozar said. "He has directed two national volleyball tournaments and is director of state, regional, and district high school track and basketball competition held in Knoxville."

Other Knoxville paddleball enthusiasts named to tournament committees include Frank Rosato, John Mullin, John McCabe, Dr. Ray DePue, Gil Champagne, Bob Church, Jack Rice, Jo Hobson, Steve Little and Allen Stanley.

In addition to its handball and paddleball facilities, the

UT Physical Education Building contains several locker rooms, general classrooms, research laboratories, basketball and gymnastics facilities, and an instructional swimming pool.

A variety of outdoor tennis, basketball, and one-wall handball courts and intramural fields are located within a stone's throw of the building, which borders the Tom Black Track. The Student Aquatic Center, containing Olympic-size indoor and outdoor pools and diving facilities, is located a few hundred yards away.

UT's Knoxville campus is the oldest and largest campus in the University's statewide system, which includes campuses at Memphis, Martin, Chattanooga, and Nashville. The system's total enrollment of 41,129 ranks 15th among institutions of higher education.

The Knoxville campus boasts an enrollment of approximately 25,000 and is the 28th oldest campus in the nation.

Knoxville, a city of 180,000 inhabitants, affords a number of cultural and recreational advantages, including its proximity (35 miles) to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and TVA's man-made lakes. Several outstanding motels and hotels are located within five blocks of the physical education building and Knoxville is served by several major airlines and bus services.

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Roderick, Serot-Valier Take Divisional Titles

Myron Roderick of Stillwater bested Jim Austin of Houston in a battle of former champions to highlight the 3rd Southwest Divisional open singles championships. In open doubles the 1971 IRA runners-up, Steve Serot (St. Louis) and Biron Valier (Houston) fought off the stiff challenge of host team Tom McKie and Myron Roderick to cop their 2nd straight divisional title.

Sixty entries did battle at the twelve Colvin Physical Education Center courts at Oklahoma State. What had looked like the makings of a strong women's singles competition ended with the tournament committee regretfully scratching the event. Jan Pasternak, IRA's Defending Champion, was entered along with Lyn McKie of Stillwater, the 1971 Southwest Divisional runner-up but, when the contingent from St. Louis decided to forego the divisional, the event had insufficient entries to be held.

The open singles brought together Austin and Roderick for the second time in divisional finals. Myron won the first time in 1969 and then Jim triumphed over the field in last year's divisional while business commitments forced Myron to pass it up.

Myron jumped to a quick edge in the first game and managed to hang on to win as Jim rallied and nearly caught him at the end 21-19. Austin continued his momentum and swept the second game 21-10. Myron then changed strategy going to the lob serve and ceil-

ing shots to keep Jim off balance and finished the match 21-6.

The first game of the match with Serot was probably the outstanding game of the tournament pitting the hard shooting youngster against the crafty veteran. Myron finally prevailed 21-19 and then blew Steve off the court 21-1 the second game. Austin had a relatively easy time getting to the finals with wins over Fred Hightower (Stillwater), Pete Wright (Fort Worth), Hal Clifford (Oklahoma City) and Jerry Hilecher (St. Louis).

Hilecher won third place on a forfeit from Serot as Steve decided to save himself for the doubles final. Phil Adrian of Stillwater beat Fred Hightower also of Stillwater in the consolation finals.

The doubles final proved to be a surprise at first until the experience of Serot and Valier began to show against the team of McKie and Roderick playing their first tournament together.

The first game was an exciting see-

saw battle with McKie-Roderick coming from 13-17 deficit to run eight points and win. All four players were extremely quick accounting for some unbelievable returns and volleys.

The second and third games ran much the same pattern with the games being close until about halfway through when in each game Serot-Valier put together a run to ice the victories 21-11, 21-10.

The second St. Louis team of Fred Kreis-Jerry Hilecher finished in third place besting Bill Sellars (Dallas) and Dewey Strickland (Houston) for that position. Ten doubles teams made up the draw.

Master singles saw eleven entrants do battle and the number one seed Dr. Ed Grula of Stillwater knocked off in the opening round by V. Z. Lawton of Moore, Oklahoma. Dan Hilecher of St. Louis beat Dewey Strickland to win the championship 21-11, 21-17. Dr. Lorne Dexter of Tulsa raced to the third place title 21-18, 21-9 over Lawton. Grula came back after his initial loss to sweep through consolations stopping Dr. John Rutherford (Tulsa) in the finals 21-2, 21-16.

Special thanks should go to the HPER Department at Oklahoma State for hosting the tournament and to Roland Treat and Jerry Brusewitz who manned the tireless job of recruiting officials. Kent Bunker served as floor manager and did an excellent job of keeping the matches right on schedule.

TOM McKIE
Tournament Director

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Muehleisen Sweeps Singles and Doubles, Cops Trip, Honors in West IRA Divisional



Dr. Bud Muehleisen knocked off top-seeded Charlie Brumfield to capture the IRA West Division singles championship and then teamed with Dr. Chuck Hanna to grab the doubles title over Charlie Drake and Roger Souders.

Muehleisen, second from right in the photo above and shooting in the picture

above right, had a tough three game match with Brumfield, who routinely bested his old master at the IRA Invitational singles tournament last September.

Doing everything right and scarcely missing a shot, Dr. Bud raced to a 21-5 first game victory. Brumfield countered with a tough, second game comeback, 21-



12, setting the stage for the crucial third game.

Never did more than two points separate the two players until Muehleisen broke a 15-all tie to grab a 18-15 lead. He upped it to 19-16, then 20 and finally after two side-outs, 21.

In doubles, Bud and Dr. Hanna overwhelmed their younger opponents, Drake and Sounders 21-3, 21-1. Drake, pictured above left, far right had won third place singles by default over Souders.

E.L. Hoyt, playing out of San Francisco won the Masters singles and the San Diego tandem of Dr. Gerry Kobernick and Dr. Jim Skidmore captured the Masters doubles.

The women's singles bracket saw the victory of another rising young star, Jan Campbell, who bested Kimberly Hill for the title after eliminating top-seed Bette Weed in the semi-finals. Weed and Jane Rau won the gals doubles.

At the left are the women doubles trophy-winners, (l. to r.) Nan Harris-Mary Ann Johnson (3rd), Bette Weed-Jane Rau (1st), and Jan Campbell-Kimberly Hill (2nd).

The tournament was held at Mel Gorham's Sports Center with 108 entries. Gorham, pictured above left between Brumfield (l.) and Muehleisen, has been instrumental in the success of recent tournaments in the San Diego area, and IRA and the San Diego players would like to thank Mel for his accommodations.



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'I'll Win The Rematch,' Says Muehleisen

BY CHUCK LEVE

"I have no excuses," said a dejected Dr. Bud Muehleisen. "Paul Haber is a helluva player."

The scene was the Memphis State University locker room across from the 315 seat glass gallery court where Muehleisen had just lost the "Match of the Century" to Haber 10-21, 21-15, 21-16.

Muehleisen was using his racquet and Haber just his gloved hands in the match, played with a handball. By now most racquetball-handball fans have read the

accounts and play-by-play in Sports Illustrated and this issue of Handball (page 51). It was as thrilling, exhausting and skillful a match as has ever been seen by this reporter.

"I feel no sour grapes, no animosity," said Muehleisen. "In fact I am anxiously awaiting a rematch."

Whether or not a rematch will take place is questionable at this time, but indications are that the appetites have been whetted for more national exposure for both racquetball and handball.

"As I said a long time ago," commented Muehleisen. "our primary goal of national exposure has been fulfilled. The only thing wrong with the entire match was the ending. Unfortunately for me, the wrong guy won."

In breaking down the match while seeking the "whys" to having lost against gloved hands with his racquet, Muehleisen is convinced he can win the rematch.

"Next time I'll practice more than just two weeks with a handball," said Bud. "I just didn't play enough in preparation for the match. I thought I had, but it was proved otherwise."

"I think one of the keys to Haber's success was the hop serve he used. I knew he would use it but I didn't think it would give me as much trouble as it did. I had trouble reading his arm and wrist motion to determine the spin and thus the hop. Because of this I couldn't just go over to the ball and "do my thing." I had to wait and see where the ball would hop."

Another flaw in Muehleisen's game, which was apparent to all who saw the match was his numerous errors off of Haber's ceiling and lob shots to Bud's backhand in deep court. Muehleisen made nine such errors in the second game alone.

"No doubt this was a factor," said Bud, "especially in the second game. But you know, even to the end I thought I was going to win that one."

In game three Haber ran 17 consecutive points at the outset before Muehleisen could get on the board. Paul was killing with his left and Bud was doing everything wrong, pressing, and as a result setting Haber up.

The biggest indication that Bud was riled was his tendency to over hit in game three. What had been effective passes in games one and two turned into setups or easy retrieves for Haber, who let Bud's shots blast by him and then picked them off the back wall.

"I just had too far to come back," sighed Bud. "I couldn't regroup in time."

From 0-17 Muehleisen got to within 16-19 but then lost the momentum when Haber reached deep into his bag of tricks for time-consuming stall tactics. In fact this was the only real complaint out of the Muehleisen camp; the change in tempo of the game and loss of concentration due to arguing with the referee, changing wet gloves, changing ripped gloves, wiping sweat and blood from the floor and so on.

In fact, Muehleisen never once mentioned the three avoidable hinders that were called on him in the match (including match point). He's that kind of guy.

Under the Wire: Divisional Results

Central

Chicago's Ron Rubenstein surprised nobody en route to a relatively easy defense of his Central Division open singles crown. Rubenstein topped Minneapolis' Bob McNamara in the finals 21-2, 21-9. The young Oshkosh, Wisconsin team of Bill Clark and Joe Wirkus took the open doubles title over Sioux Falls' John Rude and Mark Hegg 21-15, 15-21, 21-16.

Along the trail to the finals Rubenstein defeated Bernie McNamara, Wirkus, and Clark, who did the best of anybody against Rubenstein, scoring 18 points in their second game.

Bob McNamara had a tough three game semi-final match against Jim Armstrong but came out on top 21-16, 14-21, 21-10.

Clark and Wirkus defeated second-seeded Dick Hamlin-John Raducha, Omaha, in the quarter finals 19-21, 21-7, 21-14. Rude-Hegg went three games before knocking off Jerry Helgeson-Art Graves in their semi-final match 21-13, 17-21, 21-17.

IRA defending Masters doubles champs Dr. Vince Cutshall and Don Erickson took the Masters doubles title over Phil Dziuk and Frank Hinds, Champaign, Illinois. Chet Howard, Middleton, Wisc. took the Masters singles crown over Wendell Ottum.

In the women's brackets 15 entries battled it out with Barb Tennesen from the University of Minnesota emerging as champ. Barb defeated Caroline Sexe 21-14, 21-1 for the title.

In women's doubles Phyllis Melvey and Roberta Erickson, Fargo, ND, took the top honors by besting Sue Schwanberg and Ann Helgeson, St. Cloud, Minn. 21-11, 21-13.

The tournament was held at the Kings Court in Edina, Minnesota and sported over 120 entries. Because of overflow number of matches the ladies played at the Decathlon Athletic Club. Wendell Ottum was tournament chairman.

South

Louisville's Mike Zeitman shook off the first game doldrums and blasted his way to the Southern Divisional open singles title and a free trip to the IRA International Championships in Memphis. Zeitman defeated Norman Chambers, Raleigh, North Carolina in the finals 21-20, 21-10.

In open doubles Alan Hyman and Don Rigazio, Louisville, defeated fellow-Louisvillites Bruce Kranz and Fred Michels 16-21, 21-18, 21-8 for the top honors. Hyman is a former IRA International open doubles champ (with Zeitman).

Lucille Smith, Boone, North Carolina, won the women's singles bracket by defeating Alice Boone, Lookout Mountain, Georgia 11-21, 21-15, 21-19 in one of the most thrilling matches of the tournament.

Herman Abramovitz, Louisville grabbed the Masters singles first place trophy by beating Ed Whitehurst, Raleigh 21-16, 21-19. Abramovitz failed in his quest for two titles when he and partner Ike Gumer lost in the Masters doubles finals to Tom Stidham and Herb Frank, Clearwater, Florida. Scores were 21-18, 21-8.

The tournament was held at the Greensboro, North Carolina YMCA with Dick Hammer as tournament chairman. YMCA physical director Bill McClinton did much of the behind the scenes work and Sid Semel, USHA Southern Regional commissioner was on hand to act as floor manager.

Semel deserves special plaudits for getting all matches off on schedule as more than 130 entries competed on the three court facility in Greensboro.

East

Steve Keeley, Lansing Michigan topped Dick Cuneo, Pittsburgh for the Eastern Divisional title in Albany, New York. Mike Luciw and George Rudysz captured the open doubles crown over fellow-New Britainites Don Wallace and Bob Yellin.

Scores were not available at press time.

Plan Second Annual Paterson, NJ Open; Hospitality, Competition To Highlight Tourney

The Paterson YMCA will host their 2nd annual Open Four-wall racquetball tournament, April 28-30, 1972. The event is sanctioned by the International Racquetball Association.

Due to the high number of entries a year ago (74), the 1972 tourney has been expanded to three full days. Last year players from Canada, and many Southern, Mid-Western and Eastern states participated and another good turnout is anticipated.

Play will be conducted in open singles, open doubles and Masters singles. Players may enter two events as long as one of them is doubles. Participants must show their current (1972) IRA membership card for verification of membership. Players not already members may sign up at the tournament site, \$3 per year, (\$7 for 3 years) which includes a subscription to Handball Magazine.

The entry fee is \$7 per player per event. The entry fee must accompany the application. The official IRA rules will be followed.

The Paterson Y has four courts. Trophies will be awarded to the first three places in each event.

In keeping with the Paterson tradition of hospitality-plus, a banquet will be given for all competitors (guest fee \$4.00) as well as the standard souvenir t-shirts and hospitality room to each entrant. The banquet will be Saturday evening.



FRED RIZZO WILL again be tournament chairman of the Paterson Open. Fred is a long-time booster of racquetball in the Paterson area and drew nothing but raves from players for his fine work at the 1971 Paterson tourney.

Gene Grapes, reigning Pennsylvania State Champ and winner of the inaugural Paterson Open is expected to be back to defend his title. Jack Chelucci, the 1971 Eastern Divisional winner and runner-up in the 1971 Paterson Open will also return for another run at the title. In addition, strong competition is expected from Canada, the New England States, Ohio, Virginia and the Louisville, Kentucky area.

Tournament chairman again will be Fred Rizzo, whose leadership helped make last year's tournament so successful.

Entries will be limited to the first 80 received with no entries accepted later than midnight April 20, 1972. This limitation is being implemented to ensure completion of the tournament in the time allotted on a four court facility.

Checks should be made payable to Fred Rizzo and sent to Fred Rizzo, 275 Goffle Rd., Hawthorne, NJ 07506. For phone information call (201) 427-4489.

Participants are urged to make early lodging accommodations. Housing information is available upon request.

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Paterson YMCA

April 28-30, 1972

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Schmidtke Wins Winona (Minn.) Linahan Open

Bill Schmidtke lived up to his billing by winning the championship in the first annual Linahan Open Racquetball Tournament put on by the Holiday Inn of Winona, but he nearly had to relinquish the honor to a determined young adversary from St. Cloud.

Schmidtke, the defending International singles champ from Port Edwards, Wisconsin, lost his first game in the semi-finals by a margin of 21-9 to Steve Strandemo. Strandemo, who starred in basketball and baseball at Kenyon High School and later at St. Cloud State College, appeared to have the speed and endurance to upset the tourney's top-seeded player.

The two battled to a 15-15 deadlock in the second game before Schmidtke finally pulled out a 21-15 victory. Having regained his composure with the win, Schmidtke poured it on and drubbed Strandemo 21-4 in the rubber game.

Later in the day Schmidtke was again hardpressed before disposing of Dick Hamlin of Omaha, Nebraska in the championship match. Hamlin was the No. 2 seeded entrant.

In the other semi-final contest, Hamlin knocked off Jim Ryder of Eau Claire, Wisconsin 21-12, 21-7, and Strandemo later defeated Ryder 21-16 and 21-18 for third place.

In the A Consolation bracket, for those players suffering defeats in the second round, Don Webb of Urbana, Illinois, outlasted Paul Ikier of Mankato for the title. After dropping the first game 21-7, Webb fought back to win the next two 21-13 and 21-19.



BILL SCHMIDTKE (L.) poses with his first place singles award along with the other singles trophy winners: Dick Hamlin, 2nd place, Steve Strandemo, 3rd place, and Don Webb, first place consolation. Schmidtke topped Hamlin in the finals 21-16, 21-19.

All players beaten in Friday's first round competed in a B Consolation bracket which was eventually won by Aubrey Olson of Eau Claire. Olson whose only loss in the tourney was a 31-30 decision to Hamlin in the opening round, whipped Gordon Kelly of Grand Rapids, Michigan 21-14 and 21-12 for the B championship.

The last surviving local entrant in the

A bracket was Ev Eiken who was ousted in the semi-finals by Webb by identical scores of 21-20. Curt Rohrer, who was initially beaten by Schmidtke, reached the semi-finals in the B bracket before losing to Olson.

All action was held at the Winona YMCA and a tournament banquet was held Saturday.

ROBERT FERRIS



JOHN RUDE (r.) and Mark Hegg who together captured all top prizes at the recent Dakotas Racquetball Championships, show off their wares. Rude took the open singles title over Hegg and then he and Mark won the open doubles championship.

Rude Tops In Dakotas

John Rude grabbed both ends of the Dakotas racquetball championships by winning the open singles title over Mark Hegg and then teaming with Hegg to cop the open doubles title.

Rude defeated Hegg 21-20, 2-21, 21-13 in a tough match for both men. The outcome seemed in doubt until mid-way through the third game when Rude began hitting his shots, thereby putting the game away.

In singles semi-finals Rude and Hegg, both from Sioux Falls, bested two Aberdeen, SD foes Murray Ogborn and John Lochridge. Rude, in the upper bracket seeded number one, took Ogborn 21-13, 9-21, 21-6. Hegg, the second pick, topped Lochridge 21-17, 21-16. Conditioning played a big part in the singles title as several of the men had to play 10 or 12 games Saturday.

Rude and Hegg grabbed the doubles championship by defeating Ogborn and Lochridge by relatively easy scores of 21-13, 21-2. It was Rude's control and Hegg's powerful backhand that paved the way to victory for the Sioux Falls men.

IRA LETTERS...

Canadian Report . . .

Dear Sirs:

Thought you might be interested in a report on our Second Annual "Sneaky Pete" Invitational Racquetball Tournament held November 18th, 19th and 20th at the Men's Athletic Recreation Centre (MARC) in Vancouver, B. C.

We had a good sized entry with Harvey Gorsuch from Bellingham taking the Open Singles Championship over Werner Forster of Vancouver. Harvey, who also beat Werner for the Tacoma Open Championship, is playing a great game these days and has to be good to beat Werner.

Steve McDonald, playing out of the New Westminster Y and the MARC, took first in the B Singles over Dewey Huston from Bellingham. Steve is a relative newcomer to racquetball and shows great promise of becoming a top A player in besting Dewey.

Two Vancouver players, Phil Swartz from the Jewish Community Centre and George Kincaid from the MARC, battled right down to the wire in the C Singles event with Phil coming out the winner.

Open Doubles finals were an all MARC affair with Werner Forster and John Thornton over Tom McIlveen and Steve McDonald.

Masters Doubles had a small entry but provided some good matches with Bob Pickell and Harvey Cash coming through for a win over Jack Duncan and Ken Campbell. All of these boys play out of the MARC.

Other news from British Columbia is that we are now in the process of incorporating our B. C. Racquetball Association as part of the Canadian Racquetball Association and the writer has the good fortune to serve as both President of the B. C. Association and Commissioner of the B. C. Area for the Canadian Association. We enjoy our relations with the boys from Edmonton and appreciate the efforts that John Kempo, Ken Wilson and the others up there have put into setting up the Canadian Racquetball Assoc.

Racquetball continues to enjoy a healthy growth here in the heavily populated part of British Columbia and we hear

news of several new courts to be undertaken or considered. We are getting into a little more formal style of organization, we hope without over-legislating, and this should provide some continuity of development.

We are presently busy selling memberships in a sort of package deal to include the B. C., Canadian and International Associations.

In respect to future plans, the B. C. Association is planning a B. C. Open Championship Tournament for some time in the early Spring. We also have a bid in to get the Canadian Open for next fall but have no confirmation from the Canadian Association as yet.

May we take this opportunity to say how much we enjoy your magazine and appreciate the efforts that you put into the International Association.

ROBT. A. CHALLENGER, President
B. C. Racquetball Association

New Castle . . .

Dear Chuck:

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my warmest thanks to the great group of guys who made the recent Masters Invitational tournament so outstanding.

My stay in New Castle was one of the finest of any tournament I have attended. Sam Caiazza, Dan DeVitto and the many other congenial hosts truly made this a "super" tourney.

My hat is off to them.

DR. BUD MUEHLEISEN
San Diego, California

Commissioner Reports . . .

Dear Mr. Leve:

This note will bring you up-to-date on some of the things we have been working on since my appointment as IRA District Commissioner.

We have been able to get the University of Pennsylvania, main campus, to host our state tournament on April 14-16, 1972. The Pennsylvania State Athletic office is presently preparing the flier along with the application which I will forward to you.

I have been traveling in Eastern Pennsylvania and have visited the YMCA's at Harrisburg, Lancaster, Reading, Allentown, Bethlehem and the Central Y of Philadelphia. Both Lancaster and Allentown are presently in the process of constructing courts. We have been disseminating information on racquetball to the physical directors of these Y's. The group at Reading recently ran an A and B tournament with very good participation.

We are currently in the process of surveying by letter all of the YMCA's in Pennsylvania as to their facilities and racquetball programs they might have.

We are planning to have one open tournament here in Pittsburgh and one invitational some time this year. With the current tournament scheduled these tournaments won't take place until late spring or early summer.

I am planning to play at the divisionals in Albany and plan to get together with Jack Chelucci of Wilmington to try and set up some type of team league in the eastern half of the state.

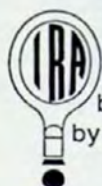
I was hoping to see you at the International in Memphis but a trip to California and Asia on business has wiped out my chances to get to Memphis. I do plan to play in most of the tournaments this year and hope to see you at one of these. I will probably be in Chicago some time during the next four or five weeks and will call in advance so that we can get together.

JAMES P. O'MALLEY
Pittsburgh, Pa.



HARVEY GORUSCH (l.) manages a smile after accepting first place trophy in recent Sneaky Pete Tourney. Also pictured is runner-up, Werner Forster.

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TEAMWORK . . .

It is axiomatic in tournament handball for the loser to have at least one good excuse, and there have been many jocular stories written about the 101 different alibis that can be proffered by said "eliminee".

But, down in Birmingham for the National Invitational over the Dec. 10-12 weekend the game's No. 1 player was a loser because he was cooperative in the extent that the draw became a "stacked deck" against him. Paul Haber just bit off more than he could chew.

First: Jim Jacobs at the age of 41 has all of his great talents available on a one shot deal. He knows, and we have witnessed, that he just can't bounce back after one or two rugged matches on successive days. Jim Tanner, as an astute promoter, knew what a natural it would be for these two champions to meet and to make it a reality the "tennis seed" was used . . . lo and behold, it was Haber vs. Jacobs in the first round.

Weather in Birmingham on that Friday was warm and muggy. This caused some moisture to settle on the YMCA court floors. Jacobs contended that this "tackiness" kept him from hopping the ball on service or volley; as, of course, it did Haber. So the first game was an exhausting series of volleys, each player seeking to gain the ultimate setup. Haber succeeded in winning the game through an advantage on the ceiling exchanges with his shooting left hand, plus an ability to keep Jim in deep court. As we report in the tournament roundup there was much time taken to mop the floor, then change courts. In the second game Jacobs was forced to default when he got a leg cramp. This match might appear abbreviated because of this but we must realize the pressures involved for both players. They thoroughly respect each other's abilities and this, in itself, adds to the physical drain.

On Saturday Haber started his day with a win over Dr. Claude Benham, and though it is stereotyped to say, "The scores do not indicate the peaked competitiveness and effort", this was indeed a real tough match. I refereed this match and Paul had to go full effort to gain his points. Benham has excellent control, shoots real strong with his right hand, and displayed all the skills in the volleys.

Haber then had to come back later in the afternoon and play Pat Kirby. These two have met at least a dozen times in exhibitions, weekend tournaments and in the nationals, and for Paul to win he has to usually battle over the three-game route. This one was no different with Pat getting off strong to a one-sided first game victory and taking a 14-4 lead in the second. Haber pulled this one out, took a long lead in the third game and then had to withstand a late Kirby drive so this was really a knock-down "Pier Sixer". After that match Haber suffered muscle spasms and cramps throughout his body and it took almost an hour before they subsided.

At the banquet that night Paul was pale and visibly shaken. He left early to hit the sack, feeling he would be able to recover fully for the final match on Sunday against Gordie Pfeifer.

On Sunday it was a combination of Gordie's game plan — a bullet-like reverse serve to the right, and Haber's inability to control his return ceiling shot to the left. It invariably came off the left side wall, enabling Gordie to take it with his shooting right hand.

Please remember we take nothing away from Gordie's great win. He deserves every plaudit for his tremendous kills and a motivation that saw him making seemingly impossible retrieves. Haber couldn't bottom board his shots when he had opportunities and without zip in his right arm had



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS APPEARANCE . . . Paul Haber, resplendent in his double knit suit, was headline exhibition-clinic personage at the new 23-court facility along with Phil Elbert (Elbert was 21-20 winner). With Paul are Larry Preo, who arranged the showing, and Mort Leve, USHA executive secretary.

Illusions of Grandeur ???

Sirs:

In your last issue, and for the past two or three years, several letters have appeared over the signature of one Lt. (or now Capt.) Gerry Lozeau. These missives have featured two basic allegations: (1) That he has won a series of esoteric handball championships, i.e. the Hanoi Open. . . The Transylvania All Comers (once held by Count Dracula) etc. (2) That he has been, or is, associated with the Boston YMCA.

To put it bluntly we strongly suspect this man is an imposter. We say this for two prime reasons. First, the Gerry Lozeau we know and love (and beat ad nauseam) is a known illiterate. Second, despite entering in numerable tournaments he is never known to have won a trophy of any description. In fact, he is the only man in Y history who was still eligible for the novice division after playing for ten years.

ELI SCHLEIFER
Roberts Club
Boston YMCA

to stay with a lob serve to the left. The few hooks he tried just didn't carry authority.

This was simply the shoe on the other foot. Haber has won matches and championships from opponents who didn't have any juice left after a bruising schedule. But, what we are trying to bring out is that we have a champion who does not sidestep any opponents. Paul may wrangle with the referees, but he never has, to my knowledge, squawked about a draw. Just a short time before Birmingham he had wanted to concentrate on winning the national AAU doubles with Paul Morlos but the host committee in Shreveport asked him to play singles also to generate needed gate pull. This he did, and he ended up wornout and a loser in both the singles and doubles finals.

Holding the quarterfinals and semis of the national invitational singles on one day is an extreme test of stamina and probably "waters down" the performance by one or the other player in the following day's finals. Perhaps we should add one day to the schedule and make it a one-a-day-match.

At any rate you can be assured that age and the bright lights are not as yet catching up with Haber's play. He'll certainly be the man to beat in the big one in Seattle — count on it!

—MORT LEVE

FOUR DECADES OF SERVICE . . .

(from page 18)

to average members, rather than athletic stars.

... making the 92nd Street Y the handball "capitol" of the country, with Y handball players winning more national championships throughout the years than any other athletic organization in America.

Al is also extremely proud of the way present and former gym members form "philanthropic" groups that sustain Y varsity athletic programs and provide financial help where needed.

Members of the 107 Club, for example, (so named because it was composed of Y varsity softball players who won 107 consecutive games over a period of 7 years) met regularly to send needy youngsters to Surprise Lake Camp, finance gym scholarships for deserving children and operate a blood bank.

An amateur fund-raiser himself, Al can probably account for more than \$100,000 in contributions through his department for the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, the United Jewish Appeal, the Israel Emergency Fund and other worthy causes.

His 4th floor office is the hub for visitors from all over the world — people

who were former gym members, former Y varsity team stars, noted athletes and guests from other Ys and Jewish Community Centers.

In a typical day he gives out band-aids to gym members with bruises, resolves arguments during basketball competitions, counsels parents about their children's problems (and children about their parent's problems).

As retirement draws near (his many friends are currently preparing a "giant" testimonial program in Kaufmann Concert Hall on December 18), Al can look back on a solid 41 years of accomplishments here. But, like the concerned department director he has always been, he regrets he'll miss the debut of the soon-to-be-modernized gym and locker room areas.

His "modest" plans in the years to come include a once-in-a-lifetime trip around the world accompanied by his wife, Bertha; doing volunteer work at Veterans Administration hospitals; writing his novel; acting as a children's camp consultant; and spending more time with his grandchildren, of which there are now five as of November 1.

Abee Gezundt, All

—J.E.F.

sive community center gym program in America.

Among the accomplishments for which he is particularly proud Al cites:

... developing the important Leader Corps, composed of gym members with particular talents or skills in specific aspects of physical education who volunteered to lead classes for other gym members.

... introducing a "Jogging for Health" program in the 1930s well before the current interest in this phase of exercise. Thousands of gym members are proud possessors of "diplomas" for completing Fifty Miles of jogging, at the rate of one mile per gym session.

... expanding gym programs to include classes in yoga, karate, judo, fencing, figure and posture, tennis, Slimnatics, among others.

... increasing the gym membership from 1800 to the present 6,000 plus, instituting programs that appealed

NATIONAL INVITATIONALS PLAY-BY-PLAY . . .

(from page 16)

and he passes to the right. 7-5. After long, exhausting volley, Haber kills straight with right 5-7. Pfeifer takes time out. Our "color man" Kirby convinced Haber will make his move. Pfeifer misses off the back wall, 6-7. Impossible "hammer kill" as Pat puts it, with Pfeifer killing from deep court overhand into corner. 7-6. Pfeifer fly kills into right corner from just behind the short line with his right for 8-6. 9-6 on another right corner kill. 10-6 on a fly pass. Pfeifer shoots to the left, Haber doesn't make move and is out of play for 11-6.

Another torrid volley with Pfeifer putting one away finally as he was falling down for 12-6. Haber gives Pfeifer another setup and he drills it for 13-6. It is apparent that much of the zip is missing from Haber's shots. A ceiling shot that is too difficult for Pfeifer and Haber gets the serve at 6-13.

Pat Kirby still isn't convinced and won't believe what he is seeing. Haber finally uses the power serve. Paul shoots too high and once again Pfeifer, catching Paul in back court just pushes one in with his left. 13-6. Haber gets the serve back on a straight kill off the back wall with his right.

6-13. Power left serve, gets a fly shot, kills in right corner. 7-12. Serve and shoot is the answer if he can do it. Gordie misses off the back wall as it skips in, 8-13. Setup off the power serve but Haber doesn't shoot it and the volley ensues. 9-13 on a brilliant Haber retrieve and pass. Another weak return off the power serve and Paul kills with his right and this might turn the tide, 10-13.

Haber is shooting high too much and gives Pfeifer an opportunity and Gordie passes down the left. 13-10. Long

volley with all-out retrieves but finally ball too close to the left wall and Pfeifer can't handle it. Haber time out. 10-13. Haber hasn't scored an ace yet. 11-13 as Pfeifer misses with his left after long volley. Glass in back wall makes some shots difficult, especially man with glasses, as there can be a reflection. Haber gets hit in the ear by a shot and gets a short injury timeout. Again, we find Haber shooting high, and Pfeifer finally puts one away in the left corner. 13-11. Short on first serve. Haber regains serve, shooting from left side into front wall, right wall. 11-13. Haber moves to 12-13 on fly kill in right corner; didn't have to bottom board it as Pfeifer was in back court. . . 13-13 as Pfeifer misses on a right hand shovel shot. Pfeifer shoots to the left as Haber falls to floor and it passes him. Serve right and ceiling left, gets Haber out of position and kills in left corner with his right, 14-13, Pfeifer. Serve right and ceiling left that comes off left wall to Pfeifer's right and he shoots it in, 14-13. Pfeifer has his shot but hits Haber. Another hinder call. Short serve. Another opportunity for Pfeifer to shoot with his right and he takes advantage, 16-13. Five points away from a big win.

Oh what a time for an ace! Short serve. Left hand by Pfeifer into the left corner for that big point. 17-13. Four away! Serve right, round the walls, Pfeifer shoots but it comes up and then Haber hits into the floor, 18-13.

Haber is able to get the serve back once to pick up a point, but Pfeifer sensing the victory gives it everything he has and picks up the three needed points for the championship over a very tired Haber, 21-14.

BONUS OFFER!

(Good only to March 31, 1972)

*Sign Up Four New USHA Members and
Receive FREE the new book on "Winning Handball"—INSIDE HANDBALL*

*by Paul Haber (as told to Mort Leve). Big league photography by Art Shay,
special assignment photographer for Time-Life-Sports Illustrated.*

*Just off the presses—"At last, a definitive book on the sport and the art of hand-
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SHORTS . . .

NEW DEVELOPMENTS: Two courts included in the Storm Meadows Athletic Club, a new club beginning operations after the first of the year in the heart of the Colorado ski area — Steamboat Springs (about 160 miles out of Denver). **Bootin Ben Agajanian** is behind the new private club in Long Beach, one court will be spectator type. We're still not set on the national invitational doubles site . . . it started out as a San Francisco Olympic Club bid . . . that was later declined, then a possibility for Phoenix, then nixed, next Flamingo Park. We were hoping for a February date so action must be taken real soon.

Cominco Arena, located at 1051 Victoria St., Trail, British Columbia, has a court. Contact: Cesare Gianna. Y.M.C. Union at 48 Boylston St., Boston, two courts with Gene Kelly the contact. Wamsun Club at New Bedford, Mass., 2 courts. Y.M.C.A. in Klamath Falls, Oregon, 2 regulation courts, Dave Vincent, contact man. Jupiter Corp. in Chicago is readying its second club, located at McClurg Court and Ohio Sts., (just north of the Loop). Three standard courts in a high rise, that also includes two indoor tennis courts.

It isn't too early to make your plans for Seattle — April 15-22.

1971 — year of the "Super-Mex" — Lee Trevino, Sportsman of the Year . . . and in our world of handball — Natl Alvarado, first Mexican to win a national championship. We're going to see and hear of bigger achievements from this talented youngster from Juarez, who has been prepped splendidly by Bob Lindsay at the YMCA in El Paso.

Double elimination Class B doubles held at Butte, Montana Elks Club. Ed Panisko and Jerry Kriskovich def. Jim Stevens and Jerry Kerrick, 21-18, 21-14. A. J. Mufich and Bob Cook def. Pat Connors and Frank Quilici, 21-15, 21-8. Mufich and Cook def. Panisko and Kriskovich, 21-4, 15-21, 21-11. Gary Monahan, chairman.

Shrine Honor for Pittsburgh's McDaniel

Norwood A. "Woody" McDaniel, one of the leading Pittsburgh area handballers and ex-pro football players with the Steelers, has been named second ceremonial master of Syria Temple in suburban Oakland. McDaniel is owner of a general insurance agency, will become the potentate of Syria Temple in 1978 and head 26,000 Shriners in Western Pennsylvania. Last April McDaniel was inducted into the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame.

Woody has been a long-time USHA member and contact man in the Pittsburgh court program.



ST. ANTHONY A.C. TOURNAMENT IN MINNEAPOLIS . . . (l to r) — Winner Bob McNamara, former U. of Minnesota all-American and pro halfback with Winnipeg and Denver; 'also ran' Ron Evon, tournament chairman; Jerry Reichow, former U. of Iowa all-American and pro tight end with Minnesota.

Handball around the world in Peking



"Chairman Mao says the 'Little Red Book' has to be the official USHA Guide for all tournament games played against the Great Wall of China."



OBSERVATION TOWER

by KEN SMOLACK, Pinch-hitting for Bob Davidson

The West Side YMCA, with the help of its Businessmen's Club, is planning to hold a Jack Marks Invitational. This tournament, named for the late handball leader of the Y will be a New York Metropolitan area invitational singles and doubles. As of this date we are trying to raise funds to award the winners plane fare to the Seattle nationals. These awards will be a great honor to the memory of a fine person and true supporter of the game. These awards will be given to players who do not have a trip coming from the USHA as seeded players or division winners.

Jack Weintraub has been appointed aide to the physical director of the West Side Y. He is supervisor of the locker room and in charge of sporting goods. Jack has been a longtime USHA supporter and is pushing ACE balls and Saranac gloves. By the way, all you Masters singles players beware — Jack is turning 40 and will be making his bid for that title in Seattle.

Speaking of Masters, Bill "The Kid" Haas, in town for a week, played better ball than ever before. He has a fine game and must hit the hardest ball of any Masters performer. Like the bubbly stuff, Bill gets better with age.

Another handballer working at the Y is Charley Corell. Charley, a former N.Y. State and N.Y. City singles champion, is still a heck of a player at 60. He is in charge of the BMC and is the person who makes out-of-towners visiting the Y feel welcome.

I was down in Miami Beach for four days at Christmas time and Flamingo Park is a real haven for northerners escaping the cold. Great seeing so many friends under the sun: Mickey Unroth, the southpaw from Toronto; Burt Dinkin, came from icebound Milwaukee; Joe and Inez Ardito down for the Juniors; Artie Reyer, reigning one-wall doubles champ, showing up very well on the right side in four-wall; Ruby and Nancy Obert, who seem to have fallen in love with the great Florida atmosphere; Marty and Phyllis Decatur, and Jim Jacobs and his women's lib girl friend, Nancy; Mort and Elaine Leve. Mort came down just in time to make me a loser, playing as my partner, against Jack Lewis and Artie Reyer. They were picking up roll outs, must have the fastest hands in the game. Howie and Joan Eisenberg; Ken Ginty . . . and myself went to the dog track. Howie, showing his Brooklyn Ave. P know-how came away a big winner while Ginty and I, two Bronx know-nothings went home losers. Lou Shapiro who has

always supported any tournament endeavor at West Side and offers his support to the proposed Jack Marks tournament.

While at Flamingo I saw Bill Segal, a long-time supporter of all activities handball-wise. There is some talk of holding the national invitational doubles at the Beach and it will take the likes of Bill Segal, who has always contributed more than his share; Hy Kirzner, Murray Marcus, Bill Haas, Al Levine, and Dr. Maury Fox . . . all do their utmost to help.

For all the people interested in condition of Bob Davidson. He is coming along real nicely, even playing ball (lousy of course). Bob and Pauline appreciate all your letters and cards.

By the way I went out one night to the Newport Pub with Fred Lewis, Ginty, Joel Galpern, the Arditos and the Leves. Had some spirits and saw the Moms Mabley show . . . she even brought a smile to Mort the Sport's stone face.

Castle Hill will be a sadder place next season. Dave (The Weasel) Grossberg, a long time member of the Club, and a great supporter of youth activity, died recently. He was one of the first N.Y. area members of the USHA and always contributed to send juniors to the nationals. He was never a great player but would play with the up and coming kids from Marty Decatur and Marty Katzen through Lou Russo, the Newman twins, Fred Lewis, and myself . . . then the Straus twins. He also would go around

personally to collect money for "the boys" to go to Detroit's Three Wall. Dave would always make sure to split the funds up among all the club players who went. This essentially is the idea behind the Castle Hill Handball Club and writing for the board of directors we mourn the loss of a great handball enthusiast and fine man.

Florida Doubles . . .

Combine the craftiness of a tested veteran lefthander with the strong, willing right arm of a young, anxious, determined in the electrifying upset win of Tampa's Ernie Ortiz and Orlando's Marv Sherzer over the powerful Miami Beach representatives — Fred Lewis and Roy Gelber, at the Clearwater Y.M.C.A. State Doubles Invitational.

An overflow crowd enjoyed the long volleys and excellent retrieves — as each performer gave of his utmost — to the very end.

After losing the first game 21-17, Ortiz-Sherzer scrapped and battled to an uphill 17-21 win and gave equalizer. The third game was a nip and tuck affair but at 12-12, an eight point inning for the newly crowned Champions proved to be decisive, as they rolled to a 15-21 title clincher.

The tournament results from the quarter-finals were as follows:

Lewis-Gelber defeated Doc Lasley-Walt Stokas, Clearwater, 21-3, 21-4; Paul Katz, Orlando-Jack German, Clearwater, defeated Phil Hitchcock-John Langford, St. Petersburg, 21-7, 8-21, 21-12.

Ortiz-Sherzer defeated John Hamilton-Carl Feddler, St. Petersburg, 21-3, 21-14; Joel Galpern-Butch Monroy, Miami Beach, defeated Tom Veal, Miami Beach-Rick Robitaille, Merrit Island, 9-21, 21-12, 21-12.

Semis: Lewis-Gelber defeated Katz-German, 21-12, 8-21, 21-12; Ortiz-Sherzer defeated Galpern-Monroy, 18-21, 21-12, 21-16.

Finals: Ortiz-Sherzer defeated Lewis-Gelber 17-21, 21-17, 21-15.

NOTES: This was Pat Kirby's fourth straight Akron Open win, and his "victims" are most imposing . . . Paul Haber (1969), Dr. Claude Benham (1970), Lou Russo (1971).

—DONALD NELSON

Tries It . . . Doesn't Like It . . .

A young officer at the Air Force Academy writes, " . . . excessive space given to that most abominable sport, racquetball . . . I tried it, never felt so much like a degenerate in my life. To compare the two by combining the magazine as he has done is a great injustice and slap-in-the face to handball."

Veteran Bud Simpson Wins Singles Over Ron Patricelli; Pfeifer-Farquhar Take Doubles

By NICK ROCCO

Shakey's third annual handball tournament held in Bellingham, Washington, is rapidly becoming the area's most prestigious. This year's singles competition massed the finest the Northwest can offer. From the second round onward the matches were all tough.

Bud Simpson, Seattle's WAC, proved to be the toughest of them all, defeating Ron Patricelli, also Seattle, 21-18, 21-7, to capture the singles. Some consider Simpson's play unorthodox due to his array of fist-balls. But, his corner kills, booming pass shots and rocket serves are "picture postcard." Patricelli eliminated Harvey Gorsuch in three to move to the finals, while Simpson was knocking off Bud Miller. The two locals, Miller and Gorsuch battled for third with Gorsuch's overall consistent play proving to be effective.

In doubles, perennial victors Gordie Pfeifer-Bob Farquhar repeated their dominance by eliminating Bob Vanina-Roland

Hublou 21-20, 21-8. Vanina, who shoots almost everything accounted for the closeness of the first game, bottom boarding many shots. Pfeifer really worked the second game. His choice of bullet serves to Vanina proved a wise one, as Vanina left talking to himself. Gordie thrilled the crowd, aceing three of the final four serves. Hublou and Farquhar can't be denied, both contributing steady play. The victor's team "jolted" the fans, appearing in red, white and blue shorts, socks, headbands, wrist bands and suspenders. Shirts were white with large American flags. The "mod look" didn't bother their opponents as much as Pfeifer kills! Third place doubles went to Lea McMillian-George Fogelman.

Masters singles top seed John Beahm beat long time menace Leo Wren 21-18, 21-16. Beahm looked great throughout the entire tournament, losing only one game to Ross Ellis, third place winner. Wren missed a few timely deep court kills which may have hurt his chances. Beahm played very steady all the way



HANDBALL'S MOD MEN . . . Rob Farquhar (left) and Gordie Pfeifer deck themselves out in uniform of the future (?). Only thing missing was a red, white and blue handball.

to his victory.

Consolation singles went to Dave Kerrone over Andy Yurovchak. Doubles consolation was captured by Gracey-LaMarche beating Juriga-LaMarche. A word of thanks for a successful tournament to Dick Dixon. And special thanks to Dan Callahan assisting greatly whenever needed.

Wernes-Kennedy Take New Jersey Doubles

Don Wernes and Bill Kennedy brought the New Jersey State doubles championship to the Montclair YMCA for the first time in 16 years on Jan. 22 as they topped a field of 18 teams at the Plainfield YMCA.

Wernes and Kennedy, playing together in only their second tournament, defeated Ed Purcell and Matty Boscaino, Orange YMCA, 21-19, 21-11 to give the Montclair YMCA its first doubles champs since Zeke Diamond and Sam Wolf captured the crown in 1956.

Defeating Ben and Joe LaPorta, Paterson YMCA, 21-20, 21-11 in the second round, the lefty and righty combination then eliminated Ray Barrett and Al Abrahams, West Essex YMCA in Livingston, 18-21, 21-12, 21-12 in the quarterfinals. Barrett had captured the 1971 dou-

bles crown with Jim Furey.

In the semifinals the new champions topped Andy Scola and Don Betz, Newark YM-YWCA, 21-10, 21-15. Scola and Betz were fresh from their second place finish at the Virginia State Open in October.

Purcell and Boscaino, first seeded this year and runnersup in the 1970 state doubles, had blazed through three opposing teams to reach the finals without a close game. They roared to leads of 14-3 and 17-8 before Wernes got a hot hand and began flat killing into the left corner. After Wernes and Kennedy pulled out the first game, they assumed command and led all the way to the second game victory and the championship.

Joe Nevins and his tournament committee of Ed and Bill Woerner and John Ward provided excellent officiating.

SHORTS...

Dr. Claude Benham and Pat Kirby are battling each other . . . at the Oklahoma City Y annual, Benham won in three over Kirby for the championship . . . shortly afterwards, Kirby evened the count with a title win in the Philadelphia A.C. open. Benham beat Fred Lewis in the semis, while Kirby was eliminating his fellow Irishman from N.Y., John Brinn.

Latest — Kirby over Benham in Youngstown Open.

Tillamook, Oregon . . . Ken McQueen and Tony Stramiello of Astoria put on an exhibition-clinic there on the lone wooden court to stimulate raising of funds for a new YMCA. Located on the southern coast of State, there is tremendous interest in the game. John Gardner is general secretary.



AT THE JUNIOR SHOW . . . Wally Ris (left), president of the Southern California Handball Association, and Broderick 'man on the go' for our official uniforms, with Bob Lewis showing the nylon knit shorts. Bob acts as mediator at the Flamingo Park courts.

National Juniors

(From page 5)

Semi-finals: Ginty def. Goldstein, 21-16, 21-15; Christian def. Craft, 21-19, 21-5.

Finals: Christian def. Ginty, 7-21, 21-12, 21-20.

Third place: Goldstein def. Craft, 21-16, 21-10.

Under 17 — First round: Robert Sherman, Bradenton, Fla., def. John Lepore, New York 21-12, 21-14; David Cohn, Kansas City, Mo., def. Mark DuBro, St. Louis, 21-18, 21-13; David Wolvington, Burlington, Ia., def. Hyman Edelstein, St. Louis, 21-7, 21-8; David Botfeld, El Segundo, Calif., def. Dorian Bezanis, Chicago, 10-21, 21-9, 21-9; Pete Cristaudo, Plantation, Fla., def. Arnold Elanzandro, San Antonio, 21-4, 21-7; Mitchell Jacobson, New York, def. Joe Castillo, San Antonio, 21-5, 21-8; Curtis Pickerel, Shreveport, def. Jeff Srenco, St. Louis, 21-8, 21-3.

Second round: Billy Goldstein, St.

Louis, def. Sherman, 21-10, 21-15; Cohn def. John Castillo, San Antonio, 21-4, 21-6; Wolvington def. Mike Davison, Denver, 21-18, 21-8; Nati Alvarado, Jurez, Mexico, def. Tony Perez, San Antonio, 21-1, 21-5; Steve Adelman, St. Louis, def. Botfeld, 21-9, 21-19; Cristaudo def. Steve Ferguson, Des Moines, Ia., default; Pickerel def. Jacobson, 21-15, 21-11; Gary Stedman, Encino, Calif., def. Jim Malles, Chicago, 21-1, 21-15.

Quarter-finals: Goldstein def. Cohn, 21-4, 21-9; Alvarado def. Wolvington, 21-1, 21-5; Adelman def. Cristaudo, 21-15, 21-16; Stedman def. Pickerel, 21-10, 21-12.

Semi-finals: Alvarado def. Goldstein, 21-12, 21-19; Stedman def. Adelman, 21-10, 10-21, 21-19.

Finals: Alvarado def. Stedman 21-9, 21-7.

Third place: Adelman def. Goldstein 21-16, 15-21, 21-17.

Under-15 Jesse Castillo, San Antonio,

Four-Wall Sunshine Play



NEW COURT GALLERY AT FLAMINGO PARK . . . Jammed gallery watches National Junior final playoffs in ideal 80 degree sunshine. At top left is Tom Dix, St. Louis JCCA staff, who accompanied seven-player squad. Four outdoor four-wall courts now at Miami Beach.

def. Louis Grilla, Miami Beach, 21-6, 21-8; Paul Froncea, San Antonio, def. Douglas Glatt, Northridge, Calif., 21-12, 21-19; Mike Lloyd, Shreveport, def. Barry Jacobson, New York, 21-1, 21-1.

Semi-finals: Jack Robert, Cincinnati, def. Grilla, 21-0, 21-2; Lloyd def. Froncea, 21-0, 21-1.

Finals: Lloyd def. Roberts, 21-10, 21-8.

Third place: Grilla def. Froncea, 21-6, 21-20.

CONSOLATION . . . (all consolation matches included losers of quarter-final matches) — **Under 19:** Kitchings def. Diemar, 21-13, 13-21, 21-13; Roberts def. Hardy, 21-9, 21-19.

Roberts def. Kitchings, 21-11, 17-21, 21-11.

Under 17: Pickerel def. Cohn, 21-12, 19-21, 21-14; Wolvington def. Davison, 21-21-12.

Pickerel def. Wolvington, 17-21, 21-4, 21-19.

Under 15: Jacobson def. Glatt, 21-7, 21-11.

Benham Over Kirby at Oklahoma City Y Invitational

Dr. Claude Benham, Norfolk, Virginia, defeated Pat Kirby, New York Downtown Athletic Club, to capture the singles championship in the Thirteenth Annual Oklahoma City YMCA Invitational Handball Tournament the first weekend in January at the Downtown Branch Y courts. The scores were 21-17, 10-21, 21-17.

The popular tournament drew 48 of the top players Jan. 7, 8, 9 with Terry Hankins, Austin, (University of Texas), 1971 Doubles Intercollegiate champion, winning third place in singles. The doubles champions were Alvis Grant and Rob Blakely, Dallas. Consolation singles went to Tom Saunders, Houston, while John Edelman and Pat Kelley, Kansas City,

won the consolation doubles trophy.

The three-day event was highlighted with a steak and stag banquet at the Candlewood Restaurant Saturday night with fine handball fellowship. Dick Brackin, tournament director, reported that this year's tournament displayed "as fine overall competition in the matches along with excellent handball sportsmanship as you can see anywhere."

The tournament was financed by handball enthusiasts in the Oklahoma City YMCA program this year.

ROBERT G. NEIL
Director of Physical Education

Twin Cities . . . Two Division League

St. Paul Midway teams effectively crushed all opposition as they swept to championships in both divisions (Class A and Class B-C) of the Twin City Handball League. In dominating this season's Class A Division, with competition each Tuesday evening from Oct. 12 through Dec. 14, the Midway Y finished with a record of nine wins and one loss over the ten-week schedule, with the lone loss administered by 1970 Champion St. Paul Athletic Club.

The Midway Class A team was led by Dan O'Connor, John Loretz, Nick Evangelista, Ron Causton and Dave Books. O'Connor, rapidly gaining stature as the next Twin City "Superstar" and will be added to an already impressive list (Turner, Langdon, Yambrick, Muck, Schulz and Rohrer), was undefeated in league play.

Jack Hickman's St. Paul Downtown YMCA team finished a strong second with eight wins and two losses and was actually in the running for the league title until the last night of play when it lost to Midway by a score of 9 to 1. The Downtown Y squad featured Hickman, Don Ardell, Ernie Duwell, George Rahn, Tom Driscoll, Pat Dyer, Roger Heinisch, and the father-son combination of Don and Keanne Cameron. Ardell was particularly impressive in singles play as he defeated the St. Paul Athletic Club's Paul Schulz on two separate occasions while losing only to Dan O'Connor and John Loretz, Midway.

A unique addition to this year's league was Burlington Northern Railway which participated as the first industrial team to compete and finished in undisputed fourth place. The BN team consisted of actual BN employees: Paul Turner, Ron Adams, Larry Klein, Chuck Wolterstorff, Dick Morrow and Jerry Annerl, plus two players not affiliated with the railroad, Tom Wright and Fred Gergen. Since the BN has no courts, the team "traveled" each week.

As stated earlier, the Midway YMCA also nailed down the Class B-C Championship. Although finishing with the same record as the St. Paul Athletic Club with seven wins, one loss and one tie, the Midway Club was declared champion because it had accumulated more points. Inspired by Coach Al O'Neill, the Midway B-C team received strong performances from Bernie Krenner, Jim Marshall, Fred Kueffer, Jack Gibbons, Tim Kelsey, Tom Sanft, and Dick Anderson.

The Twin City Association has fostered and presently directs two divisions: 1) Class A — designed primarily to be highly competitive and to appeal to all of the top players in the Twin City area,

with each club supplying two singles players and one doubles team each night of play; 2) Class B-C — designed to allow and encourage participation by players from various clubs who are classified by the respective clubs as Class B and C players, with each club furnishing six players on game nights, i.e., one singles player and one doubles team from both Class B and C.

Jerry Grebin, athletic director of the Minneapolis Athletic Club, acted as commissioner of the Class A division, while Paul Schulz, assistant athletic director of the St. Paul Athletic Club, performed the same role for the Class B-C division. Both men did outstanding jobs in gathering, publishing and disseminating league results and standings on a weekly basis as well as making key decisions when the need arose.

RON ADAMS

THE TWIN CITY HANDBALL ASSOCIATION — What is it? — It is an association organized to help arrange, coordinate, promote, and schedule handball clinics, exhibitions, and open tournaments in the greater Twin Cities area.

Who may belong? — All handball players whose clubs are dues paying members are part of the Association.

How are clubs represented? — Each club selects two representatives and an alternate to serve on the executive council. The officers elected by the council for the year 1971-72 are President, Steve Subak, Minneapolis Athletic Club; Vice President, Bill McNeill, Minneapolis Y.M.C.A.; Secretary-Treasurer, Jerry Grebin, Minneapolis Athletic Club.

What activities are sponsored by the T.C.H.A.? — 1. The Twin City Handball League; 2. Handball and referees clinics; 3. Open tournaments; 4. State club championships; 5. High school tournaments; 6. Annual banquet; 7. Family picnic, 3rd Saturday in June; 8. Proposed all-member annual fall party, third week in September.

What clubs are members? — 1. St. Paul Downtown Y.M.C.A. (2 courts); 2. St. Paul Athletic Club (2 courts); 3. St. Paul Jewish Community Center (2 courts); 4. Midway Y.M.C.A. (2 courts); 5. East Side Y.M.C.A. (2 courts); 6. Kings Court, Edina (6 courts); 7. Minneapolis Athletic Club (3 courts); 8. Minneapolis Y.M.C.A. (4 courts); 9. Decathlon Club (6 courts—4 handball, 2 squash); 10. Burlington Northern Club (no courts); 11. Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing Co. (no courts).

Potential new members — 1. Kings Court, Roseville; 2. Public Safety Building, St. Paul; 3. Sheehy Construction (1 court); 4. Gabberts, Minneapolis (1 court).

Denver . . .

The following are the results of our Masters Doubles Tournament, Dec. 6-11.

FIRST ROUND: Bob Qualls and Dr. Fred Hewlett def. Jesse Ray and Bill Elliot, 19-21, 21-18, 21-15; Tom Brawner and J. Guttarie def. Joe Yearly and Bob Nelson 21-18, 21-17; Marshall Hulett and Hank Zoller def. Ray Schram and Vince Shryack 21-10, 21-8; Herb Plews and Mike Sotack def. Vic Gerali and Ed Piper 21-17, 21-18; Les Shumate and Mel Strauss def. Chuck Bult and Jules Ornstein 21-17, 21-15; Mike Maresse and Bill Moriarity def. Joe Dea and Jim Hannond 21-18, 21-0; Don Carlsen and Bob Price def. Wayne Heston and Jim Crennan 21-8, 21-17.

SECOND ROUND: Davison-Mossman def. Ray-Elliott; Hulett-Zoller def. Brawner-Guttarie 21-15, 21-17; Plews-Sotack def. Shumate-Strauss 21-15, 21-19; Maresse-Mossman def. Carlsen-Price 21-18, 21-15.

SEMI-FINALS: Davison-Mossman def. Hulett-Zoller 19-21, 21-17, 21-10; Maresse-Mossman def. Plews-Sotack 21-18, 21-15.

FINALS: Davison-Mossman def. Maresse-Mossman 21-17, 21-10.

LES SHUMATE

St. Louis JCCA . . .

87 players entered the St. Louis JCCA "House Tournament" recently.

Results: Championship Class — Steve Schneider over Aaron Fenster, 21-17, 15-21, 21-11. Masters — Paul Mendelsohn over Bob Leber, 17-21, 21-11, 21-12. Golden Masters — Sid Kleg over Harry Polotnick, 21-9 9-21, 21-12. A-1 — Sandy Pomerantz over George Cahill, 6-21, 21-18, 21-9. A-2 — Sandy Goffstein over Steve Adelman in three games. B-1 — Kent Slough over Charlie Rea, 21-15, 5-21, 21-20. B-2 Jack Barry over Marty Hyatt; B-3 — Jim London over Jeff Srenco (sons of Dr. Stan London and Earl Srenco). B-4 — Bruce Miller over Chuck Gottlieb. B-5 — Ray Stark over Dick Porzel.

Sites and Dates for 1972 Tournaments — Minnesota Open Singles — At St. Paul A.C., March 14-18; Minnesota Open Doubles — At Minneapolis A.C., March 6-11; National Y.M.C.A. — At Norfolk, Va. Y.M.C.A., March 19-25; U.S.H.A. National Championships — At Washington Athletic Club, Seattle, April 15-22; Minnesota State Club Championships — At Kings Court, April 28-30; Minneapolis Doubles — Open and Master Aquatennial — At Minneapolis Y.M.C.A., July 20-29.

Ray Neveau Wins Green Bay Y Open

Ray Neveau was the "Big cheese" of the Green Bay, Wisconsin, YMCA championships, displaying too many bombing kills for runnerup Orley Brown, La-Crosse, 21-9 21-9. Neveau, pride of Oshkosh, had his best match with young Bob Denier, Fond du Lac, who is a definite near-future potential. Denier lost to Ray in the quarter-finals, 21-4, 21-15.

John Nett, Rollingsstone, Minnesota, representing the Winona YMCA, beat Ralph Schroeder of Milwaukee's Eagles Club in the consolation bracket, 21-5, 9-21, 21-7.

Neveau trounced Scott Kapus, Wausau, in the semis, while Brown was beating his often-time nemesis, Bill Nelson.

Chairman Tom Biebel, besides doing overtime duty as administrator, managed to make a very creditable showing.

There was a full field of 32 with John Fabry, major domo of Saranac Grove, awarding gloves to winners of each round. (Note: Fabry lost a super rough first round match) Gloves were also given in the same way in Masters singles.

Frank Radigan, Wausau, beat Orley Brown Sr., Milwaukee, 21-3, 21-9, in the semis of the Masters singles, while Fred Zitzer, Madison, beat Roy Luther, Oshkosh. Then Radigan took honors over Zitzer, 21-9, 21-12. In the consolation Ernie Hoenish, Wausau, applied a double "Zip" to Wayne Kerswill, Wausau.

The Lyric Lounge was the happy after spot hospitality locale for the players, serving suds and cheese from Saturday evening on and on. Assisting Beibel was a committee composed of Brien Sjoman, Dave Dewane, Pete Helf.

Mel Gorham's Sport Center Hosts San Diego County Open Tourney

The San Diego County Championship was on the line Saturday morning, Dec. 11, at Mel Gorham's Sport Center, and when the dust had settled, it was Tom Penick who captured the crown with a second 21-9, 19-21, 21-9 victory over 1968 Champion Art Savage.

Penick, a consistently good shooter with two good hands and considerable court

ed on the top of the aggressive game that won him the crown in 1968. The local handball crowd expected a good battle and they weren't disappointed as they jammed the bleachers of Gorham's showcase Court #1.

The first game started with caution by both players, but Penick drew away slowly with finely placed kills. It seemed he bested Savage for front court control and made the necessary shots when they counted. In game two Art rose to the occasion and battled to a come-from-behind win to tie at one game each. Play was strong by both players but several key fly kills by Art thwarted Tom's momentum and denied him a two game sweep. Referee Ray Leidich called in the tiring battlers for game three, and a rush of determination seemed to give Penick the game control that he had in game one. Again he drew away as the final game wore on and Savage just couldn't overcome the deficit this time. Penick, in addition to the Championship Trophy, was presented a complimentary membership to the Sports Center by Mel Gorham for a job well done.



SOMETHING SPECIAL . . . 1971 San Diego County Open champ Tom Penick with Miss Handball Lou Ann Hayward. Maybe we ought to have a national 'Miss Handball' Queen Contest!

savvy, had been knocking on the door to top tournament honors in San Diego for the last two years. He finally had to knock it down with a rush of determination. Savage, a strong, smart lefty and upset winner in both the quarter finals over Don Duarte, and the semi finals over last years runner-up Dave Bolin, appear-

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Seattle's White Center Courts Crown Patricelli-Singles; Reel-McMillan-Doubles

New Champions reign in the King County (White center courts, Seattle) this year as Ron Patricelli out-shot and out-lasted Lea McMillan in the finals 16-21, 21-14, 21-19. Then revived McMillan teamed with steady, hard-playing Billy Reel to out slug Bill Ide and Dave Kerrone, Tacoma, 21-18, 16-21, and 21-19.

Patricelli defeated Roy Velling in the quarter-finals 21-6, 21-15, while McMillan downed Ron Merrill 21-9, 21-15. In the semis. Patricelli had little trouble with Bob Tate, whose back was causing much grief, 21-7, 21-5, while McMillan had a much tougher battle with former champion and always tough Bud Simpson, 21-18, 21-13.

The finals was an exciting match between two fine handball players. Hard play and crisp shooting dominated, the games. Patricelli trained and worked hard for his first King County Open

title and is a most deserving champion. He received a large silver bowl and his name was engraved on the large permanent plaque that hangs in the vestibule of the courts. His picture will also be mounted in the spectator area, along with the champions of years past.

It took Bill Reel and Lea McMillan over two hours to subdue Jim Douglass and Bill Zenk in a real battle 21-6 18-21, 21-16 in the semi-finals, while Bill Ide and Dave Kerrone won in three lop-sided games against Bob Bunch and Roy Velling by scores 21-7, 4-21, 21-2. Three hours later the tired warriors went at it again and it was another donney-brook. After two and a half hours of fantastic gets and returns, Reel and McMillan emerged as the new County doubles champions. They also received large silver bowls, their names on the permanent

court plaque and their pictures on the walls of the vestibule of the courts.

The first Masters tournament in the King County Open was won by two fine shooters from Tacoma, Bill Ide and Ron Keough. These two tournament veterans outshot a field of 32 and defeated former Northwest Champion Bill Faraone and Don Lintott 21-14, 21-17.

The tournament was exceptionally well run and all the matches were right on schedule thanks to the efficient work of General Chairman Howard Blue, with help from Bill Mahurin, scoring and posting chairman; John Fotheringham, draw chairman; Rich Seims, towel and cleanup chairman; Bill Wood on refreshments; Roy Velling on publicity; Bill Reel, referees chairman; and Bruce Anthony, chairman of trophies and awards.

Roy Velling

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CITY STATE IZP

Random Notes From the Classic Hands-Racquet at Memphis State U.

NOTES OF THE TOURNAMENT

... This was a gala, blue ribbon event and the Memphis Racquetball Association did a marvelous job of staging it. DeWitt Shy and his charming wife, Sally, afforded the traditional Southern hospitality at their home the night before the match, mainly for the racquetball out-of-towners, but I snuck in as did Jack Gillespie, of the rival Memphis Handball Association camp. Jack was a man of action seeing that Sports Illustrated reporter-photographer team were well taken care of, as well as Paul Haber... A thanks to Steve Stapleton, president of the MHA, John Cameron and Joe Clements. Dr. Jim Tanner came up from Birmingham as a handball rooster, of course... your reporter and Jim had our usual court play feud, ending in a stand-off. Give Smitty Schippers every bit of credit... refereeing this type of match is inviting nothing but woes and he dispatched his job nobly. Simie Fein and Julie Aaronson came in from Milwaukee to root for Haber, while Muehleisen had Charlie Brumfield working in his corner. Mel Gorham spent a busy afternoon in our national handball offices talking to interested court facility builders, then flew to Memphis with Chuck and I... We've got a real fine addition to our handball/racquetball family in Mel and he's doing big things, construction-wise and tournament promoting.

Basil Brooks covering the event for the Memphis Commercial Appeal and calling the match the "most exciting ever"... Ray Cole and his wife also coming in from Chi. with Mary Haber... Mary gave out with victory scream after that 3rd game No. 21.

This match definitely exceeded all expectations. Will it develop into more of the same? I doubt it as it's tailored more as a one-shot novelty attraction. There are no doubts in my mind that the racquetball top notchers could gain even more advantages with the racquet against the hands if they spent time working with the handball. Definitely Dr. Bud must feel in retrospect that the fly shot is much more valuable than he thought, and that he could overcome that shoulder high backhand by slashing it around the walls, rather than go to the ceiling... and, if he felt his racquet ceiling could cope with the Haber hand ceiling shot he was badly mistaken. With the extra reach of the racquet and the less effort it takes to

Ski Shangri La With Handball



STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO... Millions of dollars are being poured into this area by 'Ski Country Enterprises Inc.,' and included in the complex is the Storm Meadows Athletic Club. Now in operation the Club includes two handball courts. The Club building is pictured at left with condominiums at right. Additions will include more condominium building. In addition to this ideal ski area the climate during the summer affords marvelous fishing and hunting facilities. Located about 140 miles west of Denver, plans are being formulated for an October vacation-invitational tournament plan. Raymond L. Randall, director of Storm Meadows, writes, "If any of the USHA members are in the area please feel free to stop and tour our facilities and play a game or two."

stroke the ball it takes nothing less than a Herculean effort by a Haber to come out on top. As we say it's a good attraction but let's not make a "habit" of it. Paul, if he's smart, will steer clear of any further entanglements of hands against racquet, for he has nothing further to prove, and the pendulum could swing the other way with this first showcase as a sounding board.

If you can't find a handball opponent some time try this hands against the racquet... but don't get your noggin in the way.

One last word — ability to play under pressure... give Haber the top grade! And, it's far better to know just what you're going up against than to be over confident.

St. Petersburg...

The St. Petersburg YMCA held its third annual Turkey tournament during the Christmas week. John Hamilton defeated 21-year old Ray Prosser after a hard fought battle 20-21, 21-12, 21-15. Ray is a real comer and will be heard from. Ed Dooley won third place over Paul Kurpe 21-15, 21-18.

Mac Languirand, 53-year-old "Mr. Wonderful," defeated Jerry Daniels in the consolation bracket 18-21, 21-16, 21-15. Carlos Delgado won the racquetball championship defeating Glenn Tutt 21-11, 21-15. Bill Kaleel, Jr. took third place defeating Steve Nichols 21-15, 13-21, 21-18. Handball and racquetball are becoming more popular each day at our YMCA.

KEN RICHMAN
Program Director

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It's 'Haby Baby' No. 1 in Hands Against the Racquet

Memphis State jam-packed gallery court scene for novelty spectacle as handball's champ Haber backs up his boast with dynamic come-from-behind win over racquetball's Dr. Bud Muehleisen in physically-exhausting 3-gamer

Paul Haber does it again! Handball's No. 1 upheld the "glory and the honor" of our game backing up his boast that he could beat the best of the racquetballers — hands against the racquet — with a crowd thrilling three-game victory over San Diego's Dr. Bud Muehleisen at the Memphis State University championship court Jan. 29. The scores: 10-21, 21-15, 21-16.

Strictly a novel-type attraction, the whole affair germinated in San Diego at the time of the Mel Gorham Sport Center opening when Haber and Muehleisen were present for exhibition showings. It caught the fancy of Sports Illustrated and with a build-up in interest it was finally agreed upon for Memphis.

The Memphis Racquetball Association sponsored the novel event as a pre-national tournament promotion and had a sellout of the 350 available seats. There were many who asserted that this was the most exciting court spectacle they had ever seen. It was more than Haber against Muehleisen . . . it was the demonstration of two-handed skills with a handball against the added power and reach afforded with the racquet. Obviously it does prove one way or another that handballers can dominate racquetballers because as it turned out that ACE ball was more than the equalizer.

Dr. Bud, a most knowledgeable 41-year-old master of the racquet game had appeared much more confident than Haber prior to their meeting. He was convinced that he could control the ball and with power serve and strokes blow Paul right off the court. In fact, he was sure that it would take no more than half an hour to accomplish a two-game one-sided win.

On the other hand Haber was nervous as a cat and very wary of the situation. He had played Milwaukee's Danny Trost a few days before and needed three physically-tiring games to beat him. Danny is an ex-handballer and a southpaw (like Muehleisen) who is coming along fast as a racquetball potential so he gave Paul every insight on just what could be done with a racquet and a handball.

The first game of the "Match of the Century" as a San Diego reporter had headlined looked like an exact duplicate of the Muehleisen prediction. His power strokes were keeping Haber on defense and it appeared Paul's timing and point of contact were completely fouled up. He told us before the match that he probably would be tight as a drum for the first few points but for much of this first game he was at Muehleisen's mercy.

What appeared at first to be a one-sided rout by racquetball over handball and a quick, unexciting domination, developed into an all-out crowd-appealing battle and reversal of form by Haber. It was like the fast ball pitcher in baseball with no curve. The batters are completely thwarted the first couple of trips to the plate but then get the range and

start to hit. And, so it was with Haber. He loosened up, took over the offensive, mainly with his left, then after rolling up an unbelievable 17-0 third game lead, Haber, physically spent, was rocked on his heels by Muehleisen coming back, using good fly shots with a last-ditch effort. It got back to 16-19 and definitely one that could have been pulled out. But, Haber stopped the drive. Dramatically, the 21st point was given on an avoidable hinder.

Dr. Muehleisen was right when he said, "The name of the game is control and will be the key to this match." As it turned out he was unable to control the ball and his errors were his downfall. While the speed of the ball was foreign to Haber, the bounce of the ball and hops in the last analysis more than evened the scales. Paul had to give much more room than he does in handball matches because of the racquet swing, and said, "No doubt, this was the toughest physical match I ever had. Not mental, though. Those come when I play Jacobs."

Dr. Bud jumped off to a big lead with Haber obviously not attuned to the racquet-propelled power. The San Diego dentist demonstrated fine kills off the back wall and when Haber would drive balls with his right on balls coming around off the back wall it appeared that the extra reach with the racquet entirely nullified the effect of these attempted passes. The deep court kills from waist and even higher with the racquet threw a quick pall over the handball backers.

Muehleisen went to 11-2 on deep court

kills, weak returns off his booming service and an ability merely to maintain the offense. At 11-2 he double shorted on the serve. Haber rallied for four points, killing into the right corner when Bud gave him a setup off the reverse serve to his right . . . then a backhand miss . . . a ball too close to the wall that he could not handle and a backhand error off another serve.

But, the man with the racquet quickly recovered and ran to 15-6, mainly off his serve, errors and weak returns. Haber got the serve back on a pass to the right but then lost it on a similar Muehleisen maneuver. The serve changed hands once again, then Bud made it up to 17-6 on a backhand kill off the back wall and weak return off a scoop type serve that he put away. Paul finally bottom boarded one with his right and ran three points to 9-17. Another change and then 19-9 on a backhand kill and a right corner kill off a weak service return. Muehleisen was showing fine control from deep court and getting many weak returns off that fast moving serve that would come off the left wall deep, around to the back wall and then to the right. If the ball wasn't moving so fast this normally would be a fat set-up for a handball player but it took a big physical effort for Haber to stay with the ball and no way to position.

Haber made it 10-19 on a pass to the right and then tried a serve to his opponent's forehand — or to the left, but missed in the volley and it was 20-10 on a left side pass, and the game on still another pass to the left — 21-10.

Muehleisen was a jaunty, confident man as he left the court and winked at Dan Levin, Sports Illustrated's covering reporter. That would be the last time he could wink that day.

Haber was the server as the second game got under way.

I reasoned after that first game and the brief flurry of offense that Haber mustered late in that game, "If Haber is now acclimated and can take this second game the advantage is his in the third game . . . six-year age difference and the many more times he has been in tough pressure matches."

Paul's game plan at this point was to (to the next page)

try some power serves to the left, feeling that Muehleisen's forhand drives were not as controlled offensively as his backhand. His first attempt met with disaster as Bud promptly drilled it in for a kill and scored the first point on a setup kill. It was 1-1 as Bud flubbed the serve, and then an avoidable hinder call as Referee Smitty Schippers felt that a move was not made to give Paul his shot.

Haber missed a shot and after an exchange of ceiling shots Muehleisen missed. It was 3-1 on a deep court skip in . . . 4-1 on a low reverse to the left that couldn't be handled.

Paul rolled to 7-1 before being put out. He killed with his left twice from deep court and got a skip in on a serve to the left before being put out when he erred off the back wall. Bud put one in off the back wall for 2-7 but Haber again caught him shooting in the left corner from deep right court with his forhand. The serve exchanged twice and despite the fact that Haber's ceiling shots were not nearly as controlled as he usually has them he was able to continue the volleys without Bud putting the ball away. Paul killed in the left corner with his left for 8-2 and his rooters began to lose their feeling of pessimism. Bud shoved in a soft kill on top of an attempted Haber corner kill but couldn't score as Haber killed off the back wall.

The score went to 9-2 as Muehleisen couldn't reach the front wall stroking a ceiling return from shoulder height backhand. This particular weakness cropped up nine times in this game and a couple of times in the finale and did much to undermine a once glowing confidence. He missed the same shot for 10-2. Haber then moved to a commanding 12-2 lead when he killed off an attempted pass to his right corner from the short line. He then went out when he tried the same shot from about 6 feet deeper.

It was also apparent at this juncture that this hands against the racquet was taking much more physically out of Haber than it was out of Muehleisen. Haber took a time out.

Bud got No. 3 on a kill off the back wall with his forhand, then went out on another of those picture book right corner kills with the left by Haber. It was 13-3 on a floored Muehleisen shot, then Bud killed off a serve to his left with a slashing three-quarter motion, but again missed an opportunity when he erred from the shoulder high backhand in deep right court. He was trying to go to a ceiling return and it would go into the ceiling too far back to reach the front wall. An exchange of blank innings, then another with some fine rallies. Bud then drove one in while in service and got an ace to the right for 5-13, but then missed a soft shot. Haber climbed to 15-5 on a right corner ceiling shot that Bud couldn't handle and then a skip in. Muehleisen

then killed off serve but skipped one in and lost it. Bud at this point was playing ragged off the back wall and pressing. An exchange and then four big points by Muehleisen on two backhand kills and two Haber errors. Haber couldn't score at 15-9 and it became a real ball game when Bud counted for three more points on a pass, and two kills. Haber had gone out four times without scoring.

Paul went to the left with his serve and got No. 16 on one that was miscued. Haber missed a left hand shot but that shoulder high backhand error plagued Bud again. He didn't let Haber score and made it 13-16 on a kill off the back wall with his backhand. Haber erred and it was 14-16. The crowd roared as Muehleisen drilled one into the right corner with an overhand stroke from three-quarter court. Haber stopped the rally as he killed in the right corner with his right. Bud floored one with his backhand from deep court at the three-quarter height swing off the ceiling and it was then 18-15 on a Haber right hand kill. Paul then got his needed three winning points on a fine right corner kill with his right, catching Bud in deep court, and a low reverse ace to the right and a kill with his left into the left corner off the back wall.

Quote on the onset of the third game . . . **"Most important that Haber get off to another strong start."** And, this he did, with spades! Unbelievably, Paul rolled to 17-0 before Bud could score and there were a few thoughts and cries of "doughnut." We felt that Haber had a tremendous momentum going as he piled the score up and when he took a time-out with that lead and then seemed to falter afterwards we questioned his strategy. But, after the match he explained, **"I was just physically exhausted at 17-0 and felt so worn that I would have trouble getting the serve over the short line. So, I definitely needed rest and just couldn't maintain the pace."**

Bud was the server as game three began and in the volley drove one into the floor. Haber got his first point on a soft fly shot that caught his man back. Muehleisen passed to the right, then used a scoop serve but Haber killed it into the left corner with his right. The score went to 4-0 on a left hand, right corner kill after a tough volley . . . a skip in off the backhand on the serve and still another backhand error off the serve. Haber missed but Bud skipped one in. There was an exchange of goose eggs and then the bubble burst. Haber got his big 13-point inning . . . Bud hit into the floor . . . a hop serve down the middle couldn't be handled for 6-0 . . . 7-0 on an ace to the right . . . 8-0 catching a volley shot into the right wall crotch . . . 9-0 on a right corner kill off the back wall with the right . . . 10-0 weak return off the serve . . . 11-0 on slow reverse serve to right that is hit into the floor with the back-

hand. 12-0 avoidable hinder call . . . 13-0 serve left and it was flubbed . . . 14-0 floors overhand shot . . . 15-0 skipped in a setup . . . 16-0 serve down the middle and it is floored . . . 17-0 kills off the back wall into left corner with the left after three previous fat ones off the back wall that Paul couldn't put away with his right.

Bud finally got the serve back on a hard pass and then got his first tally on a fly kill and then 2-17 on a kill. He double shorted and lost the serve. It was 18-2 on a pass down the right and then Haber missed a setup with his right. He wanted it badly and was thoroughly mad with himself. It was this miss that provided an opening for Muehleisen. He scored four times to 6-18 on drives and a fly kill, then missed a backhand . . . got the serve back on a return in deep court too tough for Haber. Bud made it 7-18 on a forhand drive, and then 8-18 on a fly kill . . . 9-18 on an ace to the left. Bud blew another chance to score but got the serve back, killing after Haber made three desperation retrieves. It was 10-18 on a kill to the right corner. It was now apparent that Haber was one tired young man and Muehleisen was getting results with fly shots. He took one out of the air for 11-18, then was put out when he missed a forhand drive.

Haber served to the right and got a skip in for 19-11. Bud got the serve back, scored one on a flat backhand kill, then he missed one of those shoulder high backhands in deep court. Again he got the serve back with Haber knocking himself out with all out retrieves, then setting it up . . . it was 12-19 and 13-19 on a fly kill . . . a missed opportunity . . . Haber serves to the left and Muehleisen puts it away . . . Bud can't handle a deep corner shot . . . another exchange without scoring . . . a squabble when he got 14-19 . . . there was some physical contact as Haber moved to deep court but the referee rightfully felt it didn't impede the play. There was much stirring amongst the troops as Haber skipped one in for 15-19 . . . a marvelous comeback from 0-17! At 16-19 Haber just managed to return one from the back wall with his left and it trickled in the left corner for a soft kill. Haber couldn't counter but got it back on a right corner kill with his left and went to 20-16 as Muehleisen floored one with his back hand off the serve. Haber couldn't handle a driving shot and it was then 16-20 and another wrangle as Paul stopped play arguing that the racquet had touched him but again he was overruled. Haber stopped any scoring taking the serve on a straight right kill and No. 21 was counted on an avoidable hinder call, the third of the match against Muehleisen. 21-16. Time of the match — two hours and ten minutes.



PICTURE STORY— Haber's Hands Over Muehleisen's Racquet

FROM DEEP RIGHT COURT . . . Haber was able, for the most part, to keep his opponent in deep right court where Muehleisen was forced to take many balls shoulder high with his back hand stroke. Here, Bud is able to take the ball off the back wall with his forehand and drive the ball bullet-fast.



RETRIEVING AT ITS BEST . . . Paul Haber, diving for ball in back court, had to constantly come up with unbelievable gets to keep the volleys alive. His ability to do so with resultant Muehleisen miscues or weak returns spelled the difference.



GIVING LOTS OF ROOM . . . Unlike the regular handball matches Haber had to afford Muehleisen lots of swinging space during the volleys. Paul certainly didn't want to end up with a 'hatchet in his skull'. This forced him to a greater physical effort to retrieve balls.

Fourth Annual Montgomery Open Handball Tournament, May 5, 6, 7, 1972 Central Branch Y.M.C.A.

761 South Perry St.
Montgomery, Ala.

EVENTS: OPEN SINGLES, DOUBLES, MASTERS SINGLES (Consolation bracket for first round losers in Open Singles and Masters Singles providing entries will permit scheduling.) You may enter more than one event, but must accept schedule.

ENTRY FEE: \$6.00 per man, per event. Player can enter two events at the risk of close scheduling.

ELIGIBILITY: Current (1972) U.S.H.A. Members

OFFICIAL BALL: Spalding Ace

FACILITIES: Three air-conditioned courts

TROPHIES: To first three places in each event plus a consolation trophy for first round losers bracket in both singles events providing entries will permit scheduling.

"PLUS" . . . Old Southern hospitality at its best. Also, each entrant will receive a tournament Tee Shirt. (one shirt per entrant.)

MOTEL RECOMMENDATIONS: Fleur de Lis, 288-4605 and Continental Motel, 263-5703.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: Friday, April 28, 1972. Draw will be made at Montgomery, Central Branch YMCA on Monday, May 1, 1972.

MAIL ENTRIES TO: George Johnston, Chairman, Montgomery Open Handball Assoc., Central Branch YMCA, P.O. Box 968, Montgomery, Alabama

(ENTRY BLANK BELOW DOTTED LINE)

Please enter me in OPEN SINGLES () DOUBLES () MASTERS SINGLES ()

NAME YMCA/CLUB/CENTER
(Please Print)

ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP

NAME OF DOUBLES PARTNER YMCA/CLUB/CENTER

ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP

I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the United States Handball Association, the Montgomery Central Branch YMCA or their respective agents, representatives, successors, or assigns for any and all injuries which may be suffered by me in connection with my competition in said tournament.

.....
(Signature)

Home Phone Bus. Ph.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: MONTGOMERY HANDBALL ASSOCIATION.

Probe Newly-Produced Instructional Booklet

HANDBALL by Richard C. Nelson & Harlan S. Berger, Prentice-Hall Sport Series. Prentice-Hall Inc., Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey.

These two Penn State University professors have done a very commendable job with several glaring misconceptions. This is a booklet that can serve the neophyte player as well and is written for a college level as an instructional step by step indoctrination.

I — The First Step is subtitled — "What You Need To Play Handball."

The authors feel that few physical attributes are needed to play handball — mobility, flexibility, and cardio-respiratory endurance. We could add the ability to coordinate between the brain and physical execution. That split second ability to position and stroke the ball, knowing where to place the ball and being able to adjust that separates the winners from the losers.

It is interesting to note that "In this sport of fast reflexes and sudden stops and starts, an individual of average build and strength has more than an even break when competing with a taller, heavier man because much of the action takes place near the floor." If we went to trace back over the past 20 years we would find this very much the case amongst the top nationally-ranked players. The average size of the champ would be about 5'9" and 165 pounds.

The authors state: "There are two main handicaps which might prevent a man from playing handball, or at least from developing his skill to the point where he could enjoy the game: extreme height and weight." Again, there could be exceptions as to height. A tall man with good reflexes and the big reach could readily develop into a fine player. While he might not be as good at "digging" as the good short man he would be tougher to pass, the ceiling shot would be less effective against him, and his court coverage could take less steps. I'm sure a 6-3 Jerry West or a 6-5 Oscar Robertson would both make better-than-average handballers. West has a 38" arm length.

We would add that there are many men who just do not have the coordination and reflexes to develop even average skills in handball. No matter how hard they might try to master the overhand, side arm or underhand strokes they would probably just frustrate themselves. Lou Kramberg of the New York 92nd St. YMHA has discussed this. He will take a beginning player in the court. If that man can't throw the ball properly — overhand or sidearm — Lou feels justifiably that he cannot teach him the game.

We agree that the two main benefits of the game are physical fitness and "the chance for mental relaxation." In essence handball can offer an ideal physical outlet — "Fitness The Fun Way."

The fault serves are explained with good diagrams. The power serve without hops could also be applied to the hop serves, although some speed can be taken off the hop as a change of pace.

In golf they talk about the "fluid swing." This is much the same in handball. There must be coordinated positioning of feet, arm movement and shifting of the weight in the follow through. Nelson-Berger stress — "Play the ball; do not let it play you . . . Do not run after the ball; let it come to you. When you see that the ball will bounce off a side wall, move to a spot behind the rebound point."

The authors talk about "point of contact," Bob Davidson's favorite subject. And, we agree with Nelson-Berger — "To find this spot takes some experimenting; what may be comfortable for one player may not work for another. The

exact point of contact also varies in relation to the shot to be made." As a rule of thumb we can always say the lower you can position yourself and the lower your point of contact, the lower that ball will go into the front wall.

We must disagree with the statement made by the authors on the proper way to stroke a ball off the back wall. They say, "He (the player) has positioned himself properly before the swing, not during it as many beginners do. He also swings UNDERHAND, avoiding the AWKWARD SIDE-ARM or overhand stroke." The sidearm stroke is NOT awkward and is the most effective stroke in the game. This gives leverage. Unless there is a misunderstanding between the terminology of "underhand" and "sidearm" we must point out that the ball taken properly off the back wall is stroked sidearm. The ball is contacted as low as is comfortable to the player, the body faces the side wall.

We will also have to disagree with the use of the fist shot. The authors talk about one type of the underhand "bolo" shot hitting the front wall first, at the proper angle, "will rebound to graze the ceiling and drop to the floor. If it has enough spin and continues to the back wall, it may 'bite' into the back wall, dropping sharply to the floor." The master of the underhand fist, Paul Haber, would never try that shot, unless he were in front court with his opponent right up there with him, and then it's a tough one to control. It could easily miss the ceiling and become a back wall setup.

Another rebuttal to Nelson-Berger — "The overhand fist stroke can also be used to add extra speed to pass shots or ceiling balls." NEVER . . . NEVER . . . NEVER . . . (1) An overhand fist stroke is hard to control . . . (2) It is strictly false power . . . (3) If anything, a sidearm fist shot with the offhand is preferable if lack of power is the big problem. Remember you "cut your hitting area in two when you use a fist . . . there is no flexibility with finger controls." Don't become a "pounder"!

In talking about the trap shot we would prefer to emphasize an underhand "scoop" stroke. It is very difficult to control a side arm, almost floor level sidearm stroke. Sam Haber was one of the very few I have ever seen effectively use the sidearm trap shot.

QUOTE — "Never look directly at the man hitting the ball. If you must watch the hitter, glance out of the corner of your eyes. Better yet, raise your hand or arm and peek out from under it."

CARDINAL RULE IN HANDBALL . . . Keep your eyes on the ball at all times. You CANNOT follow the ball "out of the corner of your eyes." Your reflexes will allow you to follow the ball properly, and move to the proper position. Only a "foul ball" type of shot will be liable to hit you. And, if you want to avoid the risk of getting hit in the eye wear an eye-guard. There's NO PLAYER who can avoid getting hit in the eye if the ball comes off at an angle not expected, especially in doubles. Too many players will serve the ball, then turn their back on the play, and then must pick up the return from the front wall. This takes away from the ability to anticipate properly and move into good position for the return. Yes, you can partially shield your face with your arm, moving it just above the eye level.

"Unlike champion swimmers who reach their peak in their teens, handball champions hit their stride around the age of 30."

The only reason we don't have a continuation of swim champs after 21 is their reluctance to remain "hungry," stay in rigorous training. The prime years for any physical

(to next page)

HANDBALL BOOK REVIEW

(from previous page)

type sport would normally be in the mid-20s. Only the fact that the majority of handballers start playing the game in their late teens, or after their college years, is the "prime" age moved up to 30 or even older. Give a young man a good start in handball at age 15 or 16 and the full orientation, tournament-wise and the peak will definitely come by 25 — Johnny Sloan proved that.

The big difference in swimming and track as compared to handball in the amateur sports scene is that handball play continues to be enjoyable. There is "no grind," no "self sacrifice." It doesn't take hours of daily training. So, despite the fact that the pot of gold is not available in handball there is the sheer joy of the competition, the many friendships that go with it.

Values can be gained from handball instructional booklets. We just have to be discerning.

What we are trying to do is evaluate such works, select the "wheat from the chaff," so to speak.

In general there are a few basic rules of the game that can be most helpful . . . importance of position, anticipation to get into that position, when to play offense and when to play defense, wait for the ball (the walls don't move), using the serve to advantage . . . and most important of all — CONTROL OF THE SHOTS.

Always look for better competition. Don't be afraid to lose, but learn something from your losses. Watch the better players and pick out their strong assets. For example, when Haber leaves a facility after an exhibition, everyone is serving lobs to the left, and going to the ceiling. However, they would have a tough time trying to copy his off-hand (if his left could be termed his offhand) kills off the back wall.

There are various patterns of successful handball play, much acclimated to physical attributes. The short, compact Lou Russo gains best results from quickness, the fly shots . . . the big arms like Gordy Pfeifer and Ray Neveau can bomb the ball from all angles of the court and can keep up this firing pace throughout a match. Haber is a control artist, excellent retriever with offensive and defensive abilities with both hands, and that is what has spelled championships for him.

HANDBALL Magazine varies from the usual theme of a strict book review. We interject what knowledge we may have to supplement or rebutt its content.

Whatever you do in your development planning — remember — play on a regular schedule — at least three times a week . . . vary your opponents . . . play both singles and doubles.



KING COUNTY OPEN . . . Seattle White Center singles finalists (l to r) — Bob Tate, third; Lea McMillan, second; Bill Mahurin, tourney director; Ron Patricelli, winner.



SHUMATE TOPS . . . Bill Brown (left) congratulates Buzz Shumate on Colorado singles win in tournament held at Denver YMCA. Buzz has been dominating the Rocky Mountain tourneys since moving back to his home baliwick from Dallas. Brown was runnerup.

March 10-12 . . .

First Gorham Sports Center State Tourney in San Diego

The Mel Gorham California Handball Championship tournament will be held at his Sports Center facility in San Diego, March 10-12. The new six-court club recently hosted the San Diego open competition and the Western International Racquetball Association division. Both tournaments were successful and enjoyed by participants and fans.

The California Handball Championship is open to USHA members residing in California. The Gorham Sport Center is located at 960 Turquoise St., Pacific Beach. This is just ten minutes from downtown San Diego and is conveniently located to all tourist and transportation facilities.

This tournament is being sponsored by the San Diego Handball Association and tournament chairman will be Warren Hazard. Under the USHA sanction members must be current (1972); if not, entrant will be required to join to become eligible for the tournament. They can sign up at the tournament site; or, send the fee in with entry blanks (\$3 for 1972; \$7 for 1972-74 . . . make membership-subscription checks payable to: U.S. Handball Association).

The tournament entry fee is \$7 per player; \$12 for two entries. Since the tournament is being run over a three-day period participants in A class only can enter in two events.

SPECIAL AWARD: Winners of Class A singles and Class A doubles will receive from Mel Gorham's Sport Center round trip air coach transportation to the USHA nationals in Seattle (scheduled April 15-22). Doubles team must remain intact for this award.

Sign up three NEW USHA members and we'll send you a pair of the new, colorful Columbia Blue or Gold backed S-102 Saranac gloves. Indicate size—S, M, L or X-L. List the three names and addresses at \$3 for 1972; \$7 through 1974. Mail check to: USHA, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, IL 60076.

OFFICIAL ENTRY

MEL GORHAM'S CALIFORNIA FOUR-WALL HANDBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

- DATES: March 10-12, 1972 Entry Deadline: Feb. 29, 1972.
- MATCH TIMES: Will be posted at the Mel Gorham Sport Center and play will start at 9 a.m., March 10, 1972. All matches must be played as scheduled
- SITE: Mel Gorham's Sport Center, 960 Turquoise St. San Diego, Calif. 92109.
Phone—Area Code 714. 448-8361
- OFFICIAL BALL: Spalding ACE.
- ELEGIBILITY: Open to current (1972) USHA members. \$3 a year covers membership and subscription to HANDBALL Magazine. Entrants can send fee with entry fee, or cover upon arrival. Must be residents of California.
- ENTRY FEE: \$7 per man. \$12 for two events. (A event only) Entry fee must accompany entry.
- TROPHIES: To first 3 places in each division.
- SPECIAL AWARD: Winners in class A singles and Class A doubles only will receive from Mel Gorham's Sport Center round trip air-coach transportation to USHA National Championships at Seattle. Doubles team must remain as a team to qualify for this award.
- BUFFET.
- SPONSORED BY: San Diego Handball Association with USHA sanction, and under the auspices of Mel Gorham's Sport Center, San Diego.

Mel Gorham's Sport Center Tournament Committee
Tournament Chairman: Warren Hazard
Class A, B, C (circle)

☐ SINGLES ☐ A DOUBLES ☐ MASTERS SINGLES
(must be over 40)

NAME
(please print)

PARTNER
(please print)

ADDRESS

CITY

CITY

ADDRESS

Requests for hotel reservations. Please be specific as to dates and types of accommodations wanted. Out of town-ers will be scheduled Friday. Advance playing times will be available by phone from March 7. (714 448-8361)

There is only one official tournament ball.

When you play the tournaments, the ball they put into play is the Spalding Red Label Ace. No other.

It's the official ball for every regional and national USHA tournament, and the YMCA and Canadian nationals. Out of its perfect roundness comes rifle sight accuracy. And out of its sizzling rebound comes some of the liveliest play you'll ever have a hand in.

Spalding pressure packs the Red Label Ace ball (four are individually packed in a can) so they never get flat or stale or out of shape. Order yours through your nearest quality sporting goods dealer. Or contact the Spalding branch nearest you—or write the USHA, 4101 Dempster Street, Skokie, Illinois 60076.



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Neil Bocian Finds Groove

Despite another second place national one-wall finish

Howie Eisenberg finds satisfaction in prepping youngster

This rather introspective exposition may be interpreted as solely the subjective machinations of the writer or perhaps be partially generalized to be representative of typical reactions.

It all begins with the knowledge that a national one-wall handball tournament has been scheduled for some period two or three months hence. At this point little thought is given to the tournament except to mentally note that it will be occupying some of my time in late October.

The fact that I will be competing in the nationals is almost a foregone conclusion, more a matter of habit than conscious decision. There are certain real considerations contributing to this subconscious process not the least of which is the realization that playing one-wall handball is something that I do better than most people. The ego satisfaction of reaffirming this fact to the "world" as well as to myself is no small factor.

As the tournament date approaches, a doubles partner must be chosen. In the past this decision has been a simple one. Ken Davidoff and I have been playing together since 1962 and our complementary styles have provided us with the satisfaction of winning several national championships as well as a larger number of frustrating defeats.

However, a new choice must be made this time because in the process of winning the national doubles with me, Kenny injured his back severely and is temporarily incapacitated. Although most of the better players have selected partners, several are still available. Ordinarily I would attempt to play with someone from this pool of veteran talent but an alternative is subtly forming in my mind.

Neil Bocian, a 21 year-old pre-med student who had never played in competition has suddenly appeared on the scene. Neil, a tall rangy lefty with a power hitting swing and aggressive game, is reminiscent of a young Kenny Davidoff. There are many flaws in his game but Neil is enthusiastic and a receptive pupil. He listens avidly and works to correct many of the deficiencies borne of inexperience.

In the course of just two months he changes the height at which he hits his serve; corrected a hitch in his overhand swing; learned to "read" hooks and to effectively balance well executed kill

shots with power drives.

All of this notwithstanding, Neil's relative inexperience makes winning with him a questionable proposition. In spite of my previously asserted flippancy about finishing second, the primary objective in competing is winning. With some recrimination and perhaps against my better judgment, I decided to play with my protegee.

Neil's play in the singles as well as my own lend little credence to our changes, as we both lose. My reservations about my partner are now compounded by doubts about my own ability.

However, a new element is injected into my attitude. My ignominious defeat induces a determination which is reinforced by the seeding committee in their capricious disregard of basic rules in formulation of the "draw".

After a surprisingly easy victory against John Reicher and Al Torres, we are taken to three games in the quarterfinals by Ken Gamble and Ronnie Berkowitz. Neil's play, understandably erratic in spots, is brilliant in others.

The "moment of truth" comes with our semi-final match against Carl and Ruby Obert. The Oberts, champions many times, can be expected to employ their considerable talents to test the mettle of seasoned players, not to mention a first-time competitor.

The first game begins inauspiciously. Adopting a strategy of play designed to exploit Neil's inexperience, they take a 16-1 lead. It would have been quite natural for Neil to succumb to the pressure at this point but instead he rallies to the challenge. Following my lead, he overcomes his early anxiety and plays solidly throughout the rest of the match. Victory in the second and third games is sweet and a vindication of all doubts that may have been entertained.

The finals proves to be the culmination of Neil's efforts. Playing against the devastating power of Wally Ulbrich and the wily Artie Reyer for the first time, Neil demonstrates the poise of a champion. Undaunted by the pressure, he makes few mistakes and displays an exciting variety of shots and retrieves.

Unfortunately, I once again have played my best match in the semi-finals and the Reyer-Ulbrich team prevail. But this second place (my sixteenth!) is not without reward. This time for me, the championship is anti-climactic and Neil's development is the true victory.

We now count 180 members in the Association for 1972, including six honorary. The latter group represents those in San Diego who have an interest in us and who we count as friends, or important handball officials we can coordinate with when our sport stretches away from San Diego — and who we also count as friends.

The membership card will be what we all make it. Hopefully it will mean clinics, a special tournament, and perhaps a great beach party — among other things.

The 1972 COUNTY OPEN was a fantastic success — 144 singles entrants and more than 75 doubles teams. The hospitality of Mel Gorham, Jim Whelan, and Ross Smith was something we'll never forget. When the dust settled on Turquoise Street Dec. 11, it was Tom Penick who stood alone at the top of the hill — the County Champ, after a 21-9; 19-21; 21-9 grind out with Art Savage. The Class B prize was captured by unseeded Carl Hubbel, son of the former great New York Giant baseball hurler, over favored Don Chamberlin. Carl was remarkably consistent throughout the tournament. In the C Class finals, a fired-up Dave Monjo blazed past a tricky Chuck Nicholas 21-13; 21-18.

The Doubles Championship went to the power packed team of Warren Hazard-Don Duarte, which dazzled Penick and Doc Maas 21-13; 21-4. In the Class B finals it was the old fox, Frank Coyle, who teamed with Ward Duarte to defeat a fine Bucky Walters-Emil Becker team 21-12; 15-21; and 21-4. Class C honors went to Chuck Nicholas and Dan Schmitt over a determined team of Storm Wery and Bob Gorham 21-18; 8-21; 21-20.

Spirit award candidate: Ward Duarte, for playing out his third singles game with Storm Wery despite severe leg cramps. Storm was a gentleman, but finished him off . . . Ken Flaherty, old Downtown YMCA star, still looks good, but now wears the colors of Bob Janis' Oceanside Gym and Health Club . . . How about Ray Leidich and Dick Shaw overcoming a 4-20 deficit against Don Duarte and Warren Hazard in a doubles game, which stunned everybody . . . Ken Comina can't wait for the next tournament already . . . It was the craftsmanship of Lee Henrichs & Co. which was responsible for designing and building the SDHA booth and scorecard tripods. Great job Lee, and thanks.

Rich Drabik Wins USHA Contenders

The Illinois Handball Association's annual Central Contenders has long been a "sounding board" for future nationally-ranked players. Down through the years, commencing with a nomenclature of "novice tournament", the winners have gone on to bigger things — Johnny Sloan, Phil Collins, Phil Elbert, Jack McDonald, Andy Upatnieks, Denny Hofflander — among others.

Rich Drabik, member of the Chicago Fire Department, was not to be denied this year. Runnerup last year, Rich had no easy task in his six-match route to the championship, in the 120-entry field. He got No. 6 and the prize by beating Tony Reiting, Duncan Y, 21-5, 16-21, 21-14. Of the two, Reiting was actually more impressive throughout the week, never being pressed to the three-game route, but he appeared tight in the final test . . .

got off to a bad start, fought back for a second game win, then couldn't find the range in the decider.

Surprising third place winner was 41-year-old Ed Beirne, another Chicago fireman. Beirne, with fine control, slow down tempo and coolness, beat a former runnerup, Chuck Osterman, then Evanston Y's Dick Segil in the quarters in three. Against Drabik, Beirne came back after losing a tough opener, to win 21-10, enjoying a 15-0 lead, but couldn't get up enough oxygen for the third game as Drabik rushed out to a long lead. Ed bounced back the next day to beat younger Fred Kummer of the Lake Shore Club, 21-15, 21-17, for third place.

This was a new record entry for the event and it was wise that the Northwest Suburban Y was host with its eight courts. Joe Ardito & his company of IHA offi-

cials did overtime service in running off the matches. Tony Riggio, restaurant owner, donated food for a well laden opening day hospitality room buffet table.

Scores from the quarters: Rich Drabik (No. 1 seed) def. Tony Paris, West Suburban Y, 21-8, 21-14; Ed Beirne, Chicago Fire Department, def. Dick Segil, Evanston Y, 20-21, 21-11, 21-9.

Fred Kummer, Lake Shore Club, def. Mike Loper, West Suburban Y, 14-21, 21-8, 21-10; Tony Reiting, Duncan Y, def. Jim Cashmore, Northwest Suburban Y, 21-6, 21-12.

Semi-finals: Drabik def. Beirne, 21-16, 10-21, 21-6; Reiting def. Kummer, 21-14, 21-12.

Finals: Drabik def. Reiting, 21-5, 16-21, 21-14.

Third Place: Beirne def. Kummer, 21-15, 21-17.



CHICAGO AREA POTENTIALS . . . (l to r) — Tony Reiting, representing Duncan YMCA, appeared well on his way to the annual USHA's Central Contenders title, but 'snagged' against last year's runnerup, Chicago Fire Department member, Rich Drabik. In addition to championship trophy Rich won a trip to the nationals in Seattle compliments of Bob Kendler's Community Builders.

—Photo by Don 'Limpo' Cecconi

Steve August Winner As 222 Enter at Fresno

It was a two-a-day schedule in the annual West Division USHA championships held Feb. 4-6 at the Fresno YMCA. When the dawn to midnight and longer action ceased it was Dr. Steve August, now practicing as an ophthalmologist in the Los Angeles area, who proved the class of the singles field, beating Gary Ryan, San Francisco's South End Rowing Club, 21-14, 16-21, 21-9.

"Import" Bob Lindsay, who reportedly qualified because he is doing some commuting between El Paso and Long Beach, teamed with George Timberlake, to beat No. 1 seeded Mike Kelly and Mike Dunne, San Francisco, 19-21, 21-14, 21-8.

Milt Cornell, Hollywood Y, had the stamina and know how to beat Bob Little, Olympic Club, in the Masters singles, 9-21, 21-10, 21-10. And, it was again the smooth-performing Masters doubles team of Arnold Aguilar and Irv Simon (USHA national Masters champs) who won over fellow Los Angeles A.C. teammates, Bill Badham and Gabe Enriquez, 21-9, 21-17.

Third placers: Harold Price, Hollywood Y, over Bob Bourbeau, Reno Y, default. Jim Triplett-Bruce McCormick, Pomona and Riverside Ys respectively, over Tom Rohrback and Dick Crisman, L.A. Fire Dept., 6-21, 21-13, 21-8. Masters singles — Howie Wyrsh beat Marv Gurian, Pasadena Y, 21-4, 21-16. Masters doubles — Alex Boisseree and Daryl Bond, Los Angeles A.C., over Stan Clawson and Dino Pezzi, South End Rowing Club, 21-9, 21-4.

On the opening Friday USHA Floor Manager Al Gracio toiled until 2 a.m. to run off too many matches to count.

QUICK NOTES: Your reporter Mort Leve attended his first one at Fresno and was amazed at the total efficiency of George Takaoka and his good wife, and the other aforementioned stalwarts — Al Gracio, Frank Zuniga, Gene Saroyan . . . cooperation from Duane Temple, physical director . . . a hospitality room that never stopped serving goodies of all sorts . . . a Mexican style banquet . . . choice words from National Commissioner Joe Shane.

Championship Neveau-Fein Team Too Much for Haber in Milwaukee

By LARRY LEDERMAN
Wisconsin USHA Commissioner

Can a "Super" No. 1 good man beat two good men?

The answer to this handball question exploded in Paul Haber's face Dec. 29 at the Milwaukee Jewish Community Center when the USHA and AAU doubles champions, Ray Neveau and Simie Fein, proved to Paul that they don't own the doubles crown for nothing.

Haber wanted to prove that he could take any two men alive if he took two serves. Simie Fein retorted that "he wouldn't think of playing the game unless he took his full measure . . . and after all, it is a doubles match."

Haber was still gloating over the matches that took place three years ago at the JCC in Milwaukee and the Oshkosh YMCA when he whipped them ceremoniously and promised to again mete out the same measure. But Haber did not count on the fact that the Wisconsin duo must have jelled into a pretty fair team to capture the AAU crown, represent the United States in the World Tournament, and then win the most coveted prize of all, the USHA National Doubles championship.

The scores of the games were 21-13 and 21-12 in favor of Neveau-Fein.

The first game opened slowly as both teams sized each other up for vulnerable weaknesses. Neveau got a few of his patented "kills" off the back wall for a 6-2 lead and Haber came back with left handed placements to close it to 6-5.

Fein then opened up with his "new" game, an assortment of kills on the left and right, which brought the scores up consecutively to 8-5 and then 10-5. Haber then went to work and narrowed the

gap to 13-12, chiefly on hook pass shots and reverses.

At this point, it was evident that playing against two men would take its toll in stamina as Neveau rattled off five consecutive backwall kills for an 18-12 lead. Simie served a couple of aces down the right wall and then killed the last point for a 21-13 victory.

The packed gallery felt that Haber was going to thunder back in the second game, but the rumblings were only minor tremors and of no consequence as the national doubles champs opened up with a 5-2 lead, increased it to 9-2 and then 14-2. It was evident that "gas" can only be bought at filling stations as Haber failed to come up fast to cover low shots.

At 18-3, Haber made his bid and looked like the champ as he rolled out seven "kills" to come up to 10 points but Neveau snuffed this out with a couple of well-executed shots. Haber's ceiling ball on the left, his most heralded weapon, made no impression on Neveau as he methodically returned every ball to Haber's right side. With Haber shooting from the right instead of the left, Fein and Neveau were ready for every return and made their shots count. Fein moved in like a cat to cover Haber's low returns and capitalized them into kills or pass plays.

The final score was 21-12. But Haber is not convinced! He said he will be back for a return match under proper conditions . . . "that he will be sure to inflict on himself before the next encounter."

Not court conditions, or game considerations, mind you . . . but human conditions . . . pursuits of eating, sleeping, and drinking.



DOUBLES CHAMPS . . . (l to r)—Dave Graybill, who has dominated the Arizona handball scene the past decade; Mary Atkinson, 'Miss Roadrunner Handball for 1972'; Bob Cecere, who gave good right side support.

Arizona . . .

Results of the Arizona State Doubles Championship matches held at the Phoenix YMCA, Nov. 19-21:

Dave Graybill and Joe Cecere defeated Rene Zamorano and John Bart to take the Arizona State Doubles Championship 21-17; 15-21; 21-5. Dave had to go all out to win this one and he was ably supported by "Little Joe" on the right side.

In the play-off for third place, Mike (The Magician) Treacy, put on an exhibition of right side play rarely (if ever) seen in Arizona. Mike and Chuck Griffin completely dominated Howie Feldman and Tom Kay, a top doubles duo from Tucson. Scores were: 21-10, 21-4. In the second game "The Magician" used fly kills with both hands and a tremendous hop serve to either side to completely dominate the game.

We came close to having an all-Phoenix final for the first time but Griffin and Treacy were nosed out by "Zam" and Bart 21-4; 20-21; 21-20. This was the first time Griffin and Treacy have teamed up and we are looking forward to having a 1-2 punch with Graybill, Cecere; and Griffin-Treacy to compete with any Rocky Mountain Doubles squad.

We have reorganized handball in Phoenix and hope to again be one of the hot beds in the Rocky Mountain area. I have been appointed Commissioner for 1972 and my committee includes Graybill, Cecere, Jim Ingraham, Dick Logan, Mike Treacy and Chuck Griffin. We are at present discussing a Rocky Mountain Invite for early '72.

NOTE: On the bulletin board at the Y is a challenge . . . Graybill against Ron Hasting, best racquetballer in the area and a recent move in from Madison, Wisc. — another "hands against the racquet".

MARTIN J. KLOMAN

Spread of Faith . . .

The next time you visit your Dentist or have an appointment with your Doctor you can do a lot of people a real favor . . . And you can help "spread the faith." How??? By taking along this issue of HANDBALL Magazine (after you have read it of course) and leaving it on the reception room table. There are many players who require the services of these professional men and, who knows, what great oaks may grow from the acorns you plant. Men who are not yet members and their families may find the copy you leave there the inspiration they need to light their fire. . . .

The life blood of the players' fraternity is new members. Can you think of an easier way to stimulate its circulation?

One-Wall 'Day of Stars' Benefits Charities

By UGO BONTEMPO

The annual Day of Stars Jan. 9, hosted by the Brownsville Handball Club, featured 1971 USHA one-wall champions, runnersup and some former champions. It was again a "smashing" four-star production.

The local charities for which the "Day" is primarily presented, and handball, benefited by its success.

Some 500 spectators were partially rewarded for their contributions by the brilliant games played by the star players. These players donated their time to the cause.

Six strongly-contested games — or matches — were played, headed by charity-minded champion, Steve Sandler. Steve deserves special mention as he volunteered to play two matches. This is his sixth year as champion and his ability and tenacity deserve attention. On introducing him as the 1971 USHA one-wall champion, I as m.c. said, "Due

to my senior age and due to my lifelong interest in sports and athletics, I have been fortunate to have seen, enjoyed and studied great athletes both here and abroad. Some of these athletes were: Jim Thorpe, Christy Mathewson, Hal Chase, Babe Ruth, Joe DiMaggio, Bill Tilden, Don Budge, Paavo Nurmi, Jesse Owens, Jack Dempsey, Joe Louis, Rocky Marciano and the many handball stars, but never have I seen an athlete better equipped for his respective sport than this Steve Sandler. He is simply amazing."

The national stars who participated in the exciting games besides Sandler included: Ruby Obert, Marty Decatur, Mark Levine, Howie Eisenberg, Wally Ulbrich, Dr. Joel Wisotsky, Dave Norvid, Mike Dikman, Marty Katzen, Charlie Danilezyk, Ray Gershen, Marcel Goldfarb, Doc Tom Hopkins, Joe Rispoli, Steve Gallo, Al Torres, Tony Quintero, Rafael Santiago, George Hargett and Louis Torres. Each one of them deserves praise. It seems to me that these

players often play more exciting games in exhibitions than in tournaments, probably due to the fact that they are more relaxed and are sometimes trying to show off their "stuff," as they did on this Day of Stars.

Among the many distinguished spectators was Paul Markowitz, public relations representative of Borough President Sebastian Leone. Specially honored was Irving Beck for his many contributions to handball (on and off the court).

Marvin Greenberg, newly elected Club president, was the efficient chairman. He was ably assisted by outgoing President Norman Butler, Morris Levitsky, Mickey Blechman, Willy Kong, Curley Martin and myself, plus a number of other committeemen — Murray Collins, Tony Quintero, Herbie Greenberg, Milt Kashan, Morris Franco, Harry Brier, Irv Rosenblatt, and our national one-wall co-committeeman, Kevin Kilgallen, all of this enterprising and always busy Brownsville Handball Club.

British Columbia . . .

The 1972 British Columbia closed handball championships were held at the Vancouver YMCA and Vancouver A.C. Eighty of the top players in the province competed in singles and doubles. It marked the first time in years that one player got the "Slam". Bob Wilson, Vancouver Y, dethroned defending titlist, Vic Kristopaitis of the same Y, 21-12, 16-21, 21-17. It was an exhausting 2¾-hour match with both players retrieving brilliantly.

In the semis "Kristo" took Mel Brown, 21-13, 21-11. Wilson made the finals with a tough win over 43-year-old Don "Cougar" Kulch, who can hustle with the best . . . 21-12, 14-21, 21-13.

Wilson and Mel Brown, former Canadian national doubles champs, defeated a fired up team of Ed Boone and Bill Cooksley, 21-12-13-21, 21-11. It is the seventh straight doubles victory for Wilson-Brown. In the semis Boone-Cooksley won over Bud Venables and Kristopaitis, 12-21, 21-19, 21-14. Other semi had Wilson-Brown over Rod Pantages and Jack Alton of the Vancouver A.C., 21-18, 21-18. The winner will now represent British Columbia at the Western Canada tournament in Calgary and then at the nationals in Edmonton in March.

DATES — March 16-18

Canadian National Handball Association Bruce Collins plans an all-out weekend of his hometown Edmonton hospitality for the annual Canadian National championships.

Handball around the world in Berlin



Handball Tip No. 8 When playing against the Berlin Wall — avoid Prussian opponents.

Recalls Historic Moment in USHA History

Veteran Illinois handballer-administrator tells of 1961 top brass meeting in Denver

NOTE: Hally Gradman recalls a fascinating chapter in USHA's early struggle for handball supremacy. Hally is a charter member of USHA, a former Illinois State handball champion, a ten-time president of the Illinois Handball Association, and for eight years served as the articulate chairman of USHA's nominating committee.

* * *

By HALLY GRADMAN

The news of the death of Larry Rothenberg, the great old timer who contributed so much to Detroit handball and USHA cast a pall of gloom among the many who had known him. But only a few will recall that Larry came within one word of becoming USHA's third National Commissioner. All Larry had to say was "yes" — and therein lies a story.

Back in 1961, I was completing my eighth year as Chairman of the USHA's Nominating Committee. The setting was the national tournament and convention in Denver. Our Association, at the time, was locked in a bitter dialogue with the AAU for handball supremacy, and it was evident that imaginative steps would have to be taken if we were to neutralize the vitriolic oratory of the AAU's dynamic chairman, Charles O'Connell.

Our Nominating Committee was confronted with a dilemma. Our president, Bob Kendler, was swarmed with personal business and needed help. Hymen Goldstein, then commissioner, had done a creditable job for six years, but it was now clear that our continuing confrontation with the AAU demanded a legally-trained mind in the commissioner's seat.

Just how does one go about asking a proud man of Goldstein's caliber to step down? Only one way, bluntly and with absolute candor. As expected, Hymie wasn't happy about it, but his response was characteristic of the man. After his initial burst of invective, he calmly said, "Now you know I don't like it, so tell me what can I do for handball?"

My next step was to ask Kendler for suggestions pertaining to the selection of a new Commissioner. And for a man who allegedly pulls all the strings, you can imagine my reaction when he said, "Hally, I have absolute confidence in you and your committee. You have my assurance that I will accept and cooperate with whatever decisions you reach."

Our Nominating Committee went back to work. For several hours we evaluated our membership, the great and near greats, the leaders and misleaders, and after considerable harangue boiled down our selections to a brilliant and dedicated twosome, both successful attorneys, Larry Rothenberg and Joe Shane. It was my suggestion that on the basis of seniority, the first bid should go to Rothenberg. The Committee concurred. I telephoned Larry in Detroit and his reaction was one of disbelief. With much emotion he declared that he would always consider our proposal one of the great honors bestowed upon him, but because of failing health would not be capable of doing justice to the job. He promised, however, to continue in his efforts to make the annual 3-Wall Tournament in Detroit the most outstanding tourney

of its kind.

My next step was to seek out Shane. My recollection of our conversation is as vivid as if it had occurred only yesterday. I said, "Joe, I'll level with you. Our committee has asked Rothenberg to accept the nomination for National Commissioner. He can't take it . . . Now we are asking you to step in and do the job for us."

Joe was not offended that he represented our second choice. In fact, he acknowledged our good judgment in having considered Larry for the post, and also expressed concern for Larry's deteriorating condition. Regarding the job, Joe thoughtfully remarked that it represented a tremendous challenge. A definitive reply, he said, would require a bit of soul searching, and I suggested that he sleep on it until the following morning. As a Californian, Joe's acceptance, I knew, would disrupt family life and a lucrative law practice. And so I anticipated nothing!

There is no point to prolonging this narrative. Larry Rothenberg came within a whisper of becoming our National Commissioner of Handball. Joe Shane has completed a tenure of ten years on the job, and has earned his niche in the Helm's Foundation Hall of Fame. However, for my last comments, I must again return to Larry Rothenberg and to the beautiful words of Dr. John Scapis who said of his friend, "The best way to describe Larry is to say that if you loved handball . . . you became enriched with his warmth and charms."

Just ask anyone who really knew him.

Rick Scores a Big One at Irvine

Rick Christian prepped for his big National Junior under-19 USHA victory by defeating Harold Price in the semis and Dr. Len Rosen in the finals of the open University of California at Irvine tournament in early December. Christian beat Rosen, 21-19, 21-9.

Steve Bell, Pomona Y, and Jerry Conine, San Bernardino Y, defeated Jerry Goldman and Hank Reinhardt, Hollywood Y, 21-6, 21-20 in the open doubles. Skip McDowell and Tom Crail of the now defunct Pacific Coast Club beat Harry Packer and Ron Spivak of the Los Angeles A.C. for third place, 21-12, 21-8.

Durable Milt Cornell, representing the

Atlantis Club, beat Bob Henley, San Bernardino Y, 21-1, 21-5 in the Masters singles. Marv Gurian, Pasadena Y, was third place winner over Ted Hilgenstuhler, Hollywood Y, 21-8, 21-10.

Current USHA Masters doubles titlists Irv Simon and Arnold Aguilar, Los Angeles A.C., beat stablemates, Bill Badham and Gabe Enriquez, 15-21, 21-11, 21-18, for the Masters doubles top prizes. Hank Aguilar, Los Angeles A.C., and Ray Lopez, Los Angeles Y, won third place over Wally Ris and Daryl Bond, Los Angeles A.C. by default.

There were 156 entrants in the weekend tournament.

Niagara Falls, N.Y. . . .

Kent Fusselman, Warren, Ohio defeated Barry Leech, Toronto, in the finals 21-5 and 21-9. This was the 13th Holiday tournament.

To reach the finals Kent beat John Filsinger, Buffalo, 21-14 and 21-14, while Barry defeated Jim Yee, New York, 21-19, 2-21 and 21-14.

In the doubles, Tomaczak and Cannavino, Erie, Pa., defeated Ron Sibbald and Stan Kray, Toronto, Canada 21-15, 21-10. Watches and trophies were presented to the winners.

Plans are already underway for No. 14 — bigger and better.

from the KILLSHOT ROOM by Mort Leve

Strictly Amateur Status . . .

Terry L. Fischer, graduate student in physical education at Indiana University and a self-professed avid handball player, is writing a term project on "Conditioning for the Highly Competitive Handball Player."

We supplied Terry with the names and addresses of the top 19 ranked players and he got a response from 14.

Such questions were asked: "Do you believe in weight training of any kind?" . . . "How many days a week should one train with weights?" . . . "How much do you really know about the proper procedure for weight training? (proper methods, breathing, number of days per week, etc.)"

The question was also asked, "If you don't subscribe to weight training, why not?"

Then followed, "Do you believe in running of any kind?"

The players were asked about drinking, smoking, diet, sleep, calisthenics.

There were varied opinions on weight training. Everyone agrees that running is good. Paul Haber did not answer these queries so the question of drinking was answered — if any, in moderation . . . only a few smoke and that too in moderation. Majority of the players like 8 hours sleep.

It must be remembered that these players are amateurs and they just cannot confine themselves to a regimented handball-training program. When the question of how many hours a week indulged in handball play this, too, varied because some players are able to have the time while others are limited. Fred Lewis and Dave Graybill are able to play almost daily and will average more than 10 hours a week on the courts. Marty Decatur gets in only 2-4 hours a week.

And, so it is with the accompanying training methods. We would definitely say that proper weight training, calisthenics, diet, sleep, daily play, and running should all be part of a player's program — if time were available.

In tennis we now have professionalism and the 20 top players have been sharing in many weekend cash prize competitions, averaging \$30,000 to \$50,000. Rod Laver led the list of money winners last year with over \$270,000. Marty Riessen of our Evanston, Ill., area, ranking sixth, was over \$75,000. Now, these players can devote full time to tennis without any outside financial pressures. Because they are on a strenuous tennis tournament tour schedule I'm sure they have little time for anything other than straight court play.

And, so there is the time-repeated phrase, "Play your way into shape." Haber insists that this is his success program . . . and of all the players on the scene today he is the one who can devote his full "day-time" pursuits to the four walls. We know a Terry Muck or Lou Russo would love to be able to give more time to actual play, and we're also convinced either or both these youngsters would be 25% or more efficient in tournament action if they could.

We do remember Paul telling us of working himself in shape when he was in the San Francisco Bay Area by complementing his handball with running along the Pacific beaches.

We questioned USHA President Bob Kendler about training habits of the late Joe Platak, the record nine-time national singles four-wall champion. Bob trained with Joe and outlined the full range of activities — running 5½ miles a day on the Chicago Lincoln Park bridge path with many hops, skips and jumps because of the horse apples . . . Platak going up and down ten flights of stairs at the Lake Shore Club on ONE foot, alternating . . . rigid situp exercises . . . barbell work . . . steady regimen of handball play usually against two men. Here we have a champion who encompassed the full

range of conditioning exercises with his handball.

All things being equal could there be any argument against the FULL training program compared to sporadic handball play? We think not. A couple of players, against weight training, felt it might tighten them up or slow their quickness. But, if done properly with the right guidance I'm sure weight training can be helpful.

There's one off court activity that cannot be overlooked and that is running. Nobody will underestimate its stamina-building values, the cardiovascular efficiency exercise that cannot be topped.

Fischer originally wanted to case study 100 leading handball players, but I'm sure the overall results would be quite similar to the 14 replies he received.

In high school or college varsity athletics — and, of course, in the pros — the athletes are disciplined, guided and given the time to undergo full training programs. In our handball world such is not the case. Even in the non-recognized intercollegiate handball coaches like Pete Tyson (Texas) or Mike Dau (Lake Forest) are unable to spend enough time with their team players to indulge in a real organized training routine. All they can do is give these boys a program and hope enough time will be taken from studies to cover at least a part of it.

As an avocation the majority of handballers play the game as a "Fun Way to Physical Fitness" . . . they might have some time for out-of-court physical training but it takes will power and dedication to do some or all of the other activities . . . and there will be little enjoyment in so doing.

In conclusion, Fischer says, "Handball players, in general, have one main thought on how to condition for handball and how to improve their game. That thought is to play handball and then more handball." Overall he was disappointed about training procedures practiced by these players as there is to consistency. But, this we can understand because the simple fact is their participation is AVOCATION, not VOCATION!

North Carolina . . .

Dick Miller, Greensboro, won his 4th straight Tri-City singles, held at the Greensboro Central YMCA, defeating Hal Lackey, High Point, in a tough, 3 game finals, 20-21, 21-6, 21-10. This tournament is held annually at the Greensboro Y and attracts players from High Point and Winston-Salem as well as Greensboro.

The doubles was won by Hal Lackey and Wally Wright, High Point, as they defeated Dick Miller and Jim Bryant, Greensboro, 21-20, 21-5.

Elbert-Schneider Take Central Masters

The strongest Central USHA Masters doubles tournament in its history was staged at the new courts of the West Suburban YMCA in LaGrange, Ill., Dec. 6-12. When the firing ended it was the new "monster duo" of Ken Schneider and Phil Elbert living up to pre-tourney picks and unseating defending champs, Nunzio "Red" Mugavero and Tony "No Boy" Tenerelli, 21-6, 20-21, 21-16. It started out as almost a sweeping rout with a comparatively smooth sailing first game win and a 17-4 second game margin for the newcomer to Masters, Elbert, now 40, and the veteran and talented campaigner, Schneider, 51. But, the tide turned rapidly as Ken was visibly tired and shaky and before the amazed gallery could realize it the tenacious defending titlists crept up and snuck away with a 21-20 win. Schneider just couldn't bounce back in the final game and it was the "road runner" Elbert who had to take charge finally. He moved over to the left side and of the foursome it was Phil's stamina that told the story.

Another neophyte to the Masters rank was the former brilliant national doubles champion partner of Johnny Sloan's, Phil Collins. Phil teamed up at the last hour with Nevin Bowser of the Lake Shore Club. Largely on the big Collins' serve and know how the team went to the semis before losing to Mugavero and Tenerelli. Schneider and Elbert had a nip and tuck first game in the semis against the National Fire Fighters' Masters champs, Dick Giangreco and LeRoy Kelly, 21-19, but then won the second going away. Giangreco and Kelly took third place over Collins and Bowser, 21-20, 21-6.



CAVORTING JUST LIKE THE YOUNGSTERS . . . Masters finalists with Illinois Handball Association officials . . . top (l to r)—Nunzio 'Red' Mugavero and Tony Tenerelli, runnersup; Ken Schneider, first place; Don Judy of the IHA and host West Suburban Y; Joe Ardito, IHA president. Bottom (l to r)—Fred Ballentine, host Y; Ben Costello of the IHA; neophyte Master Phil Elbert, co-winner.

Jack Gordon, the national USHA Golden Masters champ (with San Francisco's Dick Siewert) teamed with Lee Hoeft, and lost to Mugavero and Tenerelli in the quarters in three games.

There were 33 teams in this year's competition, almost a doubling over last year.

Scores from the quarters: Nunzio Mugavero and Tony Tenerelli, Duncan Y, def. Jack Gordon and Lee Hoeft, Northwest Suburban Y, 21-11, 16-21, 21-6; Phil Collins and Nevin Bowser, Lake Shore Club, def. Fred Ballantine and Joe

McFadden, West Suburban Y, 21-16, 21-12; Ken Schneider, Evanston Y, and Phil Elbert, Oak Park Y, def. Elliott Ets Hokin and Tom Hicks, West Suburban Y, 21-9, 21-1; Dick Giangreco and LeRoy Kelly, Chicago Fire Dept., def. Tony Klimek and Mike Laeff, 111th St. YMCA, 21-18, 21-20.

Semi-finals: Mugavero-Tenerelli def. Collins-Bowser, 21-10, 21-20; Schneider-Elbert def. Giangreco-Kelly, 21-19, 21-6.

Finals: Schneider-Elbert def. Mugavero-Tenerelli, 21-6, 20-21, 21-16.

Third place: Giangreco-Kelly def. Collins-Bowser, 21-20, 21-6.

Oregon State Singles at Portland JCC Feb. 27-March 4

The 1972 Oregon State Singles Handball Championships are to be hosted by the new Portland Jewish Community Center, 6651 SW Capitol Highway, 244-0111. Dates have been set for Feb. 27-March 4.

A record number of entries is anticipated in singles. In class A singles the stage is set for a possible rematch of last year, with Ken McQueen defending his title against strong challenges from Tony Stramiello and Jack Foster.

With the largest field of competitors ever, additional gallery space is being constructed where both player and public

can view action daily beginning about 3 p.m. and running until 10 p.m.

Individual trophies will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers and to consolation winner at the awards banquet, March 4.

Entries for the tournament are available at local YMCA's or handball facility. For further information, Contact Bill Simon, tournament chairman, c/o the Portland Jewish Community Center.

CENTRAL DIVISION — Tulsa YMCA, 5002 S. Fulton. March 9-12. Open singles, open doubles, Masters singles, Masters doubles. \$10 entry fee. Players may enter both open singles and doubles. Deadline March 6. Send written entry to Terry Ingram, handball chairman, YMCA, 5002 S. Fulton, Tulsa, OK. 74135.

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SOUTH DIVISION — University of Tennessee, Knoxville. March 10-12. Open singles, open doubles, Masters singles, Masters doubles. \$10 entry fee. Players may enter both open singles and doubles. Deadline March 9. Send written entry to Tom Pannell, president, Knoxville Handball Club, 1401 Hamilton Bank Bldg., Knoxville, TN. 37902.

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ROCKY MOUNTAIN DIVISION — Deseret Gymnasium, Salt Lake City. March 9-11. Open singles, open doubles, Masters singles, Masters doubles. Plus—B division—open singles, open doubles. Players may enter two events in either A or B Division. Deadline March 4. Send written entry to Wayne Player, c/o Deseret Gymnasium, 161 N. Main st., Salt Lake City, UT. 84103.

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PACIFIC NORTHWEST DIVISION — March 24-26, Vancouver, B.C. YMCA. (see entry blank below.)

NORTHWEST DIVISION TOURNAMENT

March 24-26, 1972

Covering following States: Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Alaska, British Columbia and Alberta provinces of Canada.

SITE: Vancouver, B.C. YMCA.

ENTRY FEES: \$10 per man.

AWARDS: Trophies to first three places in all events . . . Open singles, open doubles, Masters doubles:

OFFICIAL BALL: Spalding ACE.

SPECIAL USHA AWARDS: For open singles and open doubles (Not Masters events) — Round trip air coach to USHA nationals, Washington, D.C., Seattle April 15-2, 1972. Doubles team must remain intact to qualify.

ELIGIBILITY: Reside in States and Provinces of Canada as listed above and be current (1972) member of USHA. If not current, can enclose \$3 to cover through 1972, \$7 covers through 1974. Check or money order payable to: USHA.

ENTRIES CLOSE: March 21, 1972. Players must arrive, ready to play by noon, March 24, 1972. (24-25-26 March) 1972.

MALI ENTRIES TO: Physical Div. YMCA, attn: Bob Wilson, Burrard St., Vancouver, B.C., Canada.

CHAIRMEN: Bill Morrow, Don Gilles

Enter me in: () Open singles () Open doubles () Masters doubles (one player over 40; partner over 45)

Name YMCA/Club/Center

Address City State Zip.....
(Please print)

USHA Card No. Partner's name YMCA/Club/Center
(Please print)

Address City State Zip

USHA Card No.

Powell Wins Toledo Memorial

Thirty singles entries and 14 doubles teams competed in the Third Annual Frank Lichtenwagner Memorial Handball Tournament at the Toledo Central YMCA, Jan. 29-30. Jay Powell, playing out of Laramie, Wyoming, captured his first tournament title ever in the singles competition. The hard playing attorney-to-be had to play five matches in two days, the last four of which were of the three games type. Beginning at 10 Saturday morning Powell defeated Jim Donaldson, Toledo 21-6 and 21-9. At 3 p.m. he edged Jim Smith, also Toledo 18-21, 21-9, and 21-19. He capped Saturday's performance in similar fashion dropping Spike Hengood, Cleveland, 21-20, 20-21, and 21-3.

At 10 Sunday morning Jay immediately felt the effects of Saturday's play dropping the first game to Jim Sanders, Cleveland, 7-21 before regaining his earlier form. After narrowly winning the second game 21-18, he easily took the match with a final 21-12 victory over the tiring Sanders. Going into the finals against Joe Cook one would have expected an easy win for Joe, as he had won all of his previous matches in two straight games. After traveling 1200 miles, however, the man from Laramie was not to be denied. Again after losing the first game 20-21, Powell demonstrated excellent shooting accuracy with either hand and a fantastic durability to win going away 21-13 and 21-6. The results showed Jay playing 14 games lasting over 7 hours during a time span of just over 28 hours.

In the doubles competition Bob Goldsmith and Carl King, Jr., Saginaw Y, defeated Mike Driscoll and Tom Bogen of Columbus Y 21-9, 21-14. The power and shooting of the Saginaw team kept their opponents on the defensive consistently throughout the entire match. In the semifinals Goldsmith-King defeated Skrypczak-Landeryou, Bay City, 21-19 and 21-11 while Driscoll-Bogen edged Sovcy-Yaeger, Cleveland 21-19, 21-14.

Awards were donated by the Athletic Supply Company. An officials meeting was held Thursday evening to review rules and to ensure consistency in the officiating. Special thanks to Val and Liga Daiga, Jim and M. J. Donaldson and Dave and Marylon Revenaugh for their contributions to the success of the tournament.

BOB MEINARDI
Physical Director

STILL LOOKING for information on new courts so that we can compile worthwhile "Where to Find Handball Courts". Send info. to: USHA, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, IL 60076.



HANDBALL PLAYING JUDGE RUNS FOR STATE'S ATTORNEY . . . Handballers gather at special Sports Night programmed by Phil Collins at Chicago's Four Flames (also owned by a handball buff—). Top— (l to r)— Phil Collins, the former "Whiz Kid" doubles champ with Johnny Sloan; Mike Guinan, Fred Kummer, Danny Carson, Jack McDonald, Chuck Emmert, Bill McMahon (partially hidden by Emmert), Judge Ray Berg (plays at the Union League Club and that's his poster in background); Tom McNill, Frank Turk Jr., Joe Scanlon, Bill Brown Jr. Kneeling in front (l to r)— Mort Leve, Jack Smith, who operates the Riviera A.C., Joe Ardito, Terry McCarthy, federal prosecutor.

Pacific Region Y at Bremerton Feb. 25-27

The Pacific Region North YMCA's have scheduled their 1972 Pacific Region North handball tournament for Feb. 25, 26 and 27 at Bremerton, Wash.

Tournament play will be open to all YMCA members, with class A, B, and C singles, and doubles, plus the Masters (age 40-45) singles and doubles. Players interested should contact their local physical education director.

sical education director.

Yours truly,

Bruce Galloway

Physical Director

Bremerton Armed Services YMCA

Terry Blankenship of Lubbock announces the first invitational there for Feb. 25-27 . . . singles and doubles, entry fee \$5 . . . Executive Athletic Club (2 courts), P.O. Box 5246, Lubbock, TX. 79417.

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4101 Dempster St., Skokie, IL 60076

First Invitational Named For Montana Area's 'Mr. Handball'

Thank you so very much, Neal! Lou Poppler and distinguished guests; I am always somewhat embarrassed when the recipient of such a generous introduction — as Neal has just made — is me. I once had an occasion to make an award to the late Senator Everett Dirksen at a large Masonic Testimonial Dinner. Before the introduction, I asked the Senator if there were any special remarks he wanted me to include. He leaned over to me and confidentially said, "Be generous, Bob. You're NOT under oath." So I thank YOU, Neal, for YOUR generosity.

I am very happy to be invited to Billings to share with you the privilege of honoring your favorite citizen — Lou Poppler. When Bill described him as a man who epitomizes the YMCA, he said it all. The tournament you dedicated to him is a wonderful idea, and I won't be surprised if one day the most POPULAR tournament in the west is the POPPLER Tournament! For men like Lou, players will come from far and wide — and I'll come any time you'll have me.

When you bring players like Rohrer and Muck, you couldn't provide a better showcase for handball. Here is the new generation that is taking our place, Lou, and handball couldn't have better caretakers. One is devoted to medicine, the other to the ministry. Together they are devoted to handball, and I just can't think of three better healing devices. It's been my pleasure to watch these stars come up through our Junior Tournaments, and they were stars right from the beginning. Undoubtedly they are just as outstanding in their professions. I'm sure it wasn't easy — particularly for Terry who is a Divinity student at Bethel College.

The first time Terry ever stood up in front of a congregation, he had a portable rostrum — like this, you see it is a little bit shaky — and, of course, Terry was a little shaky himself. Nevertheless, he stood up that Sunday morning and grasped the rostrum very firmly and, to be perfectly honest, he was shaking with the rostrum. The first line of his sermon was, "Behold, I come." But that's all that came out. He completely forgot his next words. So, very casually, he stepped back and collected his thoughts. Then he stepped up to the rostrum again and grasped it even more tightly as he said, "Behold, I come." Still nothing followed. He stepped away from the rostrum and frantically said to himself, "Well, I'll try it once more — and if I choke up, I'll know I'm a miserable failure and will have to find another profession." This time he grasped the rostrum even more tightly and again said, with greater emphasis, "Behold, I come!" As he did so, the rostrum collapsed and he fell into the front row — right in the lap of one of the older women of the church. Of course, he was terribly embarrassed. He stood up, brushed off the woman, and apologized profusely. The woman said, "Think nothing of it, young man, you warned me three times!"

Seriously, this would be a good time to take a look at the handball world of tomorrow. It's going to be different. Just as handball-1970 differs from handball-1950 — so will handball-1990 differ from handball-1970. Handball has made phenomenal strides in the last 20 years — the next 20 will carry it further than any of the oldtimers will believe.

I happen to BE one of the oldtimers, and when I told the boys 20 years ago that we would one day be playing in a glass-enclosed cubicle, surrounded by thousands of seats, they couldn't stop laughing. Now don't YOU laugh when I

tell you that in 4 years — not 20 — you will see handball in the Olympics! In 5 years — not 20 — you will see handball on television!

In no time you will see Court Clubs all over the nation. Many are already underway. So are the complexes that embrace not two courts, but 20. You will see the front walls as well as the side and rear walls constructed entirely of glass. No, not the glass you know now, but a substantially improved glass that obscures the gallery from the player and also provides an invisible wall for him to gauge his movements. You won't even see the same black ball — it's going to be luminous or Air Force orange. We have already started making them.

The glass is in the developmental stage, and the site for the Olympics is the University of Colorado. Would you be surprised to learn that the walls at Boulder are sheets of plate glass 20' high and 5' wide? They are cemented together with an epoxy that eliminates the metal mullions which are so distracting to players and spectators alike.

We will reach the television stage when we build a handball stage. I already have some preliminary drawings for a court built primarily for television. This means built-in cameras in each wall as well as the ceiling. It means light curtains that make it possible for the home audience, AND the gallery audience, to follow the ball.

Either a luminous or an orange ball will do it. These contemplated plans include one amphitheater type court that will seat 5,000 spectators plus highly sophisticated lighting and television equipment.

Looking further into the future, even the tournaments are going to be different. We started a series of National Invitational events that couldn't be more popular. Weekend Round Robin Classics with four to eight players and "Sweet Sixteens" with top seeds — in singles, doubles — and masters' singles and doubles — have satisfied, for the time being, the enormous hunger for handball.

You may wonder why I just said, "for the time being." It's because we know we cannot continue our unlimited open entry in the National Championships unless something gives. When you have as many as 615 entries with 150 matches a day — running from 7 in the morning till 4 the next morning, as we did at Los Angeles in 1970 — you have reached the LIMIT of the existing facilities. In Brooklyn, where we have up to 600 entries, the one-wall championships run 3 weeks! Because virtually all players live in the surrounding area, there is no problem. But in 3-wall and 4-wall, they come from all over the nation.

What is all this leading to? Look at football, hockey, and basketball. Divisional playoffs, conference championships, super-bowl finals, and All-Star games. Why should handball be any different? Either we limit the entries or increase the courts. Now you KNOW we are not going to limit the entries. We are going to increase the courts. We must come up with a facility having 36 to 48 courts, or we will have to settle for regional playoffs with only the winners participating in the championships.

This is the LAST thing I want for the future. Everyone should get a chance to play with everyone else. I don't want a closed corporation of the stars anymore than I want a professional association. It's going to be hard to get huge facilities, but if you want to make a sure bet for the future, just bet that I'll find a way.

HONORING LOU POPPLER . . . First Billings Invitational tournament got off to a great start. Pictured: Top—(l to r)—Dick Hoefle, Dick Lee, Earl Norwood, Mel Brown, Neal Nordlund, Bill Flanagan, Bill Osborne. Front—USHA President Bob Kendler and Lou Poppler.

—Photo by Carlos Barkley



Everytime people talk about betting, I think of this gambler who was losing heavily at the track. Sitting next to him was a priest who won every race. So the gambler decided to do a bit of spying. Before each race, he found the priest went to the stables to bless a horse, then made his bet. Well, the gambler decided the priest had a good thing going, and he bet on every horse the priest blessed.

By the end of the afternoon, he had won a ton of money. For the last race, he decided to bet his whole bundle. He followed the priest from the stable to the betting window, and laid every cent he had on the priest's choice. Needless to say, the horse led all the way into the homestretch. Fifty yards from the finish line, the horse dropped dead! This infuriated the gambler. He rushed to the priest and demanded to know what went wrong. Very quietly the priest replied, "That's the trouble with you Protestants — you don't know the difference between a blessing and the last rites."

Bill Osborne asked me to tell you what I think about our future. I predict handball will be in every new residential, commercial, and recreational project that is of any importance. I also think the Court Sports will become a basic part of American life, eventually surpassing BASEBALL as the family favorite. Because it is the fun exercise — the family exercise — the togetherness exercise! I say this because, at long last, the ladies have moved into — not only the galleries — but the courts and tournaments too!

And it's the nicest thing that ever happened to a big bunch of bull heads. No longer will man be able to call his very OWN that dimly-lit retreat for rough house and rage — the handball court. Miss America has moved in! Kind of sneaky too! Glass got her into the gallery. Racquetball got her into the court. And here is where my "look into the future" REALLY starts.

You could call it evolution. First, the courts moved out of the men's locker room and into the lobbies. Second, they moved out of downtown and into the suburbs. Third, they moved up from the players and into the spectators. And fourth, they moved out of the man's world and into the family's world where Mom and the kids could share the pleasure with racquetball and paddleball. One of the chemicals that ignited the explosion was that cute little young lady, size 36-24-36, in skin-tight white leotards, shyly talking some boy into a game of racquetball, and then knocking his brains out!

Frankly, if I am going to be hindered — and can have my choice between some hairy-chested gorilla and a cute little model, size 36-24-36 — well, you know the answer. That, my friends, is the new dimension of racquetball — 36-24-36! Every woman knows it, and every man adores it. And it's making racquetball the fastest growing sport in America. I know a lot of great handball players that play BOTH games, and I'm talking about champs like Ken Schneider and Gus Lewis who really enjoy playing racquetball with their daughters. So does Kendler! Racquetball has doubled the population of handball. Maybe even tripled it! And the flame of popularity is being fanned across the entire country. Like they say — today America, tomorrow the world.

If you think the courts of the future will be crawling with kids — you're absolutely right. At our last International Racquetball Championships, a 15-year-old kid went 3 games in the doubles finals. Believe it or not, he was still wearing braces on his teeth. The ladies' championship was won by a 17 year old girl from Houston. Ironically, one of the finalist Masters' teams consisted of wardens from the North Dakota and Minnesota State Prisons. Boy, would I like to get the warden of MY jail into a court with me!

Nothing that I know of brings out the character of a man so clearly as our court sports. You know why? There is nothing to contaminate the game — no money, no meddlers, no militants. One thing, and one thing alone, is the mark of distinction in our courts — good sportsmanship. Nothing else is the real trademark of greatness and of character. For this reason I think handball will become a mighty force for building both the STRENGTH of our country and the CHARACTER of our country.

I think women on the courts will make us better men, and their presence will bring about better facilities. I believe all these things will contribute to international understanding, — for in the court sports there has never been a question of race, color, or creed. NOW there isn't even a question of sex!

When you think what Ping Pong did in China — just imagine what handball would have done! For one thing, we wouldn't have lost. I am delighted that a ball breached the Great Wall of China, and it wasn't a cannon ball.

In this context, I would like to remind all of you that handball was the Great Emancipator's game — Mr. Abraham

(to next page)

Lincoln, the greatest American of all — and probably one of the greatest men of all time. It doesn't surprise me that he loved the common man's game — because handball is the common man's sport. Show me a sport that is so emancipated as handball — where every decision is made FOR the players, BY the players, and OF the players. Show me a sport that has a player's fraternity "with liberty and justice for all!"

I would not like you to think I come here as a prophet. But I am fascinated when I look into the crystal ball of handball. May I say to you now, and I hope history will validate these words, that there will never be a substitute for handball. It is the basic sport — the lifetime sport — the life-saving sport — the character builder — the device that levels all men — the therapy that cures all ills. It is a healer and from it nothing but good can come.

The future for handball is unlimited. One day the world will recognize, as you and I do, that handball is the miracle sport of our time. When I read the letters from Ed Boettcher who bounced back from a severe heart attack, and Ed Kelly, who lived through open-heart surgery, only because handball gave them the strength to survive; — then I KNOW we are working in God's vineyard.

Try to believe me then, when I say that handball will grow to fantastic proportions. In my opening remarks I talked about 20 courts. I really think that during your lifetime and mine, we will see facilities with 200 courts! Like Little League and baseball, I believe handball will become the national pastime. When television opens up the living room to handball, we will open up the world.

You have people like Bill Osborne who want to know how they can attract national players to Billings. Every city asks me this question. You want the answer? Develop your own national champion! He could just as easily be here as anywhere else. Some GREAT players have come out of Montana. Give them national competition, and they will be national champions.

With the nationwide boom in private court facilities, we have received many requests for invitational type tournaments — bring in the best players possible. Mel Gorham, who built a fine 6-court installation in San Diego, wants our 1973 invitational singles and the Western divisional. He has already hosted the National Racquetball invitational singles. Incidentally, Mel is branching out with plans for 8 courts in Oceanside, California, and 6 courts in Atlanta, Georgia. He senses the need for such facilities, and is ambitious enough to envision 50 or more such clubs within the next few years. We're going to sit down with Mr. Gorham and see what WE can do to incorporate our Associations into a joint venture program.

We just completed our 15th national Juniors tournament in Miami, Florida, with 58 boys playing in categories under 15, under 17, and under 19 years of age. All out-of-state players received \$50 travel allowance from USHA, and got their room and board at the tournament. Montana was represented by Great Falls' Tim Boland. We had a spunky little 11-year-old southpaw from Encino, California — and our first foreign champion is Nati Alvarado from Juarez, Mexico. Nati is a protege of Bob Lindsay, a nationally ranked player, who is now handball coach at the University of Texas at El Paso. We had a real knock-down, drag-out "under 19" finals with Rick Christian of Van Nuys, California, beating Ken Ginty of New York in 3 games — final game, 21-20!

Bob Brady is probably the greatest player to come out of Montana. Born in Butte, Bob learned his fundamentals well, then blossomed forth as a champion in San Francisco. That's what any promising player needs — exposure to advanced play. Jim Ritter of Great Falls, your perennial State cham-

pion, came to our nationals unheralded in 1954 and, unfortunately, was pitted against Jim Jacobs in the first round. Ritter gave a VERY good account of himself, and with a proper draw, would have gone much farther. If he had been able to travel to other tournaments over the years, there are no doubts he would have gathered in some imposing honors — besides the Sportsmanship Award for which he received a unanimous vote.

As you may know, our 22nd nationals are all set for the Washington Athletic Club in Seattle. They have completed a \$3½ million dollar addition that includes 3 courts, all with glass-viewing areas in the back wall. We'll come in there with 400 players for the big week — and all of you dyed-in-the-wool handball players should put aside April 15-22 for a week of competition and camaraderie unequalled anywhere in the world of handball. There's something for everyone — and the hospitality is outstanding. This is the week when our Player's Fraternity really demonstrates the REMARKABLE fellowship for which the USHA has become famous.

You cannot groom national champions with just a couple of courts and no gallery. No matter what the Y says, urge them to put in a gallery. The secret of handball success is GALLERY, spelled G-A-L-L-E-R-Y — not corridor, GALLERY! I have never been able to convince the Y fathers that handball is BIG business. They can get more members, more contributions, more prestige from handball than from any other sport. That's because handball players are more affluent, more active, more successful, more enthusiastic. Besides, you can't swim or play basketball competitively all your life, but you CAN play handball. That's because we have categories for all age groups — Juniors, Seniors, Masters, and Golden Masters. The only thing that bothers me is how to classify the women. You KNOW there are no senior women!

If I were you, the first thing I'd do is urge your city to build the finest court in the world, with more seats than anywhere else. Make it as famous as the Orange Bowl or the Cotton Bowl. You know what would happen? You'd have more handball action here than anywhere else in the world. Try it. I did, and it worked! There was a time when my teams won every championship in the tournament. That's because I had a bigger gallery than anywhere else, and that's where the best players wanted to play — where they had an appreciative audience. THEN I found out that having all the good players in one city was not basically good for handball, so I stopped bringing them into my organization. But I want you to know that the reason I am here is because I have some excellent players looking after the store back east, and I'd also like you to know that you couldn't hire a better man than a good handball player.

If I came to Billings, I believe I could make it in the handball capital of the world. After building an exhibition court where everyone in town could watch, I'd put on one tournament after another with plenty of publicity. This would uncover the REAL talent you have in town. Out of the money that came in from the gallery, I would send kids to the national tournaments. It wouldn't take long before your kids would go up through our Junior and Intercollegiate tournaments, and earn a seed in the Seniors. How long do you think it took Terry Muck and Gary Rohrer? It wouldn't be long before the exhibition stars would be coming from Billings, Montana — instead of from St. Paul, Minnesota.

There's an old saying in handball — you're only as good as your competition. Good competition won't perform unless there is a good gallery. Do you think Haber would come out here to play before 15 or 20 spectators? Do you think you could afford to HAVE Haber with 15 or 20 spectators?

And that brings me to the subject of Mr. Haber, personally. I know everyone wonders what I think about him. Let

me tell you. I would like to go on record as saying that Haber is one of the GREATEST handball players that ever lived. Not THE greatest, but ONE of the greatest. In my capacity I DO get to know an awful lot about many of the players — much of it personal. To me, calling a man the greatest involves — besides handball — mind, body, and soul.

None of us is perfect — so for the name of the REALLY greatest, I would have to ask you to help me put together the composite champion — and for starters, let's say that Paul Haber has the best control, and he is always honorable in the court. Jacobs is the smartest — Coyle, the foxiest. Let's give speed to Gus Lewis, showmanship to Singer, fortitude to Platak, character to Sam Atcheson, and ferocity to Bob Brady; power to our new invitational champion, Gordie Pfeifer — the record book to Hershkovitz, the fly kill to Oscar Obert, sportsmanship to Kirby — stamina to Angelo Trulio, and skill to Kenny Schneider. For courage, I'd take Lou Poppler — and for enthusiasm, Bill Osborne. Of course, for hindering, no player will EVER surpass Kendler!

Other ingredients are needed to create the perfect composite, and there are many great players who deserve to be a part of the composite player. I hope those whose names I have not mentioned will understand that only time has denied them their deserved recognition. Like George Quam, the one-armed wonder, who had everything including the greatest virtue of all — gratitude to God for all his blessings. And George, if you can hear me — straighten your crown while I say that you're still the man I admire most in handball!

Bill Osborne asked me to tell you what handball has meant to me. Let me say it has always been a special catalyst — a spark of ignition to my life — the same way in which it has always affected Lou. We live it, we love it, and our enthusiasm for it never falters. That's the priceless ingredient of handball — the affection we have for it, the fraternity we find in it, and — above all — the wonderful people we meet through it.

Like tonight. Because of handball, I have met you! Because of handball, I've been inspired by Lou. I always get a little emotional whenever I talk about the GREAT people who have made handball. I've had many helpers in my life-long crusade! They are all wonderful guys like Lou Poppler — and I thank God that all over America, I have found them. They are dedicated like you, Lou, and dedication is a RARE quality. I consider dedication the finest quality a man possesses. Webster defines it as a word meaning "to devote or give up, as one's self, to some special purpose — a self-sacrificing devotion to a particular cause."

We tend to associate dedication with the unusual or the extraordinary. But we overlook the countless daily opportunities to get MORE OUT of life by putting MORE INTO it! No one can force you to give of yourself to any cause — small or large. But God has certainly inspired you, Lou, with the divine urge to find meaningful activities that are worthy of your time, effort, and dedication. And handball — here in Billings and all around the Rockies — has benefitted from YOUR urge.

No matter what a man's aim, resolution, or profession may be — it is by one's DEEDS that he is judged by God and Man. You cannot witness the good deeds and the quiet dedication of Lou Poppler without being filled with a respect and admiration so overwhelming that even THIS tribute falls short of his just reward.

You know, in nothing do men more nearly approach God than in doing good for their fellow man. It is not wealth, nor ancestry — but conduct and a noble disposition that make men great. Lou Poppler has ALL these attributes; Bless you, his wealth is the admiration he has earned from others; his contentment is his freedom from envy. He simply rejoices

in the pleasure of helping others — and their happiness becomes his own. Lou Poppler believes in handball. I believe in handball. I hope you do too. Lou reminds me of one of the greatest baseball pitchers that the big leagues ever produced. Carl Erskine. It was the Brooklyn Dodgers over the Yankees in the 5th inning. Erskine started the inning with a 4-run lead "During that inning," Carl said, "nothing seemed to go right." The ball bounced the wrong way every time. Before he knew it, Carl had 2 men on base, and one of the greatest hitters of all time — Johnny Mize — at the plate. Johnny put the ball way up in the bleachers in Yankee Stadium, and the Dodgers were now behind 5 to 4 in a World Series game. It didn't look like any tomorrows at all. It didn't even look like the rest of the DAY for Carl.

Then the manager, Charlie Dressen, walked out to the pitcher's box. Almost 70,000 people sat hushed. Dressen took the ball out of Carl's hand. The minute Dressen took the ball, Carl figured he was out of the game.

"How do you feel, Carl?" asked the manager.

"I feel all right, Mr. Dressen," replied Erskine. Then Erskine said that one of the greatest things in his life happened. Dressen put the ball back in his hand and said, "You're my man, Carl. Get going!" Beginning at that point, Erskine performed an incredible feat in baseball. He retired, in order, the next 19 Yankee batters, and they were the best in the business. He pitched brilliantly, and the Dodgers won the game in the 11th inning!

Afterwards, he was asked how he did it. He said, "I didn't do it. Charlie Dressen did it, because he believed in me and in my tomorrows."

I love this story because many people believe in HANDBALL'S tomorrows. People like Lou Poppler. Tomorrows are made for people who believe in today's efforts making better tomorrows — not for people who are negative about them. Because of people like Lou, handball has a bright tomorrow. Lou, you're MY man too — like Carl Erskine — and I'm putting the ball back in YOUR hand. Keep pitching!

I would like to sum up my remarks with the statement that it does not take great men to do great things — it only takes dedicated men. The history of the world has been built on the biographies of venerable men like Lou. These are the people who achieve success because they laugh often and love much; they gain the respect of intelligent men and the trust of young children; they offer the world a lasting gift — a part of themselves — whether by an improved poppy, a perfectly created poem, or a rescued soul; they never lack appreciation of Earth's beauty or fail to express it; they always look for the best in others and give the best they have; their life is an inspiration to others. So it is with you, Lou Poppler! Your endless list of good deeds and thoughtfulness will always be a shining light in Billings. Your talents and gifts to handball — and your constant example of fortitude — have become legend!

Let me close with one thought — as we raise a toast to our honored guest, Lou Poppler — if all of us make some small effort to follow the example that Lou has set for us, handball's place in history will be assured — not only in Billings, but everywhere in the world. If some of Lou's wholesome interest and lively dedication rubs off on you, Billings will have the champions you seek — the recognition you deserve — and the exciting "tomorrow" that Lou has put within your reach because of his lifelong dedication.

For here is a man of whom we can truly say:

"To be such a man
And live such a life
That if every man was such as you
And every life like yours,
This earth would be God's paradise."

Bless you, Lou!

Billings Handballers Combine Efforts To Produce 'Big League' Weekend Invite

For 47 years Lou Poppler enjoyed perfect health. In addition to his natural gifts, Lou was dedicated to maintaining peak physical condition and was easily the best conditioned man in his age bracket. Handball was a major part of Lou's conditioning program, he played often and he played well. The doubles team of Lou Poppler and Mel Brown became the team to beat in Montana handball circles.

Since his 47th year things have changed for Lou Poppler. Today he is confined to a wheel chair and his fantastic competitive appetite has transferred from the handball court to the bridge table.

Lou has always commanded the respect of his fellow man. His business and handball associates consider his word to be gospel. Handball players were especially grateful because Lou headed a committee that built handball courts in the Billings YMCA and brought handball to the city.

When Lou contracted a rare muscular disease that slowly robbed him of his physical power, his friends could only wonder what would happen to his mental attitude. Could this unbelievable change of events alter Lou's character?

Perhaps this question was best answered last summer when Lou told me in quiet conversation, "Bill, the good Lord gave me 47 years of perfect health—that's a great deal more than He grants most men."

Those of us who are privileged to be numbered among Lou's friends were so filled with admiration and so inspired by his attitude towards his affliction that we felt compelled to express our love and admiration in a public way. How do you honor one of your peers in dignity and in good taste?

As an old coach I know the value of good players—committees are not too different from teams. You need dedicated men with different abilities to commit themselves to accomplishing a goal. Mel Brown, Lou's handball partner; Earl Norwood, a geologist and currently president of the Billings handball club; Dick Hoeft, a highly successful independent oil man; Bill Flanagan, Billings YMCA men's director; and Dick Lee, an engineer, formed our ball club.

At our first meeting we concluded that a handball tournament in Lou's honor was the solution. What could we do to stage a top handball tournament in Billings, Montana, a city of 70,000 tucked in a valley between a rim of rocks and the Yellowstone River?

Earl Norwood solved our problem with one suggestion — call Kendler. It was my privilege to initiate this call. We had heard of Bob Kendler and we were impressed with what we knew of him, but would he honor Lou by coming to Billings? A minute later we had our answer, he would come as our banquet speaker and he would do it with genuine enthusiasm.

Bob's commitment anchored our plans. We had a date and we had a speaker—but we didn't have any players!!!

Because I was going to be in the Twin Cities en route to a business insurance school in Springfield, Mass. it became my assignment to contact a good player in the Twin City area. By pure chance, I met Neal Nordlund of the St. Paul Athletic Club, explained our situation to him and 30 minutes later was assured that Terry Muck and Dr. Gary Rohrer would compete in our first annual Lou Poppler tournament.

Because Lou's friends were widely scattered around the state of Montana, we decided upon a Montana playoff to determine who would play Terry and Gary. Our decision was to contact one of Lou's friends in the handball cities of Montana and ask him if he could enthusiastically accept the as-

signment of selecting a player to represent his city.

Mark Sullivan, one Butte contact, named Bill Peoples to represent the Mining City. Young Peoples is a student at Montana University and the hottest hand in Montana. He won the 1971 state tournament and is favored to repeat in 1972.

Bill Leaphart, our Helena man, contacted the Helena players and Norm Gray won his way to Billings. Norm has three Montana State championships hanging from his belt and you better believe he came to play.

Up in Great Falls, Marv Smith is the man who gets things done. His committee decided to send Tom Quilling, the Great Falls city champ, to carry the banner for the Electric City. Tom was one of the state's best high school and college athletes and it is no surprise that he is playing winning handball.

In Billings, Norwood and Flanagan demanded an open tournament. Twenty-three players wanted this privilege but only Bob Pasquarello earned the right by outlasting Tom Hammerel. Bob is a Brooklyn boy who came West to play baseball for Eastern Montana College and decided to stay in the Mountain West. He is a recent convert to handball and this was his first competition outside the city of Billings.

It officially started Thursday, January 27th when Norm Gray met Bob Pasquarello at 7:30 p.m. in the Billings YMCA. It was immediately evident that Norm Gray was not to be denied the right to meet Dr. Gary Rohrer in Friday's semi-final match. Gray had the shots and the experience to easily eliminate Pasquarello — 21-6, 21-9.

9:00 p.m. Thursday — Peoples vs. Quilling. This was considered to be the better match of the evening and Bill and Tom didn't disappoint. Quilling nailed Peoples 21-14 in the first game but the kid from Butte roared back to gain the victory — 21-12, 21-9. This win gave young Peoples the right to match his skills against Terry Muck.

Friday at 4:00 p.m. Tom Quilling picked up fifth place by two straight wins, 21-6, 21-12 at the expense of Bob Pasquarello.

At 5:30 Friday Terry Muck of the St. Paul Athletic Club methodically ended Bill Peoples' dream of an upset, 21-10, 21-6. Perhaps I should say postponed Peoples' dream because it was evident to all that Peoples is a comer and currently may be Montana's best chance for national handball recognition.

Dr. Gary Rohrer is a charming, attractive human being with charisma. He disposed of Norm Gray 21-4 in the first game as Norm was visibly awed by Gary's ability. Between games Gary chatted with Norm, made a couple of suggestions that put Gray at ease and then found himself fighting for his life. Gray led 20-17 got the serve back at 20-20 and finally lost the volley that gave Gary a 21-20 victory.

Following the matches Lou's friends and the handball enthusiasts assembled at the Petroleum Club in the Northern Hotel to hear Bob Kendler and pick the brains of Nordlund, Rohrer and Muck for those little tidbits distributed to the few who touch the top rung of the handball world.

Our guests did not disappoint. Bob was magnificent and his tribute to Lou was genuine. The standing ovation afforded his efforts was sincere. He came to Montana—he delivered!

Gary, Neal and Terry were gracious enough to stay and discuss handball as long as any Montanan had a question. It was really great!

In spite of sub zero weather and high winds the handball

buddies of Lou arrived to pay him tribute. Jack Schlitz, a Billings attorney by profession, and a handball nut by avocation, was serving in the Constitutional Convention in Helena and could not be a part of the Billings committee. This didn't stop Jack. He made arrangements with our Helena contact, Bill Leaphart, to fly him to Billings for the banquet in a private plane.

It was 18 below in Butte with high winds and travelers warnings but this posed no obstacle to Mark Sullivan and his band of merry Irishmen. Mention a handball tournament in Butte and they'll close the mine!

Between Billings and Great Falls the road was closed at Judith Gap but this didn't deter Marv Smith and his crew. They simply routed themselves through Lewistown and thought nothing of fighting wind, snow and ice for 300 miles.

Jim Ritter was with the Great Falls gang. Jim is "Mr. Champion" in Montana. He won 20 state championships in Montana and is one of the few Treasure Staters who has competed in a national tournament. A Montana handball gathering wouldn't be complete without Jim Ritter and we appreciate the sacrifice he made to honor Lou Poppler.

What do you give the guys that make your tournament a success? A committee brain storming session decided it should be native to Montana, should be unique, and should remind our guests of their trip to Montana to participate in the 1st annual Lou Poppler handball tournament.

Mel Brown put it all together. He made the analogy between the modern handball player who flies into town and demands to meet the city champ with the gunfighter of the Old West who has compelled to challenge the fastest gun in each western cow town. Lyndon Pomeroy, a Billings artist of significant stature, expressed it in iron and each of our guests received an eleven inch fast gun cowboy figure especially created by Lyndon for this occasion.

Saturday it was back to the courts. Bill Peoples proved youth will have its day as he snatched the third place spot from Norm Gray 21-20, 21-11.

Following the consolation match the crowd was extended an invitation to hear Neal Nordlund of the St. Paul Athletic Club conduct a handball officials clinic—the first of its kind in Montana. Neal officiated all the matches and we are deeply indebted to him for the initial contact and for his significant contribution to our tournament.

The preliminary events had gone well—we were now ready for the finest handball match ever staged in Montana. Dr. Gary Rohrer vs. Terry Muck.

Our committee had wrestled with the problem of seating. We knew we had a salable product but we were limited to forty seats in our court spectator area. Bob Nunley, an enterprising young photographer had the equipment and the ingenuity to bring closed circuit TV coverage of the matches to the YMCA gymnasium to accommodate the overflow. Conrad Burns provided a running commentary. It was another first in Billings!

We're proud of our courts and we wanted to provide Terry and Gary with the best possible facilities. Bill Flanagan guaranteed this part of the program and with the help of the handball club's painting crew and the know how of Bill Leslie and Dick Lee the walls were patched, doors re-hung and the courts painted. When Neal Nordlund inspected the courts and complimented our committee we knew Flanagan had done his job well.

Tournaments cost money and our committee wanted to spare no expense in our effort to honor Lou. When Dick Hoefle took this assignment we knew the money was in the bank. Dick quietly passed the word that we could use some

(to next page)

Thou Shalt Love Thy Neighbor As Thyself

I have heard this wondrous thought expressed countless times, but have never seen it demonstrated so well . . . until I went to Billings. The concern these good people have for one of their own is something I am glad I witnessed in my lifetime. I wish I could say that brotherhood of our Players' Fraternity had something to do with it, but I can't. The love and affection that all the people of Montana displayed for Lou Poppler goes far beyond anything I ever envisioned for our Association.

Unfortunately, after years of leadership in everything that is worthwhile, Lou Poppler has become completely immobilized. This hasn't deterred the players who knew how much handball meant to him. They promptly established the Lou Poppler Invitational Tournament, and held the first of these annual events late in January. Stars like Terry Muck and Gary Rohrer played the city and state champions and then each other. It was as good a show as any nationals. Sitting right in the middle of the front row, his face beaming with pride, sat Mr. Handball of Montana, Lou Poppler.

How do you get a perfectly helpless man into the front row of a court that is hidden at the end of long corridors, winding stairs, and underground passages so tight and narrow that you finally crawl to your seat from beneath the bleachers? That didn't seem to faze Bill Flanagan, the "Y" physical director and his helper. First, they cut out a section of the center of the bleachers. Then they built a small platform upon which they placed the special chair Lou uses. All this, after they fashioned a harness with big foam pads to keep the cords from cutting their shoulders as they transported Lou to the bleachers. Then without any struggle, the two of them very efficiently carried their precious cargo along the circuitous path to the gallery.

I don't suppose there was anything that would make Lou happier. For there he sat — with the friends he loved, in the courts he loved, watching the game he loved. And this was only a part of the devotion that was manifested by everyone present. At the dinner, helping hands fed him as friends from all corners of Montana warmly greeted him. There wasn't the remotest hint of self pity or resignation. His attitude actually cheered those who meant to comfort and encourage him. Never a word about torment or pain, only gratitude for nearly 50 years of a rich life rewarded by an outstanding wife, a devoted family, and the esteem of all his friends.

It was heartwarming to hear the sincere tributes paid to Lou by players he fought to a standstill in many tournaments. They came from Butte, Great Falls, Helena, and many other parts of this sparsely settled land. All of them seemed bound together by a camaraderie that is uniquely Montana's, for I have never seen it elsewhere.

Billings rests in a beautiful valley surrounded by an enormous outcropping of stone called rimrock. It is a breathtaking experience to look down from the rim and realize how much love and concern are expressed by the people in this sequestered area. As I looked at these timeless, resolute rocks towering skyward, an almost solid promontory that protects the city, I was reminded of Lou. For if ever there was a human rock, it is Lou Poppler. I kept seeing his face hewn in these rocks as an ever present reminder of his spiritual strength, purity of purpose, and rectitude of conduct. He represents a never-ending argument for nobler deeds, higher morals, and greater achievements as we pursue our own lifetime goals.

Then, as my thoughts turned to the outpouring of love and tenderness extended from all his friends, I felt a proper inscription to both Lou Poppler and his friends would be, "He that loves shall walk with God."

BOB KENDLEP



ST. PAUL A.C. CONTINGENT . . . (l to r)—Neal Nordlund, who gave erudite clinic on rules and refereeing; Terry Muck and Dr Gary Rohrer, both nationally-ranked performers. Muck, who had beaten Rohrer in the recent USHA Round Robin Classic at St. Paul, repeated in this Billings Y invitational.

Terry Muck, top eight player in current United States Handball Association standings, defeated old rival Gary Rohrer (No. 3) 21-16, 21-15 Jan. 29 to claim the championship of the first Lou Poppler Invitational Handball Tournament at the Billings, Montana, YMCA courts.

The anticipated clash between the two St. Paul (Minn.) Athletic Club professionals developed when they easily disposed of Montanans Friday night in the semifinal round.

Muck, a 5-foot-4 seminary student, polished off Montana state champion Bill Peoples of Butte and the University of Montana 21-10, 21-6.

Rohrer completed the demonstration of superiority of the top-ranked entries by knocking off the other Montana semifinalist, Helena's Norm Gray. Rohrer had

the first game all to himself, 21-4, but former state champion Gray took his pro foe to the limit in the second game before losing, 21-20.

Peoples then captured third place with a 21-20, 21-11 win over Gray in a preliminary to Saturday's championship clash.

Veteran Great Falls city champion Tom Quilling handed Billings champion Bob Pasquarello a 21-6, 21-12 beating in a consolation match for fifth place Friday afternoon.

Pasquarello, competing in his first tournament against state championship caliber opponents, lost two straight educational matches.

An estimated 375 handball fans watched the three sessions, either from reserved seats or standing-room-only perches in a cramped balcony above the courts or in an auxiliary gym into which



MONTANA'S BEST . . . Norm Gray of Helena (l) couldn't cope with the overall court skills of 19-year-old Bill Peoples, Butte. Bill is a student at the University of Montana and could very well be a dark horse in the early March national intercollegiate.

closed-circuit television coverage was piped.

Among the reserved seat spectators was Poppler, the founding father of handball in this city after a stint in law school at Missoula and governmental work in the early 1950s in Helena.

Now invalidated by a deteriorating muscular affliction, Poppler, once one of Billings' best players, was being honored for his contributions to the fledgling sport here.

Neal Nordlund, a highly-sought after referee from the St. Paul Athletic Club, officiated all tournament matches and conducted an officials' clinic Saturday between the finals matches.

USHA president Bob Kendler of Lake Forest, Ill., was the main speaker at the tournament banquet Friday night at the Petroleum Club.

BILLINGS' HANDBALLERS ORGANIZE...

(from previous page)

money to support the tournament and the money rolled in from our Billings people who wanted to be a part of this occasion.

Show-down 1:00 P.M. Saturday January 29th, Billings, Montana. Muck vs. Rohrer in the finals of the first annual Lou Poppler handball tournament.

1st game Muck 21, Rohrer 16. 2nd game Muck 21, Rohrer 15. A tournament was born.

We meet tomorrow, Monday, January 31st to plan our '73 tournament. We liked the format of bringing top Montana players to compete against nationally ranked players. We might invite the defending Montana State champ, the current Billings City champ and state champs from western states to compete for the right to meet two nationally ranked players the caliber of Muck and Rohrer.

Whatever our decision we are satisfied that we chose the

right people to assist us in giving birth to the Lou Poppler tournament.

We are deeply impressed with our guests from the handball world. From the time Kendler, Nordlund, Muck and Rohrer set foot on Montana soil they entered the spirit of our project and gave unselfishly of their time.

Perhaps the best example was the generous gesture of Dr. Gary Rohrer who arranged a doubles match following the championship. Rohrer selected his friend Dr. Ed Abbott of Great Falls as his partner and yours truly teamed with Dick Lee. This is the kind of thing that makes handball great.

Let the record show that a dentist, a home builder, a divinity student, a fireman, a college student, a distributor of beauty supplies, a bank executive and a teacher assembled to pay tribute to an independent oil man through the magic of handball which generates comradery to all who take the court.

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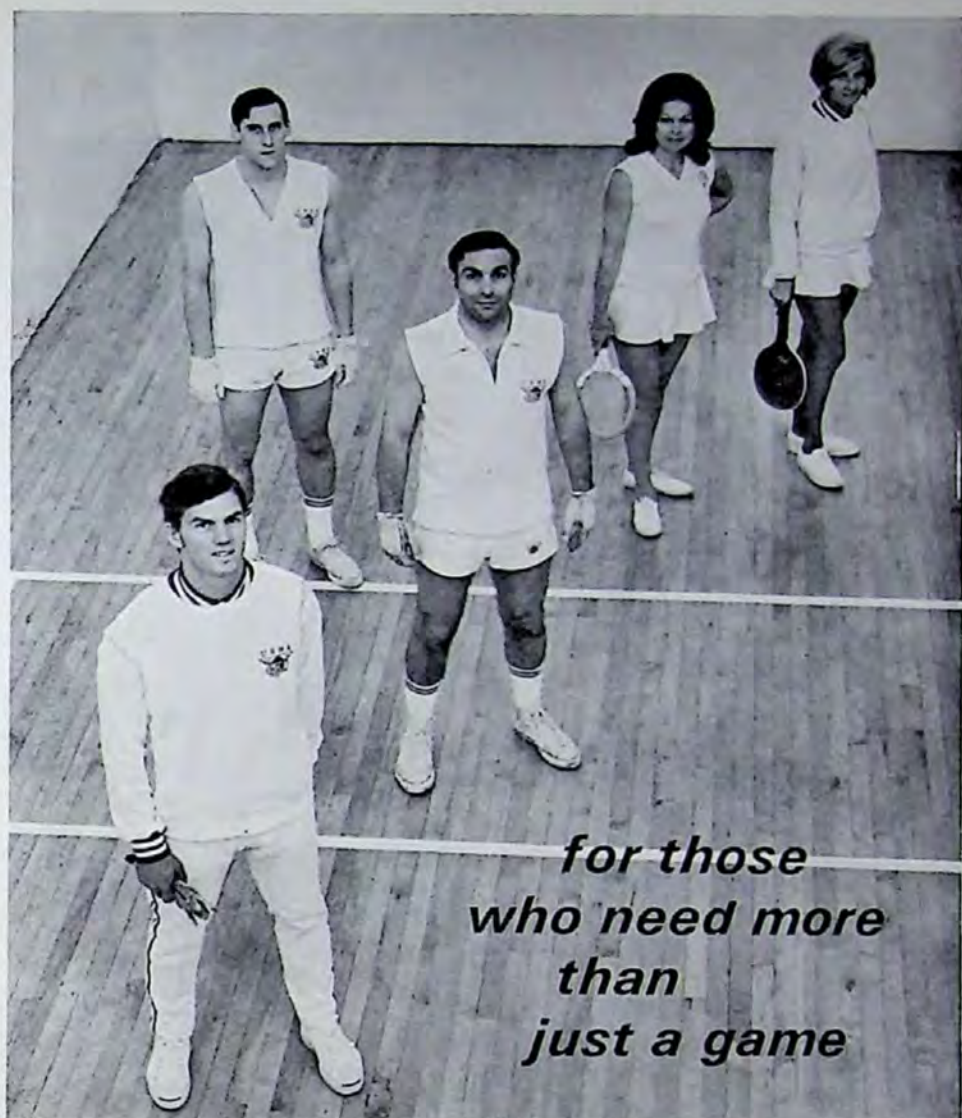
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Where Else But In Handball . . .

In December, this space was devoted to an appeal for contributions to the Handball Perpetuation Trust. I gave just one reason . . . to insure the continuation of the sport and the high principles upon which our Association was founded. In the short space of a few weeks, we received nearly \$10,000. Most of it came in the form of \$100 lifetime memberships. We couldn't be more grateful! If this keeps up, we will one day have the \$1 million dollars I think we need to guarantee for all time that our courts will be filled with athletes and not criminals.

Your contribution is doing more than perpetuating the sport. While it relieves you of any further membership dues, it gives us \$6 per year in interest, not only during your lifetime but for all time to come. So in reality you are establishing a living memorial that will perpetuate both the sport and your memory as well.

You see, we invest your \$100 Lifetime Membership contribution in federally insured certificates at 6%. The \$6 annual interest helps us meet the ever increasing costs for our ever increasing service. When you realize that our current dues are about half our cost, you can then appreciate how grateful we are to the good people who have contributed.

From a dollars and cents standpoint, this is good for you too. Since your contribution is tax exempt, many of you save from 25% to 50%, depending on your tax bracket. If you add to this the dues you will save in the next ten or twenty years, you might just discover this contribution is costing you nothing in the final analysis.

But that's not all! You are also helping us lay the foundation for the Olympics! Everyone knows there is nothing more important to a handball player — or to me. This

certainly is going to require a lot of money, and we have only four years to prove that handball is both physically and financially capable of ANY challenge.

I heard someone say the other day, "He must be a good guy — he's a handball player!" Now there has never been a doubt about it in my mind. If there is in YOURS, take a look at the response. Do you know any other sport where there are as many GOOD sports? Remember, this money came in small sums from many people — good people. We haven't yet approached the big foundations. When I appeal to them, I would like to present a record of self help from thousands of players and fans.

Just to show you what wonderful people we have in handball, many of the contributors asked that their names be withheld. Others, also anonymous, have made the USHA the beneficiary under our insurance program. Still others have talked to me about outright bequests and gifts, keeping in mind their individual tax advantages.

If you are one of our friends and you are thinking about helping us, please consider one of these ideas. Whatever you do will be profoundly appreciated. We are grateful for any amount, large or small. You can be sure your money will be put to the highest and best possible use in the promotion of handball, character, and sportsmanship. NOT ONE PENNY WILL BE SPENT FOR FUND-RAISING OR PROMOTION FEES.

To those of you who have already responded, may it be your fortune to hear from Him who sitteth as the Judge Supreme, the welcome words, "WELL DONE, THOU good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

BOB KENDLER

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