

# RACQUETBALL

## MAGAZINE

Vol. 2, No. 4  
July - August 1991

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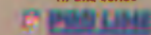
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**Issue Deadlines**  
Sept./Oct. 91 -- August 1, 1991  
Nov./Dec. 91 -- October 1, 1991  
Jan./Feb. 92 -- December 1, 1991  
Mar./Apr. 92 -- February 1, 1992  
May/June 92 -- April 1, 1992  
July/August 92 -- June 1, 1992



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**COVER:** Tim Sweeney tries to anticipate the next forehand shot from 1990 defending champion, Tim Doyle, in their semifinal match at National Singles. Photo: John Foust.

RACQUETBALL Magazine is the official publication of the American Amateur Racquetball Association, the National Governing Body for the sport, and is published bi-monthly. AARA memberships are available for \$15.00 annually (foreign = \$35.00 U.S.) and include a subscription to RACQUETBALL Magazine and other AARA related publications.

All ideas expressed in RACQUETBALL Magazine are those of the authors or the Editor and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the AARA. Articles, photographs and letters are welcome and will be considered for inclusion.

Advertising rates upon request. Although advertising is screened, acceptance of any advertisement does not necessarily imply AARA endorsement of the product. For advertising information, contact Steve Lerner, Advertising Manager, 310 Slate Run Drive, Powell, Ohio 43065 -- TEL: 614/548-4953, FAX: 614/548-5079.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to AARA, 815 North Weber, Colorado Springs, CO 80903-2947.

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## NATIONAL SINGLES: TWENTY-THREE AND COUNTING

In 1968, the first U.S. National Singles Championships (then called the "First National Gut Paddleball Association Paddleball Championships") drew a total of 77 entrants from 17 states. In the 23 years since that modest beginning, the U.S. National Singles Racquetball Championships have grown to the point where it now takes six days to schedule all the matches for the 1,500 entrants who fill opening rounds in twenty-six divisions of age and skill competition.

Held for the ninth consecutive year at the Downtown YMCA in Houston over the Memorial Day weekend, the 1991 Ektelon U.S. National Singles Racquetball Championships also served as a dual qualifier for both the U.S. National Racquetball Team and the 1991 U.S. Olympic Festival. The second in a series of four U.S. National Racquetball Team qualifiers held each year, event semi-finalists in the Men's and Women's Open divisions were appointed to the team for a term of one year. In addition, a total of twelve players from the Men's and Women's Open divisions were selected to compete at the U.S. Olympic Festival in Los Angeles this month.

Aside from exciting courtside action, and aided by generous support from Ektelon, Penn Racquet Sports and Coca Cola Foods, the six-day event not only showcased the finest racquetball performances of the year, it also provided a relaxing social setting for players of all ages. To kick off the tournament, Penn Racquet Sports hosted a reception on Friday evening, complete with live country and western music, a serenade by Tennessee state president Walter McDade, and plenty of regional fare.



*Toni Bevelock prepares to serve to Michelle Gilman in their final match in Houston on Memorial Day. Photo: Steve Lerner.*

On the following evening, the AARA hosted its annual awards banquet, which honored new Hall of Fame inductees Cindy Baxter and Ed Remen and AARA Athletes of the Year Michelle Gilman and Andy Roberts. A surprised Fran Davis accepted the John Halverson award for her overall contribution to the sport and two Ohio players received special recognition, Dave Kovanda for outstanding age group performance, and Doug Ganim for his work

as President of the ORA over the past year. Special thanks were also given to John and Rose Mooney, Gary Mazaroff and Mary Walker, who received framed U.S. Team posters in appreciation of their support of racquetball over the years. The banquet also featured the triumphant return of the popular "Year in Pictures" slide show by Jim Hiser.



*What is the meaning of this? At this point, we don't know. "Maybe Team Physician Rhett Rainey ought to take a look!" wonder Kim Machiran, Lauren Sheprow, Cheryl Gudinas and Kim Russell at the awards banquet. Photo: Lauren Sheprow.*

Over the course of the tournament, manufacturers and industry representatives had a chance to meet with their sponsored players, display new equipment and discuss marketing strategies during a two-day trade show. Professional instructors and certified referees were offered special training sessions to upgrade their skills and learn the latest on policies and techniques. Leaders of affiliated state organizations met with national office staffers to exchange ideas on how best to manage the burgeoning growth of the sport nationwide. Souvenir collectors swamped the "silent auction" booth to bid on U.S. Olympic Training Center items, accessory and equipment items from top manufacturers, services and memorabilia. All these activities, combined with the revitalized nightlife of downtown Houston and the Hyatt Regency accommodations made for a non-stop weekend for players on and off the courts.

## MEETING THE CHALLENGE

For Michelle Gilman and Tim Sweeney, challenges of the 1991 Ektelon U.S. National Singles Championships came from every angle and were clear from the opening rounds. At the young age of 20, Gilman faced the possibility

of matching Peggy Steding's all-time record of three consecutive women's open crowns. From the #4 seed position, Sweeney faced a shot at his first open title, plus the chance to follow up his performance at the intercollegiate championships in April with a second major win this season.

After a bye in the round of 64, #1 seeded Michelle Gilman went up against a back-to-back New York line of defense set up by her first two opponents, Lorraine Galloway of Jamaica Estates, and Randy Friedman of Tarrytown. Following straight game wins over the New Yorkers, Gilman went to her first tiebreaker of the tournament against Dot Fischl of Allentown, Pennsylvania in the quarterfinals.

Dot jumped to an early lead by winning the first game 15-12, then lost 15-5 when Gilman rallied. In the tense tiebreaker, both players exchanged points up to 7-7 before Gilman got the better of a series of rallies with a combination of well placed shots and unforced errors by Fischl. "Dot's playing tough this week, and I really had to dig in to win the tiebreaker," admitted Gilman, who also promised herself that it would be the last.

At 5'11", Gilman towered over her next opponent, who was no stranger to being on the court with the champion. Jackie Paraiso, at 5'3" is also Gilman's doubles partner, and the two hold the current national doubles title. Against Gilman, however, Jackie did not fare as well as Fischl, and was shut out of the final in straight games of 15-6, 15-13. In the other semi-final, #2 seeded Toni Bevelock was in the process of giving the same sad news to her own doubles partner, Malla Bailey. Bevelock and Bailey lost to Gilman and Paraiso at national doubles last fall, but with all four of the women reaching the semi-final, they each were appointed to the U.S. Team for the next twelve months.



*Toni Bevelock celebrates following the final point of her match against doubles partner Malla Bailey in the Women's Open semi-final.*

*Photo: Steve Lerner.*

For Toni Bevelock of Santa Ana, California, the advance into the rematch of last year's final against Gilman was no less stressful. Even without a tiebreaker in her string of wins, each of Bevelock's opponents earned more points and got closer to taking a game from her in each successive round. In the round of 32, Toni started her winning streak against Southwest Missouri State University undergraduate Christine Deer of St. Louis with a win of 15-6, 15-7. A former intercollegiate champion herself, Bevelock faced Kim Russell of Louisville, Kentucky in the next round. Russell, who was last year's intercollegiate winner, gave Bevelock less of a match with scores of 15-3, 15-1, but later went on to qualify for the final spot on the U.S. Olympic Festival roster. In the quarterfinal, Marcy Lynch of North Wales, Pennsylvania reached the double digit mark against Toni, earning 10 in the first game and 9 in the second.



*Tim Sweeney displays his diving form against quarterfinal opponent Brian Hawkes. Photo: John Fourt.*

The second semi-final match between doubles partners set Bevelock and Mallia Bailey against each other, assuring that one half of the silver medal team from last year's national doubles would come away disappointed. Nearly forcing a tiebreaker, Bailey, ranked #3 on the pro tour, pushed her way to an 11-6 lead in the second game, but could go no farther. Toni fought back from the deficit to catch up and regain control of the game and take the match in straight games of 15-13, 15-11.

On Memorial Day, Michelle Gilman and Toni Bevelock squared off before SportsChannel America cameras for a rematch of last year's final. Determined to reverse the outcome, Bevelock took an aggressive stance from the first point and jumped to an early 7-0 lead in the first game before Gilman settled into her rhythm and regained the advantage, leaving Toni at 15-9. Playing with an unpainted prototype "Strobe" by Ektelon, Michelle soon began hitting her favorite rally-enders time and again. In spite of an impressive start, Toni lost the first game 15-10 and wasn't able to regain her initial momentum.

To capture a third title and make her mark as the youngest amateur female to claim such a record, Michelle got down to business in the second game and unconsciously repeated not only the straight game win, but the score of last year's final game as well. Gilman took over from the outset, pushing her margin to 10-3 before Bevelock was able to score

her last two points of the match. In 1990, Gilman defeated Bevelock in straight games of 15-5, 15-5. In 1991, she did the same with scores of 15-10, 15-5.

In Men's Open, defending champion Tim Doyle of Fountain Valley, California also had a shot at a third title, but ran into trouble right away. Fighting sinus problems early in the week, Doyle got his first surprise courtesy of late entrant Sam Wasko of Arlington, Virginia.

Unknown to tournament officials, Wasko turned out to be the winner of the All Service Military Championships held in Charleston, South Carolina the week before. An Army



*Sweeney resorted to diving again in the final against Inoue. Photo: Steve Lerner.*

staff sergeant with a busy schedule, Wasko had been "on the road" as a bugler in the Old Guard Fife and Drum Corp earlier in the month, and given a performance on the White House lawn in honor of Queen Elizabeth's arrival in the U.S. After deciding to enter at the last minute, Wasko was given the traditional latecomers spot (playing into the top seed), then proceeded to take the defending champion to a tiebreaker before losing 11-2.

Several rounds later, Doyle found himself on the receiving end of an ace service game that was clearly equal to his own. In fact, #4 seeded Tim Sweeney of Chicago, Illinois came very close to eliminating the top seed in straight games after powering through the first game 15-2.

The turning point for Doyle came late in the second game when Sweeney went for a winning backhand pinch at 14-11, broke a string and skipped the shot. Convinced that his shot had been good, Sweeney appealed to line judges to overturn the call but was denied by one of the officials. Doyle regained the serve and ran off three points to even the score, then pulled out the second game with a trademark ace serve. In the tiebreaker, the two stayed even to 5-5 before Sweeney pulled ahead and closed out the match with the same shot that had cost him the second game. With no controversy on the game-ending backhand pinch, Sweeney advanced into the final against world champion Egan Inoue of Hawaii.

Earlier in the week, Sweeney had made a beeline for Doyle by defeating Derek Robinson of Kennewick, Washington 15-4, 15-8 in the round of 64; Brian Rankin of Springfield, Missouri 15-9, 15-7; Jeff Evans of Eugene, Oregon 15-12, 15-10; and #5 Brian Hawkes of Santa Ana, California in a decisive quarterfinal tiebreaker, 15-6, 14-15, 11-0. Following his second tiebreaker win of the tournament over Doyle, Sweeney seemed ready for anything Inoue had to offer in the final.

Also advancing quickly from the #2 seed position, Egan Inoue of Honolulu, Hawaii forged a straight shot into the semi-final with defeats over local hopeful Christopher Taft of Houston 15-3, 15-0 in the round of 64; Guy Humphrey of Olathe, Kansas 15-4, 15-2; Bill Sell of Fountain Valley, California 8-15, 15-3, 11-3; and Mike Guidry of Arlington, Texas 6-15, 15-13, 11-5.



**Sweeney prepares to rip a drive serve to Inoue in the final. Of the 80% of his first serves that were good, 40% were aces for Sweeney, making for a brief final — all of 38 minutes. Photo: Steve Lemer.**

In the lower bracket semi-final, Inoue enjoyed a shorter match against #3 seeded Andy Roberts that still could have gone either way. After a quick 15-10 win in the first game, Inoue let Roberts close in to 14-14 before managing to end the match and avoid the tiebreaker. Just one week earlier, Roberts won the Men's Professional Racquetball Association [MPRA] Pro National championship and ended the season in the #3 ranking spot.

A two-time world champion, Inoue was one of the first to approach the 180 mph mark with his drive serves, yet

he has succumbed to ace servers in the finals of the past two national singles championships. Last year he was held to 15-5, 15-5 by Doyle's best sliders and this year statisticians recorded 80% of Sweeney's first serves as good, and 40% of those as *very* good. After several exciting opening rallies, Inoue could only stand by while Sweeney aced half of his drive serves and closed out the match with almost identical scores as last year, 15-4, 15-5.

Aside from his devastating service percentage, Sweeney had an all-around game plan against Inoue. "What did it for me was location. ... I played solid and hit my spots consistently. I mixed in a lot of splats because he was leaning back on my other shots, and the splats kept him off balance."

While the open matches were still being decided, exciting playoff action continued as quarterfinalists jockeyed for final positions on the U.S. Olympic Festival roster -- and for a crucial #5 spot in the standings. After taking out singles players who had already qualified for the Festival by reaching the semi-finals at National Doubles, six additional players were selected on the basis of their final position following the playoff round. In Men's Open, duplicate qualifiers forced selection to go as far as the #13 playoff spot (a lucky Brian Rankin) and in Women's Open, Kim Russell took the last available spot on the women's roster for her #10 finish.

For Brian Hawkes of Fountain Valley, California, the playoff for the #5 spot was as important as any of the matches he had played right up to his quarterfinal loss to Sweeney on Saturday. Given a second chance to get on the U.S. Team by winning the playoff, Hawkes defeated Tim Hansen 11-15, 15-9, 11-2 and Mike Guidry 15-8, 15-4 for the #5 position and was appointed



Brian Hawkes

to replace Egan Inoue on the U.S. National Team. Inoue is currently on a one-year suspension from the U.S. Team for missing a required training session in Colorado Springs last February.

## CHALLENGERS LINE UP

From among the hundreds of entrants and dozens of former national champions at the 1991 Ektelon U.S. National Singles Championships, only three players were able to successfully defend titles won in 1990, down from eight repeat winners in 1989. All of this year's remaining division winners were either new challengers, comeback bidders from the 1980s, or former titlists competing in new age brackets for the first time.

With her "three-peat," Michelle Gilman went one better than simple back-to-back titles and needs to capture only one more national open crown to match Guinness record-holder Cindy Baxter. Allen Shepherd also won his rematch of last year's final over John Pearce to take a second consecutive national title in Men's 75+, and Claire Gautreau successfully defended her Women's 65+ title against a bid by Joann Jones. In an interesting change-up, Jones and Gautreau also met in the Women's 60+ final, where Joann put an end to Claire's six-year winning streak with a 15-11, 15-4 title win.

Charlie Garrido became a new titlist in Men's 19+ with a televised win over Brian Rankin, and Army staff sergeant Sam Wasko defeated Joe Cline in Men's 25+ for his first age division championship. Finally owning up to his true age, Bill Sell stood tall in the Men's 30+ division, where he defeated former pro tour celebrity Dave Peck in a close tiebreaker, 10-15, 15-11, 11-9. Sell, who won the 1988 national doubles title with Brian Hawkes, has qualified for the U.S. Team by reaching the Men's Open semis several times, but this is his first U.S. championship win in singles.

In Men's 35+, two-time champion Craig Kunkel reclaimed his 1987 title with a win over Jim Young. Both finalists had eliminated any chances for a Men's 35+ rematch in the quarterfinals, where Young took out top seeded defending champion Davey Bledsoe, and Kunkel defeated #2 seeded Dave Kovanda. In response, Bledsoe continued on in Men's 40+ with a purpose, advancing past #1 seeded defending champion Kovanda in the quarters, then defeating Jim Bailey, who lost to Kovanda in the final last year, for the title.

In Men's 45+, Dick Melhart defeated three-time champion and top seed Roger Wehrle in the quarters, before losing the final to Herb Grigg in straight games. Ron Galbreath successfully duplicated his Men's 45+ title in a new division with a 15-13, 15-3 win over Jack Ross in Men's 50+. Luzell Wilde, a four-time 65+ champion and the 1988 Men's 70+ winner also recaptured his title in the 70s with a two game win over defending champ Allen Shepherd.



**Herb Grigg with  
his Men's 45+  
gold medal and  
an admirer!**

New champions in the women's divisions were just as plentiful, with Cheryl Gudinas taking her first upset win over #1 seed and defending champion Dana Sibell in the three game Women's 19+ final. In Womens' 25+, both finalists from last year were eliminated early, with Lauren Sheprow taking a forfeit win over #2 Laura Fenton in the quarters and Dee Ferriera-Worth defeating #1 Kersten Hallendar in the semis. Sheprow then snagged the title win over Ferriera-Worth in three games of 14-15, 15-11, 11-5. New Wo 30+ champion Mary Lyons added her name to the list spearheaded by her doubles partner Susan Morgan-Pfahler with a win over Robin Whitmire. Mary Dee Jolly took her first title win in Women's 35+ by defeating 1989 W35+ champion Janell Marriott in a tiebreaker.

Carole Dattisman duplicated her 1988 W35+ win in a new division by defeating #3 seeded Agatha Falso in Women's 40+, and Gerri Stoffregen added her name to the list of champions in the Women's 45+ division. Women's 50+ winner Sharon Hastings-Welty came a long way from being a finalist in the Women's Open consolation round last year to taking a straight game win from 1982 W40+ champion Mildred Gwinn. In a true rematch of last year's W50+ final between five-time champion Kathy Mueller and six-time winner Jo Kenyon, Mueller was able to repeat her win in new territory, the Women's 55+ division.

## **U.S. NATIONAL SINGLES CHAMPIONS**

**MEN'S OPEN:** #4 Tim Sweeney (Chicago, Ill.) def. #2 Egan Inoue (Honolulu, Hawaii) 15-4, 15-5

**MEN'S A:** Brett Zimmerman (Grapevine, Texas) def. Grant Giles (Duluth, Ga.) 15-5, 15-12

**MEN'S 19+:** Charlie Garrido (Houston, Texas) def. #1

Brian Rankin (Springfield, Mo.) 15-13, 15-10

**MEN'S 25+:** Sam Wasko (Arlington, Va.) def. #2 Joe Cline (Warren, N.J.) 15-12, 15-12

**MEN'S 30+:** #13 Bill Sell (Fountain Valley, Calif.) def. #3 Dave Peck (Denver, Colo.) 10-15, 15-11, 11-9

**MEN'S 35+:** #7 Craig Kunkel (Pleasant Hill, Calif.) def. #8 Jim Young (Longhorn, Pa.)

**MEN'S 40+:** #4 Davey Bledsoe (Kennesaw, Ga.) def. #2 Jim Bailey (Norfolk, Va.) 15-11, 15-11

**MEN'S 45+:** #2 Herb Grigg (Caledonia, Ill.) def. Dick Melhart (Pullman, Wash.) 15-8, 15-14

**MEN'S 50+:** #4 Ron Galbreath (New Wilmington, Pa.) def. Jack Ross (Miami, Fla.) 15-13, 15-3

**MEN'S 55+:** #2 Paul Banales (Phoenix, Ariz.) def. Hal Lackey (High Point, N.C.) 15-12, 12-15, 11-1

**MEN'S 60+:** #3 Harvey Ciar (Orinda, Calif.) def. Barney Priesth (Sioux Falls, S.D.) 8-15, 15-11, 11-2

**MEN'S 65+:** Mal Roberts (Merritt Island, Fla.) def. #1 Victor Sacco (Norwood, N.Y.) 15-11, 12-15, 11-7

**MEN'S 70+:** #2 Luzell Wilde (Centerville, Utah) def. #1 Allen Shepherd (Rockville, Md.) 15-5, 15-4

**MEN'S 75+:** #1 Allen Shepherd (Rockville, Md.) def. John Pearce (Waco, Texas) 15-3, 15-7

**MEN'S 80+:** John Pearce (Waco, Texas) unchallenged

**WOMEN'S OPEN:** #1 Michelle Gilman (Ontario, Ore.) def. #2 Toni Bevelock (Santa Ana, Calif.) 15-10, 15-5

**WOMEN'S A:** #1 Roz Petronelli (North Easton, Mass.) def. #3 Mary Lakatos (Cordova, Tenn.) 15-3, 15-11

**WOMEN'S 19+:** #2 Cheryl Gudinas (Woodridge, Ill.) def. #1 Dana Sibell (Columbia Heights, Minn.) 10-15, 15-4, 11-5

**WOMEN'S 25+:** Lauren Sheprow (Coconut Grove, Fla.) def. Dee Ferriera-Worth (Anahelm Hills, Calif.) 14-15, 15-11, 11-5

**WOMEN'S 30+:** Mary Lyons (Jacksonville, Fla.) def. Robin Whitmire (Lilburn, Ga.) 15-8, 13-15, 11-4

**WOMEN'S 35+:** Mary Dee Jolly (Epping, N.H.) def. #4 Janell Marriott (West Warwick, R.I.) 10-15, 15-7, 11-1

**WOMEN'S 40+:** Carole Dattisman (Dover, Pa.) def. #3 Agatha Falso (Boca Raton, Fla.) 15-9, 15-3

**WOMEN'S 45+:** Gerri Stoffregen (Cincinnati, Ohio) def. #1 Agatha Falso (Boca Raton, Fla.) 15-3, 9-15, 11-10

**WOMEN'S 50+:** Sharon Hastings-Welty (Corvallis, Ore.) def. Mildred Gwinn (Matthews, N.C.) 15-10, 15-9

**WOMEN'S 55+:** Kathy Mueller (St. Cloud, Minn.) def. Jo Kenyon (Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.) 15-13, 15-9

**WOMEN'S 60+:** Joann Jones (Groton, Conn.) def. Claire Gautreau (McAllen, Texas) 15-10, 15-3

**WOMEN'S 65+:** Claire Gautreau (McAllen, Texas) def. Joann Jones (Groton, Conn.) 15-11, 15-4

# NATIONAL PHOTO CONTEST

AND THE WINNER IS ...



**FIRST PLACE (Above):** The winning action photo was snapped by Robin Conover during an exhibition match between the airborne Walter McDade and instructor Steve Strandemo. McDade is the President of the Tennessee Racquetball Association and claims that he does this type of retrieving all the time.



**SECOND PLACE (Left):** At the 1991 Illinois State Singles, the entire Welsbart family took home enough hardware to fill the trophy case in one stop. Pictured are Josh and Lani (foreground), Lynn and Trevor (background). Submitted by Lynn Welsbart.

**HONORABLE MENTION (Right):** Although there really isn't a category for "best backhand," this photo of Alex Shoemaker was submitted by doting grandmom (and racquetball champion in her own right), Eleanor Quackenbush.

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## LEGAL ISSUES

### PARTICIPANT RELEASE MAY LEAVE SPOUSE FREE TO SUE

By David L. Herbert, J.D.

In several of our columns, we have reviewed various cases dealing with the use of prospective releases in health clubs. Often, when releases are used and deemed to be enforceable, only the participant is required to sign them. In some circumstances, however, other individuals, including the participant's spouse, may be in a position to bring suit against the facility, even though the release would bar or prevent direct suit by the participant.

The recent case of *Dobratz vs. Thomson* (455 N.W.2d 639, Wisconsin App. 1990) illustrates the problems that may arise when a release is executed by one party only and not that person's spouse. In this case, a water-ski participant was killed while performing in a water show. Prior to his participation, however, the participant had signed a release purportedly barring any claim related to his participation in the event. After his death, his widow brought suit for alleged negligence, wrongful death, loss of consortium and reckless conduct. At the trial court level, both parties moved for summary judgment, which motions were denied by the trial court. The appeal then ensued.

The appellate court determined that while the release was valid and binding upon the decedent, it was not binding so as to preclude the spouse's separate cause of action for loss of consortium. Consortium rights, as the court recognized, involve a wide range of elements, such as love, companionship, society and sexual relations. A breach or interference with those rights is a cause of action that only the person who has been damaged may give up in a release document. Consequently, that portion of the widow's cause of action for loss of consortium was not precluded even though the participant had signed a release prior to his death and would have been barred from recovery.

Facilities that use release documents should consider whether spouses should also be required to sign the contract. In some circumstances, spousal suits might be precluded where they are required to sign such documents. Individual legal advice should be sought to determine the enforceability and validity of releases signed by both participants and spouses in similar circumstances. It may be another useful tool for clubs to utilize in minimizing their risks of claim and suit.

David L. Herbert, J.D., is a partner in Herbert, Treuden & Benson, attorneys at law, Canton, Ohio, and co-editor of the publications *Exercise Standards* and *Malpractice Reporter* and *The Sports, Parks and Recreation Law Reporter*, Professional Reports Corp. 4571 Stephen Circle N.W., Canton, OH 44718, 800-336-0083. Reprinted with permission. FITNESS MANAGEMENT, January 1991 issue, (c) Leisure Publications, Inc.



**THIRD PLACE (Above):** "It's a bird, it's a plane — no, it's Great Wall Racquetball!" proclaimed Bud Moretz as he hurled a brand new ball over the edge of the Great Wall in China last March. He wonders if, two thousand years from now, some archeologist will unearth the artifact and conclude that it must have belonged to a 20th Century Chinaman named "Penn." Submitted by Bud Moretz.



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## COACHES NOTEBOOK: TOURNAMENT OF THE AMERICAS

*By Jim Winterton*

The United States Team completed a great trip to Santiago, Chile, where they competed in the Tournament of the Americas March 18 through April 1st, 1991. The trip was capped by the United States Team capturing the first three places in women's play and three of the top four in men's play. In addition, our doubles teams both won convincingly and were not really ever tested.

The format of the Tournament of the Americas is a confusing one to those not familiar with it. The first three days of competition are to seed the players. If a player loses in the first three days, he or she will get a lower seeding for the final tournament which began on Thursday and ended Saturday, March 30th.



In the preliminary competition, the women's doubles team of Jackie Paraiso and Kim Russell was dominant. No team came close to beating them. Kim played a great right side. Months of practice sessions with men's doubles champ Tim Hansen paid off as she rolled shot after shot. Her

teammate, Jackie Paraiso, showed why she is one of the best doubles players in the world by playing an unbeatable left side.

In the men's doubles Tim Hansen and Jim Floyd not only won matches, but they won the crowds over with their "flashy" style of play. When Big Tim and Little Jim went "airborne" during rallies, the crowds loved it!

In the men's singles, Drew Kachtik and Andy Roberts both won tough matches over Simon Roy and Mike Ceresia, respectively of Canada. Tim Doyle lost a close 15-11 tiebreaker to Sherman Greenfeld of Canada. This meant that in one semifinal, Drew would play Sherman and in the other Tim would play Andy. Preliminary wins end up being very important because if two Americans lose, they could meet in the quarterfinals, thus one would not make the medal round.

In the women's singles, Michelle Gilman crushed her opposition. Kaye Kuhfeld also went undefeated. Toni Bevelock lost in a close match to Heather Stupp of Canada, so like the men, the women had all of the players in a medal round. In the semifinal (if, like the men, the seeding held true) Heather Stupp of Canada would play Kaye Kuhfeld and in the other semifinal, Michelle would play Toni.

On Wednesday the team was treated to a much needed day off. The gracious hosts prepared a bus tour that went through the mountains to the vineyards and to the ocean with a spectacular view of the Chilean countryside.

The seeds held true all the way through until the semifinals. There, upsets were the norm. The first occurred in the women's singles when Kaye Kuhfeld upset number one seed Heather Stupp of Canada, and in the other half, favored Michelle Gilman de-

feated Toni Bevelock in a tough two games. In the men's semifinals, Tim Doyle defeated Andy Roberts in a close two games. Meanwhile, in doubles the teams of Paraiso and Russell and Hansen and Floyd moved on to the finals with easy wins.

**CONTINUED, PAGE 14**



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# NATIONAL RANKINGS

## MEN'S DIVISIONS:

### MEN'S OPEN

1. Doug Ganim, OH
2. Tim Hansen, FL
3. Andy Roberts, TN
4. Louis Vogel, NM
5. Chris Marshall, NC
6. Tim Doyle, CA
7. Egan Inoue, HI
8. Dale Johnson, IL
9. James Loretto, FL
10. Todd Stead, MN

### MEN'S A

1. Brad Mixgate, IL
2. Bill Welaj, NJ
3. Mat Kelly, CO
4. Derek Dunn, WA
5. Brett Zimmermann, TX
6. Andy Yambrek, KY
7. Jim Demass, SC
8. Randy Jones, AL
9. Mark Werthman, MI
10. Charlie Andrews, VA

### MEN'S B

1. Ed Callejo, CO
2. Kevin O'Callahan, NJ
3. Bill Turner, TN
4. Scott Hale, MI
5. Richard Bralithwaite, ID
6. Steve Turner, TN
7. Dan Delancey, SC
8. James Russell, FL
9. Jeff Baumgartner, IL
10. Dave Puocel, WI

### MEN'S C

1. Chris Keenan, CO
2. Tom Whitman, CO
3. Mike Gardner, IL
4. Keith Fluharty, IN
5. James Narrod, CO
6. Clayton Shaffer, SC
7. Ben Simons, OH
8. Larry Vena, IL
9. Ken Blalock, TX
10. Terry Brown, CA

### MEN'S D

1. Chris Droste, NJ
2. Andrew Haywood, GA
3. Sparkie Thompson, FL
4. Luis Corona, TX
5. Gene Pignataro, IL
6. Tom Mathy, MI
7. Justin Dayles, ID
8. Scott Grunin, MA
9. Joe Quirks, IL
10. Oscar Rodriguez, LA

### MEN'S NOVICE

1. Chris Sparoff, IL
2. Jimmy Audas, TX

3. Mike Beltran, CA
4. Mike Carignan, NH
5. Brian Deneroff, NJ
6. Morgan Smith, GA
7. Craig Toupin, SC
8. Michael Askay, IL
9. David Masters, CO
10. Kevin Torok, OH

### MEN'S 19+

1. Rob Lamontagne, MA
2. Charlie Garrido, TX
3. Derek Robinson, MO
4. Dale Johnson, IL
5. Mike Locker, MN
6. Brian Rankin, MO
7. Jamie Sumner, UT
8. Dan Fowler, MD
9. Nolan Glantz, NY
10. David Hunter, TN

### MEN'S 25+

1. Jim Jeffers, IL
2. Curtis Winter, FL
3. Jim Cascio, PA
4. Sam Wasko, VA
5. Bob Fugener, TN
6. Joe Cline, NJ
7. Ron Digiacomo, NY
8. Hart Johnson, MN
9. Armando Alonso, FL
10. John Ivers, CA

### MEN'S 30+

1. Bobby Corcoran, AZ
2. Dave Negrete, IL
3. Bill Sell, CA
4. Bill Lyman, IL
5. Dave Peck, CO
6. Vinnie Ganley, FL
7. Carlos Hill, SC
8. Greg Hayenga, MN
9. Scott Ellason, CT
10. Mark Malowitz, TX

### MEN'S 35+

1. Craig Kunkel, CA
2. Jim Young, PA
3. Dave Kovanda, OH
4. Davey Bledsoe, GA
5. Ed Garabedian, PA
6. Mike Robinson, TX
7. Tom Travers, OH
8. Stu Hastings, MI
9. Dennis Aceto, MA
10. Rick Strout, UT

### MEN'S 40+

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

10. Jim Santino, MI

### MEN'S 45+

1. Dick Melhart, WA
2. Mickey Bellah, CA
3. Pete Petty, TN
4. Ray Huss, OH
5. Tom Perna, OH
6. Roger Wehrle, GA
7. Fred Letter, NJ
8. Herb Grigg, IL
9. Brad Parra, CA
10. Gary Myers, CA

### MEN'S 50+

1. Charlie Garfinkel, NY
2. Jerry Davis, OH
3. Dario Mas, DE
4. Ron Johnson, IL
5. Ron Galbreath, PA
6. Jack Ross, FL
7. Bobby Sanders, OH
8. Les Dietrich, MN
9. Len Corte, AZ
10. Ron Hutcherson, IN

### MEN'S 55+

1. Paul Banales, AZ
2. Art Johnson, CO
3. Don Alt, FL
4. Hal Lackey, NC
5. Ron Pudduck, MI
6. Louis Berson, NY
7. Frank Taylor, OH
8. Lynn Hahn, MI
9. Rex Benham, AR
10. Otis Chapman, OH

### MEN'S 60+

1. Harvey Clar, CA
2. Pierre Miller, IN
3. Dan Liacara, NY
4. Bert Shullimson, IL
5. Joe Lambert, TX
6. Vance Lerner, CA
7. Victor Sacco, NY
8. David Weinberg, NY
9. Barney Friesth, SC
10. Max Fillek, MN

### MEN'S 65+

1. Victor Sacco, NY
2. Mai Roberts, FL
3. John Barilles, VA
4. Lussell Wilde, UT
5. Jack Gushue, NY
6. Myron Friedman, ME
7. Don Goddard, MT
8. Dick Kincade, CO
9. Bob Fraser, CA
10. Paul Gorman, FL

### MEN'S 70+

1. Lussell Wilde, UT
2. Earl Acuff, NC
3. Allen Shepherd, MD
4. Charles Russell, CA

5. Nick Sans, CA
6. Cam Snowberger, PA
7. Charles Estrom, MA
8. Arthur Goss, CO
9. Harmon Minor, CO
10. Kai Gladstone, CA

### MEN'S 75+

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

### MEN'S 80+

1. John Pearce, TX

## WOMEN'S DIVISIONS:

### WOMEN'S OPEN

1. Michelle Gilman, OR
2. Elaine Hooghe, OH
3. Robin Levine, CA
4. Toni Bevelock, CA
5. Dot Fischl, PA
6. Kaye Kuhfeld, IN
7. Kim Russell, GA
8. Malia Bailey, VA
9. Marcy Lynch, PA
10. Linda Screeton, IN

### WOMEN'S A

1. Rox Petronelli, MA
2. Mary Keenan, CO
3. Jean Halahan, NY
4. Kim Perry, CA
5. Louise Winter, CA
6. Mary Lakatos, TN
7. Jane Greene, KS
8. Suzanne Tolan, NJ
9. Cindy Zerkowski, OH
10. Bev Supanick, CA

### WOMEN'S B

1. Dee Jenkins, CO
2. Allison Thomas, OH
3. Nancy Owens, GA
4. Carolyn Elinson, ID
5. Julie Leonard, IN
6. Amy Tyler, IL
7. Debra Derr, FL
8. Renee Roux, CA
9. Judy Stocum, AL
10. Nora Bym, TN

### WOMEN'S C

1. Diane Pearson, MI
2. Carmen Alatorre-Martin, CO
3. Suzanne Benson, IN

4. Jan Clark, OH
5. Audra Vollaro, AZ
6. Donna Johnson, ID
7. Lisa Huntley, CA
8. Debbie Victory, TN
9. Jill Owczarsak, IL
10. Gina Arnold, CO

### WOMEN'S D

1. Janice Hill, FL
2. Deborah White, AL
3. Nancy Rocha, IL
4. Debra Ivey, GA
5. Lisa Maxwell, AR
6. Monica Swope, OH
7. Carol Johnson, AL
8. Claire Gautreau, TX
9. Karen Marino, CT
10. Kim Schmitz, WI

### WOMEN'S NOVICE

1. Cynthia Fauteck, IL
2. Kathy Owens, TX
3. Sherri Rogers, CT
4. Diana Torres, CA
5. Kristin Levins, MA
6. Peggy Woodward, NY
7. Jennifer Jaskler, IL
8. Janet Curry, GA
9. Sandra Allen, AR
10. Laura Banham, VA

### WOMEN'S 19+

1. Dana Sibell, MN
2. Cheryl Gudinas, IL
3. Kim Russell, GA
4. Amy Kilbane, OH
5. Angie Browning, SC
6. Randy Friedman, NY
7. Diane Gronkiewicz, IN
8. Renee Locke, CA
9. Kelly Shepard, NM
10. Chris Deer, MO

### WOMEN'S 25+

1. Kersten Hallander, FL
2. Lauren Shepprow, FL
3. Pam Goddard, GA
4. Laura Fenton, NE
5. Mary Pomeroy, IN
6. Dee Ferriera-Worth, CA
7. Lorraine Galloway, NY
8. Sheila Collins, TN
9. Debra Bryant, NC
10. Lori Walsh, AZ

### WOMEN'S 30+

1. Mary Bickley, PA
2. Mary Lyons, FL
3. Linda Moore, NE
4. Linda Porter, IL
5. Mary Dee Jolly NH
6. Drue McDade, TN
7. Pam Goddard, GA
8. Pat Musselman, PA
9. Robin Whitmire, GA
10. Colleen Shields, IL

# NATIONAL RANKINGS

## WOMEN'S 35+

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

## WOMEN'S 40+

1. Agatha Falso, FL
2. Carole Dattisman, PA
3. Terry Hokanson, CA
4. Bev Powell, IL
5. Linda Miller, IN
6. Jan Smith, FL
7. Pat Tarson, IL
8. Patti Nishimura, WA
9. Willie Grover, GA
10. Betty Ann Gilliland, MI

## WOMEN'S 45+

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

## WOMEN'S 50+

1. Jo Kenyon, FL
2. Kathy Mueller, MN
3. Mildred Gwinn, NC
4. Sharon Hastings-Welty, OR
5. Sylvia Sawyer, UT
6. Nancy Kay Butts, WI
7. Marion Johnson, TX
8. Joanna Ralda, PA
9. Mary Walker, CA
10. Maria Hagain, GA

## WOMEN'S 55+

1. Jo Kenyon, FL
2. Kathy Mueller, MN
3. Mary Walker, CA
4. Cleata Ching, PA
5. Lola Markus, IL
6. Phyllis Melvey, ND
7. Rose Mooney, CO
8. Betty Mowery, NM
9. B. G. Raley, CA
10. Lola Markus, IL

## WOMEN'S 60+

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

## WOMEN'S 65+

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

## WOMEN'S 70+

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

## WOMEN'S 80+

1. Zelda Friedland, NM

## JUNIOR DIVISIONS

### BOYS 8 AND UNDER

1. Lane Merihon, GA
2. Shane Vanderson, OH
3. Jack Hucsek, MI
4. Robert Gates, IL
5. Jim Rodberg, MN
6. Dan Thompson, WI
7. Ricky Doukakakis, CO
8. Benjie Short, IL
9. Jon White, GA
10. Travis Frost, OR

### BOYS 8- MULTI-BOUNCE

1. Shane Vanderson, OH
2. Andy Vaughn, TN
3. Jason Jansen, ND
4. Jim Rodberg, MN
5. Robert Gates, IL
6. Jack Hucsek, MI
7. Juan Martinez, IL
8. Lane Merihon, GA
9. Vito Rubiano, IL
10. Jon White, GA

### BOYS 10-

1. Rocky Carson, CA
2. Gabe Gose, NM
3. Daniel Wubneh, FL
4. Ryan Staten, KS
5. Lane Merihon, GA
6. David Liakos, NE
7. T.J. Newberg, IL
8. Shane Vanderson, OH
9. Matt Helner, OR
10. Travis Mettenbrink, NE

### BOYS 12-

1. Brent McDade, TN
2. Eric Storey, UT
3. Jed Bhuta, AL
4. Abe Valdez, OR
5. Ben Williams, NY
6. Brent Zimmerman, MI
7. Blake Hansen, IA
8. Hal Spangenberg, CA
9. Willie Tilton, CO
10. Lane Merihon, GA

## BOYS 14-

1. Wes Miller, TN
2. Todd Criger, NE
3. Jason Mannino, NY
4. Ryan Tobias, OR
5. Eric Storey, UT
6. Evan Fellowski, WI
7. Randy Rupels, IL
8. Paul Apilado, TX
9. David Hamilton, OH
10. Brian Pearson, MN

## BOYS 16-

1. Andy Yambrek, KY
2. Sudsy Monchik, NY
3. Craig Czys, FL
4. Chad Gibson, KS
5. Shane Dodge, ID
6. James Mulcock, NM
7. Andy Gross, MN
8. Wes Miller, TN
9. Craig Rappaport, PA
10. Chris Thomas, NC

## BOYS 18-

1. Joel Bonnett, MI
2. Javad Aghaloo, TX
3. Ryan Covell, MI
4. Jim Ellenberger, WI
5. John Ellis, CA
6. Justin Knutson, MN
7. Rodney Naylor, IN
8. Chris Thomas, NC
9. Andy Yambrek, KY
10. Will Epperson, AL

## GIRLS 8 AND UNDER

1. Alexys Feaster, DC
2. Meital Manzuri, CA
3. Molly Law, CO
4. Joni Fuller, NM
5. Laura Roth, IL
6. Jessica Fuller, NM

### GIRLS 8- MULTI-BOUNCE

1. Alexys Feaster, DC
2. Sarah Miranda, OK
3. Meital Manzuri, CA
4. Ashley Cariblom, VA
5. Molly Law, CO
6. Monique Rutherford, IL
7. Jodi Trombley, MI
8. Jackie Cherne, MN

## GIRLS 10-

1. Lynn Hansen, IA
2. Jamie Trachsel, MN
3. Tiffany Evans, GA
4. Lani Welsbart, IL
5. Jennifer Hardeman, TN
6. Ryan Hibler, TN
7. Kelly Ruhl, CO
8. Suzette Solomon, IN
9. Nichole Grace, IL
10. Elizabeth Smith, OH

## GIRLS 12-

1. Vanessa Tulao, TN
2. Dawn Gates, IL
3. Debra Derr, FL
4. Leslie Buschbom, GA
5. Stephanie Cox, IL
6. Jennifer Jaskier, IL
7. Rhonda Rajsich, AZ
8. Meadow Krantz, MN
9. Ashley Crouse, OH
10. Jennifer Liakos, NE

## GIRLS 14-

1. Amy Jerdee, IA
2. Vanessa Tulao, TN
3. Tammy Rae Brockbank, ID
4. Allison Thomas, OH
5. Jill Trachsel, MN
6. Andrea Luque, GA
7. Debra Derr, FL
8. Tiffany Hafer, ID
9. Dawn Gates, IL
10. Mandi Hubble, OR

## GIRLS 16-

1. Jenny Spangenberg, CA
2. Amber Frisch, TX
3. Andrea Beugen, MN
4. Rachel Gellman, NM
5. Mandi Hubble, OR
6. Jules Peterson, KY
7. Jenny Skeen, NE
8. Tammy Brockbank, ID
9. Amy Jerdee, IA
10. Jenny Meyer, CO

## GIRLS 18-

1. Elkova Iconogle, CA
2. Rachel Gellman, NM
3. Renee Lockey, CA
4. Dawn Peterson, WI
5. Amanda Simmons, FL
6. Heather Dunn, MA
7. Heather Flory, IA
8. Tammy Brockbank, ID
9. Dawn Gates, IL
10. Heather O'Conner, MI

## NWRA RANKINGS

### MEN'S W/C OPEN

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

### MEN'S W/C A

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



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## TOURNAMENT OF THE AMERICAS . . .

The stage was set for the match of the tournament. Sherman Greenfeld of Canada, the number one seed, played Drew Kachtik. Sherman is a converted squash player who hits good pinch shots and returns a drive serve as well as anyone. His unorthodox style and court coverage tends to throw many players off their game. Sherman got off to a 9-2 lead in the first game but as so often happens in a Kachtik match, Drew fought back. He pulled within one point 12-13 before losing 15-13.

The next game saw Drew behind by scores of 11-2 and 12-4, but he came back again and won 15-8. In game three Sherman again seemed to be in command at 12-5, but Drew came back and pulled ahead at 14-13. At match point Drew hit the only bad lob serve he hit all night. This one fell short and Sherman put it away. Sherman won 15-14. The crowd loved the long rallies, the sportsmanship and athletic ability of the two players and a ten minute ovation was given for their efforts. Although Team USA had lost, it had gained in the eyes of the South American fans.

The finals were held on Saturday. In the women's final, Michelle Gilman showed why she has dominated all year with a 15-8, 15-8 win over Kaye Kuhfeld. Kaye had a tremendous tournament in her own quiet way, dispatching Heather Stupp along the way. Toni Bevelock took the bronze medal when Heather Stupp failed to answer the bell for the third round match.

The men's final never came to pass as another Canadian could not play. Sherman Greenfeld was sick all night and couldn't play on Saturday. This put Tim Doyle in as champion. Drew Kachtik played Andy Roberts for third, and Drew won the bronze. Jackie Paraiso and Kim Russell defeated the Canadian team of Vicki Brown and Carol McFetridge, and Jim Floyd and Tim Hansen won in a televised final over the Mexican team by scores of 15-8 and 15-11.

On Saturday evening Team USA was a tired group of puppies, but led on by Team Leader, Mike Arnolt and Team Manager, Mary Lyons, the team managed a few songs and some great dancing as well.

On Sunday the team began what has been known as "the mother of all flights". Most team members traveled at least 20 to 24 hours to get home. It was an exhausted group that got back to their homes in the United States on Monday, April 1st.



Stars for outstanding department: Great effort and play was given by all team members. In the friendship cup tournament, oldies but goodies Luke St. Onge, Mike Arnolt, and Jim "drive serve" Hiser. Team Leader Mike Arnolt and Team Manager Mary Lyons saved day after day throughout the tournament. Great "politicking" was produced by Keith Calkins and Luke St. Onge. Our sport is certainly the better for the efforts of these two. A great coaching job was done by the entire coaching staff and the Team Psychologist, Diana McNab, who helped prepare our team. Finally, stars to the people of South American, especially Chile. Team USA is already looking forward to Honduras in '92, the site of next year's Tournament of the Americas.

court to form their own company, Zap'em, Inc. which will enable airline travelers to voice their complaints and/or congrats to airline executives regarding the service, or lack thereof, they receive.

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The cards, which cost \$2 each, will appear in airport newsstands and gift shops soon. Call 301/530-0361 for more information.

**JET SET CLASSIC TO BE HELD IN PHOENIX:** The Jet Set Classic Airline Racquetball Tournament will be held at the City Square Athletic Club in Phoenix, Arizona on October 11, 12 & 13. To enter, participants must be an airline employee, spouse, dependent or retiree. The major airlines involved are Delta, United, American, Northwest, Alaska, Continental, Federal Express, Southwest, America West and USAir. This year the tournament will be sponsored by Pro Kennex and will be done in a round robin format with different heats, according to tournament director Vicky Birkmann.

The tournament is in its fourth year and has been very successful in the past, bringing about 100 participants to the last three locations of San Francisco, Los Angeles and Denver. This will be the first year the event will be held in Phoenix. For more information on the tournament, please contact Vicky at 714/921-2234

**HOUSTON PROMOTER TO BEGIN AMBITIOUS TOURNAMENT PROGRAM:** A unique tournament will be held in Houston, Texas on November 8-10. The First Annual Joe Ardito Memorial Handball/Racquetball Tournament, named for the late Commissioner who inspiration and leadership was so instrumental in the development of both sports, will be staged by promoter Andrew Hollan. With fond remembrance of Paul Haber's and Dr. Bud Muehleisen's

## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

**INTERNATIONAL COACHES CLINIC SET:** The AARA will host an International Coaches Clinic at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs October 9-14th. The first 15 qualified applicants to request a spot at the clinic will be accepted. For more information, contact Jim Hiser at 719/635-5396.

**NEW AARA BENEFIT "LAUNCHED":** In cooperation with IRSA - The Association of Quality Clubs, the AARA has added a valuable offer to its membership kits. A \$500.00 certificate, which can be applied toward sea passage on any Cunard Line vessel, is now offered to all new AARA members. The 1991 "SeaSports Fitness Vacation at Sea" is the latest vacation package offered by the Cunard Line. If you would like to receive more information about the special offer, please contact the AARA offices at 719/635-5396.



**PLAYERS START "CRITICAL" BUSINESS:** Byron Kline and Richard Salvatierra of Bethesda, Maryland met on the racquetball court several years ago, they became friends and went on to form a racquetball league with 16 players at the Bethesda Sports and Health Club.

The league has been successful, sporting trophy awards, a bi-annual cocktail party and a bi-weekly newsletter. Now, the partners have gone beyond their friendship on and off the

legendary hands vs. racquet winner-take-all shootout, Hollan will cap off the tournament with a similar show.

But perhaps most important is that a percentage of the proceeds from this fully sanctioned tournament will be donated to the Joe Ardito Development Fund, an important charity devoted to youth programs. "Interest in our tournament is really picking up," said Hollan.

"We think the format and extra activities at this tournament will make it a very appealing way to earn ranking points," added Hollan. "And who knows, maybe this will be one more step toward helping my two favorite sports become Olympic events." For more information regarding the Joe Ardito Memorial call 713/240-7610 or write 11744 Wilcrest #261, Houston, Texas, 77099.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

**WORLD CLASS RACQUETBALL:** In its third year as an international event, the World Senior Racquetball Championships have been scheduled for Tom Young's Athletic Club in Albuquerque, New Mexico September 4-7. The event, limited to those over 35 years of age, is fast becoming a perennial favorite among age division racquetball competitors. Entries are limited to the first 350 received and the DEADLINE is AUGUST 12. For more information about the tournament, and an entry form, call Gary Mazaroff at 505/246-2099.

**LETTER FROM SANTIAGO:** Luke St. Onge received the following letter following the Tournament of the Americas —

*First, excuse me because I know that my English is not good, but I think at least you can understand me.*

*Hereby this, I want to let you know that in the last Racquetball championship in Santiago, Chile, Mr. Jim Winterton help a lot. I knew him because I am one of the Handball champion in Peru, and I have come to Chile to watch and encourage a friend of mine only, but Jim invited me to play and I did not do it so bad. He gave me a set of two Penn Racquetballs as a gift and told me some*



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*recommendations about this new sport for me, this cheer up to me to practice, and now I win many sport men that practice for more than two years.*

*I would like you not talk him anything about my letter, but I just want to say thank you, truly thank you. Sincerely yours, Juan Jose Luna.*

**ULSTER GAMES:** Liam McCarney of Belfast reports that the Ulster Games were a great success with teams from Holland, Germany, England the Irish Republic and, of course, a local group from Ulster. Germany got the men's team gold, Ireland "A" the silver and Ireland "B" the bronze. Ireland "A" also got the women's gold, Ireland "B" the silver, and England the bronze. Holland got the men's individual gold, England the silver and Germany the bronze. For the ladies, it went Ireland, Ulster and England for the individual finish.

**JAPAN HOSTS REGIONAL EVENT:** The Japan Racquetball Association [JARA] will host the 8th Asian Regional Racquetball Tournament at the Sport Club Together in Fukuoka, Japan July 27-28. The round robin tournament will be played in a five-member team format with three singles players and a doubles team making up each men's and women's squad. The entry fee is a whopping 22,500 yen (per team)!

**13th DUTCH OPEN:** Held in Zoetermeer, the Netherlands, March 15-17, the 13th Dutch Open crowned winners in four divisions of men's singles, two divisions of women's singles and one doubles bracket. **RESULTS --** Men's Open: Ralf Klinke (GFR) defeated Joachim Loof (GFR) 13-15, 15-10, 15-6; Men's B: Marc Boulez (FRA) def. Edwin Schipper (HOL) 9-15, 15-12, 15-14; Men's C: Klaus Fibrich (GFR) def. Robert Seillour (FRA) 15-13, 15-11; Men's 30: Olaf Balzuweit (GFR) def. Rene Hehemann (HOL) 15-12, 15-14; Men's Doubles: Loof/Hayter (GFR) def. Scheffler/Gerullis (GFR) 11-15, 15-4, 15-11; Women's Open: Philomine v. Pelt (HOL) def. Birgit Klinke (GFR) 15-7, 15-8 and Women's B: Jodine v. Antwerpen (HOL) def. Wendy Wilmowski (USA) 15-11, 15-6.

**GARCIA ON THE MOVE IN FLORIDA:** Claudine Garcia has been playing racquetball for only two years, but the 15-year-old native of the Dominican Republic is already making her presence felt on the international scene.

A member of her country's national team, Claudine won first place in Women's B at the Tournament of the Americas and took third in Women's Doubles at the Central American Games. Other honors include a first place in Women's A in the Big Cash Tournament, a second in 14-and-under and third in 16-and-under in the Junior Orange Bowl.

More recently, Claudine captured a pair of firsts in the recent Florida State Singles Championships at Racquetpower in Jacksonville. She won both the 16-and-under and Women's B division.

A two-time visitor to Florida, Claudine is presently attending school in Boca Raton and training with Jeff Leon at the Scandinavian Health and Racquet Club in Boca. There, her training consists of 1- to 2-hour sessions that include drills on serves, serve returns, court strategy and behavior and conditioning.

Claudine also has the opportunity to work with other players from Central and South America who also came to train in Boca Raton at Scandinavian Health and Racquet Club.

And Claudine's goal? To one day become the best player in her country!

[Reprinted courtesy FRA News]

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## NOSTALGIA: FIVE AND TEN YEARS AGO

*Compiled by  
John Mooney*

### FIVE YEARS AGO IN 1986:

Ed Andrews and Cindy Baxter were the top ranked open players. National Junior Champion, Todd O'Neil, won the boys 18 and under over Drew Kachtik; Elaine Mardas beat Michelle Gilman in Girls 18 and under; Tim Doyle won the boys 16 and under. What is common among these names? All have represented the U.S.A. on the U.S. Racquetball Team in the years since. A professional teaching and certification program was introduced. Van Dubolsky was elected President of the AARA and wore a mustache. Ed Remen and Cindy Baxter were voted as male and female players of the year. Wheelchair racquetball was introduced at the National Singles with Chip Parmelly winning the first AARA National Wheelchair Championship.

## NOSTALGIA...

TEN YEARS AGO  
IN 1981:

Eyeguards were recommended for the Leach/Seamco National Junior Racquetball Championships. Charlie Garfinkel wore a size 15 sneaker and to date, his feet haven't shrunk any. The 1981 Singles Championships were held in Boise and were sponsored by AMP, Volt, and Miller Lite. The AARA Board approved 50% of the membership fees to remain with the state associations. Junior age divisions changed to 18, 16, 14, 12, 10, and 8 and under (no bounce). The Racquetball Instructional camps available were: Bud Muehleisen's, Jim Austin's, Davey Bledsoe's, Dave Peck's, Mike Yellen's, and Steve Strandemo's. Ed Andrews won his second of four National Singles Championships. Cindy Baxter won her first of four National Singles Championships. The games were to 21 points with a 15 point tie breaker. The AARA was headquartered in Memphis, Tennessee. The male player of the year was Bud Muehleisen, and the Female Player of the Year was Carol French.

## NEW DIRECTIONS: NOTES FROM NATIONAL SINGLES

By Luke St. Onge

In Houston, lots of interesting information was shared on and off the court, including:

- \* Both the men's and women's open finals were sold out in each of the past five years.
- \* Next year will be Houston's 10th anniversary of hosting the National Singles.
- \* The Downtown Hyatt is being completely refurbished, to the tune of over \$4 million.
- \* This year over 600 players and guests attended the Award Banquet ... quite a note of confidence, especially since the Beach Boys were giving a free concert two blocks from the Hyatt.
- \* Soldiers from all the wars of this century competed in Houston.
- \* At the banquet, one table of five players totaled 390 years of playing experience.
- \* Jim Hiser's slide show was just great. He was also in a panic when, half an hour before the banquet, the Hyatt had only half of the 40 foot screen set up.
- \* One of the players who had lost in the first round on Wednesday, was overheard saying to a friend in the Hyatt elevator that he was sweating not because he had just finished playing, but because he had worked out to prepare for the consolations on Sunday.



\* The AARA managed no mean feat by televising "two-fold" this year, shooting the Women's finals for Sports Channel and the Men's Open and 19+ for Prime Network. Larry Myers, Producer/Director had to shoot two openings, two closings, and revise the graphics from Sports Channel to Prime Network between finals -- all in a eight hour day.

\* A half hour before the finals, the Chyron (graphic electronics system) failed because of the humidity and the crew was frantically calling all over Houston to get a replacement. It arrived 15 minutes before airtime.

\* NFL great Jim Turner continues to do the play by play for both events with Lynn Adams doing the color commentary for the women and Jim Hiser handling the men.

\* The AARA will produce three major TV shows within a week. The Pacific Rim Championships June 22 in Honolulu, Hawaii, the Junior Olympics June 26th in Minneapolis, Minnesota; and the National Outdoors June 29th in Gainesville, Florida. Quite a schedule!

\* Dr. Rhett Rainey, the U.S. National Team Physician, was called into active duty in support of Desert Storm and was discharged two days before the Nationals. He would have been discharged earlier but the Army kept him in to represent them in the All Forces Playoffs. After Rhett lost they discharged him.

\* The new AARA "USA Racquetball" bags sold out in two days...look for a nationwide marketing effort in AARA logoed merchandise.

CONTINUED, PAGE 20



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## NEW DIRECTIONS ...

\* Major Dennis Rajsich, assigned to a medical unit eight miles from the Iraqi border, constructed a makeshift racquetball court out of plywood on the back of a transport. He said that there was a lot of racquetball played in Bahrain Saudi Arabia during the war.

\* The Iraqis used the racquetball courts in Kuwait for ammunition storage.

\* Just in case the men's finals was a blow-out, the men's 19+ was held back. Good thing. Tim Sweeney beat Egan Inoue in less than 38 minutes leaving over an hour and twenty minutes worth of broadcast airtime left to fill.

\* There was a 25% increase in women players this year.

\* With Coca Cola and Minute Maid as major sponsors, players always had plenty of refreshments.



**A real portable court.** Desert Storm troops used an emptied 10' x 20' Milvan like this one (a railroad car without wheels) as a makeshift racquetball court. Photo: Dennis Rajsich.

# America's Most Wanted



Jack Newman



Ruben Gonzalez



Doug Ganim



Dave Negrete

## Racquetball Camps 1991

| Location                | Date           | Instructors      | Location               | Date         | Instructors      |
|-------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Cleveland, OH           |                |                  | Memphis, TN            |              |                  |
| Solon Athletic Club     | August 3 - 4   | Newman/Ganim     | Site To Be Announced   | Sept./Oct.   | Newman/Roberts   |
| Dayton, OH              |                |                  | Brooklyn, NY           |              |                  |
| Congress Park Ath. Club | August 10 - 11 | Newman/Ganim     | Site To Be Announced   | Oct. 19 - 20 | *Newman/Gonzalez |
| Toledo, OH              |                |                  | Denver, CO             |              |                  |
| Aquarius Athletic Club  | August 17 - 18 | Newman/Ganim     | Site To Be Announced   | Oct./Nov.    | Newman/Roberts   |
| Schaumburg, IL          |                |                  | Columbus, OH           |              |                  |
| Woodfield Athletic Club | August 24 - 25 | Newman/Negrete   | Site To Be Announced   | November     | Newman/Ganim     |
| Laurel, MD              |                |                  | Schaumburg, IL         |              |                  |
| Laurel Racquet & Health | Sept. 14 - 15  | *Newman/Gonzalez | Woodfield Racquet Club | Nov. 23 - 24 | Newman/Negrete   |
| Portland, OR            |                |                  |                        |              |                  |
| Surwet Athletic Club    | Sept. 21 - 22  | *Newman/Gonzalez |                        |              |                  |

**COST:** \$125/\$150\* (\*Newman/Gonzalez)

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**TIME:** Saturday - Sunday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

America's Most Wanted Camps are for all levels of racquetball from novice to open. Campers will be paired up in learning teams with players of similar abilities. Extensive videotape analysis is used as well as technique and strategy from our excellent staff. 10 hours of instruction, camp booklet, Tackl-Mac grip, Head shirt, and other giveaways are included. VISA OR MASTERCARD welcomed.

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\* During the Nationals, I flew back to the U.S.O.C. to teach racquetball to Gilbert Feili, the new International Olympic Program Director. I also attended a reception in his honor and returned to Houston just in time for the banquet.

\* Great coverage for the Nationals...four TV stations, two papers, four radio broadcasts, USA Today, and featured telecasts on SportsChannel America and Prime Network.

\* Starting this year, winners of age divisions from 35+ and up at the National Singles who go on to compete at the I.R.F. Seniors/Masters World Championships in Albuquerque, New Mexico in September will receive U.S. Team uniforms for representing the U.S. in the competition.

\* AARA membership now has the great added benefit of a \$500 discount certificate on the Cunard Countess cruise ship.

\* At the U.S. National Team meeting in Houston, \$25,000 in U.S.O.C. Operation Gold money was distributed to the 10 athletes who placed in the top eight in the Tournament of the Americas. Next years qualifier for Operation Gold will be the World Championships.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

*By Keith Calkins*



Following the 1991 semi-annual Board meeting in Houston, there were three candidates elected to the board, Mike Arnolt, Carol Pellowski and myself. Van Dubolsky, who received the fourth highest number of votes in the election, was also appointed to serve out a one year term for Renee Camahan who resigned this year. The board elected new officers for the year and they are:

President: Keith Calkins  
Vice President: Carol Pellowski  
Secretary: Al Seltelman  
Treasurer: Steve Lerner  
National Rules Commissioner: Otto Dietrich  
National Tournament Commissioner: Margo Daniels

I have also completed the Committee assignments for the year after receiving letters from two members who were interested in serving on AARA Standing Committees. I

appointed Jean Chastain to serve on the Scholarship Committee, and I received a letter from Del Villanueva after I returned from Houston. I will try to make an assignment for Del in the near future. Thank you for your input.

| COMMITTEE               | CHAIR           |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| MEMBERSHIP              | Dubolsky        |
| DEVELOPMENT/PLANNING    | Daniels         |
| Scholarship             | Mooney          |
| Strategic Planning      | Dubolsky        |
| Awards                  | Foust           |
| RULES/REGULATIONS       | Dietrich        |
| FINANCE                 | Lerner          |
| MANUFACTURE/TECHNICAL   | Arnolt          |
| EDUCATION/RESEARCH      | Dubolsky        |
| Sports Medicine         | Rainey          |
| Sports Science          | Salmon          |
| STATE ORGANIZATIONS     | Seltelman       |
| OLYMPIC/INTERNATIONAL   | Calkins         |
| ELECTIONS               | Arnolt          |
| Hall of Fame            | Seltelman       |
| ATHLETES ADVISORY       | Bevelock        |
| PERSONNEL               | Daniels         |
| U.S. TEAM               | Pellowski       |
| DISABLED                | Foust           |
| COACHES/TEAM LEADERS    | None            |
| MASTERS COUNCIL         | Bruher & Kenyon |
| JUNIOR & HIGH SCHOOLS   | Pellowski       |
| INTERCOLLEGIATE COUNCIL | Daniels         |
| WOMEN'S COUNCIL         | Pellowski       |
| OUTREACH COUNCIL        | Carter          |
| PUBLICATION/ETHICS      | Lerner          |

### AD HOC COMMITTEES

Blue Ribbon Committee on Ranking, Chair: Dubolsky  
Blue Ribbon /Centralized Funding, Chair: Dubolsky  
Banquet Committee for Nationals, Chair: Daniels  
Constitution, Chair: Dietrich

This year there are only a couple of Ad Hoc committees. All the others are Standing Committees in accordance with the constitution as amended in Houston.

On behalf of the new board I thank you all for your participation in the election, and extend a special thanks to Paul Gully and Lea Dietrich for their fine campaign efforts.

We look forward to a productive year. Thank you for your support.

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Intercollegiate Regional and National Championships  
State, Regional and National Ranking Service  
National Referee Certification Program  
The Professional Assn. of Racquetball Instructors [PARI]  
The National Wheelchair Racquetball Assn. [NWRA]  
National Minority Outreach Council  
The U.S. National Racquetball Team  
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Colorado Springs, CO 80903*

## NOTES FROM THE NATIONAL OFFICE

*By John Mooney*



### NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP:

The AARA membership was 30,813 on May 29, 1991, as compared to 29,886 on May 30, 1990. Competitive license players numbered 13,486 on May 30th, which is up from 6,208 on February 28, 1991. There are now 46 lifetime members with the addition of Steve Lerner, who hails from Ohio and is an AARA Board member. In Houston at the National Singles, we added Cindy Baxter, from Pennsylvania and Ed Remen from Virginia to the Hall of Fame, making thirteen AARA Racquetball Hall of Famers.

### MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS:

Anyone who questions the benefits of the competitive license AARA membership should contact Kevin Smith from Iowa or Mark Auerbach from Texas. Both players upgraded their membership to the Competitive License and both were injured in a sanctioned tournament. Mark's medical bill for orthoscopic repair of his knee is \$3,183.00 so far and Kevin's bill to date totals \$3,735.00 for a broken foot. With \$200.00 deductible insurance coverage, you can readily see the value of the competitive license. If you haven't upgraded your membership, you can do so by sending \$5.00 to upgrade your one-year membership or \$10.00 to upgrade your two-year membership. If you are not a competitive license member, you will be required to become one when you renew your membership.

### NATIONAL GOLD RANKING POINTS AWARDS:

Four years ago, the AARA Board approved a special Pin Award for those players who achieve the following levels of points through the AARA ranking system: white 3,000; red 5,000; blue 7,500; and black 10,000. Pins are engraved with the person's name and total number of points at the time of award. The top two awards will be presented each year at the

banquet at the National Singles. The bottom two levels of awards will be given once each year to those who have achieved the level by April 30th. Gold points are accumulated throughout your racquetball career. Points are deleted if there is no activity during the past five years. In the past, we have not been able to administer this program. We are able to begin the program now and the first awards will be as follows:

### 10,000 PLUS POINTS

|                   |             |        |
|-------------------|-------------|--------|
| 1. JO KENYON      | FLORIDA     | 15,659 |
| 2. LUZELL WILDE   | UTAH        | 11,155 |
| 3. MARY LOW ACUFF | N. CAROLINA | 10,825 |
| 4. DAVE KOVANDA   | OHIO        | 10,200 |
| 5. AGATHA FALSO   | FLORIDA     | 10,143 |

### 7,500 PLUS POINTS

|                         |             |       |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------|
| 1. DEBRA DERR           | FLORIDA     | 9,215 |
| 2. SUSAN MORGAN-PFAHLER | FLORIDA     | 8,578 |
| 3. EARL ACUFF           | N. CAROLINA | 8,210 |
| 4. CHARLIE GARFINKEL    | NEW YORK    | 8,065 |
| 5. TIM HANSEN           | FLORIDA     | 7,889 |
| 6. MICHELLE GILMAN      | OREGON      | 7,780 |

These accumulated Gold Points represent participation in sanctioned AARA tournaments, and the above named players are to be congratulated, not only on their abilities, but also their continued support of AARA sanctioned events.

## PROGRAM UPDATE

*By Jim Hiser*

At their most recent meeting in Houston, the Board of Directors agreed to designate junior development as their number one priority for the 1991-92 racquetball season.

In an effort to revitalize junior development, each state will be asked to participate in the new AARA Junior Program. The basics of the program are:

- 1) Each state must designate a State Junior Coordinator
- 2) Develop state goals for development of junior programs within clubs (minimum 20% of clubs in each state)
- 3) Certain states will be targeted to experiment with new league formats
- 4) Develop goals for each regional competition
- 5) Develop award system for outstanding junior programs
- 6) Distribute AARA/Ektelon junior programming package to target clubs within each state
- 7) Emphasize junior programming as a priority in grant requests

The new AARA/Ektelon junior development package is now complete. The package includes a junior programming handbook, league sign-up sheets, roster sheets, draw sheets, special equipment price list, promotional poster and participation diploma. This package will provide valuable guidance and assistance to any club director interested in developing a junior program.

## COLLEGIATE UPDATE

*By Neil Shapiro*

The 1991 Ektelon World Intercollegiate Racquetball Championships were held in Phoenix, Arizona in early April and 60 colleges and universities sent representatives.

A pre-tournament favorite, Southwest Missouri State University held form and beat the University of California at Sacramento and Memphis State University for the overall team championship.

This was the first time in 14 years that Memphis State's men's team, coached by Larry Liles, did not win the men's championship. But the successful program and high caliber recruiting of George Baker, coach of SMSU, gave him eight division winners and more than enough points to secure the victory.

Former overall champion, UC/Sacramento, had only three divisional champions, but coached by the crafty Tim Scott, finished a quiet and surprising second.

**CONTINUED, PAGE 27**



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Photos: Marius Besech / ALLSPORT

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| 1038LL-AS | (grey)  | M,L,XL | \$20.00 |



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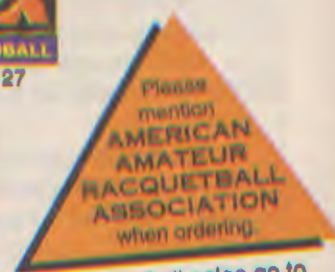
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# SANCTIONED EVENT CALENDAR

## JULY 19

Hawaiian Open  
Racquettime of  
Monroeville  
Monroeville, PA  
412/373-1911

G.S.P.A. Summer  
Games at The Classic  
Athletic Club  
Lyndhurst, NJ  
201/612-9334

Georgia State Games  
Atlanta Sporting  
Club, Atlanta, GA  
404/636-7575

## JULY 26

Court Plus Open  
Courts Plus  
New Bern, NC  
919/633-2221

Firecracker Open  
Palm Beach CC  
Lake Worth, FL  
407/738-7973

8th Rockin Rollout  
MD Farms Racquet  
& Country Club  
Brentwood, TN  
615/373-5120

## AUGUST 1

Masters/Golden  
Masters National  
Doubles Invitational  
Multnomah Athletic  
Club, Portland, OR  
503/223-6251

Orem Open  
Orem Fitness Center  
Orem, UT  
801/224-7158

## Pepsi Games of Texas

International Club  
Dallas, TX  
214/458-2582

## AUGUST 2

Falcon Racquet  
Classic  
Falcon Sports &  
Fitness Complex  
Suwanee, GA  
404/943-8977

New Life Fitness  
World Open  
New Life Fitness  
World

Cape Coral, FL  
813/337-1981

Placques Shoot To  
Feed, Honolulu Club  
Honolulu, HI

## AUGUST 9

Paul Bunyan Markets  
Doubles Only  
Nautilus Fitness &  
Racquet Club  
Erie, PA  
814/868-0072

## AUGUST 10

Doubles Warm-Up  
Lakeland Family  
YMCA  
Lakeland, FL  
813/644-3528

## AUGUST 15

Utah State Juniors  
Redwood Multi-  
Purpose Center  
West Valley, UT  
801/974-6923

## AUGUST 16

Post Oak Family  
YMCA Summer Open  
Houston, TX  
713/781-1061

Summer Sizzler  
Alamance Racquet &  
Fitness  
Burlington, NC

Summer Sizzler  
Northeast Racquet  
Club, Columbia  
Heights, MN  
612/572-0330

## AUGUST 23

Georgia State DBLS  
Falcon Sports &  
Fitness Complex  
Suwanee, GA  
404/943-8977

Pineapple Open  
Kauai Athletic Club  
Lihue, HI  
808/243-5381

Florida State DBLS  
Bally Tyrene  
Racquetball Club  
St. Petersburg, FL  
813/228-7481

## AUGUST 31

6th Annual Pepsi/  
Warren Finn  
Jewish Community  
Ctr., Houston, TX

## SEPTEMBER 4

World Senior  
Racquetball  
Championships  
Tom Young's Athletic  
Club  
Albuquerque, NM  
505/246-2099

## SEPTEMBER 6

Labor Day Open  
The Pennbriar  
Erie, PA  
814/825-8111

## SEPTEMBER 7

South Carolina State  
Doubles — Site TBA

Waco Rock & Roll-  
Out, Waco Athletic  
& Racquet Club  
Waco, TX  
817/744-4378

## SEPTEMBER 12

Chancellors  
Racquetball Tour.  
Chancellors Racquet  
& Fitness Club  
Houston, TX

## SEPTEMBER 13

Arkansas State  
Games, Golds Gym  
Little Rock, AR

Metroplex  
Racquetball Classic  
Maverick Athletic  
Club, Arlington, TX  
817/275-3348

## AARA 1991 NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

JULY 12-19  
U.S. Olympic Festival  
— Los Angeles,  
California

AUGUST 16-18  
PENN World  
Challenge U.S./  
Canada/Mexico,  
Lynmar Racquet  
Club — Colorado  
Springs, Colorado

OCTOBER 23-27  
EKTELON U.S.  
National Doubles  
Championships —  
Phoenix, Arizona

The view from  
poolside at the City  
Square Athletic  
Club, site of the  
1991 National  
Doubles in  
October.



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## INTERCOLLEGIATES ...

Powerful Memphis State found a future star in Florida freshman Scott Reiff, but in a rebuilding year could not muster enough victories to keep their unbroken skein of men's championships alive. But Coach Liles isn't to be counted out -- he was seen recruiting at the Nationals in Houston and 1992 could be another strong year for Liles and his MSU team.

But the World Intercollegiates are not only about the championship teams. Dozens of smaller school teams sent squads with no all-stars, but nonetheless had players with grit. Schools like Providence College (Women's team-third) and Brigham Young (Women's team-eighth, Men's team-seventh) and even schools like University of Nevada, Orange Coast College and the University of Oklahoma (tied for last place and next-to-last). All of these schools sent student athletes, competitors who had a chance to place in a major intercollegiate athletic event and have some fun with trying to help their team win.

The World Intercollegiate Championships are about these teams as well as the all-star teams. They are about first round losers as well as final round winners, they are about team champions as well as individual champions. They are the essence of intercollegiate sport.

The ACRA/AARA selected the 1991 Intercollegiate All-American team at the World Championships. The All-Americans received official certificates from the ACRA/AARA. Those selected were:

### MEN'S ALL AMERICAN TEAM

- Div. #1 Tim Sweeney (SW Missouri State University)  
Jim Floyd (Ferris State University)
- Div. #2 Fabian Balmori (Memphis State University)  
Derek Robinson (SW Missouri State University)
- Div. #3 Sameer Hadid (Univ./California-Sacramento)  
Brian Rankin (SW Missouri State University)
- Div. #4 Bruce Erickson (SW Missouri State University)  
Rick Mordachini (Memphis State University)
- Div. #5 Dave Larry (Memphis State University)  
John Kleinschmidt (SW Missouri State University)
- Div. #6 Buz Sawyer (SW Missouri State University)  
Jeff Linsk (Memphis State University)

### WOMEN'S ALL AMERICAN TEAM

- Div. #1 Elaine Hooghe (Franklin University)  
Cindy Doyle (University of Buffalo)
- Div. #2 Jen Yokota (SW Missouri State University)

- Chris Nordin (Providence College)
- Div. #3 Michelle Gianninni (UC/Sacramento)  
Sharon Miller (Providence College)
- Div. #4 Noel DeBarruel (UC/Sacramento)  
Laura Lynch (Memphis State University)
- Div. #5 Kate Clancy (Bryant College)  
Jeannette Hartman (Brigham Young University)
- Div. #6 Danielle Cramsey (SW Missouri State University)  
Nylene Willis (Brigham Young University)

Subject to approval by the AARA's Board of Directors, the Intercollegiate council voted to allow full-time, matriculated, graduate students (who hadn't used up their eligibility) to compete in regional and national events and to make participation mandatory in the 1992 Intercollegiate Regional Championships (if you want to compete in the World Championship tournament).

We are still looking for sites for the 1992 World Intercollegiate Championships. If you'd like to bid, please contact the AARA office.

## RACQUETBALL ACHES AND PAINS:

### REHABILITATION FOR THE INJURED SHOULDER

*By Rhett Rainey  
U.S. Team Physician*



We have previously discussed injuries to the shoulder, specifically, rotator cuff syndrome. As you recall, this syndrome can run the spectrum of a simple strain of the tendons about the shoulder, to tendinitis, to rupture of the rotator cuff.

The swinging motion used in racquetball is a complex, coordinated movement involving energy transfer through your legs, pelvis, trunk and upper extremity to the racquet. An interruption of these specialized movements can produce additional stress to the shoulder that results in decreased performance.

There are four areas of shoulder rehabilitation to restore muscular balance and flexibility to allow normal pain-free play: 1. Restore normal range of motion; 2. Re-establish smooth swinging pattern; 3. Increase muscle strength and endurance; 4. Resume full swinging activity

**1. Range of Motion --** Normal shoulder motion is required for an accurate stroke in racquetball. Restoring this motion should be your first priority after injuring your shoulder. Less than full range of motion contributes to abnormal mechanics and further compromises your serving and ultimate ability to perform at your maximum potential.

Initially, simple rotational or pendulum exercises can be used as a warm up. They can help regain motion in a painless fashion and mobilize the shoulder joint. Basically place your arm in a ranging position away from your body and allow gentle circular motion to occur. Increase the size of the circle according to your pain tolerance.

Heat can be used in the rehab phase to increase blood supply to the area. Ice would be useful after a workout to help control swelling and inflammation.

External rotation is the type of motion that should be given the most attention during your rehabilitation. The shoulder must go into extremes of external rotation during racquet preparation prior to your forward swing and contact with the ball. The internal rotator muscle of the shoulder should be stretched and flexible to allow maximum external rotation.

Adduction of the shoulder, or bringing the arm toward your body is important to stretch the backside of your shoulder. This is done by bringing your arm across the chest in a slow, sustained stretch. As the arm is brought across the body, the elbow of the involved arm can be pulled further to help regain this motion.

Forward flexion of the shoulder is done lying on your back. The opposite arm is used to grasp the forearm of the injured arm to help elevate the arm. Stretch in this position slowly because rapid movements may cause micro tears within the stretched tissues. This could result in increased inflammation and further pain. Contract-relax stretching can also be used to increase shoulder motion.

**2. Re-establish Smooth Swinging Pattern --** When your full range of motion has been regained the next step is a smooth harmonic motion when swinging. During this phase of rehabilitation you should begin practicing your previous

swinging motion. This can be done in front of a mirror three times per day trying to use your normal stroking motion 25 times in a row. Performing this exercise in a fluid fashion helps you regain proprioceptive feedback around your shoulder.

**3. Increase Muscle Strength and Endurance --** Usually light weights are used with high repetitions. Resistance can be gradually increased on an individual basis. Perform this exercise in a slow, controlled fashion. The use of high repetitions contributes to both strength and endurance. You should balance your exercises between both the deltoid and rotator cuff musculature so as not to overdevelop one group and cause asynchrony of shoulder motion. Specific exercises can be obtained from your physical therapist.

**4. Resume Full Swinging Activity --** Once you have comfortably been able to swing your racquet without pain and your shoulder motion is full, you may begin to return to the court and drill. Start slowly and remember velocity is not important during this early phase of swinging. Start with drop and hit techniques up close to the front wall. Do this both with forehand and backhand. Once this is comfortable progressively move back to increase the distance you hit the ball. Gradually increase the velocity of your swing once you can comfortably hit from the back wall. Remember, proper rehabilitation begins with proper mechanics, then accuracy, and finally velocity.

I hope this will help if you have developed shoulder pain. Be smart and don't try to overdo it. A conscientious rehabilitation program will help to return your injured shoulder back to normal. Happy racquetballing!

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## WHAT'S THE CALL?

By Otto Dietrich  
AARA National Rules  
Commissioner



**QUESTION:** I was serving for "match point" in the tiebreaker. The referee called the score "Ten serving nine!" Having heard the score, I turned to check the receiver — he clearly did NOT have either his racquet over his head or his back turned to me. So I turned

around and served the ball. My serve was good and, since he didn't return it, I assumed that I had just won the match. But apparently sometime AFTER I had checked him, the receiver had put his racquet up — probably in an attempt to disrupt my rhythm.

The referee declared that I should serve "match point" again because my opponent was apparently not ready to receive when I served. Since there was no dispute about the facts as stated, I asked for a ruling from the tournament director. Although he acknowledged that I had done everything according to the rulebook, he nevertheless stated that he "... hated to see a match end in that manner" and told us to replay the serve. Of course, as fate would have it, I lost the serve and eventually the match. What's the call? Name Withheld.

**ANSWER:** There's no doubt that you should have been declared the winner of the match! This assumes, of course, that everyone agreed that the events occurred exactly in the order you had stated, i.e., the referee's calling the score, you checking the receiver, the receiver putting the racquet up AFTER you had turned to serve, and your serve being good. Your serve should have been scored an "ace" and not replayed unless you consented to it in the interest of good sportsmanship.

As you are aware, Rule 4.5(c) clearly states that if the receiver attempts to signal that he is not ready after having been checked once by the server, the signal should not be acknowledged and the serve counts. The referee erred in calling for a replay and the tournament director compounded the error by not enforcing the rules as stated in the rulebook. Although most of us like to see points, games, and matches won by actually playing the game instead of by manipulating the rules, it seems that the receiver in this instance not only failed to disrupt you, but also placed himself in extreme jeopardy of losing the match. Luckily (for him) he was saved by the rulings of the referee and tournament director.

Referees and tournament directors alike must realize that some rules (like

the 10-minute forfeit time) offer some latitude in their application. However, most rules are not so flexible and should be enforced. Although "replaying the rally" may initially seem like the easy solution to most problems, if there is a rule that clearly applies to the facts as they are described and agreed to, then the fairest thing to do is to honor the request of the player who wants to have the rules enforced.

Incidentally, you didn't mention whether a Tournament Rules Committee had been formed as described in Rule 3.2. Such committees are intended to address matters exactly like the one you cited. Perhaps you would have gotten a more favorable ruling had such a committee been used.

**QUESTION:** What rule changes were approved by the Board of Directors at the May 1991 meeting? Several players/referees I met at U.S. National Singles Championships said that a ball hit out of the court would be a point or side-out. What is the new ruling?

**ANSWER:** The proposed rule change concerning the out-of-court ball rule was NOT changed. So, during a rally, if the ball leaves the court AFTER touching the front wall, the rally will still be replayed. As always, if the ball goes out WITHOUT touching the front wall, the person who hit the ball loses the rally.

Here are descriptions of two rule changes that WILL go into effect on September 1, 1991.

\* If a player loses any piece of his equipment during a rally, play should be stopped immediately and an avoidable hinder charged to the person who lost the equipment—unless

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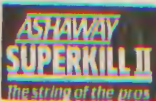
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**Stu Hastings**



his opponent caused the equipment loss. In such a case, the call would be either dead-ball hinder or avoidable hinder on the opponent for having caused the problem.

\* If the referee calls "Encroachment" just as the receiver "rolls out" a perfect return of serve and the receiver appeals and wins, the server will get two serves instead of the receiver being declared the winner of the rally.

Watch for the specific wording of these changes in the new rulebook which should be available about September 1st. Remember September 1st is the date these rule changes will go into effect.

Although technically NOT a rule change, the Board also approved extending (until August 31, 1992) the waiver which permits the use of racquets longer than 21 inches, but not more than 21.5 inches, in tournaments other than AARA National and Regional events.

---

## BOARD REPORT

*Compiled by Luke St. Onge*

The following are highlights of the May AARA Board of Directors meeting held in conjunction with the National Singles in Houston.

\* State Task Force recommendations were unanimously adopted, including:

1. The title State Director has been eliminated and the AARA will interface directly with State Associations;
2. A model State Association was adopted;
3. Job descriptions for all State positions were adopted;
4. Centralized funding was adopted that will give additional financial support to the States, based upon the following three categories: a. Developed; b. Developing; c. Underdeveloped

\* The Regional Blue Ribbon Committee report was adopted unanimously, which specified that, beginning in 1992, the current Regional boundaries will be eliminated and the AARA will hold up to 24 Regional Metro Tournaments. In 1993, the tournaments will be expanded to 30, based upon the success of 1992. Currently, the AARA holds 16 regionals.

\* The Scholarship Committee will award two \$500 scholarships in 1991.

\* The Recreational Membership Program is in place and will be operational by June to service the 40 court clubs that have currently joined the program. Two staff positions were approved to administer the program.

\* The AARA has begun negotiations with the National Intercollegiate Recreational Sports Association, which will promote the AARA to over 2,500 U.S. colleges and universities that have courts.

\* The AARA board voted unanimously to make Junior Racquetball its highest priority for 1991-1992, including: sending the Junior National Team on a goodwill tour of Europe in the Fall of 1991; supporting the Junior World Championships that will be held at Racquetpower in Jacksonville, Florida this December; and pursuing an agreement with Boy's Life magazine to access over 4 1/2 million boys and girls in Scouting.

\* Adopted unanimously all constitutional changes submitted, including: extending terms of elected office from two years to three years; adopting a new job description for the National Tournament Commissioner; restructuring the Standing Committees; allowing the National Rules Commissioner to be a "member at large" rather than on the Board proper; directing the Nominating Committee to select a slate that equals the number of open positions, or more.

\* Revised the AARA Stringer contract from a single "official" stringer position to any number of "approved" stringers, in order to open up the market for qualified stringers.

\* Voted to return to Houston for the 1992 U.S. National Singles Championships.

\* Voted the following awards: Fran Davis - John Halverson Award; Doug Ganim - Presidential Award; Dave Kovanda - Age Group Award.

\* Voted to establish the following new awards: Male and Female Age Group Athlete of the Year awards; Male and Female Junior Athlete of the Year awards.

\* Voted to adopt a new Conflict of Interest policy for the AARA Board.

\* Voted to extend the 1990 Racquet Waiver for the 1991-1992 season, which allows a racquet that exceeds the 21 inch limit by 1/2 inch to be experimental within State sanctioned events but is not allowed in competition in any AARA Regional, National, or National Invitational tournaments. States may choose to accept or reject the waiver.

In a procedure change, the AARA Board voted unanimously to establish a policy whereby, in the future, any racquet-specific change will become effective two years from the regular date that new rule changes take place.

**FOR EXAMPLE:** If racquet length specifications were changed from 21 inches to 22 inches in 1991, the new specifications would become effective September 1, 1993.

One other rule change was passed as follows: If any player's equipment falls on the court during a rally, it automatically becomes an avoidable hinder, provided the equipment was not knocked off by the player's opponent.

### **AARA LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD PEOPLE**

Nominees are being sought for three positions on the AARA Board of Directors which will be vacant in May of 1992. If you currently hold an AARA Competitive Membership, can commit to attending two meetings annually (Thursday through Saturday the first full week in October; Monday through Wednesday, the week prior to Memorial Day in May); will serve responsibly and take a leadership role on committees, please submit your personal and professional resume by September 1 to:

**AARA Election Committee  
815 N. Weber  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903-2947**

Your personal and professional resume also should include any involvement in racquetball on a local or national level. Also submit a statement outlining why you desire to be on the Board and your areas of interest.

The term is for three years. The 12-person Board is comprised of 10 members who are elected by the AARA membership, an athlete's representative and a representative from the armed forces.

## **ATTENTION ALL WOMEN MASTERS PLAYERS**

*By Jo Kenyon*



As some of you may or may not know, the National Masters Association hosts three Invitational Tournaments every year for players 45 and over. These are the National Masters Singles Tournament, which is held in February, the National Masters/Golden Masters Tournament, held in August and the National Golden Masters Singles and Doubles Tournament for players 55 and over, which is held in April.

The Master's Association has invited women to participate in both the National Golden Masters Invitational and the National Masters Doubles Championships. To be on the mailing list and participate in the invitational tournaments, it is necessary to join the National Masters Association.

The membership fee is \$25.00 for three years, and is used to maintain the invitational list, to cover the cost of mailings and telephone expenses and the printing of three newsletters a year, plus computer fees and general promotion of the Masters Group. If you would like to be on the mailing list, please send your check for \$25.00, payable to the Masters Racquetball Association to:

**Paul Banales  
4201 North 83rd Drive  
Phoenix, Arizona 85037**

**OR  
Ivan Bruner  
5555 Odana Road  
Madison, Wisconsin 53719**

Please note that membership in the National Masters Association is required **ONLY** to be invited and to participate in those invitational tournaments which are hosted by the National Masters Association. For all other sanctioned Masters Tournaments, a current AARA membership is the only requirement.

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## DEAR RACQUETBALL DOCTOR

**"BETTER TO BURN  
OUT THAN RUST OUT"**

*By Fran Davis &  
Stu Hastings*



**DEAR DOCTOR,** When I started playing racquetball for fun, I never played in the summer. I have gotten the "bug" to play tournaments this past year and enjoyed it a lot. I like the challenge of competition to see my improvement. My question is, how much should I play and practice through the summer? Will this cause burn out? Signed: Burn Out or Rust, Tim McCaskey, Duncannon, PA

**DEAR BURN OUT OR RUST,** Our prescription depends on your goals. Most players that get the competition "bug" usually want to be the best player they can be. This means working harder than the rest.

Two players of equal ability want to improve their game. One puts away his racquet in May and the other plays once a week and drills two days a week, and even attends an instructional camp and/or takes some lessons from a qualified teaching pro. Who do you think will have the advantage when the season starts again in September?

However, when you work hard in the off season and get no down time, you can burn out or lose the desire to compete. You must weigh your options. Your ability to focus and concentrate over a long period of time should determine the amount of down time you need to keep yourself "hungry" for competition.

We feel that most times we don't challenge ourselves enough. What are you willing to do to gain an advantage over your competition? We use the latest and greatest equipment, but we are unwilling to put in the overtime for fear we may overdo it or burn out. Go for it! Winners do what losers won't! Be the best you can be! Pace yourself! Which of these sayings doesn't seem to fit? As you can tell, we feel it's generally better to risk burning out by pushing yourself to your limit, rather than rust out by doing too little.

---

## SEVEN PRINCIPLES OF COACHING

*by Jim Winterton  
U.S. National Team  
Coach*



As United States Team Coach one of the greatest challenges I have is the coaching of elite athletes, many of whom I have known for only a short time. I have found over the years some important principles of coaching match play that I'd like to share.

A good coach will do his or her best to prepare the athletes for match play. The best coaching during the match is done before the match. Preparing the athletes for what is going to happen before it happens is the primary job of the coach. Given that you've done your best to prepare your players, here are seven traits good coaches possess.

These seven match play qualities will not only exemplify good coaching, but also probably help the novice coaches out there in racquetball land in the heat of the battle.

1. Good coaches know there are two types of coaching. Coaching to prepare for match play and coaching during match play. Many coaching errors are made during match play by telling players to use a certain shot or to employ a strategy that they have not worked on. Likewise, during match play a comment such as "you must deepen your court position" is almost useless unless the player has practiced it. Mechanical coaching tips such as "get your elbow out more" are also useless unless they have been practiced.

2. Good coaches never give negative feedback during match play. This is perhaps one of the rules I see violated most by coaches. Comments I have heard coaches make that are negative range from "come on, try harder" and "concentrate" to "you're not swinging through the ball." All of these negative tips could be turned into a positive with a simple comment such as, "look, forget everything and just hit ten balls in a row instead of one." This will get the player to try harder, get the player to concentrate and get the player to swing through the ball!

3. Good coaches know that the match does not reflect upon their coaching ability. The best coaches prepare their athletes for the competition. The athletes must execute the shots. The athletes deserve the glory for winning and the coaches deserve the "agony of defeat." That should go with the territory of coaching. The match is not one coach vs. another. Therefore a respect for the opponent is crucial to a coach's credibility. The first "pat on the back" and handshake should go to the opponent, win or lose. Likewise when an athlete loses there is almost always something they could have done to better prepare for that match.

4. Good coaches don't overcoach. A coach should not have to impress anybody. I feel the best coaches should be in the background and let the athletes play. When a coach starts saying something every time out the athlete can get "super" confused. Racquetball is a simple game. It isn't brain surgery. Good coaches keep it simple.

5. Good coaches know when not to coach. This goes along with principle number four. When I see confused or frustrated looks in a player's face as I'm giving instructions, I'll ask the question, "Look, am I confusing you or helping you?" If the player says I'm confusing him or her, I'll let them go and play their game. I'll also do my best to videotape the match so we can go over it later.

6. Good coaches take the pressure off players and make it fun. Sometimes in tough pressure situations a comment such as, "Look, hit a couple of aces and let's go get some lunch" can help break the tension, gets a laugh, and also sends a message to a tense opponent who looks over to see a laughing player.

7. Good coaches like their players. You can't go into combat with someone you don't respect. By the same token, if you like someone you'll fight to the death. Well, racquetball may not be combat or a life and death situation, but it sure can be a struggle. That's why a good coach knows the player as well as he or she can. That means private meetings, communication and finding common ground to build some sort of coach-athlete relationship so when it gets down to match time you know your athletes strengths and weaknesses.

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Photo 1.



Photo 2.

## **PARTIP #5: PINCHES AND SPLATS**

*By Fran Davis*

*Assistant U.S.  
National Team Coach and  
East Coast PARI Coordinator*



In the last issue we discussed in detail two of the three most offensive shots in the game today: the passes and the kills. Later in this article I will introduce the family of pinch shots, the third of three offensive shots, but first let's review the passes and kill shots (for details refer to the May-June issue).

**Pass** - hits 18" and lower on the front wall and bounces two times before the back wall.

**Kill** - hits 6" and lower on the front wall and bounces two times before the short line.

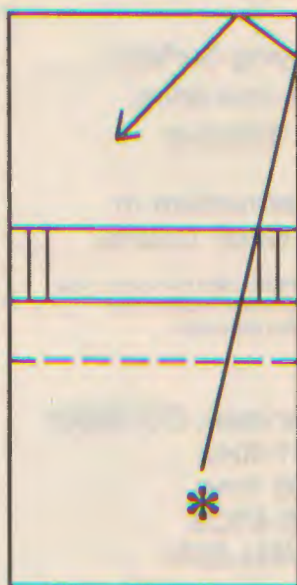


Diagram A.

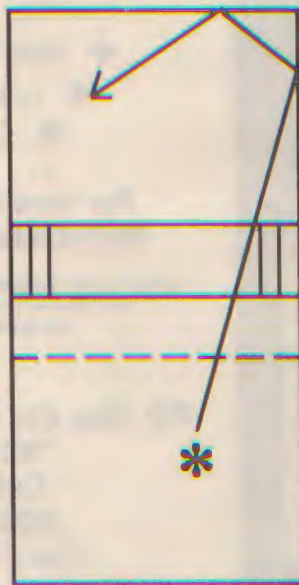


Diagram B.

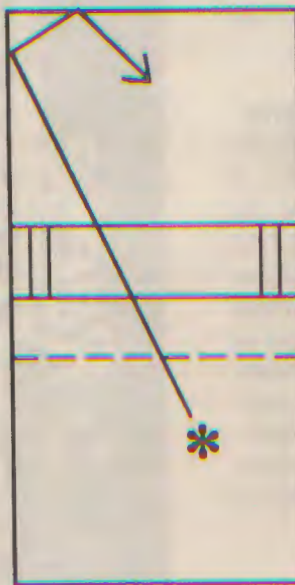


Diagram C.

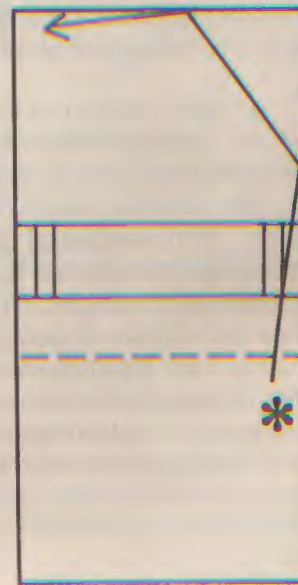


Diagram D.

|      | Height on FW | Height of Contact Point | Angle of Ball Determines                   |
|------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Pass | 18" & lower  | Shin to Knee            | Down-the-Line<br>Cross court<br>Wide Angle |
| Kill | 6" & lower   | Ankle high              | Down-the-line, Cross court                 |

As mentioned, these shots should be staples in your offensive game.

Today we will continue to build your game from the ground up and discuss the third of the most commonly used offensive shots: the pinch. The pinch is defined as a shot that will hit the side wall first, then the front wall and then bounce two times before the second sidewall, therefore unplayable off the second side wall (see diagram A).

There are three types of pinches (all 6" and lower): 1) Pinch: to the closest corner (diagram B); 2) Reverse Pinch: to the opposite corner (diagram C); 3) Splat Pinch: standing right next to side wall (diagram D).

Let's take an in-depth look at all three types of pinches and how they compare:

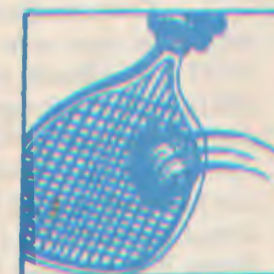
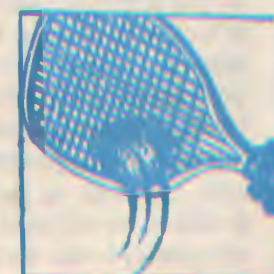
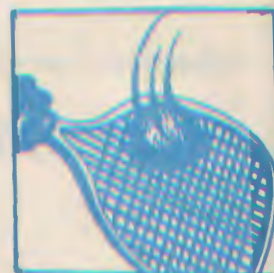
|                                 | Contact Point<br>in Hitting Zone | Contact Point<br>on Side Wall                         | Where to Stand to<br>Hit Effectively               | Stroke                            |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| PINCH<br>(Diagram B)            | 1st racquet<br>in photo #1       | Close to front<br>corner, Diagram B                   | Away from side<br>wall, Diagram B                  | Same as<br>forehand &<br>backhand |
| REVERSE<br>PINCH<br>(Diagram C) | 4th racquet<br>in photo #2       | Close to front<br>corner, Diagram C                   | Away from side<br>wall, Diagram C                  | Same as<br>forehand &<br>backhand |
| SPLAT<br>(Diagram D)            | 1st racquet<br>in photo #1       | 45 degrees off your<br>hip on side wall,<br>Diagram D | As close to side<br>wall as possible,<br>Diagram D | Same as<br>forehand &<br>backhand |

All of the above pinches join the passes and kills in the category of offensive shots. You want to develop them so you can use them effectively to end the rally and/or score a point.

In this article we covered how to hit the pinches and at a later date we will cover WHEN (shot selection) to use them. Remember, we are still using that step by step building process to develop a good solid foundation to become the best you can be.

If you combine the offensive shots from article #4 (Passes and Kills) and article #5 (Pinches) you can assure diversity in your game. You will not become the player who is predictable, but rather the player who is deceptive. Remember the old saying, "Variety is the spice of life." Use a variety of shots in your racquetball game so you can keep your opponent off balance and guessing.

Next issue we will begin to cover the DEFENSIVE shots of the game and, then eventually shot selection...when to use these offensive and defensive shots respectively. Good Luck!



## PARI NEWS

by **Connie Martin**  
**PARI**  
**Commissioner**



We have had many calls on PARI both for the Level I and II Clinics, plus the Level III Clinic for existing members. Level I and II dates are listed below. The next issue will have a more complete list for the fall.

The Level III Clinic/Exam will be held at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado in the summer of 1992. The dates cannot be finalized until May of 1992, when the Olympic Training Center issues dates to the different sports that request meetings. As soon as the dates become available, we will send a letter to those who qualify to take the Level III Clinic/Exam.

Congratulations to the following people who have completed the PARI Clinic/Exam (since January 1991); Mercedes Ortega, Jerry Bowes, David Scherfenberg, Nick Xynidis, Jon Xynidis, Ken Arrowsmith, Steve Rojo, Lee Spangenberg, Roy Lowrey, Cindy Bruns, Jessica Hedler, Carrie Pudelski, Donna Penszak, Fred Brussel, Gregg Gasbarro, Rick Lansing, Suzanne Tolan, Joe Jennum, Jeff Mayorga, Peter Wang, Freddy Ruiz, Don Mortensen, Joel Koppel, Mary Tessier, Kelly Kirk, Jeff Huang, Michael Mendoza, Bryan Scott Willard, Willie Faulkner, Bob Eldredge, Ruben Fuentes, Barbara Simmons (upgraded to Professional), Bubba Jones, Debbie Nemitz (Professional), Roy Parker, Jo Sahattuck, Kenneth Karmel, K.W. Pierre and Steve Martin.

If you would like more information on PARI or the following clinics, please contact Jim Hiser at the National Office at 719-635-5396, or write: AARA-PARI, 815 N. Weber, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903-2947.

### **PARI LEVEL III/II CLINIC/EXAM SITES SUMMER/FALL 1991**

**JULY 13TH-14TH**  
**FULLERTON, CALIFORNIA**  
**RACQUETBALL WORLD**  
**AUGUST 3RD-4TH**  
**FLORENCE, ALABAMA**  
**COURTHOUSE RACQUET CLUB**  
**AUGUST 17TH-18TH**  
**SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA**  
**SCHOEBERS-SAN JOSE**

**FALL CLINICS WILL BE HELD IN:**  
**JACKSONVILLE, FL**  
**MINNEAPOLIS, MN**  
**BROCKTON, MA**  
**DURHAM, NC**  
**SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NJ**

### **PARI TEACHING PROFESSIONALS**

The following people are recognized as Level II PARI teaching profes-

sionals. If you need information on how to contact one of them, please call the AARA office at 719-635-5396 and ask for Jim Hiser.

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



**Houston Clinic  
Participants (L-R):  
Ruben Fuentes (Texas),  
Michael Mendoza  
(N.D.), Scott Ward  
(Texas), Kelly Kirk  
(Minn.), Jeff Huang  
(N.Y.), Willie Faulkner  
(Texas), Bob Eldredge  
(Ariz.) and PARI  
Instructor Dave George  
(Calif.)**

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## PARI PROFESSIONAL FOCUS: RICHARD BRUNS

- \*PARI Level II Teaching Professional
- \*Team Ektelon sponsored Instructor/Player
- \*Full Time Instructor since 1978
- \*Resides in Napa, California

Richard Bruns of Napa, California, a PARI certified Level II Teaching Pro, is probably one of the most dedicated instructors to teach the game of racquetball. Richard has been playing since 1977 and teaching since 1978. Richard teaches racquetball, badminton and paddle tennis at Napa Valley College and is the Teaching Pro at LaCancha Racquetball & Fitness Center in Napa.

At LaCancha, he is also the editor of the club newsletter "LaCancha Life" and writes a monthly racquetball article. This has been a full time career for him ... and there is nothing he would rather be doing. You could say racquetball is his life. In fact, Richard will complete his Masters Program this fall with emphasis and research in the bio-mechanics of racquetball.

As a player, Richard enjoys playing mostly local tournaments in the A's, 35's and 45's (which gives away his age to a degree), but lately, work on his master's degree has limited his free time. In fact he hasn't had much time for wife Judi Colson (a social worker in Fairfield) or 23-year-old stepson Collin who attends San Francisco State or his favorite "spare time" activities of movies, yardwork and reading. However, he does commit to 30 minutes a day practicing on the court. This is good for his own game, as well as developing new skills or drills to pass along to his students. With few exceptions, he has collected almost every racquetball book ever published (about 60 in all) as well as every racquetball magazine.

In 1982-1984 Richard was a co-founder of the Northern California Racquetball Association which helped create the California Racquetball

Association that later became affiliated with the AARA in 1983. During this time the membership went from 480 to 4000 members.

As a sponsored Team Ektelon Instructor/Player, Richard gives more than 100 percent to the game both as a player and instructor. He took the PARI Clinic/Exam Course three years ago for credentials but said PARI has provided him with a consistent base of information in teaching and programming and helped him create and improve his teaching.

If you live in the area and wish to take a lesson or two, feel free to give Richard a call at the LaCancha Racquetball and Fitness Center at 1-707-252-8033.

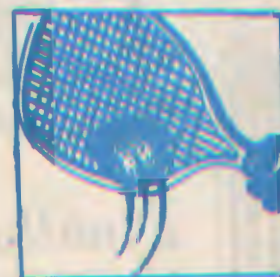
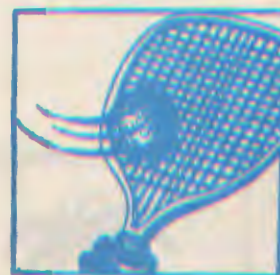
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## TO LOOK (BACK) OR NOT TO LOOK (BACK)

*By Del Villanueva*  
*PARI Certified Instructor*

At a recent racquetball camp where I was an instructor, a student interrupted, "... but someone told me that if you look back when you're up front, you'll get hit in the face!"

Many players have been terrified by the thought of looking back at their opponents for that same reason. Surprisingly, looking back at your opponent makes for safer play! Looking back enables you to move out of your opponent's way, thus decreasing your chances of getting hit. And also, to your strategic advantage, looking back at your opponent allows you to anticipate your opponent's shot, be able to get to the ball sooner and not be flat footed. This in turn gives you more time to set up and



take a more offensive position against the possibility of a left up shot.

It is an uncanny ability we develop when looking back, especially for anticipation purposes. Eventually you will be able to tell whether your opponent is going for an offensive shot, to the ceiling, or for a pass (watch body, feet and racquet set up). Then reap from the benefits listed in the

previous paragraph.

Finally, some simple guidelines:

1. Look back when you can.
2. Immediately let your opponent have a hitting lane if you are in his way.
3. Don't play too far up (center court position is on the dashed line, between the two side walls). If you play too far up, you are more vulnerable to passes.
4. ALWAYS wear eyeguards - it gives you added confidence when looking back.
5. If you are still uncomfortable looking back, shield your face with your racquet when doing so.

Look back for a winning game. You'll be more mobile due to increased anticipation skills and ultimately gain more confidence. I am confident you'll be pleased with the results!

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## "WHY SHOULD I HOST A SANCTIONED TOURNAMENT AT MY CLUB?"

By Julee A. Nicolla  
President,  
Pennsylvania  
Racquetball  
Association



Tournaments play an important role in the growth of racquetball, yet convincing club owners and managers that sanctioned events only enhance their club appeal isn't always an easy task. But talk about increased membership, club exposure and additional revenue and you'll capture any club owner's attention. The following is my list of reasons why hosting a tournament is to a club owner's advantage:

1. Tournaments encourage non-member participation, attract hundreds of spectators and spark immediate sport awareness. "Traffic" is the keyword; memberships jump when people visit and tour facilities.
2. Tournaments involving product and financial sponsors can be profitable. These events have a positive impact on lounge and pro-shop revenue.
3. Tournaments can create an enormous amount of free publicity through TV, radio, and newspaper coverage.
4. Tournaments service members and are a great tool for retaining existing members. They offer competition, exercise and socialization - the key to happy members.
5. Tournaments can benefit charitable or worthwhile causes which enhance the image of the club in the community and gain excellent public relations.
6. Tournaments maximize court usage.
7. The AARA provides liability insurance, labels, rulebooks, tournament exclusivity and discounts, plus adds prestige to sanctioned events.
8. Tournaments support our state and national organizations and their programs. These programs foster the growth of racquetball throughout the country.
9. Due to the rise in participation and growth of interest, racquetball will be a future Olympic sport!

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## TRUE CONFESSIONS

By Kelly J. Kirk

*Good sportsmanship. I like to think we all aspire to it ... at least I try to most of the time.*

*I have been guilty of goading my opponent, yelling at the referee, kicking the wall - not once but five times - in frustration, taking a longer time-out than I am entitled to, and once playing a double bounce as good. I'll never do that again; I suffered nightmares for weeks.*

*But I do think of myself as a good sport, so why do these incidents occur? These lapses often erupt when there is a lack of cooperation by my opponent. It seems unreasonable to expect the person with the least desirable view - the ref - to be able to correctly make all the calls. A 20 by 40 court can be a real pressure cooker and players that take double bounces, short serves, and carries are forcing the ref into unfriendly territory and their opponent into extreme behavior.*

*What can be done? Not much. But it would help if players would really READ their rule book and take the referee certification test. It might also help to remember that some of the hardest fought and most fun matches occur when the opponents in the court hold a mutual respect and trust in one another.*

## PRO UPDATE: WPRA WRAPS UP SEASON

### WOMEN'S PROFESSIONAL RACQUETBALL RETURNS TO PENNSYLVANIA

(Reprinted courtesy Pennsylvania Racquetball Association Newsletter)

The 1991 "Grand Slam" presented by Diet Pepsi and hosted by Shawnee-at-Highpoint showcased 27 Pros from around the country and 250 amateurs. Over 1000 spectators packed into the seating area to get a first hand look at some of the best racquetball in the world! Lynn Adams, Chicago, (#2 seed) took home the \$3,000 winners check after defeating Malia Bailey from Norfolk, Virginia in the finals. Pennsylvania was well represented by ranked pros Marcy Lynch (North Wales); Molly O'Brien (Soudertown); and Dottie Fischl (Allentown).

Open players Carol Dattisman of Dover and Pat Musselman of Bethlehem entered the qualifying round and received automatic spots in the main draw.

The tournament activities began on Thursday night with a free clinic for the public conducted by Marcy Lynch and Kaye Kuhfeld. Shawnee-at-Highpoint also hosted a VIP reception for sponsors, press and pro celebrities.

On the amateur side, top seed Rob McKinney of Lansdale fell to Dan Fowler of Greenbelt, Maryland in the finals of the Men's Open. Fowler managed to defeat another Pennsylvania resident, Dave Sable in the Semifinals. The Women's Open was won by Marcy Lynch.

### MICHELLE GILMAN WINS DIET PEPSI WOMEN'S PRO RACQUETBALL TITLE

By Liz Hawley

Michelle Gilman defeated Lynn Adams three games to two at the Diet Pepsi Women's Professional Racquetball Championships to claim the Baltimore pro tour stop title at Merritt Athletic Club-Security. Ms. Gilman bested the field of 31 other competitors and was seeded second. By winning the Diet Pepsi National Championships, Michelle captures the overall WPRA title and the number one ranking for next season. The Baltimore pro tour stop is part of the Diet Pepsi Bonus Series. The Atlanta and Philadelphia tournaments are the other two stops that make up the pro women's racquetball triple crown.

The National Championships at Merritt Athletic Club-Security were seen on delayed telecast over the regional cable television network Home Team Sports and on Prime Network with Leif Elsmo handling the play-by-play and WPRA president Chris Evon doing color commentary.

The match featured a spirited comeback by six-time national champion Lynn Adams from a two-game deficit to force a fifth game. From second place, Lynn Adams captured the Diet Pepsi Bonus Series on points and Gilman took a season win, with scores of 11-7, 11-8, 9-11, 6-11, 11-8.

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**1990-91 WPRA SEASON RANKINGS**  
**DATED: MAY 12**

1. MICHELLE GILMAN, ONTARIO, OREGON
2. LYNN ADAMS, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
3. MALIA BAILEY, NORFOLK, VIRGINIA
4. CARYN MCKINNEY, ATLANTA, GEORGIA
5. JACKIE PARAISO, EL CAJON, CALIFORNIA
6. TONI BEVELOCK, SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA
7. KAYE KUHFIELD, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA
8. MARCI DREXLER, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
9. LYNNE COBURN, LUTHERVILLE, MARYLAND
10. MARCY LYNCH, NORTH WALES, PENNSYLVANIA

## THROW THE BLUM OUT

*By Norm Blum*

**HOME COURT ADVANTAGE** -- Knowing the nooks and crannies of your home court and having the crowd behind you must have its advantages, especially in 1991.

On the men's pro tour this year there were three first time winners. Chicagoan Tim Sweeney and Jack Newman won stops at the Woodfield Racquet Club in Illinois while hometown favorite Andy Roberts won the Memphis pro stop. Roberts, a former national amateur champ, proved he can play just as well on the road, capturing the TransCoastal Mortgage Nationals in Seattle this past May.

**REFRESHING ADMISSION** -- Five-time national champion Mike Yellen won't blame age or lack of motivation for not being able to contend for the national title the last few years. While he's still capable of beating anyone in the world, reaching the semifinals is no longer automatic for the 31-year-old.

"I'm really playing better than ever," Yellen said. "The larger racquets have helped my game -- say 10 percent -- while it has improved the play of others at least 15 percent."

"If I'm on top of my game, I have to fight to win matches. With the emphasis on serve and shoot, sometimes I can barely get my racquet on the ball. I rely on the passing game and in the past I was able to move the guys around. It seems when their serve is on, it builds confidence for the rest of their game. Unless you hit a perfect passing shot, the ball comes off the back wall and your opponent just rips and

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yells it. I played Tim Doyle in Seattle and took him to five games. When his serve was off it seemed to affect the rest of his game. But it came back in the fifth game and there wasn't much I could do."

**PRO TOUR POTPOURRI** -- Biggest surprise of the year: Drew Kachtik. Kachtik became a top four player this season. In 1990 Kachtik would register an occasional upset ... Biggest disappointment: The play of Egan Inoue. Labeled as the heir apparent to Yellen and Marty Hogan for the 1990's, the No.1 ranking eluded him ... Ruben Gonzalez, approaching 40, will be back next year and no one's heard much about Cliff Swain's tennis career.

**CLOSE CALL** -- Five players returning home from the National Singles in Houston had a real scare. The pilot told passengers on the Houston to Jacksonville flight that the landing gear was not working and to prepare for a crash landing. Emergency rescue units were set up but fortunately they weren't needed. The landing gear was indeed down the entire time.

**POTPOURRI** -- Overheard the following conversation from an overweight gentleman in the locker room. "I'm in

a real Catch 22 situation. I hope to lose weight playing racquetball, but I'm so fat that I can't move." ... Marketing 101 Dept. -- A sporting goods sales clerk says gloves that are packaged "All Sport Glove" don't sell, but the same exact glove marked "Racquetball Glove" will result in a sale ... Ektelon will no longer make a women's glove, but will have a men's extra small size ... It will be interesting to see how the marketplace reacts to a new Pro Kennex racquet. The frame is wide at 10 p.m. and 4 p.m. and doesn't have a neck ... Lynn Adams is a proud parent -- of a new book (had you going for a minute) "Racquetball Today."

**BABY ADVICE** -- Here's some advice on coming back after having a baby from former national amateur champion Susan Morgan Pfahler. Susan resumed playing three weeks after delivering Cameron. "I was gung ho to start back and get the weight off. My advice is to get your wind back by riding the bike or doing stairs before playing anyone. The worst thing you can do is to play people lower than yourself. Then you'll just push the ball and duff it around. Also, don't put the baby out in front of the court. You'll turn your head all the time."

**THINGS I LIKE** -- Being able to take a week off and not be winded on the court when I return; being able to dink the ball against young opponents who think they'll crush you; having my 2-year-old daughter, Rachel, say "nice shot, dad" even when it isn't.



**THINGS I DISLIKE** -- Tournament directors who don't use the ranking points when they make the draws, and dust-collecting trophies.

## STATE AND REGIONAL NEWS

### CALIFORNIA: MUNIZ MEMORIAL BENEFITS AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

*(Reprinted courtesy California Amateur Racquetball Association Newsletter)*

Approximately 120 amateur racquetball players participated in the Muniz Memorial Racquetball Tournament hosted by Racquetball Plus at Royal Athletic Club in Burlingame last March. The tournament was held in memory of Bill Muniz, who died of a congenital heart defect at the age of 27. According to tournament chairman, Ken Stone, Bill was a "very witty, gentle, intelligent and warm person who touched many lives in too short of a lifetime." It was with this in mind that Ken decided to run this benefit tournament.

With the help of Racquetball Plus, Royal Athletic Club, tournament directors Jack Hughes and Terry Rogers, tournament chairman Ken Stone, and the generosity of Clementina Inc., the Bank of California, and the tournament participants over \$7,000 was raised for the American Heart Association's program of cardiovascular research and education. Bill Muniz Sr., owner of the New Mecca Cafe, provided dinner Friday and Saturday with plenty left over for Sunday. Also included in the tournament was a "Beat the Pro" challenge featuring pro Gerry Price.



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## CONNECTICUT: JOLLY WINS PRO-AM RACQUETBALL CROWN

By Debra A. Estock (Reprinted courtesy Fairfield Citizen-News)

Avenging her semifinal defeat in last year's event, Mary Dee Jolly scored a narrow tiebreaker victory over Jannell Marriott to capture the \$500 first place prize in the third annual Women's Only Invitational and Pro-Am, at the Fairfield Racquetball Spa.

Over 85 women from throughout New England, Maryland and Delaware joined five of the top women's professional racquetball players for the tournament, which was held on April 19-21. Marriott's second-place finish earned her \$250.

The 35-year-old Jolly, of Epping, New Hampshire, the 18th ranked player on the Women's Professional Racquetball Association tour, bested the 14th ranked Marriott, 36, of West Warwick, Rhode Island, 14-15, 15-6, 11-8, in a thrilling final that saw Jolly thwart repeated comebacks. Marriott finished second in the 1990 pro-am, losing to ninth-ranked Dot Fischl.

In the first game, a backhand winner put Jolly ahead, 14-7, but a string of eight consecutive points gave Marriott the win, 15-14. Jolly, who wore a jet black tee-shirt emblazoned in pink with the words "Bo Don't Know Racquetball," surged back in the second game. Taking a 9-3 lead on an ace serve to Marriott's backhand, Jolly scored six of the next nine points to even the match at a game apiece.

In the 11-point tiebreaker, Jolly had the early edge, but Marriott knotted the score at 7-7 with a backwall kill shot. Pumping her fist into the air at a crucial point to regain her serve, Jolly hung tough and scored the next four points to collect the title. Citing her strengths as mental toughness and consistency, Jolly said her aim was to remain confident even after surrendering a big lead in the first game. "Even though I lost I left with a good feeling. I was playing good," Jolly said.

Jolly said she recommends aspiring players relax, think positively and not be overly critical. "It affects your game if you think negatively," she noted. "Stick to the basics."

Tournament Director Juliet Campbell was pleased the event drew the attention of many new players. "It's a smashing success as far as I'm concerned," she said. "Half the draw came from outside Connecticut."

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The other results were: Women's Open, Teri Gaters def. Jo Ann Pomodoro, 15-5, 13-15, 11-2; Women's A, Bridget Miller def. Betsy Keating, 15-6, 15-3; Women's B, Betty Rosko def. Sue Viscount, 15-8, 15-8; Women's C, Sue Beris def. Chris Cable, 13-15, 15-14, 11-5; Women's D, Elaine Zeck def. Michele Pharoa, 15-12, 15-4; Women's 25+, B. J. Ehrigott def. J. Pomodoro, 15-7, 12-15, 11-4; Women's Open Doubles, Friedman/Marriott def. Olsen/Britton, 15-11, 12-15, 11-6; Women's A Doubles, DiCiacco/Miller, 1st, Glasburg/Heckman, 2nd; Women's B Doubles, Rosko Sullivan def. Holland/Oat, 15-4, 10-15, 11-4; Women's C Doubles, Birmingham/Flynn def. Tam/Zeef, 13-15, 15-12, 11-5.

## DELAWARE: DARIO MAS: RACQUETBALL'S BIGGEST FAN

By Jack Ireland

(Reprinted courtesy The News Journal)

Pike Creek - When the topic turns to racquetball in Delaware, the name Dario Mas usually comes up.

Mas, a native of Cuba, has been playing racquetball for 13 years. Last fall he won a senior (50 and older) gold medal at the World Championships in Albuquerque, New Mexico. For the last five years Mas, 53, has served as state director of the Delaware Amateur Racquetball Association.

Mas has won a national master title in the 45-and-up class and two at 50-and-older.

Last month, more than 100 men and women from throughout Delaware participated in the DARA state singles tournament at the Pike Creek Court Club near Neward. Mas finished second to Rob Relcher in the 50-55 age group.

Mas, of Edenridge III in Talleyville, organized the DARA and has worked to increase the membership from less than 10 members to around 400. In 1990 Mas joined Jack Chelucci and John Chelucci as the first inductees into the Delaware Amateur Racquetball Hall of Fame.

"This is the first time we have held the state singles tournament this late," said Mas, the purchasing manager for ICI Americas in Wilmington.

"We usually hold the tournament in March and the turnout dropped to 135. We just couldn't get a site until April. We normally average about 175-180 players. To qualify for the tournament you must be a resident of Delaware or belong to a club in the state that offers racquetball."

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Mas, 53, has worked on two major goals in his first five years as state director. "The first three years we worked on increasing membership and developing tournament competition for players in Delaware and surrounding states," said Mas, a former three-time senior age group national champion. "The last two years our main priority has been to develop junior players and a solid junior program. That program has been in the capable hands of Nick DiSabatino." Since most fitness clubs require a person to be at least 18 to use the racquetball courts, the junior program is a major breakthrough for the association.

Mas is proud of the program DiSabatino and his staff put together for boys and girls ages 8 to 18. "The program consisted of eight two-hour sessions on Saturday afternoons in the fall and winter at three different racquetball clubs in New Castle County," DiSabatino said. "The cost was approximately \$35 per session and included racquets, eye guards and balls. Volunteer players, who are members of our association, helped the kids."

"Nick had programs up this way at Branmar and Pike Creek Racquetball clubs and the YMCA downtown for approximately 80 youngsters," Mas said. Mas feels it is crucial to get more youngsters interested in racquetball.

"This is a sport that everyone can play," said Mas. "We need the younger players to build on for the future."

Mas said he has developed a long and friendly rivalry against Relcher on the racquetball court. "Rob and I have been playing racquetball together for the last 12 years," Mas said. "We have had some good matches and he is one tough guy to beat. because Rob is a little younger than me, I didn't have to face him in tournaments the last couple of years. Now we are back at each other again. It makes for interesting competition. That's what the game is all about."

## GEORGIA: JUNIORS CHILL OUT

*Submitted by Vicky Luque*

Southern Athletic Club in Lilburn, Georgia was host to almost 60 Junior racquetball players April 26-28. The Junior event, sponsored by Baskin Robbins, drew players from Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Alabama and Tennessee.

The tournament was a qualifier for southeastern players who attended the 1991 Ektelon/U.S. Junior Olympic Racquetball Championships in Minneapolis June 22-26.

The highlight of the tournament was the Boys 18 and under singles final match with hometown favorite Shawn Luque defeating Nick Xynidis from Daytona, Florida. Scores in the final match were 4-15, 15-13, and 11-5.

**RESULTS:** Boys 18-, Shawn Luque def. Nick Xynidis; Boys 16-, Craig Crys def. Wes Miller; Boys 14-, Wes Miller def. Jed Bhuta; Boys 12-, Jed Bhuta def. Robby Thompson; Boys 10-, Daniel Wubneh def. Jeffrey Garner; Boys 8-, Matthew McElhiney def. Jon White; Boys 8-n/b, Matthew McElhiney def. Jon White; Girls 16-, Amber Frisch def. Britt Engel; Girls 14-, Vanessa Tulao def. Debra Derr; Girls 12-, Vanessa Tulao def. Kim O'Conner; Girls 10-, Tiffany Evans def. Julie McClure; Boys 18-doubles, Xynidis/Crys def. Luque/Evans; Boys 14- doubles, Hurst/Stamford def. Couget/Moore; Girls 18- doubles, Engel/Derr def. Luque/Kupis; Mixed 18- doubles, Derr/Xynidis def. Icenhower/Simmons; Mixed 14- doubles, Hardeman/Tulao def. Couget/Buschbom.

## INDIANA: SAVVY, NERVES MAKE GABRIEL, SERGO WINNERS

*(Reprinted courtesy Hoosier Racquetball)*

Kokomo's Tony Gabriel put a new perspective on the term "True Grit." In a scrappy, tough, exhausting tiebreaker match against Bloomington's Brian Simpson, a player 17 years his junior, Gabriel hammered out a 15-13, 11-15, 11-5 victory to become the 1991 State Singles Champion.

In the Women's Open arena, Evansville's Julie Sergo showed that the calm, deliberate, "steady as she goes" consistency of the experienced court veteran will prevail over a younger, quicker player battling a case of nerves. Sergo gave up 13 years in age to Gary's Diane Gronkiewicz, in a well-played tiebreaker win of 15-9, 10-15, 11-4.

In the Men's Open finals, Gabriel proved that superb physical conditioning, combined with smart playing and the raw desire to win, can make the difference against a younger, more powerful opponent. Particularly if the opponent's timing is a shade less than it should be, which was the case in this match. Simpson's timing was a fraction off, which forced too many lost opportunities, especially in the tiebreaker.

On the distaff side, Sergo played classic one-shot-at-a-time, high-percentage racquetball, with a repertoire of shots that often caught her younger opponent out of position or forced her to commit in the wrong direction.

Gronkiewicz's chief enemy was a case of nerves that kept her from making her patented and powerful put-away shots. The set-ups were there, but the ability to put them away was not. Her win in the second game came because of her very effective high lobs to Sergo's backhand, a serve she abandoned in the tiebreaker.

## NEW RACQUETBALL INSTRUCTIONAL BOOK!

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The 1991 State Singles Championships, played at both the Greenbriar Athletic Club and the Court Club, drew about 220 players in 27 divisions.

Top women's pro player Lynn Adams played a demonstration match with Bloomington's Brian Simpson on one of the glass courts. Later, she played challengers for \$1 a point, with the proceeds going to the Indiana Arthritis Foundation and the INSRA junior program. A silent auction brought in additional funds for the Arthritis Foundation and INSRA programs.

## **PENNSYLVANIA: PLAYER PROFILE—BRIAN JORGENSEN**

*(Reprinted courtesy Pennsylvania Racquetball Association Newsletter)*

Brian Jorgenson is dynamic and a pleasure to watch. One could say that he's not even reached his potential yet, especially if you watched him play in the Pennsylvania State Championships held at the Cocoa Courts in Hershey last April. Brian came into that tournament as a junior national champion, but never held the state Open title which is now his for 1991.

During the last pro tour stop played at the Racquet Club of Monroeville, Brian awed spectators and players when he took famed Ruben Gonzalez (ranked 3rd in the world), to a tiebreaker. Brian lost 11-5 in that tiebreaker, but gained due respect for his fabulous playing ability.

Brian also works out with another famed racquetballer, Dan Obremaki and just keeps improving. Brian hasn't lost a tournament in 1991 and is also a current Pennsylvania Doubles Champion along with doubles partner Mitch Buckler. Besides being an advisor/representative for Richcraft, he has just signed a contract for ASICS shoes and Leader Eyeguards.

As for the future...only time will tell, but according to Brian and everyone who knows him, there are high expectations of him being in the Top Ten for 1991.

## **WASHINGTON: OUT & ABOUT**

*Non-competitive format lures women racquetball players -- By Jody Brannon  
(Reprinted, courtesy The Seattle Times)*

Racquetball is a sport for both sexes, but the Washington State Racquetball Association wants more women to take that attitude onto the court.

Since September, a series of monthly women-only round-robin events has been conducted. Yvonne Calavan of the WSRA hesitates to call them tournaments, a word from which some newcomers to the sport might shy.

"We've found the competitive atmosphere in tournaments is not as appealing to women as a non-competitive environment where they can meet women and interact socially," Calavan said.

The women-only gatherings are designed to encourage friendly play among women with similar skills. Organizers match players by ability during an evaluation before the first game at 10 a.m. Seasoned players are on hand to offer tips on how to play and score racquetball.

Most gatherings last three hours and draw about 20 players. A Wenatchee woman even travelled to Seattle to play on a recent Saturday afternoon, Calavan said.

To encourage play, no entry fee is charged though participants must join the WSRA, which costs \$15.00 and includes membership in the AARA.

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## **WHAT'S NEW**

*Compiled from Press Releases*

### **RICHCRAFT BLASTS OFF WITH "NXT" (NEXT) GENERATION PRODUCT LINE**

RichCraft leaps into the 1991-92 season by introducing an all new series of high performance equipment. In a move to show a renewed commitment to quality and today's racquetball player, RichCraft has developed a new line of state-of-the-art racquetball racquets, accessories and sportswear that takes "Team RichCraft" into the "NXT" Generation.

The new line features two series of racquets - the "NXT Pro Series," which features four new designs, and the "NXT Gold Series," which offers five new models. All RichCraft racquets are designed from state-of-the-art technology as a



**NXT Epic T.E. and Pirate XL**

result of nearly 20 years of manufacturing experience. All NXT racquets are equipped with the highest quality accessories available including RichCraft Sorbgee adjustable vibration dampener, Wrist Lacer, Tacki-Mac rubber grip and full length mesh vented headcover with shoulder strap.

The NXT Pro Series is highlighted by the Epic T.E. (Tournament Edition), a super-widebody racquet with an oversized 104 square inch hitting surface. This racquet promises to lead the field in design, size and power. The Pulsar (oversize), RichCraft's most popular performance model during the 1990-91 season, continues in the line with improvements in cosmetics and technology. These enhancements contribute to added frame durability and the dramatically wider string pattern has substantially improved the new Pulsar's power.

A new and unique edition in the NXT Pro Series is the "System 10" racquet. Developed by world famous racquet designer, Warren Bosworth, the System 10 is a revolutionary ten-sided frame model. This unique design provides an "Expanded Sweet Spot," eliminated frame distortion and stabilizing the "sweet spot" area to offer more power and control than ever before.

The "Express S.M." (super midsize) rounds out the NXT Pro Series with a hitting surface of 95 square inches and a shortened handle to create "oversize power with midsize control." The RichCraft NXT Pro Series racquets are designed for the "serious player" with an extra wide string pattern and extra stiff high modulus graphite material for maximum power. Retail prices range from \$120 to \$180.

## **EKTELON INTRODUCES NEW SHOE LINE**

Ektelon recently announced its new line of 1991 shoes, the result of five years of research, development and technical innovation, including a revolutionary outsole that provides a new standard in traction on any indoor court surface. "Snapper" (tm) rubber was originally engineered to meet the tractional demands experienced on open-ocean racing boats. Simply stated, this means that these shoes will grab even the most highly polished indoor courts, or even those streaked with perspiration.

"What's truly impressive is that for all of this traction, there is no compromise on the durability of the sole," said Jay McGregor, vice president of marketing at Ektelon. "Ektelon is so confident in the quality of Snapper rubber that it will be found exclusively in our shoes."

Because of the maximized starting and stopping power provided by the new Snapper rubber outsoles, it was of paramount importance to design uppers with superior lateral support and overall stability. Ektelon responded to this need by utilizing the footwear industry's latest proven innovation, GTS, which uses specially-placed, laminated fibers with a mylar base to provide unsurpassed lateral support. Originally designed as a high-tech sail material for racing boats, GTS has an extremely high tear strength and will hold up through the most grueling of games. Constructed of high quality garment leather, the shoes are extremely lightweight and comfortable. The shoes will be available in July.



*Nirvana 3/4*



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## INSTRUCTIONAL: LEARN YOUR LESSONS

An innovative video designed for players AND coaches. Stu Hastings and Fran Davis, former U.S. National Team Coaches, are the narrators and instructors of this presentation shown in easy-to-understand segments. Taped at both the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs and the Merritt Athletic Club in Baltimore.

**LEARN YOUR LESSONS** is the first new instructional video produced for racquetball in nine years. The techniques shown reveal how the U.S. National Team has become World Champions. The 27-minute tape begins with the basics of the game followed by a segment on the essentials of court coverage. It also emphasizes the importance of proper equipment to the racquetball player of any ability level.

The video illustrates, with vivid action sequences, how to implement the six phases of the sport required for success. Forehand, backhand, shots of the game, court coverage, serves, and defensive maneuvers. Davis and Hastings explain the significance of conditioning as well as the physical and mental skills which provide the positive attitude for winning.

## THE INSTRUCTORS

### FRAN DAVIS

*U.S. Olympic Elite Training Camp Coach since 1985. Author of "How To Improve Your Racquetball." Past President of the Women's Professional Racquetball Association, and rated in top 10 on WPRA tour. Conducted more than 500 clinics/camps. Currently the Assistant Coach of the U.S. National Racquetball Team.*



### STU HASTINGS

*1989 American Amateur Racquetball Association National/Mixed Doubles Champion (with Davis). 1988 Men's Over 35 Singles Champion. Three time Michigan Male Racquetball Player of the Year. Conducts numerous clinics and camps each year. Current coach of "Junior Team USA."*



Produced in cooperation with The Athletic Institute and the Sporting Goods Manufacturer's Association Racquet Sports Committee, "Learn your Lessons" is available from the AARA for \$29.95 for non-members and \$19.95 for members.

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### 1990 Ektelon U.S. National Singles

Michelle Gilman vs. Toni Bevelock  
Tim Doyle vs. Egan Inoue

### 1990 Penn Tournament of the Americas

Michelle Gilman vs. Kaye Kuhfeld  
Andy Roberts vs. Sherman Greenfield

### 1989 Ektelon U.S. National Doubles

Doyle/Gilman vs. Bailey/Bevelock  
Ganim/Obremski vs. Doyle/Inoue

### 1989 Ektelon U.S. Junior Olympics

Michelle Gilman vs. Cindy Doyle  
Mike Guldry vs. Joey Paraiso

### 1989 Ektelon U.S. National Singles

Michelle Gilman vs. Cindy Doyle  
Tim Doyle vs. Andy Roberts

### 1988 Ektelon U.S. National Doubles

Bailey/Bevelock vs. Rasmussen/Green  
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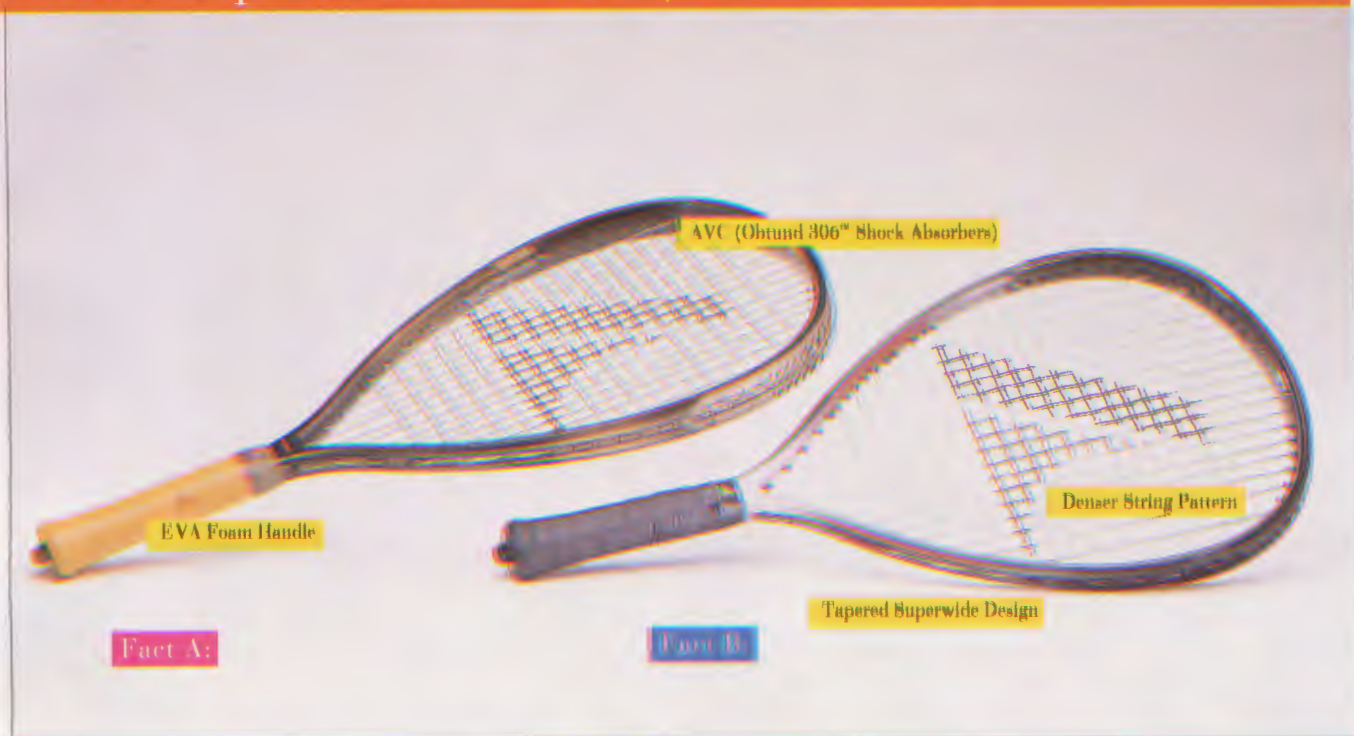
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