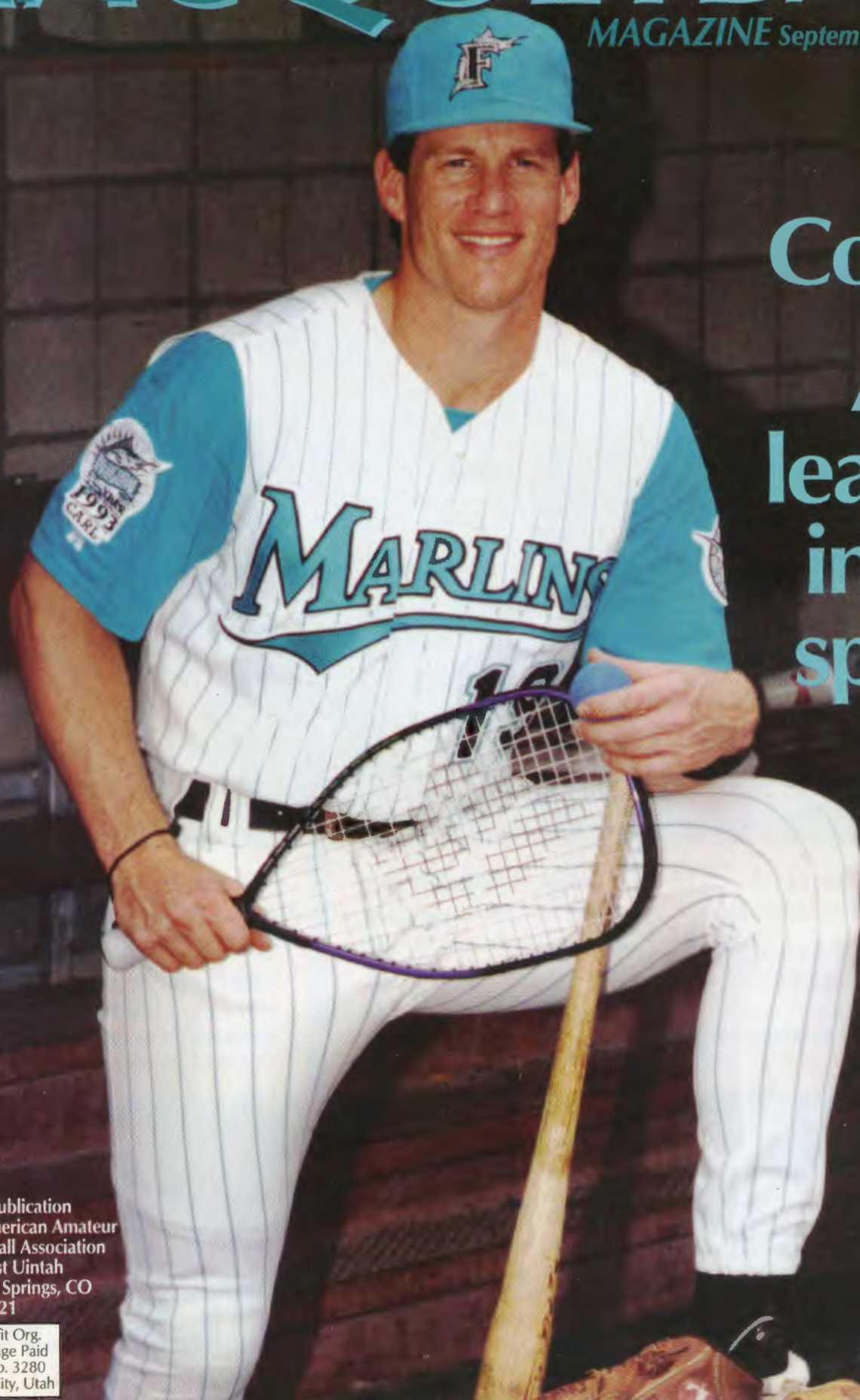


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MAGAZINE September-October 1993  
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## FROM THE EDITOR

By Linda Mojer

Why yes, it has been a busy summer, now that you mention it...

It started out innocently enough. The usual schedule of Junior Olympics in June, then the start of a new quadrennium of U.S. Olympic Festivals in July, World Seniors after Labor Day. Then it was as if, somehow, a cosmic force of some magnitude began to introduce its own perverse will into the picture. August, it seemed, was just a little too relaxed for its liking.

Well, we could move the editorial offices in August - just to spice things up. That's right, pack it up. Box those back issues, tape 'em up and tote 'em across town. Review, re-think, and then throw it out. (*Who collected all this stuff, anyway?*) Take down the pictures. Re-hang the pictures. (*Ouch...*) Back-up, unplug and relocate all the computer equipment (*carefully*). Try to recall the "re-plug pattern." (*Where's the coffee machine?*) Say goodbye to the antique telephone system. Try to learn the new one. (*Which button, now?*) Oh, and produce another issue of the magazine. (*Have you seen that file? You know, the one with the September/October ISSUE in it??*)

But it's done. The move and the magazine. Six weeks later, all our homing mechanisms have been re-set and we're making our way to the new digs daily, without hesitation. We certainly enjoyed our stay at 815 North Weber (*that lovely old Victorian*), and we look forward to an equally productive engagement at 1685 West Uintah (*You-in-ta*). It's definitely a new look, a new feel, and a great way to start a new season.

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Sept./Oct. 93 = Aug. 1, 1994

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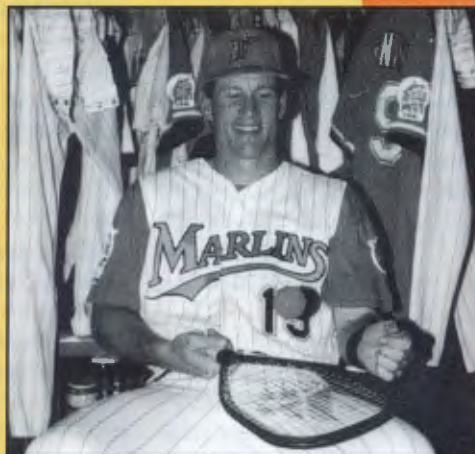
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## ON THE COVER

*Jeff Conine relaxes before a Marlins game, but still has his mind on racquetball! Photo: Denis Bancroft.*



# reader forum

## NATIONAL KUDOS

To all of you at the AARA congratulations on another great National Singles Tournament and a special congrats to Margo on a great banquet and Jim for another great slide presentation — always a highlight!! Keep up the great work for our great sport. See you at doubles.

**Doug Smith**  
Roswell, Georgia

Just a note to thank you again for my Peggy Steding award. The banquet was great and I never realized how many people came until I had to give a speech.

The Age Group Award is a wonderful idea because I had so many people come up afterwards and say how much they would like to work toward that goal. I think as you get older, awards like that are appreciated more than you know. I hope you will always continue with this special award because it is one I will never forget.

Many thanks again for all that you do for racquetball.

**Janet Myers**  
Charlotte, North Carolina

I'm writing this letter to thank you for your dedicated and magnificent job. I just wanted to make a letter of encouragement to all the moms of racquetball players in the nation.

I recently came from the Ektelon AARA National Singles. I am 33 years old, and have two girls and a very limited budget. I had the chance to make the Puerto Rico National Team thanks to my parents, who sponsored me and the New Mexico Racquetball Association. Also thanks to *RACQUETBALL Magazine* by which I knew about the qualifying tournament.

I just want to encourage moms like me, who see themselves with a lot of limitations, like babysitting, sickness of the kids, lack of time due to taking care of the family. I hardly practice (two to three times a week) and only if I fit it into the family schedule.

After I came from the Nationals, I found that I could give more and that I played better. Playing at national level builds up your confidence and you believe more in yourself. Moms, I encourage you to do all you can to get involved and you will see how rewarding it is to do things you never thought you could do. Life is the same way. Don't give up, keep on reaching — you can do it!

**Mrs. Nydia E. Pulg**  
Clovis, New Mexico

## SUGGESTIONS

I always look forward to receiving my issue of *RACQUETBALL Magazine*. I enjoy the instructional articles (especially the more advanced instruction) and the fitness tips. I do however have these suggestions:

\* I would like to see a little more coverage of state tournaments. I have played in Texas and Oklahoma before moving to Arkansas, and would like to keep up with the other players.

\* Something needs to be done with the tournament calendar. I received my May-June issue on June 14, six weeks after the May tournament listed in the calendar had already been held. This happens with every issue.

Thanks for a very interesting and informative magazine.

**Todd Timmons**  
Ft. Smith, Arkansas

## NEWCOMER

I just started playing racquetball in February of last year. A good friend and I decided it was time to lose some weight one night (I was 253 lbs. and heartburn was killing me) so we grabbed our tennis racquets and took off, but to our dismay could not get the lights on.

Instead, my friend suggested, "Tell you what, I'll run home, grab my racquetball racquet and you can rent one at the Rec Center for a buck." I told him I only played twice about 10 years ago (I'm 37). I started playing that night, got my membership at the Rec Center, then got my membership with AARA and was hooked immediately.

My knees hated me for it at first, 'cause I hadn't done anything in 17 years, but I had enough athletic knowledge from high school sports that I knew (or was hoping and praying) my body would eventually get used to it! It has. Coupled with eating right, in six months time this sport has brought my weight to 195 - a loss of 58 lbs. I love it.

At first I could not compete with anyone in our area. After picking up a couple of books from the library on the sport of racquetball and taking some advice from the "good guys," I now play Monday through Friday and can play with them all! I've never seen anything like it. I feel so much better and so good about myself. Racquetball is like life itself in so many ways.

Thank you for your magazines.

**Delmar Cribfield**  
Freeport, Texas

P.S. I haven't touched my tennis racquets since!!!

## PRIZE MONEY

I would like to make a comment on a letter written to *RACQUETBALL Magazine* in the May-June issue.

A reader describes tournament costs vs. prize money awarded. Briefly, he states prize money of \$200.00 for first place in the men's open as too little. He suggests raising the award money to \$500.00. Thus the net gain, after hotel accommodations and miscellaneous costs, would be greater.

I wonder if this player has ever thought of the issue from a different perspective. *Not all divisions* award prize money.

Having played in tournaments for two years, I would gladly welcome the opportunity to play in the hopes of "breaking even."

**Karen A. Schulte**  
Glen Ridge, New Jersey

## FORUM PRO

In response to your question of letting women pros play in men's open, I feel the women are caught between a rock and a hard place. As a player and director for 15 years, I've seen many women's open players get frustrated because they can't get past the first round after having to play Michelle, Malia or Toni.

I also realized that the women's pros don't have enough stops to stay sharp, and also need the added income from open tournaments.

Generally, when an open man plays an open woman, the man will win because of more power (calm down ladies, not in all cases!)

I feel letting the women play in men's open would be a good idea. First, the women's open draw will be more competitive, which may draw more women to the sport. Second, if the pros play in men's open (with a point handicap, if needed) their level of play may be raised, and they have a chance for larger purses.

**Jeff Fenberg**  
Covina, California

I believe that women should be allowed to play in men's open divisions or any "men's" division for that matter, since it will benefit both sexes and raise the level of competition to a new standard. It is obvious that women's level of play will improve as a result of competing with men, but I am sure that the male level of play will also benefit.

In today's society if a guy loses to a guy it's fine, but if he loses to a woman, all his friends will undoubtedly make fun of him (even though that woman may be 10 times better than him). That threat alone will motivate the males to play harder. Then one day maybe his friends won't laugh at him for losing to a woman, but respect her abilities as an athlete and a competitor.

**Yury Furman**  
Woodland Hills, California

Yes! Please allow Michelle and any other qualified women to play men's open. Why should individuals who have "reached a plateau" be prevented from improving their game just because they are...*girls!* I hope male ego and female jealousy will take a back seat to the betterment of our sport.

Also, please consider making this available to female players at the state and local level across the country. What a great way to encourage women's racquetball.

Who knows, as the sport grows, perhaps we could add Open, A, B & C without a gender designation to the already present Men's and Women's Open, A, B & C.

**Helen Dunsmoor**  
Boise, Idaho

It would be a real shame if the AARA did not do something for Michelle Gould and any other females who come along and dominate the sport as she has.

Yes, women should be allowed to play in men's open, so they could attain the highest skill level possible. Men (or women) who would have a problem with this have nothing to lose but a bit of ego from an obviously already over-inflated one.

Specific waivers would be too subjective or argumentative. There should just be an across the board objective rule that allows females to participate in any level event in which they can be competitive.

No one stands to lose. Everyone and the great sport of racquetball stand to gain.

**Jack Dunsmoor**  
Boise, Idaho

I am all for allowing cross gender competition to occur in sports, especially racquetball. When a male player reaches a plateau in a specific area, he usually moves to the next level, i.e. open state champion to regional, etc. Forcing a woman to remain stagnant because of her gender

only adds to what might already be a frustrated competitor.

Think of the added benefits all racquetball players stand to gain. More entries at tournaments, more interest in the sport by women and associated advertisers, and a more competitive female population in the USA means more victories on the national level.

However, I strongly oppose adapting or changing the game to accommodate women. I am not suggesting that any would ask for concessions, just that the spirit and design of the game remain the same. If a person of unequal playing ability cannot compete "on the field," he or she should seek other means of competition. An example is wheelchair racquetball. Rather than change the standard game to accommodate them, chair bound competitors have created a "field" for themselves to compete.

I guess these thoughts are my "philosophies" of life. I don't really care what anyone wants to do to, or for themselves. Just as long as they don't interfere with another's happiness or freedoms. I'll be the first to accept the challenge of playing *any* woman.

**Chris L. Ladner III**  
Metairie, Louisiana

### ... AND CON

Although I sympathize with the problem that Michelle Gould and other leading ladies on the racquetball pro tour are having, I want to be the first to state that cross gender competition is not the solution. Why not?

Women athletes that achieve championship status simply cannot compete with men at the same level. When it was tried by tennis, well-meaning feminists



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had to change the rules. The most recent example being the Jimmy Connors vs. Martina Navratilova match. He got one serve, she got two. He had to use the singles lines, she used the doubles court. But if Martina had won, it would have been front page news. Since she didn't, I had trouble finding the story in our local sports pages.

Years ago, the match between Bobby Riggs and Billie Jean King was simply an egotistical, past-his-prime older man versus a younger and stronger woman. In racquetball, it's possible that a younger and stronger female could beat an older male player. But on the level of your example, even the best women's pros couldn't take a game from any of the top men's pros or amateur singles champions. In an even match between Gould and "forty-something" Ruben Gonzalez, would anyone bet against Ruben? I don't think so.

Diane Green, a past national champion herself and one of the hardest hitting women players in the south, readily admits that she can't beat the #5 ranked men's open player in the state. So, what's the point? Do women really want to beat men in sports?

What racquetball really needs is more young women players that won't "drop out" when the competition gets too hot.

**Mike Mojer**  
**Orlando Fitness & Racquet Club**  
**Orlando, Florida**

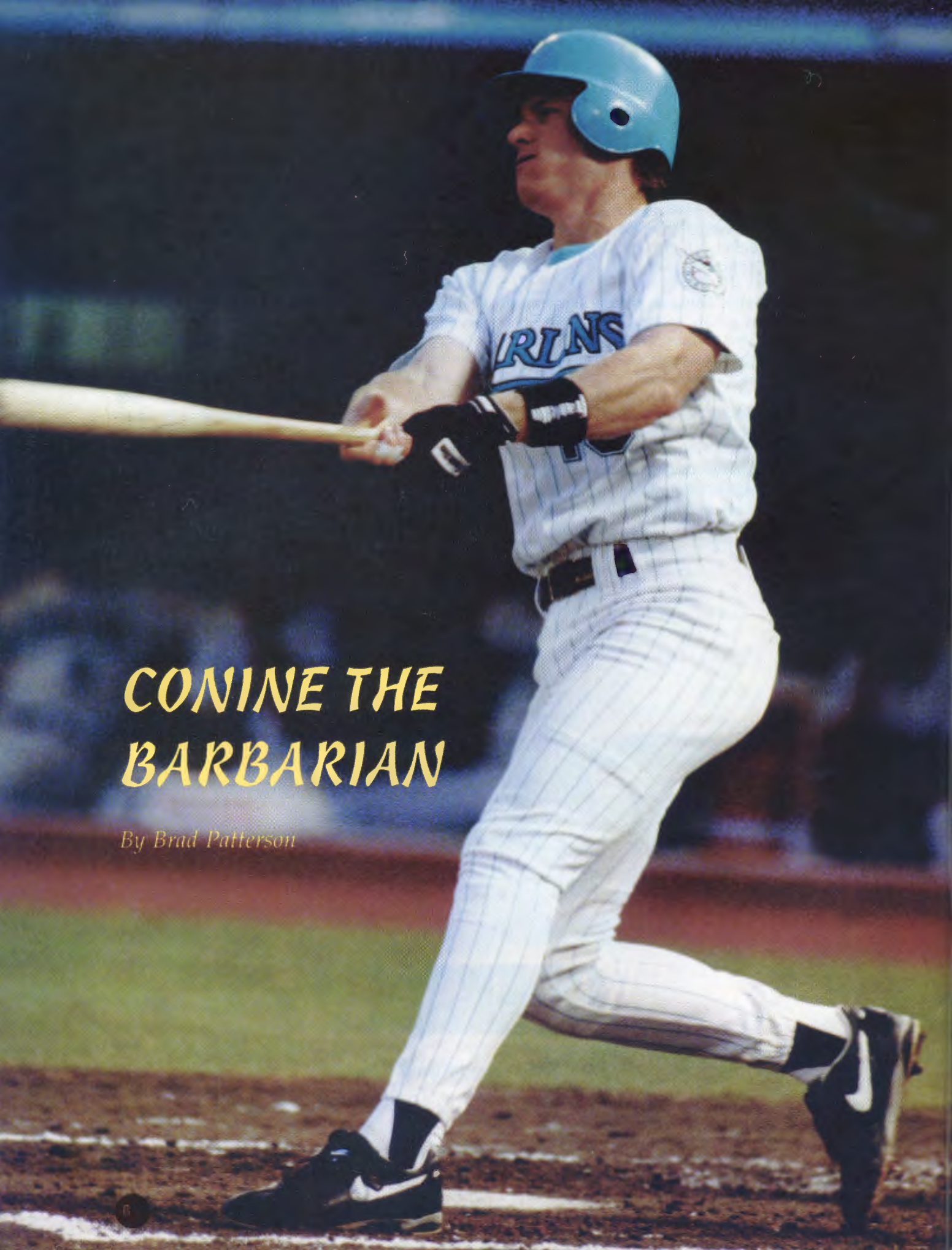
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# COMBINE THE BARBARIAN

*By Brad Patterson*

*In Miami, Jeff Conine is living the dream of millions of red-blooded American youngsters who, while playing in the local little league, imagine themselves as major leaguers someday.*

Conine is indeed in the big leagues, but as far as his dream is concerned, well...

"If the financial opportunities had been there in racquetball like there is in baseball, I probably wouldn't be here right now," said Conine.

'Here' is the major leagues. Conine is starting left fielder for the Florida Marlins, one of the two expansion teams in their first season in the National League.

"It's a shame that the professional tour hasn't really caught on," Conine said. "Those guys are such great athletes." Conine knows firsthand how good 'those guys' on the pro racquetball tour are. He was one of 'those guys.' Ranked as high as #16 on the Men's pro tour, Conine was the 1985 U.S. National Junior Champion in the 18-and-under division. His serve was once clocked at 162 mph.

By now it should be obvious to even those who are not in the racquetball "loop" that this is not another story about a "celebrity" that happens to enjoy playing racquetball. This guy can really play.

"He's a really good player," said Jim Hiser, Associate Executive Director for the American Amateur Racquetball Association. "At 18, he was as good as anyone in the juniors today, and if he had kept playing, he would be as good as anyone on the tour now."

Dick Roberson, Director of Promotions for Penn Racquet Sports, remembers his first impression of Conine. "They called me from a tournament in California and said there was this kid from UCLA who was breaking all of our Penn balls," Roberson said. "I went to the tournament and Jeff was just devastating. He was such a good athlete, and a really nice kid, too."

Conine began playing baseball in the usual way that most boys and girls begin playing — in Tee-Ball, then little league, etc. His father, Jerry, introduced him to the sport of racquetball when Jeff was 10 years old.

"My Dad was an avid handball player," Conine said. "He started playing a little racquetball. He got me out on a court and I just started playing. It was fun." Conine said he did not take the sport seriously right away.

"A local guy I knew went and played the Junior Nationals and he came back and told me about it and I thought, 'I'd love to do that.'"

So Conine got serious about racquetball around the age of

14. He actually took two to three years off from baseball in order to play racquetball. How many other athletes are good enough to take a few years off from a sport and then make it to the highest level?

Conine won the 1985 Junior Nationals, defeating Michael Bronfeld (a current U.S. National Team member) in the finals. After high school, Conine went to UCLA and basically played racquetball only during the off season. He was a pitcher at UCLA, but became a position player after he was drafted by the Kansas City Royals in June of 1987. "Pitching and racquetball don't really go together," he said.

He estimates that he made about \$5,000 in his best year of racquetball, considerably less than what a starting major league left fielder makes.

When did he decide to concentrate on baseball?

"I never made a conscious decision that I was going to play baseball instead of racquetball," Conine said. "There really wasn't a decision to be made. The pro racquetball tour was virtually non-existent at that time."

After five seasons in the Kansas City organization, Conine was left unprotected in the expansion draft. The Marlins made him their 11th pick. He was the team's starting left fielder on opening day and has become a fixture in the lineup (Conine



**All feature  
photography by  
Denis Bancroft.**

has also started two games at first base) and has quickly become a popular player in South Florida.

Conine said he was, at first, disappointed about being a part of the expansion draft. "I was surprised and a little disappointed," he said. "I liked Kansas City and I liked the Royals' organization. But, as I thought about it, it was the best thing that could possibly have happened to me. This gave me the opportunity to play regularly in the major leagues."

Conine has quickly proven that he belongs in 'The Show.' At this writing he is hitting .297, with ten home runs (including a Grand Slam)

and 70 RBI's. He also has, arguably, the best Chris Berman-given nickname of any first-year player in baseball - "Jeff 'Conine the Barbarian,'" Berman calls when a highlight of Conine is shown on ESPN.

The Marlins have been surprisingly competitive in their inaugural campaign. Florida was in sixth place in their division, with a 60/83 record at press time in mid-September.

Conine turned 27 on June 27, and the timing seems to be perfect for him to grow as a player as the Marlins become contenders. Conine said he would like to stay with the Florida franchise.

"I'd love to stay here," he said. "It's a great place to play. We've got some good players and we're not too far away from being a contending team."

Conine still plays some racquetball. "I play once in a while, mostly on the road. I go out with Gary Carter (the Marlins' television commentator, and future Hall-Of-Famer) early in the morning and bang it around."

And, he stays in touch with racquetball. In fact, it's easy for Conine to stay current with the sport. He is engaged to Cindy Doyle, the 1992 World Intercollegiate Champion and former U.S. National Team member. Cindy was ranked as high as #7 on the women's pro tour before a shoulder injury set her back. She has resumed playing, and competed at the National Singles in Houston in May where she qualified for this summer's U.S. Olympic Festival in San Antonio and later won a silver medal in doubles.

Conine and Doyle are planning to



*A racquetball "big-leaguer" in her own right, fiancée Cindy Doyle has been appointed to the U.S. National Racquetball Team on several occasions. She and Conine will wed October 9.*

Executive Director of the AARA.

Conine said he thought playing racquetball helped him in baseball since the hand-eye coordination needed to return a 160 mile per hour serve is quite similar to what is needed to hit a major league fastball. And, the quick reactions required in racquetball certainly help a baseball player. He also liked other aspects of the individual sport.

"In racquetball, you're out there all by yourself," he said. "You can't blame anyone else. I like that."

Conine said he will continue to play racquetball. "I can see myself playing racquetball for the rest of my life," Conine said. "It's a great sport."

play mixed doubles together in the National Doubles scheduled for late October in Phoenix. And, they have another big date scheduled for October — their wedding. Cindy's brother, Tim Doyle, is presently ranked in the top 10 on the men's pro tour.

Conine said he still sees some of his racquetball buddies, having visited with former world doubles champion Dan Obremski when the Marlins were in Pittsburgh, and racquetball legend Marty Hogan in St. Louis, when the Marlins played the Cardinals.

He said that racquetball needed television exposure for it to grow, and he is doing his part to help the sport in other ways. He donated a jersey, signed by all of the original Marlins, to the AARA for its silent auction at the Nationals. The jersey sold for \$500. "Jeff has always been one of our best spokespersons, and an avid supporter of our sport," said Luke St. Onge,



# DOES BO KNOW RACQUETBALL?

... Maybe. But not as well as Jeff Conine knows racquetball.

Bo Jackson — he of the football/baseball/Nike commercials — is a well-known athlete. And he wanted to play Conine in racquetball a few years ago.

Conine has heard it before. Most anyone who is a top-notch racquetball player has been challenged by someone who thinks they can beat a high profile player.

Conine is surrounded by great athletes. Conine, the left fielder for the Florida Marlins, one of the two new National League expansion teams, was also a world class racquetball player who played on the professional tour.

"Yeah, some guys want to go out and play once in a while," he said when asked about whether he had gotten any challenges from his teammates. "I tell them that I will spot them 16-17 points in a game to 21, and play them for \$1,000.

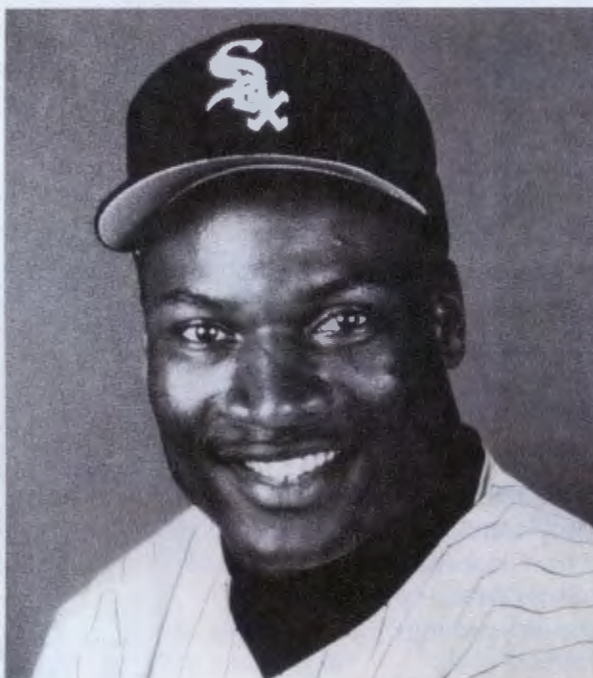
"I haven't had any takers yet, but I think I will," Conine said. "You know, most of these guys are great athletes. They figure that they can surely go out and at least score 4 to 5 points off of me."

Conine was once ranked as high as #16 on the Men's tour. But with the little exposure racquetball has on television, most of the uninitiated do not have any idea how really good top racquetball players are. Many club players think they could walk in off the street and give the professionals a good game.

Conine, whose serve was once clocked at 162 mph, received his challenge from Jackson two years ago.

"We were both rehabbing from injuries," said Conine. At the time, Jackson was having his hip worked on, and Conine was having surgery on his left wrist.

"He was on the table next to me. He said, 'I want to play you in racquetball for big money,'" Conine recalled.



"I said, 'Your definition of big money and my definition of big money are probably two different things,'" he said. "How much?"

"\$15 grand!" said Jackson. Conine agreed.

"How many points do you want?" Conine asked the former Heisman Trophy winner, now an outfielder/designated hitter for the Chicago White Sox.

Jackson snorted, "I don't want any points from you," he said, obviously thinking it beneath him

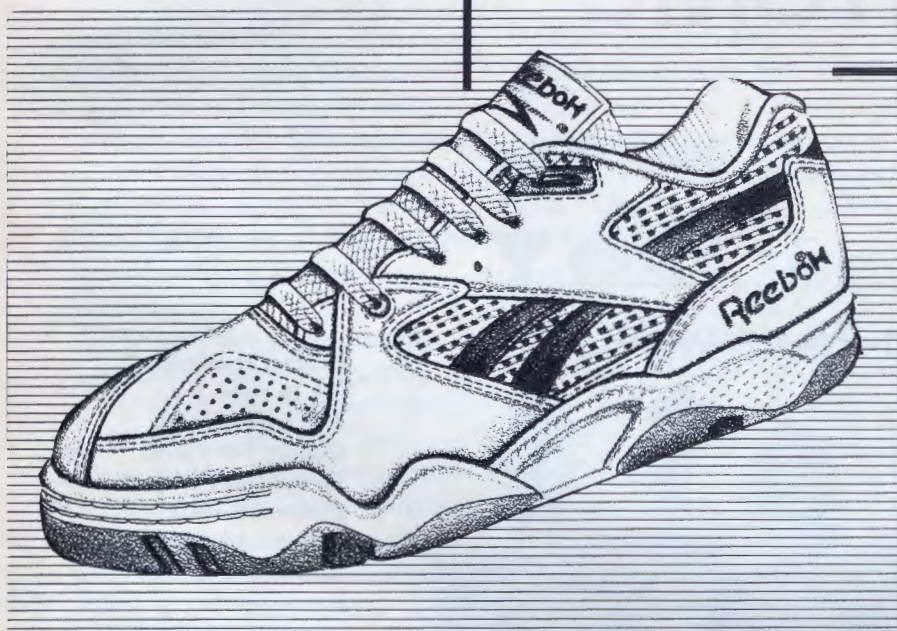
to even consider accepting a handicap from another athlete in any type of activity.

"So, I said," Conine went on, "you spell the name on the check, C-O-N-I-N-E."

The two never played, at least not yet.

"Bo finally had to have the hip replacement," Conine said. "He kept giving me grief about it though. We may have to play one of these days."

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# NEW U.S. OLYMPIC FESTIVAL STARS RISE TO THE OCCASION IN SAN ANTONIO



*Festival champions, left to right: Joy Mackenzie, Jackie Gibson, Tony Jelso, Cheryl Gudinas, Jeff Evans and Todd O'Neill. All but Gibson and O'Neill are first-time appointees to the U.S. National Racquetball Team.*

*Photo: Steve Lerner.*

**F**rom among an elite field of 32 of the best amateur racquetball players in the nation, a remarkable number of first-time appointees were named to the U.S. National Racquetball Team at the U.S. Olympic Festival in late July. Four out of six winners will be team "rookies" for their victories in San Antonio. Former Albuquerque native Tony Jelso, Chicago's Cheryl Gudinas, Seattle's Jeff Evans and San Diego's Joy Paraiso MacKenzie earned their first team spots, while veterans Jackie Paraiso Gibson and Todd O'Neil re-qualified for the squad.

After a year off for the Olympic Games, the U.S. Olympic Festival opportunity was a welcome one for the team hopefuls, who took the team qualifier seriously — as did AARA administrators. In preparation for a full interna-

tional schedule leading up to the World Championships in 1994 and the Pan Ams in 1995, the AARA elected to utilize new International Racquetball Federation [IRF] rules for the first time since they were adopted last summer. The theory ... if U.S. team members will have to compete by IRF rules, they should qualify by them.

Most important of the IRF variations was the "one-serve" rule, which limited top ace servers like Tim Sweeney and Chris Cole to a single prospect per service. A long or a short meant a sideout, and few of the athletes took any chances.

"I changed my game from an aggressive, serve-and-shoot style to using more lobs just to get the ball into play," said Sweeney, whose sentiments were shared by Cole. "I probably won't go for the crack ace as much, but I did use it once or twice as a surprise and it worked."

As predicted, an added benefit to spectators was prolonged rallies that truly showcased the talent of the athletes. By taking away the ace service edge, players exercised restraint in going for the big serve and instead exchanged more well-placed shots during the rally to win points. It is expected that the AARA will consider a permanent rule change regarding the serve in all future U.S. Team qualifiers.

## **JELSO GIVES NOTICE**

For 23-year old Tony Jelso, who blazed through the preliminary rounds with only one warm-up tiebreaker, service consistency was crucial. A long-time "photon" server, Jelso was one of a handful of players who stayed with his drive, and was successful in delivering the highest percentage of no-fault winners.

In his first match against hometown favorite Lance Gilliam, Jelso lost the first game 12-15, then came back to take the next 15-6 and the tiebreaker 11-2. "The key against Lance is getting him out of center court," said Jelso "and he's tough to move." At 6'3", Jelso had a 2" height advantage over Gilliam, but both weighed in at 195, so jockeying for position wasn't easy for either player.

In the second round robin match-up, Jelso took a swift two game win over Dan Fowler of Silver Spring, Maryland, 15-5, 15-14, then moved on to face three time intercollegiate champion and 1991 national titlist Sweeney for a shot at the medal round. There, Jelso gained even more momentum with another straight game victory, 15-11, 15-9. Rolling over Vince Kelley with an even lower score, Jelso earned his final spot with an 15-3, 15-8 win and a 4/0 record.

## **COLE SEEKS TEAM SPOT**

True to form, current world champion Chris Cole of Flint, Michigan, went to a tiebreaker in each of his preliminary

matches, always losing the first game before rallying to take the second two. A notorious "come from behind" winner, Cole was under extra pressure to win this event in order to reclaim his lost spot on the U.S. National Racquetball Team.

After winning his first two tiebreakers against Scott Reiff of Coral Springs, Florida and Vince Kelley of Portland, Oregon, Cole avenged himself against upstart Mike Engel of Bethesda, Maryland with another narrow victory. The win was important to Cole, who lost his spot on the U.S. National Team to Engel earlier in the season. Defending his 1992 national title last May, Cole was eliminated by Engel in the quarterfinal team qualifying round at the U.S. National Singles Championships. By upsetting the top seed in that round, Engel took Cole's place on the U.S. Team.

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***"I feel like I've regained the mental edge I had last season when I won the four championships in a row" said Cole, "but I still have to play three games."***

---

"That's his strategy," said long-time coach Jim Hiser, "he makes his opponents run around the whole first game, then takes advantage of their fatigue in the next two."



JELSO



GUDINAS

Against a not-so-tired Engel, Cole continued to play it close. In the deciding tiebreaker, Cole stalled at match point, 10-3, and Engel made his move, closing the gap to two points at 8-10. Assessed a technical foul for calling a time out after the score had been called (another new international ruling), Engel went back to 7-10, but soon regained the lost point. Finally, after several side-outs and long rallies, Cole delivered a solid down-the-line backhand killshot for the match.

To advance into the medal round, Cole took a rare straight game win over Dan Fowler 15-12, 15-7 to go up against Jelso for the gold.

### **A SHORT FINAL**

In the first game of their gold medal final, Jelso raced to a game point advantage at 14-9 before Cole began to stage a comeback. Two points later in his run, Cole dove for a forehand shot and landed squarely on a previous injury to his right shoulder. Impact from the fall stunned Cole, who was then unable to move or speak for several minutes, and an ambulance was called. Some thirty minutes later, Cole was transported to a local hospital where all diagnostic tests came back normal and he

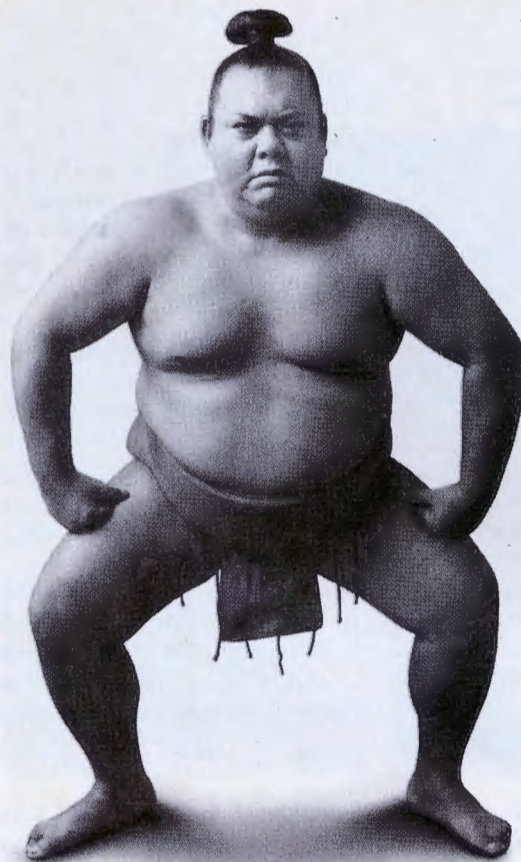
was released the following morning. Last year Cole experienced a similar unexplained seizure episode, and a follow-up series of tests in Flint have still failed to pinpoint the cause. [The episode put such a scare into Cole's fiancée Nancy that the two have moved up their wedding date to October 9 — the same day as the Conine/Doyle nuptials.]

Obviously shaken and concerned for his opponent, Jelso sat quietly while Cole was attended to, then joined the gallery in an appreciative round of applause as Chris was wheeled out of the building. On the award platform, Tony was subdued and later added "I really wanted to win it on the court, and I hope we get another chance to play." Despite the default, Jelso clearly established himself as a U.S. Olympic Festival champion by anyone's measure. His will to win, sportsmanship, record and compassion were second to none in San Antonio.

"I had trained hard before the Festival, and even pictured myself winning. I stayed mentally focused throughout the tournament and my mental game is stronger than it's ever been. It was great to be there, and great to get on the team."

### **GUDINAS LOBS INTO FINAL**

In women's competition, Cheryl Gudinas pulled into an early lead in the preliminaries, using the new one-serve ruling to her advantage. Setting her arms at full length in her lob stance made her look like an angel about to take flight, but her opponents had another outlook. The high lob frustrated each and every one of its receivers, starting with WPRA



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## **NORTH TEAM**

|                    |                         |                          |
|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Men's Singles A:   | Tim Sweeney .....       | Chicago, Ill.            |
| Men's Singles B:   | Vince Kelley .....      | Portland, Ore.           |
| Women's Singles A: | Elaine Hooghe .....     | Columbus, Ohio           |
| Women's Singles B: | Molly O'Brien .....     | Souderton, Pa.           |
| Men's Doubles:     | Joel Bonnett .....      | Grand Rapids, Mich.      |
|                    | Bill Sell .....         | Huntington Beach, Calif. |
| Women's Doubles:   | Laura Fenton .....      | Lincoln, Neb.            |
|                    | Jane Cohen Greene ..... | Topeka, Kan.             |
| Coach:             | Neil Shapiro .....      | Albany, N.Y.             |
| Manager:           | Bill Lyman .....        | Berwyn, Ill.             |

## **SOUTH TEAM**

|                    |                        |                       |
|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Men's Singles A:   | Dan Fowler .....       | Silver Spring, Md.    |
| Men's Singles B:   | Chris Cole .....       | Flint, Mich.          |
| Women's Singles A: | Kaye Kuhfeld .....     | Indianapolis, Ind.    |
| Women's Singles B: | Kerri Stoffregen ..... | Cincinnati, Ohio      |
| Men's Doubles:     | Hart Johnson .....     | St. Cloud, Minn.      |
|                    | Todd Stead .....       | Minneapolis, Minn.    |
| Women's Doubles:   | Mary Lyons .....       | Jacksonville, Fla.    |
|                    | Susan Pfahler .....    | Jacksonville, Fla.    |
| Coach:             | Jerry Hilecher .....   | Granada Hills, Calif. |
| Manager:           | John Boudman .....     | Hummelstown, Pa.      |

Souderton, Pennsylvania in the next round, Spangler reduced her court time with straight game wins of 15-12, 15-12 to end the preliminaries with a 2-1 record and earn a semifinal slot.

In the semifinal, Gudinas defeated fellow pro tour regular Lynne Coburn of Baltimore, Maryland, 15-8, 15-10. In the other semi-final, the battle between intercollegiate champions Tanya Spangler and Elaine Hooghe ended in Spangler's favor, in another tiebreaker of 15-5, 10-15, 11-9.

"most improved player" this season, Ellen Crawford of Minoa, New York. Next Gudinas went up against another pro tour colleague, Kaye Kuhfeld of Indianapolis, for a second straight game win, 15-6, 15-12.

The third round of the preliminaries proved to be Gudinas' most difficult against former intercollegiate champion Elaine Hooghe, who had also taken a win from Crawford. "I always win when my daughter is here," said Elaine, whose 4-year old daughter Kelsey was in the stands. Against Gudinas, Hooghe pulled out a tiebreaker win to give Cheryl her only loss in the round robin flight, 5-15, 15-5, 11-9. Finishing first and second in their flight, both Gudinas and Hooghe advanced into the semifinal.

### **SPANGLER ON WINNING STREAK**

In her flight, current intercollegiate champion Tanya Spangler started slow but gained momentum with each match. A first round tiebreaker loss to Lynne Coburn of Baltimore, Maryland gave Spangler a feel for the competition, and she quickly adjusted against this year's junior national champion Kerri Stoffregen, to take a tiebreaker win of her own, 15-5, 6-15, 11-2. Against women's pro Molly O'Brien of

The gold medal round put former Festival participant and three time national women's 19+ champion Gudinas squarely into center stage with her most impressive career win to date. Cheryl, who participated in racquetball's 1989 premiere Olympic Festival appearance in Oklahoma City, opened the new quadrennium with her first Festival gold after her straight game win over Tanya Spangler, 15-11, 15-7.

"I always enjoy the Olympic Festivals, but this one is special," said Gudinas, "I'll remember San Antonio for a long time."

### **MEN'S DOUBLES**

Men's open national champions Joel Bonnett and Bill Sell won their first round in the preliminary line up easily. The lefty-righty pair took a straight game win over Minnesotans Hart Johnson and Todd Stead — both left-handers, 15-6, 15-10. The three-to-one mix of lefties in the match had Bonnett working overtime to stay out of the way and end rallies as quickly as possible.

After a late roster change, Jeff Evans dropped into the spot vacated by Jim Floyd and paired up with left-hander Todd O'Neil. Right from the starting gate, the two defeated another new team

Club owner and Festival host Bruce Hendin (center), pictured here with AARA Executive Director Luke St. Onge (left) and U.S. Olympic Committee President Leroy Walker (right) treated the racquetball athletes to more than just a great venue. His hospitality extended as far as the Alamo, and included a special treat — a riverboat luncheon and commemorative pen sets for the entire entourage of athletes, coaches, referees and staff. It took three flatbottom boats to carry the assembled crew, who thoroughly enjoyed the royal treatment.

At the venue, club manager David Nevarez (the one with his feet in the hot tub, next page) was equally hospitable and kept things running smoothly throughout the five-day event. Our many thanks!



made up of junior champion Sudsy Monchik and Bobby Rodriguez, in straight games of 15-5, 15-8. During the match, an overexcited Monchik hit his own partner squarely in the right side, awarding Rodriguez with the "best bruise" prize of the tournament.

In the second round, Monchik and Rodriguez took their first win over lefties Hart Johnson and Todd Stead, while O'Neil and Evans defeated

national doubles champions Bonnett and Sell in straight games of 15-3, 15-13. After a second upset in the semi-final round playoff, national champions Bonnett and Sell were handed a surprise defeat by Monchik and Rodriguez, who advanced into the final against O'Neil and Evans.

Although Vermont native Todd O'Neil claimed that partner Jeff Evans' snoring must keep them all "sleepless in Seattle," they were both able to

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## EAST TEAM

|                    |                       |                        |
|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Men's Singles A:   | Tony Jelso .....      | Ventura, Calif.        |
| Men's Singles B:   | Scott Reiff .....     | Coral Springs, Fla.    |
| Women's Singles A: | Cheryl Gudinas .....  | Lisle, Ill.            |
| Women's Singles B: | Lynne Coburn .....    | Baltimore, Md.         |
| Men's Doubles:     | Sudsy Monchik .....   | Staten Island, N.Y.    |
|                    | Bobby Rodriguez ..... | Denver, Colo.          |
| Women's Doubles:   | Jackie Gibson .....   | San Diego, Calif.      |
|                    | Joy MacKenzie .....   | San Diego, Calif.      |
| Coach:             | Larry Liles .....     | Memphis, Tenn.         |
| Manager:           | Carol Pellowski ..... | Menomonee Falls, Wisc. |

## WEST TEAM

|                    |                       |                    |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Men's Singles A:   | Lance Gilliam .....   | San Antonio, Texas |
| Men's Singles B:   | Mike Engel .....      | Bethesda, Md.      |
| Women's Singles A: | Ellen Crawford .....  | Minoa, N.Y.        |
| Women's Singles B: | Tanya Spangler .....  | Fremont, Calif.    |
| Men's Doubles:     | Jeff Evans .....      | Kirkland, Wash.    |
|                    | Todd O'Neil .....     | Dallas, Texas      |
| Women's Doubles:   | Cindy Doyle .....     | Buffalo, N.Y.      |
|                    | Robin Levine .....    | Sacramento, Calif. |
| Coach:             | Fran Davis .....      | Middlesex, N.J.    |
| Manager:           | Paul Henrickson ..... | Millbury, Mass.    |

opponents with a combined ceiling, pass and pinch shot game style, with the occasional surprise kill shot thrown in to end a rally.

But in the semi-final, Lyons and Pfahler were stopped by the new pairing of left-hander Robin Levine and Cindy Doyle. Playing against power hitter Levine, Lyons calmly returned even the hardest shots with off-speed passes or ceiling shots, but failed to make the important dinks to end rallies and score points. On the right against Doyle, Pfahler tried to employ her pinch kill to end rallies that Lyons had prolonged, but the

get enough rest to take their first Festival gold with a win over surprise finalists Sudsy Monchik and Bobby Rodriguez in straight games of 15-4, 15-10.

"I found out about a week before that I was coming," said Evans, "in fact, I'm still in shock, since I had planned on being home this week ... working." Festival veteran O'Neil was an old hand, "I've been to Festivals before and lost every match I played ... until now. At this level, every match is like a final."

## WOMEN'S DOUBLES

In their first meeting since last fall, San Diego twins Jackie Gibson and Joy MacKenzie took revenge on defending national champions Mary Lyons and Susan Pfahler with a straight game win of 15-6, 15-11. Lyons and Pfahler won the 1992 U.S. National Doubles Championships in a tiebreaker against the twins to seize the title and earn spots on the U.S. National Team.

Nicknamed "Pit and Pat" at the Festival by opposing North Team coach Neil Shapiro, Lyons and Pfahler have the unusual reputation of *not* hitting the ball hard. Preferring a slower pace, the two often confound even the most powerful

shot stayed up too long, too often, allowing Doyle offensive openings that she capitalized on.

In their second final this year, Jackie and Joy took their first major victory since they last won together in 1989, but not without a good bit of pushing, shoving and jockeying for position against Levine and Doyle. Gibson and MacKenzie went to a highly physical tiebreaker against their volatile and frustrated opponents, but kept their composure to come away with the win 8-15, 15-5, 11-3. The win gave Joy her first U.S. National Team appointment.

"We were really ready this time, mentally and physically," said Joy, but Jackie had already put that behind her. . .

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***"We're going to go home and train even harder. We want to try to win national doubles so we can go to the World Championships next summer."***

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## OLYMPIC FESTIVAL MEDALISTS

### MEN'S SINGLES

GOLD: Tony Jelso, Ventura, Calif. (East)

SILVER: Chris Cole, Flint Mich. (South)

BRONZE: Dan Fowler, Silver Spring, Md. (South)

### WOMEN'S SINGLES

GOLD: Cheryl Gudinas, Lisle, Ill. (East)

SILVER: Tanya Spangler, Fremont, Calif. (West)

BRONZE: Elaine Hooghe, Columbus, Ohio (North)

### MEN'S DOUBLES

GOLD: Jeff Evans, Kirkland, Wash. &

Todd O'Neil, Dallas, Texas (West)

SILVER: Sudsy Monchik, Staten Island, N.Y. &

Bobby Rodriguez, Denver, Colo. (East)

BRONZE: Joel Bonnett, Grand Rapids, Mich. &

Bill Sell, Huntington Beach, Calif. (North)

### WOMEN'S DOUBLES

GOLD: Jackie Gibson, San Diego, Calif. &

Joy MacKenzie, San Diego, Calif. (East)

SILVER: Cindy Doyle, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. &

Robin Levine, Sacramento, Calif. (West)

BRONZE: Mary Lyons, Jacksonville, Fla. &

Susan Pfahler, Jacksonville, Fla. (South)



# ROBERTS WINS IN MINNEAPOLIS

By Jack Newman

Excitement was in the air for the VCI World Championships June 23-27 at the Burnsville Swim and Racquet Club. Not only was this the final of the VCI tournament series, but pro racquetball was being telecast on ESPN for the first time in ten years. Also on the line was the prestigious VCI Cup, which would go to the player who had earned the most points in the five VCI events of the series.

## Round of 32

A couple of excellent matches started the tournament. Rob McKinney, who pushed Andy Roberts earlier this season, did the same as he battled Drew Kachtik for five games. McKinney had match point in the fifth game, only to have Drew fight him off to stay alive 14-12. Roger Harripersad and Egan Inoue squared off in a battle of power and speed. Egan jumped out to a 2-1 game lead only to have Roger come back and win games four and five to take the match. The other top seeds all moved on with the exception of Bret Harnett, who was a no show for his first round match.

## Round of 16

The round of 16 almost went exactly to the seeding. First up

was Kachtik defeating Woody Clouse in four games, followed by Ruben Gonzalez beating Mike Ceresia in four. Mike Ray fought off Tim Sweeney in four games and Tim Doyle smashed Dan Obremski three straight to advance. Mike Guidry needed four games to defeat qualifier Kevin Graham, while Andy Roberts avenged an earlier season loss in taking out Aaron Katz in three straight. Jack

Newman needed five games to get by Dave Johnson, and Cliff Swain beat Roger Harripersad in four games.

## Quarterfinals

The first match of the round saw Kachtik jump out to a first game victory over Gonzalez, 11-6. The second game went to Ruben, 11-3. Tied one game apiece, the two players battled for the undisputed #4 spot in the world. Gonzalez was able to prevail 12-10, 11-8 to continue his mastery over Kachtik. The second quarterfinal match featured the control of Mike Ray against the power of Tim Doyle. Although Ray had beaten Doyle in every match this season, Doyle had been playing better as of late. In a



PHOTO: SCOTT LIPARELLI

## ADVANCING IN MINNEAPOLIS

### Round of 16

Cliff Swain ..... def. ... Roger Harripersad (7,3,(6),7)  
 Jack Newman ..... def. .... Dave Johnson (14,(5),5,12,5)  
 Drew Kachtik ..... def. .... Woody Clouse (13,3,4,7)  
 Ruben Gonzalez ..... def. .... Mike Ceresia (6,7,(6),6)  
 Mike Ray ..... def. .... Tim Sweeney (8,3,(4),5)  
 Tim Doyle ..... def. .... Dan Obremski (3,4,6)  
 Mike Guidry ..... def. .... Kevin Graham (8,(10),8,2)  
 Andy Roberts ..... def. .... Aaron Katz (4,4,9)

### Quarterfinals

Jack Newman ..... def. .... Cliff Swain ((7),(5),9,10,4)  
 Ruben Gonzalez ..... def. .... Drew Kachtik ((6),3,10,8)  
 Tim Doyle ..... def. .... Mike Ray (9,(1),5,(10),6)  
 Andy Roberts ..... def. .... Mike Guidry (4,8,5)

### Semifinals

Jack Newman ..... def. .... Ruben Gonzalez (3,2,8)  
 Andy Roberts ..... def. .... Tim Doyle ((6),4,7,(9),9)

### Finals

Andy Roberts ..... def. .... Jack Newman (2,(8),(6),3,8)

### Semifinals

A match between Doyle and Roberts is always a battle of sheer power. Doyle got an early lead, winning game one 11-6 before Roberts fought back and won the next two games 11-4, 11-7. Doyle never gave up as he won game four 11-9 to move to the fifth and deciding game. Roberts took an early lead, but Doyle was able to come back and serve at 9-10. Roberts regained the serve and closed out the match 11-9.

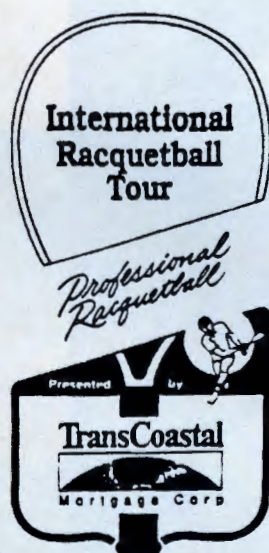
The second semifinal saw good friends Ruben Gonzalez and Jack Newman take to the court. They had just played in the finals of the previous tournament, with Ruben winning that match in five games. This match was different as Newman was hot and Gonzalez never got started. Newman won three straight 11-3, 11-2, 11-8 to move to his second straight final.

### Finals

A lot was on the line for Roberts and Newman in this final. A Roberts victory would not only mean winning the prestigious VCI Cup, but he would also regain the #1 ranking. Andy looked poised to do both as he jumped out to an 11-2 first game victory. But Jack also enjoyed the limelight of the ESPN telecast, winning the next two games 11-8, 11-6 to go up one game. Roberts switched to a power game to take game four 11-3 and even up the match, then continued his pace in the tiebreaker as he jumped out to a 6-0 lead. In a match full of streaks, Newman went on his own eight point run to regain the lead 8-6. A key Roberts time out led him to victory as he ran out the last five points to win the tournament, the VCI Cup and regain the top ranking.

long five game match that went up and back, Doyle prevailed to win 11-6 in the tiebreaker.

The third match saw Andy Roberts again avenge earlier season losses, this time beating Mike Guidry in three straight games. The last quarterfinal featured newly crowned #1 Cliff Swain in a rematch against Jack Newman. Newman had defeated Swain in the last tournament, motivating Cliff to revenge as he jumped out to a two game lead. But Jack was not ready to quit as he fought back to win games three and four 11-9, 12-10. The fifth game was all Newman as he won 11-4 to advance to the semis.



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## SWAIN BACK ON TOP IN STOP #2

By Jack Newman

The second IRT stop brought the players to Elmwood Fitness Center in New Orleans for the Summer Cooler Pro-Am August 4-8.

### Round of 16

Good matches started as early as the round of 16, where Tim Doyle was pushed to five games by Todd O'Neil and Mike Ray went down 2-0 in games and 10-6 in the third before coming back to beat Scott Reiff in five. Mike Guidry

was also down 2-0 to fellow Texan Drew Kachtik, only to come back and win in five games, while Cliff Swain struggled to beat Woody Clouse in five. Amateur national champion John Ellis pushed pro national champion Andy Roberts to the limit in their five game match.

In the quarterfinals, momentum affected many of the matches, including the first between Gonzalez and Doyle. Doyle jumped out to an easy 11-1 first game win, with Ruben evening the score with an 11-9 game two win. Doyle grabbed game three and looked like he had the match in hand only to lose

game four 13-11. Doyle then had an 8-5 lead in the fifth game, before having to call an injury time out to attend to stomach flu. When Tim returned to the court, he wasn't the same and Ruben finished off the match 11-8.

With Jack Newman against Mike Ray, it was two control players battling it out, with Newman grabbing a 2-1 lead in games, only to have Mike win game four 11-7. The fifth game saw Jack take an 8-5 lead, but again momentum changed as Ray came back to win 11-8. In a battle of power, Bret Harnett and Andy Roberts went up next. Andy went ahead 2-1 in

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## ADVANCING IN NEW ORLEANS

### Round of 16

Andy Roberts ..... def. .... John Ellis (7,2,(4),(9),8)  
Bret Harnett ..... def. .... Dave Johnson (3,2,(9),7)  
Tim Doyle ..... def. .... Todd O'Neil (4,2,(3),(8),5)  
Ruben Gonzalez .... def. .... Rob McKinney (8,3,(5),5)  
Mike Ray ..... def. .... Scott Reiff ((9),(6),10,1,8)  
Jack Newman ..... def. .... Aaron Katz (1,5,(6),6)  
Mike Guidry ..... def. .... Drew Kachtik ((8),(10),2,7,5)  
Cliff Swain ..... def. .... Woody Clouse (1),6,8,(8),2)

### Quarterfinals

Bret Harnett ..... def. .... Andy Roberts (9,(8),(9),2,2)  
Ruben Gonzalez .... def. .... Tim Doyle ((1),9,(6),11,9)  
Mike Ray ..... def. .... Jack Newman ((8),7,(4),7,8)  
Cliff Swain ..... def. .... Mike Guidry (7,3,3)

### Semi Finals

Bret Harnett ..... def. .... Ruben Gonzalez (5,6,4)  
Cliff Swain ..... def. .... Mike Ray (4,0,9)

### Finals

Cliff Swain ..... def. .... Bret Harnett (2,5,(10),5)

games and appeared poised for the victory, but Harnett cranked up his power serve game and began hitting aces to win the fourth and fifth games by identical 11-2 scores. The only quarter that did not go to a tiebreaker had Cliff Swain dominating Mike Guidry in three straight.

The semifinals were short and sweet, at three games each. Swain got revenge for two losses to Mike Ray the year before by winning handily in three, while Bret Harnett made his first final in quite a few years by taking out Gonzalez the same way.

The finals were all Swain as he breezed through the first two games 11-2, 11-5, before Harnett came back to win game three 12-10. Swain reversed this minor setback to cruise to an 11-5 victory in game four and win the tournament.

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# IRT PLAYER PROFILES



**Player:** Dave Johnson  
**Hometown:** Huntington Beach, California  
**Current IRT Ranking:** 8  
**Racquet:** TRS Phase II

A natural athlete with a body builder's physique, Dave is a product of the age-old hub of pro racquetball, southern California. In recent seasons, he has defeated every major pro on the tour. While unable to maintain a winning streak, Dave has often upset a top seed with a very one-sided defeat. In his best recent showing, Dave captured second place at the Pittsburgh Shop-n-Save Pro Am in February.

One of the most exciting players on the tour for spectators, Dave's agility and determination make him a favorite at IRT events. His cool attitude and great sportsmanship have kept him nearly as admired as his looks and charm have. No matter the odds, a Dave Johnson match means excitement!

Dave's racquet is his own signature model. His main goal now is to develop the consistency necessary to climb into the top spots.



**Player:** Mike Guidry  
**Hometown:** Dallas, Texas  
**Current IRT Ranking:** 10  
**Racquet:** Ektelon Eminence

Finishing up his second full season on the tour, this compact south-paw wasted no time jumping into the top ten. Extremely precise execution, smart shot selection, and phenomenal gets are the norm with Mike, who entered the pro ranks with the confidence of a seasoned veteran after a successful amateur career. Unlikely upsets in his favor have made Mike very accustomed to playing into later rounds. On a particularly successful outing recently, Mike stormed into the semi's of the Hampton Inn Classic in Memphis to nearly outdo this season's top gun, Cliff Swain.

With little regard for his own safe landing, Mike's diving gets assure that few balls are out of play. Displaying a smart mix of power and control, Mike is a shining example of the current level of professional racquetball talent residing in Texas. His low-key, focused demeanor and tremendous ability mark him for greatness.

No stranger to big wins at big events, Mike has chosen this year's TransCoastal Grand Nationals as the one to win for his big pro breakthrough and his first tour victory.

## TOUR UPDATE

By Hank Marcus

### VCI CHALLENGE CUP SERIES EXPANDS

In conjunction with the TransCoastal International Racquetball Tour, VW Credit, Inc. has announced a six city VCI Series for the 1993-94 season. The most prestigious series in professional racquetball will be highlighted by stops in Montreal, Baltimore, Dallas, Atlanta, Los Angeles and Minneapolis.

Expansion of the VCI Challenge Cup Series this year will only add to its success and prestige. Through an informal arrangement with the AARA, next season's amateur regional singles qualifiers will be held in conjunction with the VCI events wherever possible, thereby affording more amateur players the opportunity to see and meet the top pros.

### SPALDING INKS PACT WITH INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL TOUR

Spalding Professional Racquet Sports and the International Racquetball Tour have signed an agreement making Spalding the official racquet of men's

professional racquetball, the company announced in Chicago at the National Sporting Goods Show late July. Terms of the agreement were not disclosed.

"Association with these top-ranked pros, coupled with exposure on-site and their TV audiences will further establish Spalding's presence as a leader in the sport of racquetball," said Dave Reinhart, Director of Spalding Professional Racquet Sports.

As part of the agreement, Spalding will be present on-site with signage and product displays at each of the 20 International Racquetball Tour

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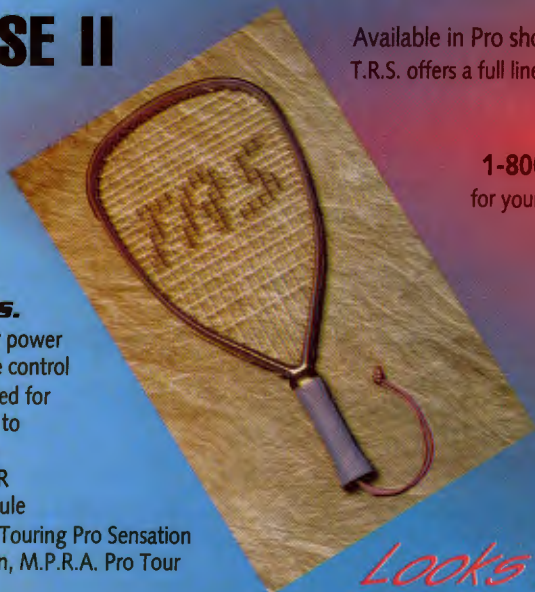
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- Respects AARA total length rule
- Endorsed by #1 Cliff Swain, World's hardest hitter

stops. The company will also introduce "Spalding Heat" fast serve rankings, featuring a fast-serve gun at each tournament site throughout the season. At the end of the year, the tour's fastest servers will receive cash bonuses from Spalding.

### **BI RAK IT ROLLS ON**

The VCI World Championships featured the largest draw in Bi Rak It with amateurs and the IRT pros playing out of a round of 32. Top ranked Woody Clouse was unable to play but Atlanta winner Aaron Katz looked to be the favorite with Mike Brady the second seed. The surprise came when Drew Kachtik jumped in the draw and beat Brady and took out Katz in a final featuring diving, screaming, and constant action between the two friends.

### **ESPN & VW CREDIT WINNING PAIR**

The ESPN broadcast of the VCI World Championships was a great success in terms of viewer response and ratings and most importantly from ESPN's perspective. ESPN was so happy with the telecast that a second airing was added, and interest has been expressed in a four show series for the coming season. Special thanks to Jerry McKinsis who took 100 hours of action and turned it into a show that gave the viewing public a great opportunity to enjoy racquetball.

### **MINNESOTA JUNIORS GET TIPS**

The Minnesota State Junior team got some last minute tips from the pros before heading to the Junior Olympics. Cliff Swain, Tim Doyle and Ruben Gonzalez all donated their day to help the kids get ready. The IRT is committed to junior

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development and invites anyone who works with a state or club junior program to contact IRT when a stop comes to your city, and we'll arrange a pro appearance and clinic.

### SWAIN #1 WITH WORLD RACQUET SPORTS ASSOCIATION

WRSA, the official rating system of the IRT Tour presented Cliff Swain with a beautiful trophy and a \$5,000 check for finishing as the #1 rated player for the 1992-93 season.

WRSA's Chris Williams and Ken Perkins presented the awards in Minneapolis in conjunction with the VCI World Championships and stayed throughout the tournament to demonstrate the WRSA's smart card system, which allows players to update their ratings in "real time" immediately following each match.



*Amy Wishingrad of Penn congratulates Dave Johnson (left) and Cliff Swain (right) for their finishes in the Penn Glove Bonus Pool.*

### ROBERTS WINS VCI CUP

Andy Roberts not only pulled out a great victory at the VCI World Championships but his win made him the proud owner of the beautiful crystal VCI Cup. The VCI Cup is awarded to the player who performs best in the VCI Challenge Cup Series throughout the season. Roberts is the second winner of the VCI Cup, Tim Doyle was the winner in the inaugural year.

### SWAIN WINS PENN GLOVE POOL

Cliff Swain of Braintree, Massachusetts won the Penn Glove Bonus program, after finishing in the top spot for the 1992-93 season. Dave Johnson of Huntington Beach, California, ranked #8, was the runner-up, followed by Woody Clouse, of Jacksonville, Florida. All three won vacation packages from Penn Racquet Sports.

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# STANDINGS ... STANDINGS ...

## TRANSCOASTAL IRT RANKINGS

1. Andy Roberts, TN ..... 7.45
2. Cliff Swain, SC ..... 7.37
3. Mike Ray, SC ..... 7.02
4. Ruben Gonzalez, NY ..... 6.91
5. Tim Doyle, OR ..... 6.90
6. Jack Newman, IL ..... 6.86
7. Drew Kachtik, TX ..... 6.78
8. Dave Johnson, CA ..... 6.68
9. Bret Harnett, NV ..... 6.58
10. Mike Guidry, TX ..... 6.35
11. Aaron Katz, TX ..... 6.22
12. Dan Obremski, PA ..... 6.16
13. Todd O'Neil, TX ..... 6.09
14. Egan Inoue, HI ..... 6.03
15. Mike Ceresia, Canada ..... 6.02
16. Roger Harripersad, Canada.. 6.00

## 1993-94 TRANSCOASTAL IRT TOUR SCHEDULE

**CHICAGO**  
October 27-31  
Woodfield Racquet Club

**BALTIMORE**  
November 3-7  
VCI Challenge Cup  
Series #2 -- TBA

**RIVERSIDE**  
November 10-14  
Tournament House

**DALLAS**  
December 8-12  
VCI Challenge Cup  
Series #3 -- TBA

**DENVER**  
December 15-19  
Lakewood Athletic Club

**TBA**  
Pro Kennex Event  
January 12-16

**ATLANTA**  
February 2-6  
VCI Challenge Cup  
Series #4 -- TBA

**PITTSBURGH**  
February 16-20  
Racquet Club of  
Pittsburgh

**HOUSTON  
OR SASKATOON**  
March 9-13 -- TBA

**LOS ANGELES**  
VCI Challenge Cup  
Series #5 -- TBA

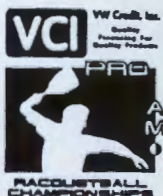
**MEMPHIS**  
March/April 31-3  
Racquet Club of  
Memphis

**LAS VEGAS**  
April 13-17  
Sporting House

**MINNEAPOLIS**  
May 4-8  
VCI Challenge Cup  
Series #6 -- TBA

**SEATTLE**  
May 11-15  
Harbor Square  
Athletic Club

**PORTLAND**  
June 1-5  
Multnomah  
Athletic Club



## VCI CHALLENGE CUP SERIES BONUS POOL

Based on the results  
from VW Credit, Inc.  
events Montreal, Balti-  
more, Atlanta, Los An-  
geles and Minneapolis:

1. Andy Roberts
2. Cliff Swain
3. Ruben Gonzalez
- 4T. Mike Ray
- 4T. Tim Doyle
6. Drew Kachtik
7. Dave Johnson
- 8T. Mike Guidry
- 8T. Bret Harnett

## BI RAK IT STANDINGS

Official IRT Tour  
Cross Training

1. Woody Clouse
2. Aaron Katz
3. Mike Brady
4. Drew Kachtik
- 5T. Mike Ray
- 5T. Vince Kelley
7. Egan Inoue
- 8T. John Ellis
- 8T. Michael Bronfeld
- 10T. Sudsy Monchik
- 10T. Jason Mannino
- 10T. Brad Poppino
- 10T. Torrey Richards

## PENN GLOVE BONUS POOL

Official IRT Tour Glove

1. Cliff Swain
2. Dave Johnson
3. Woody Clouse
4. Mike Ceresia
5. Roger Harripersad
6. Dan Fowler
- 7T. Jason Krikorian
- 7T. Jeff Evans

## HEAD ANATOM BONUS POOL

Official Shoe IRT Tour

1. Mike Ray
2. Dave Johnson
3. Bret Harnett
4. Dan Obremski
5. Mike Ceresia
6. Woody Clouse
- 7T. Dan Fowler
- 7t. Jason Krikorian
- 7T. Scott Liparelli

# WPRA SET FOR NEW SEASON

By Chris Evon

By press time, the kick off tournament for the women's professional 1993-94 season will have been held at the Congress Park Athletic Club in Centerville, Ohio. Club owners Rex and Elaine Fister arranged to bring the WPRA to Congress Park to show their members the best players in the world and to

give the top women players in their area a chance to test their skills against the pros. Look for results of this stop in the next issue.

Jeff Hanno and the staff at the Track and Racquet Club in Syracuse, New York will host their fourth WPRA tour stop November 4-7. Adding to the excitement of singles play will be a pro/am mixed doubles

division. This event pairs up one of the top women pros with a top local male player or a tournament sponsor. The Track and Racquet Club hosts one of the more elite tournaments of the season with spectacular hospitality and television coverage of the finals.

The tour then moves to Philadelphia for the Grand Slam tournament January 13-15 at the High Point Athletic Club and then on to Atlanta for the Pizza Hut Racquetball Challenge. Other tentative sites include Hershey, Pennsylvania; Baltimore, Maryland; Chattanooga, Tennessee; and Los Angeles, California. The season will

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# 1992-93 SEASON STANDINGS ...

|        |           |                           |       |          |                          |
|--------|-----------|---------------------------|-------|----------|--------------------------|
| 2000.0 | 1. ....   | Michelle Gould, ID        | 108.7 | 24T..... | Dee Ferreira-Worth, CA   |
| 1280.0 | 2. ....   | Marci Drexler, CA         | 108.7 | 24T..... | Janell Marriott, RI      |
| 1240.0 | 3. ....   | Malia Bailey, VA          | 108.7 | 24T..... | Kim Russell, GA          |
| 916.7  | 4. ....   | Jackie Paraiso-Gibson, CA | 108.7 | 24T..... | Lauren Sheprow, FL       |
| 860.0  | 5. ....   | Lynne Coburn, MD          | 83.3  | 24T..... | Holly Gray, AZ           |
| 680.0  | 6. ....   | Kaye Kuhfeld, IN          | 83.3  | 28T..... | Kersten Hallander, FL    |
| 547.6  | 7T. ....  | Toni Bevelock, CA         | 83.3  | 28T..... | Sandy Robson, CA         |
| 547.6  | 7T. ....  | Molly O'Brien, PA         | 68.2  | 31. .... | Doreen Metzold, NY       |
| 540.0  | 9. ....   | Chris Evon, CA            | 43.5  | 32T..... | Pat Bornhorst, OH        |
| 510.9  | 10. ....  | Caryn McKinney, GA        | 43.5  | 32T..... | Mary Lyons, FL           |
| 480.0  | 11. ....  | Ellen Crawford, NY        | 43.5  | 32T..... | Josee Moore, NY          |
| 431.8  | 12. ....  | Robin Levine, CA          | 43.5  | 32T..... | Susan Pfahler, FL        |
| 425.0  | 13. ....  | Laura Fenton, NE          | 43.5  | 32T..... | Mary Schoumaker, CA      |
| 400.0  | 14. ....  | Cheryl Gudinas, IL        | 43.5  | 32T..... | Michelle Wiragh, MD      |
| 315.5  | 15. ....  | Robin Whitmire, GA        | 26.0  | 38. .... | Debra Tisinger, CA       |
| 250.0  | 16. ....  | Cindy Doyle, FL           | 20.8  | 39T..... | Babette Bell, FL         |
| 210.2  | 17. ....  | Marcy Lynch, PA           | 20.8  | 39T..... | Nathalie Bernard, CN     |
| 204.5  | 18. ....  | Lorraine Galloway, NY     | 20.8  | 39T..... | Barbara Faulkenberry, CO |
| 172.6  | 19. ....  | Jennifer Risch, TX        | 20.8  | 39T..... | Lisa Hjelm, CA           |
| 166.7  | 20. ....  | Kim Machiran, MO          | 20.8  | 39T..... | Jovi Larson, NY          |
| 160.0  | 21T. .... | Karen Key, CA             | 20.8  | 39T..... | Renee Lockey, CA         |
| 160.0  | 21T. .... | Janet Myers, NC           | 20.8  | 39T..... | Dina Moreland, CA        |
| 156.3  | 23. ....  | Tanya Spangler, CA        | 20.8  | 39T..... | Lori-Jane Powell, CN     |
|        |           |                           | 20.8  | 39T..... | Jen Yokota, MO           |

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conclude with the WPRAs Nationals April 27 - May 1 at the Merritt Athletic Club in Baltimore. The event, through the organization of Molly O'Brien and O'Brien Sports Marketing, showcases the athletes like no other event on the tour. It's one you won't want to miss!

Each WPRAs stop is complimented by a full amateur draw. A free Penn clinic by one of the pros is provided for all participants before the tournament begins. There are also many opportunities for

people to meet and talk with the players throughout the weekend.

The WPRAs has recently added an "entry level" tournament to its tour schedule. These events allow tournament directors and club owners to have most of the top players competing at their club with less financial responsibility. If you are interested in finding out more about what it takes to bring the pros to your area please call Chris Evon at 619/563-6313 or Molly O'Brien at 215/723-7356.



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## OCTOBER

### October 1

Connecticut Open  
Downtown Health & Racquet Club  
New Haven, CT — 203/248-6634

### Pony Express

Charlotte Racquet & Health Club  
Charlotte, NC — 704/521-8048

### Solano Open

Solano Athletic Club  
Fairfield, CA — 707/429-4363

### Special K Racquetball Series #1

Sawmill Athletic Club  
Chesterland, OH — 216/729-8032

### The Warren Open

Racquet Club of Warren  
Warren, NJ — 201/444-0859

### Top Gun Tournament 4-Wall

Indian River Community College  
Ft. Pierce, FL — 407/562-8830

### Virginia State Doubles

Skyline Clubs @ Crystal Gateway  
Arlington, VA — 703/756-8623

### October 2

Minnesota State Doubles  
Hiway 100 North France Club  
Brooklyn Center, MN

### October 8

ARCC Racquetball Tournament  
Mount St. Mary's College  
Emmitsburg, MD — 301/447-5290

### Cool Cucumber

Lakeland YMCA  
Lakeland, FL — 813/644-3528

### Coors Light Series #2

Gene Weiss Racquettime  
Powell, OH — 614/548-4188

### Fall Valley Championships

Merced Sports Club  
Merced, CA — 209/722-3988

### Hurricane Classic

Courts Plus  
Jacksonville, NC — 919/346-3446

### Octoberfest Open

Auburn Courthouse & Athletic Club  
Auburn, CA — 916/885-1964

### Pomona Valley Open

The Claremont Club  
Claremont, CA — 909/625-6791

### 1st Annual Easter Seals Tournament

Racquetpower  
Jacksonville, FL — 904/268-8888

### Regional Doubles

Noblesville Athletic Club  
Noblesville, IN — 317/776-0224

### October 14

Chancellors Fall Classic III  
Chancellors Racquet & Fit.  
Houston, TX — 713/772-9955

### October 15

Apple Open  
Spa Fitness Center  
Watsonville, CA — 408/722-3895

### Atlanta Classic Cars Challenge

Concourse Atlanta Club  
Atlanta, GA — 404/698-2000

### Capital City Open

Fitness USA  
Raleigh, NC — 919/832-5595

### Coors Light Series #3

Heights Health & Racquet Club  
Powell, OH — 614/548-4188

### Fall Classic

Charlotte YMCA  
Charlotte, NC — 704/333-7773

### La Mesa Open

La Mesa Racquetball  
La Mesa, CA — 619/453-3583

### RWFC Fall Racquetball Classic

Riverside Wellness & Fitness  
Midlothian, VA — 804/794-6888

### United Cerebral Palsy Open

Butler Racquet Club  
Butler, PA — 412/285-5775

### Women's Only Tournament

Sportset Syosset  
Syosset, NY — 516/496-3100

### New Jersey State Doubles

Major League Fitness  
Waldwick, NJ — 201/444-0859

### October 16

Juniors Only Classic  
Racquets Four  
Indianapolis, IN — 317/783-5411

### Metro Regional Doubles

Wantaugh Health & Racquet  
Wantaugh, NY — 516/360-0979

### October 20

Ektelon - AARA U.S.  
National Doubles  
City Square Athletic Club  
Phoenix, AZ

### October 22

Cardiology Open Heart Classic  
Summit City Court Club  
Ft. Wayne, IN — 219/485-1671

### Fall Racquetfest at Westridge YMCA

Rocky Mountain, NC  
919/443-9951

### Ghostly Gathering

Parma Courts  
Parma, OH — 216/888-9993

### October Fest

Orlando Fitness & Racquet Club  
Orlando, FL — 407/645-3550

### Thunderbolt Classic

Dan Gamel's  
Fresno, CA — 209/227-8405

### Waycross Open

Waycross Athletic Club  
Cincinnati, OH — 513/742-1700

### October 29

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

### Gastonia Open

Gastonia YMCA  
Gastonia, NC — 704/865-8551

### Halloween Open

Imagine Health, Nutrition & Fitness  
Waterbury, CT

### Indiana Women's Classic

Shelby County Athletic Club  
Shelbyville, IN — 317/897-5481

### Nassau-Suffolk Open

Royal Racquetball Club  
Coram, NY — 516/732-5500

### Spookout Open

Sawmill Athletic Club  
Columbus, OH — 614/889-7698

### The Great Pumpkin Open

Midtown Athletic Club  
Sacramento, CA — 916/441-2977

### October 30

CARA Juniors Tour  
The Tournament House  
Riverside, CA — 909/682-7511

# NATIONAL CALENDAR

## NOVEMBER

### November 3

Baltimore Open & VCI/IRT  
Merritt Athletic Club - Security  
Baltimore, MD — 410/356-4050

### November 5

Down East Classic  
Greenville Athletic Club  
Greenville, NC  
919/756-9175

### Erie Pain Open

Nautilus Plus  
Erie, PA — 814/868-0072

### Falcon Fall Classic

Falcon Complex  
Suwanee, GA — 404/945-8977

### Halloween Shoot-out

The Club at Woodbridge  
Woodbridge, NJ — 908/634-5000

### LA Open Revival

Spectrum Club Santa Monica  
Santa Monica, CA — 310/829-6836

### Open Tournament

Gym Strada  
Virginia Beach, VA — 804/499-9667

### ORA Inter/Single Coors Light #4

Hall of Fame Fitness Center  
Canton, OH — 614/548-4188

### Racquets Four Classic

Racquets Four Sports Center  
Indianapolis, IN — 317/783-5411

### Somerset YMCA Tournament

Somerset Pulaski County YMCA  
Somerset, KY — 606/679-7428

### Special K Racquetball Series #2

Congress Park Athletic Club  
Chesterland, OH — 216/729-8032

### Track & Racquet Fall Classic

Track & Racquet Club  
Fayetteville, NY — 315/446-3141

### World Island Open

Royal Athletic Club  
Burlingame, CA — 405/692-3300

### 4-Wall Outdoor Regional

San Lando Park  
Altamonte Springs, FL  
407/869-5966

### November 11

Bruce Hatfield Memorial Tour.  
Memorial Athletic Club  
Houston, TX — 713/497-7570

### November 12

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

### Hy-Miler Open

Baywinds Athletic Club  
Sandusky, OH — 419/626-6250

### Kernal Classic

The Fitness Barn  
Valparaiso, IN — 219/762-3191

### Marty Hogan Racquetball Classic

Continental Athletic Club  
Powell, OH — 614/548-4188

### Metro Open

Metro Sport Athletic Club  
Durham, NC — 919/286-7529

### Turkey Classic

Modesto Court Room  
Modesto, CA — 209/577-1060

### 14th Annual Kiwanis Club

Sarasota YMCA  
Sarasota, FL

### 17th Annual Long Island Open

Sportset Clubs, Syosset & RVC  
Smithtown, NY — 516/360-0979

### 5th Annual Rich Wagner Splat Shot

Tournament House R/B/F Club  
Riverside, CA — 909/682-7511

### November 19

La Jolla Open  
La Jolla YMCA  
La Jolla, CA — 619/453-3583

### Olive Garden Racquetball Classic

Tri-State Athletic Club  
Evansville, IN — 812/479-3111

### Pennbriar Holiday Classic

The Pennbriar  
Erie, PA — 814/825-8111

### ProKonnex Doubles Series

Fremont Schoebers  
Fremont, CA — 415/968-7970

### The Garden State Open

Westwood R/B & Nautilus Center  
Westwood, NJ — 201/444-0859

### Turkey Open

Nehr @ Enfield  
Enfield, CT — 203/248-6634

### Turkey Shoot

Sports Club of Asheville  
Asheville, NC — 704/252-0222

### 15th Annual Turkey Shoot

Santa Barbara YMCA  
Santa Barbara, CA  
805/687-7727

### ORA State Doubles

Congress Park Athletic Club  
Powell, OH — 614/548-4188

## DECEMBER

### December 2

Holiday Classic  
Southern Athletic Club  
Lilburn, GA — 404/923-5400

### 13th Annual Freezeout

Auburn YMCA  
Auburn, NY — 315/255-1242

### December 3

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

### Holiday Invitational

Mariner Square Athletic Club  
Alameda, CA — 510/523-8011

### Holiday Magic Tourney

Westerville Athletic Club  
Westerville, OH — 614/882-7331

### Lehigh Valley Open

Allentown R/B Club  
Allentown, PA — 215/821-1300

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**DECEMBER 18-22**

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**Jacksonville, Florida**

**1994**

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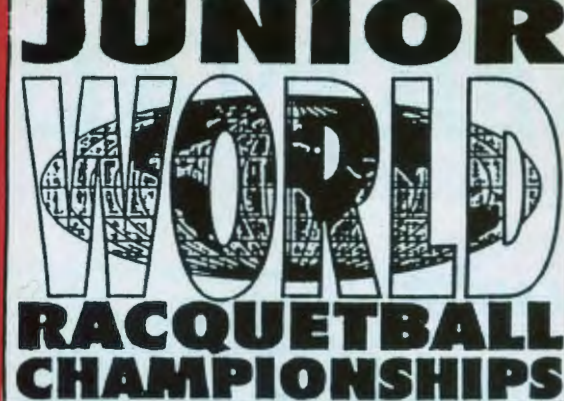
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Country \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Evening) \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Partner's Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I need a doubles partner. National Ranking \_\_\_\_\_

Division in National Championships \_\_\_\_\_ Finish \_\_\_\_\_

Other Seeding Information \_\_\_\_\_

**Entries are limited to two (2) divisions.**

**WAIVER** — I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims that I may have against the IRF, Racquetpower Health & Fitness, event sponsors or their respective agents for any and all injuries. By registering to compete in this event, I consent to be subject to drug testing as administered according to the IRF/USOC guidelines.

Participant Signature & Date \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_ 8- multi-bounce  
\_\_\_\_ 8- regular rules

## GIRLS SINGLES

\_\_\_\_ 18 and under  
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\_\_\_\_ 14 and under  
\_\_\_\_ 12 and under  
\_\_\_\_ 10 and under  
\_\_\_\_ 8- multi-bounce  
\_\_\_\_ 8- regular rules

## BOYS DOUBLES

\_\_\_\_ 18 and under  
\_\_\_\_ 16 and under  
\_\_\_\_ 14 and under  
\_\_\_\_ 12 and under  
\_\_\_\_ 10 and under

## GIRLS DOUBLES

\_\_\_\_ 18 and under  
\_\_\_\_ 16 and under  
\_\_\_\_ 14 and under  
\_\_\_\_ 12 and under  
\_\_\_\_ 10 and under

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

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# PLAYING SMART

## EKTELON'S TOP PROS AND AMATEURS TALK RACQUETBALL

Doubles — it's a whole new ball game! Whether you've competed in doubles for a while, or just thinking about starting, here are some tips from three Team Ektelon defending National Doubles Champions — long-time doubles champion Bill Sell of Huntington Beach, California, and the Jacksonville, Florida team of Mary Lyons and Susan Pfahler.

### WINNING DOUBLES TIPS

*By Bill Sell*

*1992 Ektelon AARA Men's Doubles Champion*

Left-hander Bill Sell began collecting doubles titles with Brian Hawkes, beginning with Tournament of the Americas and national doubles wins in 1988 and an intercollegiate win in 1989. His win at last year's national doubles, with Joel Bonnett, is the most recent in a series of victories. A three-time U.S. Olympic Festival medalist, and impressive singles competitor as well, Bill is undoubtedly one of the best left side doubles players in racquetball today.

#### **Movement**

There is a tremendous amount of movement in doubles. Playing front to back (as opposed to singles, which is usually side to side) you can avoid getting in the way of your partner or your opponents, and you'll always be on your toes as you constantly jockey for position on the court.

If your partner is around the service box, they are responsible for shots left up in the front part of the court, and anything hit down their line. This leaves you roaming around the back part of the court, covering any shots that might get by your partner. Whoever is up front should feel comfortable letting the ball go by, knowing that their back is covered.

#### **Shot Selection**

Wide angle passes, pinches and reverse pinches are staple shots in doubles. The key to shot

selection is dependent upon the team you are playing. Determine the type of players you're competing against, and base your strategy accordingly.

For instance, a doubles team usually consists of one quick and explosive player, and a steady, consistent player. The quick player prefers to play the front, while the partner covers the back court. Hit shots that will reverse your opponents' comfort zones, such as shots that force the quick player to play deep, and shots that force the slower, steady player to come forward.

#### **Finding a Partner**

The key to a good doubles team is to have a broad, all-around game style. Find a partner who complements your game, so that between the two of you, you become one solid team with no weaknesses. If you're the type of player who



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likes to take time to set up, find a partner who's quick and has fast hands. If you love to play in front court where the action is fast and furious, find a partner who is good in deep court with ceiling balls and shots off the back wall. If you are a pure power player, look for a partner with "finesse."

It seems that in every doubles partnership, there is one dominant player on the court — but sometimes that role changes. A good team will make a smooth transition from each player taking the lead position.

## Communication

Verbal communication is essential — yelling "mine" or "yours" during a brisk rally is crucial so that there are no mix-ups as to who will take the shot. But being verbal goes beyond the cues shouted during a rally.

It's also important to talk to your partner between rallies. Keep each other clued in to what's going on with your opponents. If the player on my side is constantly taking position in front of me, my partner needs to know that so he can take advantage of this. If I notice a tendency for an opponent to hit a specific shot off a forehand setup, I will tell my partner so we can be ready for that particular shot. The more information you share with each other, the better you will be as a team.

## Rely on Instinct

Above all, playing doubles requires that you and your partner count on instinct for your best performance. A well-oiled doubles team is wonderful to watch. They move together as one mind, covering shots for each other, seemingly knowing what the other is going to do before it actually happens. This usually occurs when two people have been partners for a long time, but the more you verbally communicate with your partner, the quicker this melding of the minds takes place.

## Practice, practice, practice

The more you get to know how your partner thinks and reacts, the quicker you will become an instinctual team. But keep in mind that doubles racquetball is a whole different ball game — you must practice court positioning, front and back movement, even different shot selection if you're going to win.

---

## HOW TO BE MORE EFFECTIVE IN DOUBLES

*By Mary Lyons and Susan Pfahler  
1992 Ektelon AARA Women's  
Doubles Champions*

Ektelon-sponsored Mary Lyons and Susan Pfahler have competed as a doubles team for over ten years. Their unique style of play has helped them win a number of major racquetball tournaments, including last year's national doubles championships and the 1993 Tournament of the Americas title.



**E**ffective doubles play requires that both players be ...

### **... Willing to communicate**

Partners should be prepared to work at becoming good communicators both on and off the court. Discussing feelings of excitement, anger and dread are as important as discussing pre-match serving and game strategies.

### **... Either an effective Leader or Follower**

Partners must be ready to accept the role of leader and at other times must be prepared to be the listener. Partners must know each other and know when to take the lead and also know when to listen to advice from a more experienced partner.

### **... Motivator**

Players must know their partners and know when and

how to motivate them in difficult situations. If a player can "push the right button," their partners can rise and play up to their potential. Remaining positive in even the most difficult situations is the best way to motivate your partner.

### **... Adaptable**

In some situations, the agreed-upon game plan fails for some reason. Good doubles play requires that both partners be willing to accept that "Plan A" isn't working and develop and implement "Plan B" and "Plan C" if necessary. Partners should discuss alternatives prior to each match and use time outs and breaks between games to quickly discuss and implement changes.

### **... Trusting**

Doubles partners should work to develop a trust between each other so that in a difficult situation the players can trust

that their partner will be there for them, whether it is to retrieve a shot or to help them stay focused and motivated during a match. Partners must trust that they will not be blamed for missing a shot or losing a match. Remember, when you're playing doubles you win as a team and you lose as a team.

### **Serving in Doubles**

Prior to a match, partners should discuss serving strategies. Most players have some weakness and it is often best exploited on the return of serve. An effective serve in doubles can make the difference between winning and losing.

Deciding what to serve is not always simple. Obvious weaknesses should always be targeted, but when entering a match against unknown opponents it is a good idea to begin with a variety of serves —

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mixing drive, lob, half-lob and Z serves — to find out what works best. Once a weakness is found, service variations that play to it can put you ahead of the game.

Starting with a lob serve will answer several questions about your opponents' game. Are they aggressive and short-hop the serve or cut the ball off in the air? An overly aggressive player may be vulnerable to the lure of the half-lob. If an opponent lets the lob go you can see how effective their passes or ceiling balls are. If they let a hard lob serve come off the back wall you can see what they will be likely to do with balls coming off the back walls. Remember that the first few points can be critical in formulating your game plan.

The hard Z serve is a popular doubles serve which can test your opponents' teamwork and footwork. The Z can pin your opponent in the corner, cause the overly aggressive player to rush the shot, and often forces partners to get tangled up and lose confidence in each other. When used as a jam (front wall to side wall, right at the players), it can stop them dead in their tracks, confuse them, and force a low percentage shot.

As most racquetball players have seen, games can be won with a drive serve alone, but in doubles, the drive is not nearly as effective as a pure "point winner." When using the drive serve, it is not advisable to

serve to your partner's side of the court as you will not only be leaving them very vulnerable to being hit but you will also be left to cover a much larger portion of the court than is physically possible or advisable for good doubles play.

Doubles teams must develop an assortment of serves which, when used correctly, will neutralize an opposing team's strengths and reveal their weaknesses. Once a weakness is found, capitalize on it. Serve it over and over again. Slight variations in height, speed and angle can keep an opponent guessing.

### **Positioning and Shot Selection**

Doubles teams usually find themselves facing opponents in one of two basic formations — up and back, or side to side. Your shot selection should vary depending upon which formation you choose for yourself and the one used by your opponents.

### **Side by Side**

When playing against a basic side by side formation, players should use a variety of passes and ceiling balls to move opponents out of center court. This will gain the advantage of center court position where a



left up pinch or kill shot can turn into a high percentage re-kill and point scoring opportunity. Be patient and wait for that high percentage shot.

### **Up and Back**

When playing against a doubles team which is using the less conventional "up and back" formation, ceiling balls and passes which keep the "back" player running from side to side can put the "up" player to sleep, tire out the "back" player and often create confusion between the two. Attempting pinches and splat shots from the back court will play into your opponents' game plan giving the "up" player an easy set up and no matter how tempting, should be avoided. The key to playing the "up and back" team is patience; be selective and accept that there will not be very many short rallies.

Good doubles play can be a lot of fun, so find a good partner and start enjoying yourself!

## MEN

### MEN'S OPEN

1. John Ellis, CA
2. Michael Bronfeld, CA
3. Jimmy Lowe, KY
4. Doug Ganim, OH
5. Todd O'Neil, TX
- 6T. Dan Fowler, MD
- 6T. Dan Llacera, DE
8. Scott Reiff, TN
9. Randy Olson, ME
10. Tim Hansen, FL

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2. Bryan Stanley, TX
3. Eric Harper, FL
4. Scott Grunin, MA
5. Thomas Evans, TX
- 6T. Rick DeCastro, MA
- 6T. Brad Jackson, WA
8. David Munillo, CA
9. Tim Vesevick, IL
10. Peter Appel, NY

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2. Mike Petrin, TN
3. Gabe Gose, NM
4. David Cifelli, ND
5. Vic Horton, MA
6. Walt Charlton, OK
7. Wally Miller, TN
8. Sal Acosta, TX
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9. Todd Haynes, AR
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- 2T. Shef Emani, TX
- 2T. Miguel Figueredo, NC
- 2T. Denny Kupferman, NY
- 2T. Chris Lancaster, AR
- 2T. Ricardo Rivas, FL

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- 1T. Tim Sweeney, IL
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8. David Hunter, TN
9. Matt Fontana, FL
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- 7T. Alan Sheppard, NC
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10. Steve Chapman, FL

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3. Art Johnson, CO
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3. Paul Banales, AZ
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5. Max Fallek, MN
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10. George Sherman, ID

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3. Glenn Melvey, ND
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5. Mal Roberts, FL
6. Tony Duarte, CA
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- 7T. Earl Dixon, IN
9. Amos Rosenbloom, MN
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2. Earl Acuff, NC
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4. Cam Snowberger, PA
5. Fred Rappoport, FL
- 6T. Don Goddard, MT
- 6T. Allen C. Shepherd, MD
- 8T. Bernard Cramer, RI
- 8T. Bob Keough, NJ
- 8T. William Matotan, NM

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- 4T. Fred Felton, TX
- 4T. Andy Trozzi, MA
- 6T. Ed Hagen, AZ
- 6T. Charles Russell, CA
- 8T. George Drake, MN
- 8T. Ralph Greco, FL
- 8T. Sol Kay, NY

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- 2T. Kim Russell, GA
4. Rachel Gellman, NM
5. Lorraine Galloway, NY
- 6T. Lynne Coburn, MD
- 6T. Michelle Gould, ID
- 6T. Tanya Spangler, CA
9. Molly O'Brien, PA
10. Robin Levine, CA

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2. Bridget Barron, TX
3. Claudia Andrade, FL
- 4T. Rita Flamm, IL
- 4T. Jessi Slaughter, SC
6. Helen Thomas, NJ
7. Kim Brady, MA
8. Jessica Rogers, TX
9. Sue Patterson, GA
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3. Karen Green, MI
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6. Pat Harder, CT
7. Mandi McClure, GA
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3. Krista Moyle, NE
- 4T. Nancy Page, FL
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2. Erin Burns, NM
3. Bobbie Ross, NC
4. Virginia Corcoran, MA
- 5T. Jen Mayadas, NY
- 5T. Jean Staley, IN
7. Jana Moore, AR
8. Sharlene Henry, FL
9. Barbara Limehouse, SC
10. Lizzette Bonachea, FL

## WOMEN'S NOVICE

1. Starr Welty, NM
- 2T. Kim Gurnett, MA
- 2T. Camille Hatcher, FL
- 2T. Chris Levitt, NJ
- 2T. Jenn Sulim, NY
6. Rosa Sanchez, NM
7. Rita Flynn, MD
- 8T. Ana Barraza, NM
- 8T. Julie Giuffridi, NY
- 8T. Jane Gray, DE

## WOMEN'S 19+

- 1T. Rachel Gellman, NM
- 1T. Any Kilbane, OH
- 3T. Cheryl Gudinas, IL
- 3T. Tanya Spangler, CA
5. Ellen Crawford, NY
6. Renee Lockey, CA
- 7T. Heather Dunn, MA
- 7T. Lorraine Galloway, NY
9. Diane Gronkiewicz, IN
10. Tracy Watson, TN

## WOMEN'S 25+

1. Lorraine Galloway, NY
2. Rhonda Pannell, TN
3. Megan O'Malley, IL
4. Kersten Hallander, FL
- 5T. Debra Bryant, NC
- 5T. Julie Decker, FL
- 5T. Kelli Peifer, MN
8. Naomi Morgan, TX
9. Tina Churchwell, TN
10. Donna Beldring, NM

## WOMEN'S 30+

1. B.J. Ehrigott, CT
2. Laura Fenton, NE
3. Mary Bickley, PA
4. Janet Tyler, FL
5. Karin Sobotta, OH
- 6T. Peggy Ludwig, OH
- 6T. Tracey Smith, TN
- 6T. Marianne Walsh, UT
9. Mary Lyons, FL
10. Shawn Williams, CO

## WOMEN'S 35+

1. Peggy Ludwig, OH
2. Susan Morgan-Pfahler, FL
3. Val Shewfelt, UT
4. Roz Petronelli, MA
5. Laura Patterson, MI
- 6T. Mary Shaffer, VA
- 6T. Cindy Tilbury, MN

- 8T. Vicki Hillard, TN
- 8T. Linda Moore, NE
10. Laurel Davis, IL

## WOMEN'S 40+

1. Geri Stoffregen, OH
- 2T. Dorothee Buchanan, UT
- 2T. Janell Marriott, RI
4. Willie Grover, GA
5. Janet Myers, NC
- 6T. Julie Jacobson, WI
- 6T. Joanne Pomodoro, MA
8. Shelley Ogden, OH
9. Jean Tull, VA
10. Agatha Falso, FL

## WOMEN'S 45+

1. Agatha Falso, FL
2. Linda Miller, IN
3. Bev Powell, IL
- 4T. June Riggs, TN
- 4T. Kendra Tutsch, WI
- 6T. Betty Gilliland, MI
- 6T. Marjean Kelley, CA
- 6T. Karen Santfilippo, NJ
- 6T. Paula Sperling, NM
- 6T. Geri Stoffregen, OH

## WOMEN'S 50+

- 1T. Mildred Gwinn, NC
- 1T. Sharon Hastings-Welty, OR
3. Sylvia Sawyer, UT
- 4T. Pauline Kelly, IL
- 4T. Jean Tull, VA
- 6T. Jo Kenyon, FL
- 6T. Mary Willerscheidt, MN
8. Nidia Funes, CA
9. Kathy Mueller, MN
10. Nancy Loomis, VA

## WOMEN'S 55+

1. Jo Kenyon, FL
2. Kathy Mueller, MN
3. Joanna Raida, PA
4. Marion Crawford, NY
5. Jean Tull, VA
- 6T. Helen Dunsmoor, ID
- 6T. Mary Walker, CA
8. Susan Embry, CA
9. Marilyn Brandt, LA
10. Cleata Ching, PA

## WOMEN'S 60+

1. Lola Markus, IL
2. Jo Kenyon, FL
3. B.G. Railey, TN
4. Judy Fetherston, NM
5. Mary Low Acuff, NC
6. Phyllis Melvey, ND
- 7T. Reta Haring, WI
- 7T. Mary Jo Kreie, AR
- 7T. Rita Turner, FL
10. Sally Polk, NM

## WOMEN'S 65+

1. Mary Low Acuff, NC
2. Dorothy Vezetinski, WA
3. Phyllis Melvey, ND
4. Joann Jones, CT

## WOMEN'S 70+

1. Mary Low Acuff, NC
- 2T. Pete Jones, CT
- 2T. Eleanor Quackenbush, OR
4. Zelda Friedland, NM

## WOMEN'S 80+

1. Zelda Friedland, NM

## BOYS

### BOYS 8 & UNDER

1. Brandon Shoemaker, OH
- 2T. Jack Huczek, MI
- 2T. Steve Klaiman, TX
4. Jon Hellner, OR
5. Ben Weaver, AL
6. Jim Gooden, TX
- 7T. Ryan James, WI
- 7T. Geoffrey Mora, CA
9. Chris Meyer, OR
10. Evan Honigsfeld, TX

### MULTIBOUNCE

1. Brandon Shoemaker, OH
2. Evan Honigsfeld, TX
- 3T. Steve Klaiman, TX
- 3T. Matthew Schulman, FL
- 5T. Clay Burris, FL
- 5T. Ryan James, WI
- 7T. Jon Hellner, OR
- 7T. Tyler Hollingsworth, OR
- 7T. John Miller, FL
- 7T. Brent Schulenberg, MN

### BOYS 10-

1. Jack Huczek, MI
2. Jim Gooden, TX
3. Shane Vanderson, OH
4. Bart Crawford, OR
- 5T. Paul Heathman, FL
- 5T. Juan Martinez, IL
- 5T. Dan Thompson, WI
- 8T. Adam Marmurek, AL
- 8T. Richie Williamson, OH
10. Adam Taylor, IN

### BOYS 12-

1. Gabe Gose, NM
2. Jeffrey Garner, AL
3. Shane Vanderson, OH
4. Ryan Staten, KS
5. Willie Tilton, CO
6. Brandon Friend, NY
7. Jason Jansen, ND
8. Seth Taylor, IN
- 9T. Justin Carey, NY
- 9T. David Liakos, NE

### BOYS 14-

1. Jed Bhuta, AL
2. Ben Williams, NY
- 3T. Rocky Carson, CA
- 3T. Bucky Freeman, TX
- 3T. Mark Hurst, FL
6. Brent McDade, TN
- 7T. Sam Ryder, WI

- 7T. Willie Tilton, CO
9. Trevor Larson, MN
10. Brit Berkey, IN

## BOYS 16-

1. Eric Storey, UT
2. David Hamilton, OH
3. Erik Ekman, MA
4. Chris Choukalas, AZ
- 5T. Mark Hurst, FL
- 5T. John Stanford, Jr., FL
- 5T. Shane Wood, MA
8. Brian Siegel, NJ
9. Drew McElwee, PA
10. Aaron Granberg, WI

## BOYS 18-

1. Sudsy Monchik, NY
2. Jason Armbricht, NC
3. Jason Mannino, CA
4. Craig Rappaport, PA
5. Toby Lepera, IN
6. James Mulcock
- 7T. David Hamilton, OH
- 7T. Shane Wood, MA
9. Shane Dodge, ID
10. Andy Gross, MN

## GIRLS

### GIRLS 8 & UNDER

1. Molly Law, CO
2. Kim Irons, OR
3. Kimberly Markins, AZ
4. Jeni Fuller, NM
5. Leslie Luna, NM
6. Jesi Fuller, NM
7. Melissa Jones, FL
8. Nicole Stoketee, MI
9. Khara Williams, NM

### MULTIBOUNCE

1. Melissa Jones, FL
2. Kimberly Irons, OH
3. Kimberly Markins, AZ
4. Molly Law, CO
5. Jesi Fuller, NM
- 6T. Leslie Luna, NM
- 6T. Feliciano Moreno, WI
8. Jeni Fuller, NM
9. Suzy Corgiat, CA
10. Ashley Mora, CA

### GIRLS 10-

1. Molly Law, CO
2. Melanie Mueller, CO
3. Rebecca Dolloff, NM
4. Kristen Walsh, UT
5. Kristina Matchett, OR
6. Eve Bateman, PA
- 7T. Kimberly Irons, OH
- 7T. Kimberly Markins, AZ
- 7T. Margo Rainey, AZ
10. Jeni Fuller, NM

### GIRLS 12-

1. Sara Borland, IA
2. Lindsay Sears, IN

3. Brooke Crawford, OR
4. Kristen Walsh, UT
5. Katie Gould, MO
6. Sharon Lacher, MD
- 7T. Brittany Morris, AL
- 7T. Katie Thompson, WI
9. Megan Bals, NE
10. Eve Bateman, PA

## GIRLS 14-

1. Vanessa Tulao, TN
2. Rhonda Rajsich, AZ
- 3T. Melissa Boyd, UT
- 3T. Erin Frost, OR
- 3T. Sadie Gross, MN
- 6T. Debra Derr, FL
- 6T. Katie Gould, MO
9. Bobbie Ross, NC
9. Colleen Maginn, WI
10. Erin Burns, NM

## GIRLS 16-

1. Shannon Feaster, DC
2. Sadie Gross, MN
3. Debra Derr, FL
4. Tammy Brockbank, ID
- 5T. Erin Burns, NM
- 5T. Andrea Luque, GA
- 5T. Karri Rogers, WY
- 8T. Adrienne Bennett, DE
- 8T. Andrea Beugen, MN
- 8T. Melissa Boyd, UT

## GIRLS 18-

1. Kerri Stoffregen, OH
2. Tammy Brockbank, ID
3. Elkova Icenogle, CA
- 4T. Andrea Beugen, MN
- 4T. Jenny Meyer, CO
- 6T. Kristi Hale, NC
- 6T. Stephanie Torrey, MA
- 8T. Mindy Duff, IN
- 8T. Shannon Feaster, DC
- 8T. Rachel Gellman, NM

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### WHEELCHAIR OPEN

1. Chip Parmally, CA
2. Gary Baker, IN
3. David Kiley, CA
4. Les Gorsline, WI
5. Steve Kuketz, MA
6. Audie Kemp, IN
7. Marc Fenn, IN
- 8T. Wayne Dake, WI
- 8T. George Norton, MA
10. Tom Boscoe, MA

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2. Don Parrish, FL

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## **PARI TIP: PLAY THE BALL, NOT YOUR OPPONENT**

*By Fran Davis  
Assistant Coach, U.S.  
National Team*

In the last issue I introduced a very important message about the mental part of the game ... "Don't Sit on a Big Lead!" I discussed in detail how many players jump out to a big lead but eventually end up losing the match. The philosophy I talked about was "Don't change a winning game, only a losing one" and "Don't sit on a big lead — go with what got you there to begin with." Hopefully you have had a chance to put this into practice and have experienced success.

**N**ow let's continue with the topic of mental toughness, which is about 80% of the game, if not more. Today we will address the emotional side of the player.

I just got back from San Antonio, Texas where I was one of the coaches at the U.S. Olympic Festival. What an awesome display of talent under one roof. It was encouraging to see the high level of play match after match from the beginning round robin competition to the final medal rounds.

At the event I had an opportunity to observe the matches closely and to videotape most of them. After extensive review of these tapes, as well as the amateur nationals tapes, professional tapes and personal notes I have accumulated over the years, I have found that

even elite athletes fall victim to becoming too emotionally involved prior to and during their matches, and to getting too temperamental during play. More often than not this behavior negatively affects their play. Most players think this is something only they experience, but that is not true. It happens at all levels of racquetball and, for that matter, in all types of sports. Look at baseball when the pitcher hits the batter with the ball. Look at football when the defensive lineman tackles a player after the whistle blows and the play is dead. How do they react?

It's all around us, but we have to learn to control our emotions. One of the ways I suggest is as the title says, "Play the Ball, Not Your Opponent." The ball is consistent and never changes. It does not have a

personality. It does not talk back. It does not give you dirty looks. On the other hand your opponent will consistently change and possibly cause you to react in either of these ways:

*You look at a draw sheet and say ...*  
... "Oh no. I'm playing so and so or I am playing the #1 seed."

*You see your opponent and say ...*  
... "I hate to play so and so because he cheats."  
... "I hate to play so and so because she is a lefty."  
... "I hate to play so and so because he has an attitude."  
... "I hate to play so and so because I've never beaten her yet."  
... "I just hate to play so and so because he is a dinker."

By reacting to your opponent's attitude, behavior, style, ranking or reputation, or even which hand they use (righty or lefty), you can get too emotionally involved in the match and too temperamental, thus leading you to poor performance.

If you just play the ball and not your opponent you can use your emotions and temperament in a positive, constructive way to win rather than in a negative, destructive way for a loss.

I know it's easier said than done, but like the physical part of this game — it takes practice — lots and lots of practice.

Good luck in taking control of your emotions — it works!

## AMERICA'S MOST WANTED: ZONE #3 — THE LOW ZONE

By Jack Newman

In previous issues we broke down our shot selection process to three different hitting zones. We discussed Zone #2, our passing shot zone, and in the last issue we discussed Zone #1 — our defensive shots. This time around we are going to look at our favorite hitting Zone #3 — the Low Zone.

Unfortunately most of us try to hit low zone shots when the ball is not in a position to hit these shots effectively. The result of going for low zone will be skips when we are not in proper position. Zone #3 shots should be contacted above the ankle, but below the thigh. By hitting the ball in the zone we maximize our balance and control of low zone shots, because we are able to use our legs more.

To properly get the ball to Zone #3 we must work on our

footwork. With good footwork a player can let a higher shot drop lower into Zone #3. A good drill to work on your footwork and practice letting the ball drop to Zone #3 is the "off the back wall" drill. Set yourself up with balls that bounce off the back wall, and shuffle your feet so that you can get the ball to drop into Zone #3. If we work on our footwork during rallies we will become more patient and be able to let the ball drop.

Now we need to discuss the different shots that will be hit from Zone #3. This is killshot time! We must understand that we are not trying to hit perfect rollouts. All players will have a range where their ball will strike the front wall when attempting killshots. Some of our shots will be higher than where we aim, and some shots will be lower than where we aim. If we try hitting perfect rollouts, then the balls that are hit below our target will skip almost 50% of the time. When going for low zone shots we want to hit the front wall so that the ball will bounce twice before the back wall on our down-the-lines and cross courts, and twice before the opposite side wall on our pinch shots. By hitting the ball a little higher on the front wall we eliminate skips, and still might get some rollouts in the process.

In closing it is important that we work on our footwork and

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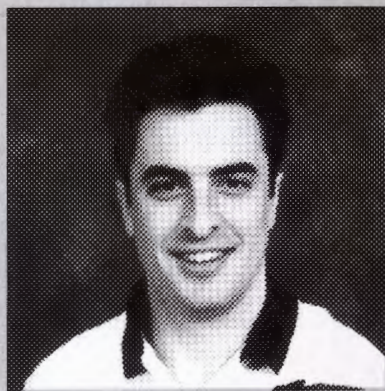
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execution of Zone #3 shots so we can effectively win more rallies. We also need to eliminate skip balls when going for our Zone #3 shots by raising our target on the front wall slightly. To get further information and other strategy tips call 800/ROLLOUT to sign up for a camp in your area.



NEWMAN



PHELPS

## SAQ TRAINING: SPEED TRAINING?

*By Scott Phelps, U.S. National Racquetball Team Speed Coach*

Some people say you can't teach speed — Wrong! Just as you can become stronger by strength training, you can get faster by speed training. By simply shocking the neuromuscular system into firing at its maximum rate of speed, you can raise your top level of speed and quickness.

Here is an illustration. Imagine you are asked to help move two boxes. You go to the first box and pick it up. It is extremely heavy and takes all of your strength to move. You then go back to get the other box. Your body is now remembering what it just went through to move the first box, and is anticipating the same effort for the next. The rate at which your muscles are firing is far more rapid than normal in anticipation of the next load. Unknown to you, the second box is filled with feather pillows. You lift it with such ease that it nearly causes you to lose control.

This is an example of the kind of shock to the system that you need in order to become faster and quicker. Your muscle system is sending you a message — it will only move or act as you prepare it to move. You need to train your body at its maximum rate of speed in order for your muscles to "remember" this higher rate of speed and become accustomed to moving at a new

level. You cannot train at sub-max and expect maximum output during a competition. This is a misconception that has been taught for years.

One point which must be understood when entering into a quickness training program is that it is very different from a conditioning program. Speed training is specifically an anaerobic activity that is done at 100% intensity with a lot of rest in between exercises. The rest is essential to insure maximum performance on each rep and set. For example, if you are trying to improve speed by running sprints of 20 yards, you must allow for full rest and recovery between repetitions or the sprints become conditioning exercises to increase the cardiovascular base. Speed training must remain separate and unique from conditioning if you are to retain the explosive power necessary to become fast.

I recommend using a variety of speed training techniques, including refining proper movement skills, and resisted and assisted training. Refining proper movement skills is important because any wasted motion causes a loss of energy that will eventually be costly in competition. Resistance and assistance are important in helping the body to "remember" more forceful and faster motions. This goes back to the example of the two boxes. There are those who will argue that doing drills with resistance or assistance changes the motor skill and therefore is not a valid method. Although the skill is changed slightly, the neuromuscular activity will transfer as you do what I call contrast training. Contrast training is doing a skill or drill with either resistance or assistance, and then doing the same skill immediately without the device. This will create the increased

neuromuscular activity necessary for application of greater force to the ground, thus giving more speed to the motor skill being taught. Over time, the quicker speed will become the standard rate at which you can move.

Speed training is extremely fun and effective. It does not require a lot of time or equipment, and a program is simple to begin. There are some critics, but I believe that if you give it a try you will find that new doors can be opened to your optimal level of athletic performance. If you have questions, please feel free to call me at 800/255-9930.

## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RACQUETBALL INSTRUCTORS: PROGRAM OUTLINE

*By Connie Martin  
PARI Commissioner*

The primary goal of PARI is to increase the level of competency in teaching and programming racquetball. This goal allows us to provide better service to our members through quality instruction and programs — in turn increasing revenues, enhancing retention and memberships as well as improving the quality of play.

PARI recognition gives instructors the distinction of being a professional in this industry. It is an excellent way to improve and test your knowledge. It identifies you as a knowledgeable instructor, and a valuable resource to your students, colleagues and employer. Passing the exam lets you know you measure up to the best in the business and are well on your way to becoming a top ranked teaching professional.

Membership in PARI requires a commitment of time, energy and money — but the programs and techniques covered in these clinics have been proven to return your investment in one to two months.

### Fees

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Level One/Two & Exam - \$198

For current members, an upgrade exam alone costs \$35 (does not include membership dues). Or if you wish to repeat the entire clinic the fee is \$95, including the exam. Registration fees are due at the national office one week prior to the clinic you are scheduled to attend or you must add the \$25 late fee. You may pay by money order, check or charge card.

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and pen, note pad, ideas to share and 15 business cards.

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## **FALL-WINTER PARI CLINICS**

---

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### **October 7-8**

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### **November 4-5**

Cocoa Court Club  
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### **November 7-8**

Racquetpower  
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### **November 11-12**

Southridge Athletic Club  
Greenfield, Wisconsin

### **November 20-21**

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# TIME CAPSULE: 1983 - 1987

By Rebecca Maxedon

## 1983

The move to permanent headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colorado in late 1982 was hectic and plagued by horrendous weather, but by early 1983 the AARA National office was up and running in close proximity to the United States Olympic Training Center.

The association's new tabloid publication "Racquetball In Review," had begun production in the summer of 1982 and was in full swing. The first issue was sent from the Colorado location in February of 1983.

National Singles were held at the Downtown YMCA in Houston for the first time, where it has returned yearly ever since. Over 750 competitors arrived at the new site and excitement was the order of the tournament.

Dan Ferris of Minnesota was crowned the men's open champion with Cindy Baxter taking the women's honors. While Baxter was well-known as a two-time national champion and winner of the first

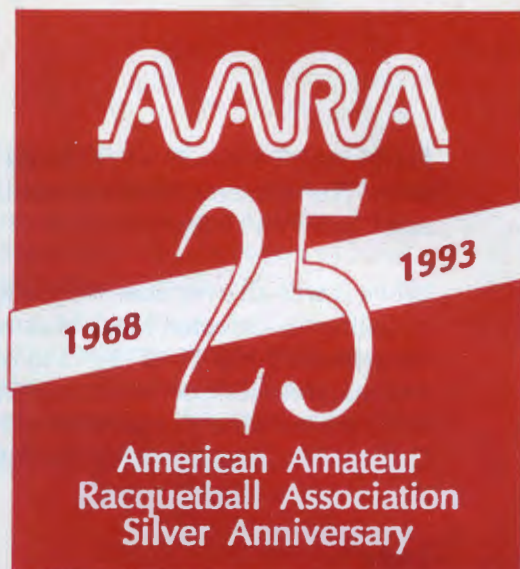
World Games the previous year, Ferris was relatively unknown. In every round that he played (all seven of them) he was the underdog. But at 23 he was a 12 year veteran of the sport and could have been a contender for the title long before he chose to.

Baxter battled Malia Kamahoahoa (now Bailey) in the finals. Baxter should have been defeated prior to the Memorial Day final, simply due to exhaustion. Coming into the tournament, she didn't know

the games would be played to 21 points, plus she was playing (and winning) the newly-added "pre-veteran" 25+ as a second division. But her stamina held out. After swapping games 17-21, 21-10, Baxter came back stronger

than ever in the tiebreaker allowing Kamahoahoa only one point!

Dan Ferris competed against Jim Cascio of New Jersey in the finals and their match also went to a tiebreaker, leaving no room for boredom in the stands!



Their game scores were 21-14, 12-21 and 11-7.

In October the U.S. National Team left familiar borders and traveled to Central America for the first foreign tournament in the history of the team. The U.S. was one of only nine countries competing in the Costa Rican/Pan American Championships held at the Indoor Club in San Jose, Costa Rica. Other countries in attendance included Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala, Colombia, Bolivia, Dominican Republic and Panama. Dan Ferris took first place in men's open play with Cindy Baxter capturing the women's title. The U.S. took overall team laurels, with Costa Rica finishing second and Mexico coming in third.

National Doubles action took place at the Tyrone Racquetball Club of St. Petersburg, Florida. Once the draw sheets were posted, the players and spectators recognized some of the best singles players in the nation. Surprisingly, most were teamed with their closest singles opponents. In men's open Dan



Ferris and Jim Cascio were paired as a doubles team. The women's open had Malia Kamahoaho and Carol Frenck teamed up.

When it was all over Stan Wright and Steve Trent of California defeated Mark Malowitz and Jeff Kwartler of Texas 21-17, 21-13 to retain their national doubles title. Malia and Carol, both of Virginia, defeated Florida's Mary Holroyd and Gail Lauteria (now Troxell) 21-20, 21-12 to earn the women's title.

### 1984

For the first time, rule change proposals were published and the opinions of the membership solicited. As is still procedure today, the rule changes were acted upon by the board at its semi-annual meeting at national singles in May and went into effect September 1. Adopted rule changes included changing the game to 15 points with an 11 point tiebreaker; limiting racquet

length to 20½ inches with head width not to exceed nine inches; making it a foot fault for the server to enter the safety zone prior to the served ball passing the short line and regulating an "out of order" serve in doubles. Other rulings were passed on the return of serve (regarding receiving position); time outs, rest periods, penalty for delay of game, and new age group divisions between 19+ and 70+ were established.

The United States Olympic Committee approved the first Elite Training Camp to be held at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs. "What a tremendous step forward for our young sport," stated Paul Henrickson, then president of the AARA. "I can't think of a more prestigious place to hold the first national training camp."



Camps were held from July 29-August 25 at one week intervals and included adult and junior training sessions.

Dan Ferris retained his men's open national singles crown, but the women's title changed hands. Marci Drexler of North Hollywood, California showed off her overhead and center court kill shots in upsetting defending champion Cindy Baxter.

The AARA referee certification program was established this year, with high hopes. The program was something that players had long been looking for, to ensure that their matches were refereed fairly and consistently by someone knowledgeable about the rules of racquetball.

New faces and titles highlighted the national doubles, held at the Court House Racquetball Club of Boise, Idaho. In men's open competition, victory went to the team of Dan Obremski and Kelvin Vantrease. They beat Andy Roberts and Scott Reid in a tiebreaker that kept the audience of over 200 on the edge of their seats.

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Women's open champions were Diane Bullard (now Green) and Julia Pinnell who played what was called the most exciting and closest match of the tournament against Mary Lyons and Susan Morgan (now Pfahler), who are now the defending champions a decade later.

All players were now competing for berths on the U.S. National Team and the level of play escalated to match the prize.

In November that team participated in its second foreign soil tournament and dominated the American Zone Championships held in Quito, Ecuador.

### 1985

Racquetball was selected as one of 22 sports included in the inaugural Masters Games which would bring together over 10,000 mature athletes for international competition in Toronto, Canada.

Other international events in 1985 saw the U.S. National Team preparing for the World Games in London July 26 - August 4. The U.S. dominated racquetball competition with Andy Roberts and Cindy Baxter bringing home the gold.

Ed Andrews, who finished second at the World Games, had just come off an impressive win at the 1985 national singles where he had defeated Dan Obremski in a tiebreaker of 11-15, 15-7, 11-6.

Cindy Baxter took the women's open title at singles, beating Marci Drexler in two carbon copy games 15-11, 15-11.

Junior racquetball was on the rise and 600 entrants battled for national titles at the Newport Beach Sporting House in California. Emerging from that competition with the top junior honor — a Boys 18 and under singles division title — was current Florida Marlins outfielder Jeff Conine. (See feature article, this issue. -Ed.)

The wild, wild west of Cheyenne, Wyoming played host to the national doubles, where the top seeds were crushed in an exciting upset. The men's open title was up for grabs after Tim

Anthony and Andy Roberts of Tennessee eliminated five-time champions Steve Trent and Stan Wright of California. Roberts and Anthony then defeated Gary Mazaroff and Jack Nolan of New Mexico in the finals 15-12, 15-13.

Women's open competition saw the team of Malia Kamahoahoa of Virginia and Toni Bevelock, then of Tennessee, defeating defending champions Diane Bullard and Julia Pinell 15-13, 15-5.

### 1986

The U.S. National Team was again on the move as they were invited to tour the Far East in Japan and Korea that January.

In March, AARA executive director Luke St. Onge announced that the International Olympic Committee had recognized racquetball for potential inclusion in future Olympic Games — a

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goal that has been a driving force in the organization ever since.

Reigning men's open champion Ed Andrews of California managed to capture his fourth national singles title by defeating challenger Andy Roberts in straight games of 15-12, 15-7. In women's open another four-time champion emerged as Cindy Baxter continued her streak, this time beating Trina Rasmussen of California in two tough games, 15-14, 15-12.

In August the International Amateur Racquetball Federation (IARF) sanctioned the World Championships of Racquetball, which were held at the Orlando Tennis and Racquet Club in Florida. The U.S. Team continued to dominate in international competition with wins in the main open events, but ended up sharing the team crown with Canada.

In his world title run, Egan Inoue took a quarterfinal victory over national singles champion Ed Andrews, 15-9, 15-9, then went against famed Ruben Gonzalez, representing Puerto Rico. In what was called the most exciting match of the championships, Inoue defeated Gonzalez 15-13, 6-15, 15-11. In the final match, also a tiebreaker, Inoue met Canadian Roger Harripersad, and took the win 15-2, 7-15, 15-7.



The women's world title playoff saw two fellow team members squaring off. Reigning women's open titlist Cindy Baxter faced Toni Bevelock in the final game, going to a tiebreaker to win 11-15, 15-11, 15-8.

National doubles competition returned to Florida, taking place at Racquetpower in Jacksonville. Defending champions Andy Roberts and Tim Anthony were knocked off in the semi-finals by soon to be gold medalists Dan Obremski of Pennsylvania and Doug Ganim of Ohio. In the final they met the team of Bill Sell of California and Tim Doyle of New York, who they defeated 15-12, 8-15, 11-9.

New women's champions were also crowned. The team of Trina Rasmussen of Oregon and Mona Mook of California defeated #2 seeded Michelle Gilman (now Gould) and Connie Peterson (now Martin) of Oregon in two straight games 15-11, 15-12.

### 1987

February kicked off the racquetball season with a European Goodwill Tour by the U.S. National Team. The team visited, taught and performed exhibitions in France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, and Spain.

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A changing of the guard occurred at the national singles, where Andy Roberts made it to the final, only to once again suffer the agony of defeat. The finals saw Roberts doing battle with Jim Cascio, who won in straight games of 15-7, 15-11.

In women's open, four-time champion Cindy Baxter was unable to fend off an onslaught of precision pinch shots by Diane Green in the semi-final. Green went the finals after beating Baxter 15-8, 15-9. The Memorial Day final between Diane Green and Kaye Kuhfeld was poetry in motion, however Kuhfeld was no match for the powerful and determined Green. Diane became the women's open champion after defeating Kaye in a two-game match, 15-7, 15-10.

In September a momentous tournament was held in at the Point Club in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The Ektelon/KKTV Pan American Championships featured 15 countries in this hemisphere doing battle for the newly established Pan Am crown.

As joint holders of the world crown, the U.S. and Canada fought for four days to see who would hold the Pan American honors. It was the U.S. all the way. Andy Roberts faced Canadian Sherman Greenfeld in a hard fought, long, sometimes hotly contested match that went to the tiebreaker. Roberts' power and size overcame Greenfeld's speed for the win 14-15, 15-7, 15-3. The women's crown was taken by Kaye Kuhfeld who outdistanced Canadian legend Heather Stupp, beating her in two games, 15-5, 15-10.

Trina Rasmussen and Dot Fischl (now Kelley) took the doubles title by defeating the team of Canada's Carol McFetridge and Sue MacTaggart 15-8, 15-10. Another U.S./Canada match saw the American team of Dan Obremski and Doug Ganim whisk the gold away from Canadians Joe Kirkwood and Paul Shanks in a wild and long 10-15, 15-8, 15-13 match.

The Arizona Athletic Club in Tempe, Arizona hosted the National Doubles Championships with no new surprises or upsets. Defending men's champions Doug Ganim and Dan

Obremski retained their titles, as did their female counterparts, Mona Mook and Trina Rasmussen.

The controversy over mandatory protective eyewear came to an end and a new rule went into effect stating that lensed eyewear would be mandatory equipment for all participants in any AARA sanctioned event.

*Next: Into the present!*

---

## R B : G L O B A L

### EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

On May 26, the national teams of seven European countries gathered at Racquetball Jenfeld in Hamburg, Germany for the 7th European Championships.

A short opening ceremony was held inside Racquetball Jenfeld, where Jürgen Denk, president of the ERF, welcomed all the participants, especially the players from Austria, Greece and Hungary, who were present at the European Championships for the very first time.

### Team Title Rounds

The women's championship was a round-robin event and the men's championships were in two divisions with three teams in each. Cross finals were held on the last day of the team event, following third, fourth, fifth and sixth place play offs.

Before the women's championship started, it was not expected that the defending top three nations, respectively Ireland, Great Britain and the Netherlands, would lose much ground. After the championships, the women of Germany and Belgium had proved this theory wrong. The beauty of all the previews is that the event has to be played first, before drawing any conclusions.

The women of Germany could barely be stopped by the women of Ireland, but experience pulled

them through. For the first time in six attempts, the German women made it to the medal round finals, but a tiebreaker against the German women was just enough for the Irish women to earn the gold and regain their title. Also in medal position for the first time were the Belgian women, who surprised Great Britain and the Netherlands by taking third place.

The men's championship final saw a repeat final. Germany was still fielding the best men's team in Europe and a 3-1 victory over the Irish team was enough to take the gold again. Only the Irish men's doubles team could score for Ireland.

The two losing teams in the cross finals, Belgium and the Netherlands, battled for third place. This time there was an upset for the Netherlands. A 2-2 score and one tiebreaker for Belgium got them the bronze medal for the first time. Austria and Greece were not able to play an important

roles this early in their development. Lack of experience and an early injury for the Greek captain ruined their first appearance in the European Championships entirely.

Adding the results from the women's and men's championships saw another first, the German team winning gold in the combined championships. Ireland came in second and Belgium had its best European Championships ever, earning the bronze for an excellent team performance.

### **Individual Title Rounds**

In the first women's semifinal, reigning champion Bobby Brennan of Ireland met with #4 seed Philomine van Pelt of the Netherlands. Philomine could not stay away from the fierce forehand of Bobby, resulting in a relatively easy two game win for Brennan. In the other semifinal between #2 seed Andrea Gordon of Germany and #3 Marie Duignan of Ireland, Marie could only keep up in the first game and was blown away in the second for a straight game loss.

In her last official match for Ireland, Duignan wanted to win desperately. For the bronze, she stayed in command over Philomine van Pelt in the first game, but lost the second. In the tiebreaker Marie came from behind and her experience did the trick. She barely won her last match in the tiebreaker, but deserved the bronze medal in the end.

In the final, Andrea Gordon was in control in the first game and was relatively calm, but had to work hard to win in straight games. Andrea knew what Bobby was capable of, after playing her in the previous team championships where she had barely won an 11-10 tiebreaker. On game point in the second, Bobby had her chances but failed to pull out the second game — but it still took four match points before Andrea managed to win her first major title, in her first attempt.

In the first men's semifinal, Germany's Joachim Loof advanced past the outsider from Belgium, Erland Schönberger. Joachim took the first game unchallenged, but in the second both players demonstrated excellent shots, amazing saves and

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complete balance to tie up at 14-14. Joachim had two match points, but could not score the required winner. With a little luck and a lot of determination Erland succeeded to win the second game. Apparently he had used up too much energy to win the second game, which finally cost him the match. He only managed to score three points.

In the second semifinal, local crowd favorite Trevor Hayter of Germany went up against Jeroen van der Holst of the Netherlands, but too much confidence on Trevor's part cost him the first game. In the second, van der Holst could not control the fierce hitting and aceing Trevor. The tiebreaker was more a mind game than a racquetball match, with Jeroen controlled the blasting "Egan-style" serve by Trevor much better and having a lot of success with his own, very consistent jam serve. Trevor tried everything, but could not prevent the inevitable and Jeroen eventually toppled him and advanced into the final.

Joachim Loof was in the driver's seat in the final all the way. It seemed that the moral victory by Jeroen over Trevor



## BRONFELD AND GOULD WIN WORLD GAMES

All four of the U.S. National Team members selected to compete in this summer's World Games in the Netherlands ended up facing one another in rematches of their national singles finals. But with international rules in effect, Michael Bronfeld came away with a win over John Ellis in straight games of 15-8, 15-6. Malia Bailey improved her scores against Michelle Gould, but could not upset the champion, losing 15-5, 15-12. In preliminary rounds, the four went up against the finest international athletes from the national teams of Canada, Mexico, Japan, the Netherlands, Ireland, Germany and Great Britain.

had drained all his energy. This was even more visible in the second game. Jeroen was bitter over his lost final, but winning over the favorite made up for it.

Trevor Hayter took revenge for his unexpected semifinal loss and crushed Erland Schönberger for third place.

Both doubles finals were completed in straight games, with the women's championship won by Ireland over the Netherlands. In the men's, the German doubles team beat Ireland.

## COLUMBIA TO HOST VII INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT

The Club Deportivo Cañasgordas in Cali, Columbia will host the 7th International Racquetball tournament on October 29 - November 1. The tournament is being sponsored by the Pan American Racquetball Confederation (PARC) and the Federacquet of Columbia. All South, Central and North American athletes are invited to compete. Additional information may be obtained by calling Ariel Gomez V. at 57-23-313519/22. The entry deadline is October 22.

# tournament circuit

## INTERNATIONAL MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS

By Amos Rosenbloom

For three days in June racquetball was king at the International Masters Racquetball Championships in Vancouver.

As friendship flourished between the players, I was reminded again of what a truly unique atmosphere has been built up over the years and how pleasant it is to enjoy the energy of the tournament. Howard Nott from Los Angeles is already putting the national masters on his calendar for 1994. "It's too great a tournament not to be part of it." The round robin format, the "replay" philosophy, the self refereeing, all allow "winning" to become the frosting on the tournament *not* the most important goal.

Some of the classic matches I witnessed included the come-from-behind victory of Burns and Hiles against Swartz and Adivim in the 60's. Down 14-7, Hiles' serves started to take their toll as cracks and power pulled his team up to 20-20 where serves changed five times before Burns cornered a winner from the back court. (Burns had a personal emergency and Dick Kincade took over for the rest of the tournament.)

Duncan Stockwell vs. Mal Roberts was at 18-17 when Roberts pulled up lame. I left only to return 10 minutes later to watch Roberts hit an overhead wide angle winner from the right rear corner to the front left corner. Stockwell went on to win the division but that game was a classic example of "It's not over, till it's over."

Pat Colombo and Joe Jackman have met often ... maybe too often. Jackman had racked up winners while Colombo had been "killed" by players who no longer were baffled by his "round the world returns." But when the two got on a court together, Colombo's game went up a notch. It was "vintage" Colombo that had Jackman talking to himself — the change of pace on the serve, killing the return, talking to Jackman to spoil his concentration — all had their effect as the gallery applauded one good rally after another. Jackman won 21-19, but Colombo had taken mental energy from this racquetball giant, Jackman, enabling Ray Hunt to take the championship. In Jackman's mind, he had beaten Hunt 21-7 twice before — he wasn't scared enough to get into another dimension of play and Hunt also remembered 7-21 and was mentally prepared. That's racquetball!

Colombo gave Jackman a shoulder hug after the Hunt match saying, "If I knew you were going to lose to Hunt, I wouldn't have let you win our match."

The Japanese team was exceptional with tremendous energy and friendliness. Their playing skills improved by the end of the tournament. The Masao Yoshida and Jackman match started with a serve to the right by Yoshida — winner. Crack serve to the left by Yoshida — winner. Jackman

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missed an overhead — 3-0. Yoshida — kill shot, Yoshida — 4-0. 5-0 on misplay by Jackman. Jackman prevailed but the first five points were a look ahead at what to expect from the Japanese in future competition.

A Columbian player spoke at the banquet and Paul Banales interpreted his warm feeling about being part of the tournament. The cultural diversity between countries provided a glue for this tournament to continue and Canada provided the hospitality.

When the 75 and older players received their medals I cheered for them today and tomorrow. All the future financial planning done by experts isn't worth a lot without health, spirit and energy.

## FINAL STANDINGS

### SINGLES

45+: Ed Remen (USA); Pat Moran (USA); Terry Chong (CAN); Luis Guerrero (USA). 50+: Jerry Davis (USA); Bob Stoyko (USA); Leland Rients (USA); Ken Moore (USA). 55+: Ray Hunt (CAN); Joe Jackman (USA); Jerry Holly (USA); Pat Colombo (USA). 60+: Jay Krevsky (USA); Paul Banales (USA); Dan Llacera (USA); Ronald Thompson (CAN). 65+: Duncan Stockwell (CAN); Tony Duarte (USA); Malcolm Roberts (USA); Jerry Bell (USA). 70+: Earl Acuff (USA); Lake Westphal (USA); Leslie Skelton (USA); Ross Filippone (CAN). 75+: Charles Russell (USA); Jack Fink (USA); Ralph Greco (USA).

### DOUBLES

45+: Remen/Chilcutt (USA); Bracken/Nott (USA); Hvistendahl/Wayne (USA); Rose/Young (USA). 50+: Bracken/Nott (USA); Moran/Guerrero (USA); Hvistendahl/Wayne (USA); Rose/Young (USA). 55+: Williams/Smith (USA); Hunt/Holley (CAN); Penick/Moore (USA); Fuentes/Graff (USA). 60+: Keenan/Weinbert (USA); Llacera/Krevsky (USA); Swartz/Adirim (CAN); Kincade/Hiles (USA). 65+: Carruth/Skanchy (USA); Tobman/Gartiser (USA); Melvey/Rosenbloom (USA); Miller/Roberts (USA). 70+: Larson/Wardell (USA); Acuff/Skelton (USA); Russell/Westphal (USA); Filippone/McConnell (CAN).



*Left to Right: Japanese senior athletes Choshiro Naïto, Hisanaga Matsubara, Interpreter, Masao Yoshida. Photo: Amos Rosenbloom.*

## DEAF NATIONALS

*By Mike Russo*

The West Suburban Association of the Deaf was very happy to host 98 players from 15 states at the Tenth Annual National Racquetball Association of the Deaf (NRAD) Championship in April at The Glass Court in Lombard, Illinois.

In 1984, the first deaf championship event of its kind was held at the Charles Club in Palatine, Illinois with 85 deaf players from across the country. It was very successful and it was exciting to have the tenth tournament back in Illinois. Chairperson Steve Horwich and co-chairs Jim Fleming and Peter Pudela, along with 12 committee members, worked very hard to make the tournament the success that it was.

Vic Peterman of Smithville, Ohio defended his men's open title by beating Joe Valentine of Columbus, Ohio with third place going to Frank McDonough of Dolton, Illinois. Frank has four straight national championship losses to Vic Peterman in semi-final matches. The final match was a great main event with Vic capturing his second straight national championship.

## TOURNAMENT CIRCUIT

Karen Rubenzer of Carpenterville, Illinois won her first women's open title over runner-up Barbara Cassin of Colchester, Connecticut who lost the open final for the third year in a row. Third place went to Mindy Hopper of Rochester, New York.

In the men's B final, a woman took the honors. Jamie Fisher won first place, bombarding runner-up Neil Miller of Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin. Formerly of California, Jamie took second place in men's novice in the 1987 NRAD tournament in Los Angeles, and won the 1989 women's open title, beating Mindy Hopper in Long Island.

In the men's open/A doubles championship Greg Brown of Tucson, Arizona (also a former California champion) and Jamie Fisher defeated Scott Kramer of Irvine, California and Jeff Lubman of Chino Hills, California.

In the men's B/C doubles Martin Shapiro of Menasha, Wisconsin and George Sawall of Oshkosh, Wisconsin defeated Steve Turcsany of Rolling Meadows, Illinois and Steve Murbach of Lombard, Illinois.

In mixed doubles Wayne Delatte of Vancouver, Washington and Lynn Kisner of Pelham Manor, New York defeated Ron Tkachuk and Janet Selvert, both of West Allis, Wisconsin.

At the Saturday night banquet, NRAD president Mike Russo introduced three players who have competed all 10 tournaments — Greg Brown, Steve Horwich and Richard Nell. One older player, 70-year-old Solly Brandt, is still a healthy competitor.

The 11th Annual NRAD Championship will take place April 29-May 1, 1994 in Long Island, New York. A site in southern California will be selected for 1995 and in south Florida for 1996.

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## MIKE "SPIKE" SEKUL PASSES AWAY

Earlier in the year we reported that Mike "Spike" Sekul of Livingston, New Jersey had been seriously injured in an automobile accident. We regret to report Spike lost his long battle to recover. On July 16 Spike suffered a massive heart attack due to a blood clot and passed away.

The following is an excerpt of a letter from Spike's close friend, Chaz Repekta:

"I met Spike when he was 16 years old and already a terror in the open division. I signed him to a contract with Burt Sports and two weeks later he shocked everybody by beating Tim Hansen to win the Long Island Open. Spike would come to dominate this tournament for the next five years in both singles and doubles. A legend on and off the court, Spike

possessed the unique ability to captivate everyone he met.

In November of 1991 he lost a close final to Ruben Gonzalez, 15-13, 15-11. In doubles, he earned many victories over top pros such as Ruben, Cliff Swain, and Woody Clouse. Spike was truly one of the great left side doubles players.

Beyond racquetball, this young man showed unequaled and unparalleled character, along with the courage of ten men. He endured, and won, a year-long battle with cancer, while at the same time winning tournament after tournament.

At 32, I was one of Spike's closest friends. Sudsy Monchik, B.J. Gruber, Jason Mannino and over 500 area racquetball players all tried to ease the pain that Spike's mother suffered, as his passing became the most difficult three days that most of

these young racquetball players have ever experienced.

The void that has been left will never be filled, but I want to let every racquetball player know what this young man stood for. I have given a lot of my last six years to this sport, and I have memories that will never die, but without Spike, racquetball will never be the same in our area."

## JUNIOR ATHLETES OF THE YEAR NAMED

Shane Wood of Auburn, Massachusetts and Tammy Brockbank of Boise, Idaho were named "Junior Athletes of the Year" at the recent U.S. Junior Olympics in Maryland. At that event Wood, who is the current 16 and under singles world champion, reached the quarterfinals of the 18 and under singles division, and took second place in 18 and under doubles with partner Justin

Bell. Brockbank took home the silver medal in Girls 18 and under singles at the event, and is the current U.S. National High School champion. Both athletes were also selected for this year's "Junior Team USA" in team trials held later in the summer.

### **MANNINO SURVIVES AUTO ACCIDENT**

Former Junior Olympic champion Jason Mannino of Staten Island, New York, survived an automobile accident late in the summer, but sustained a broken back and pelvis and will be in recovery for several months. The long-time neighbor and doubles partner of Sudsy Monchik, Mannino and his family were planning a cross-country move to San Diego when the accident occurred. All our best wishes for a speedy recovery go out to Jason.

### **JUNIOR TEAM USA SELECTED**

Sixteen young athletes were selected for "Junior Team USA" following a five-day team trial held at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, August 7-12. Eight girls and eight boys were chosen to represent the U.S. at the upcoming World Junior Championships in Jacksonville, plus will become eligible for international goodwill tours later in the season. Members of "Junior Team USA" are:

Todd Criger ----- (Omaha, Nebraska)  
Shane Dodge ----- (Boise, Idaho)  
David Hamilton ----- (Mansfield, Ohio)  
Sudsy Monchik ----- (Staten Island, New York)  
James Mulcock ----- (Albuquerque, New Mexico)  
Craig Rappaport ----- (Lancaster, Pennsylvania)  
Eric Storey ----- (Provo, Utah)  
Shane Wood ----- (Auburn, Massachusetts)

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### **NEW ADDITION TO GANIM FAMILY**

Former U.S. Team member Doug Ganim and wife Mary Beth became the proud parents of Douglas Joseph Ganim, III on July 13. "Little Doug" weighed in at 7 lbs, 10 oz. and 19½ inches. Although you can't see much of the baby here, mom and dad look thrilled (and a little sleep-deprived?) ... Congratulations!

Photo: Steve Lerner.

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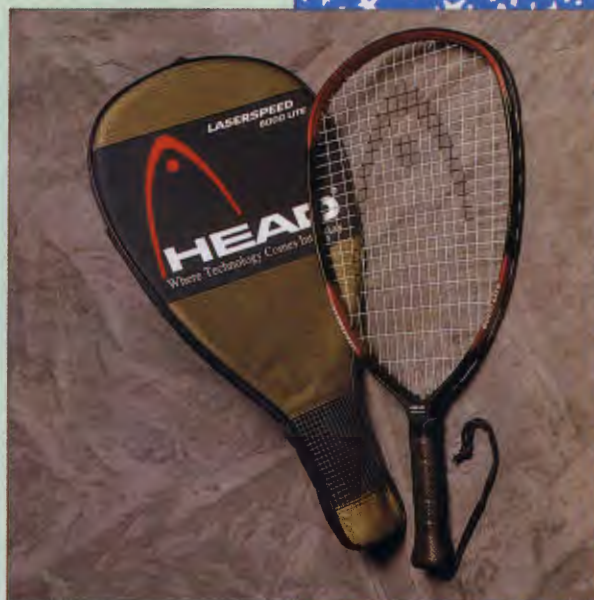
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