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RICHARD J. DALEY
MAYOR

April 22, 1974

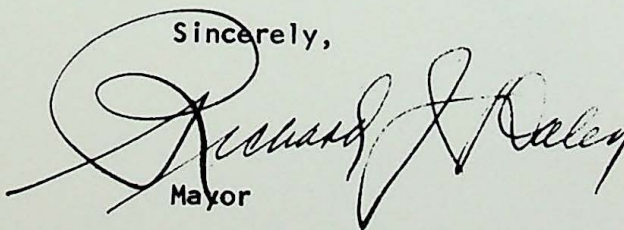
To the Participants and All in Attendance
at the Pro-Am Racquetball Tournament

On behalf of the people of Chicago, I am very
pleased to welcome the National Racquetball Tournament
to our city.

The rapid growth of racquetball in our country
is a tribute to the excitement and interest which this
sport has generated.

You have my best wishes for a successful
tournament and an enjoyable stay in Chicago.

Sincerely,


Mayor



**NATIONAL
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60076

PHONE:
(312) 673-4000

TO PLAYERS, FANS AND SPONSORS:

Welcome to the Chicago Pro-Am Open Racquetball tournament, the first major racquetball event in the Chicago area. I certainly hope that you all enjoy yourselves thoroughly.

If there is anything the National Racquetball Club can do to make your stay more pleasureable, just say the word and we will do our best to accomodate you.

As in all racquetball tournaments there are few eventual winners on the court. But we sincerely hope that you all will feel like winners through the competition, sportsmanship and camaraderie that will highlight this tournament.

Best of luck to you all!

Bob Kendler

Bob Kendler
President



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Chicago Park District

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OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT

April 19, 1974

On behalf of the Chicago Park District, I welcome the players, coaches and officials of the National Racquetball Club to Chicago.

I have been active in competitive sports all of my life, and as General Superintendent of one of the largest recreation-oriented organizations in the nation, I firmly believe that participation in sports, whether amateur or professional, is one of the cornerstones in building a healthy and productive life.

The Chicago Park District invites you to take a look at our many fine recreational facilities while enjoying your stay in our city. I am sure you will appreciate our Chicago Park District motto, "Serving the leisure needs of the world's foremost city."



Edmund L. Kelly

EDMUND L. KELLY
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT



Chicago Park District

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OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT

April 19, 1974

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners of the Chicago Park District, I extend a warm welcome to all the participants in the first National Racquetball Tournament ever held in Chicago.

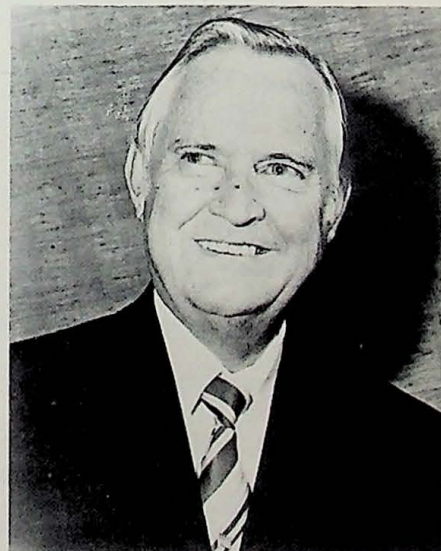
We encourage you to use whatever leisure time you have available during your visit to make use of our many fine recreational facilities located throughout our city.

Our sincere good wishes go out to all the participants in this event. We look forward to a most successful and entertaining tournament.

Sincerely,

Patrick L. O'Malley

PATRICK L. O'MALLEY
PRESIDENT





Jim DiVito, 58-year-old racquetball master, is the founder and director of the Chicago Park District's racquetball program.

A 36 year veteran of the Park District, DiVito came to the Park a year after graduating from American University (since re-named De Paul) where he was a standout athlete accumulating nine letters in football, basketball and baseball.

In 1950 DiVito was elevated from physical instructor to supervisor of Sheridan Park, where he has spent his entire Park District career, a record.

Jim began his court sport life prior to the evolution of racquetball, playing paddleball with a tennis ball on a handball court. He first picked up a racquet in 1967 and two years later finished second in Masters singles at the National Championships. He has added various regional, state and local victories to fill numerous trophy cases.

Four years ago he started the Park District handball program and a year later inaugurated the first Chicago Open racquetball tournament.

"It has been a tremendous thing," says Jim, "and I have been fortunate that all of the Park District people like Ed Kelly and Bill Barbaro have backed up the program with great enthusiasm."

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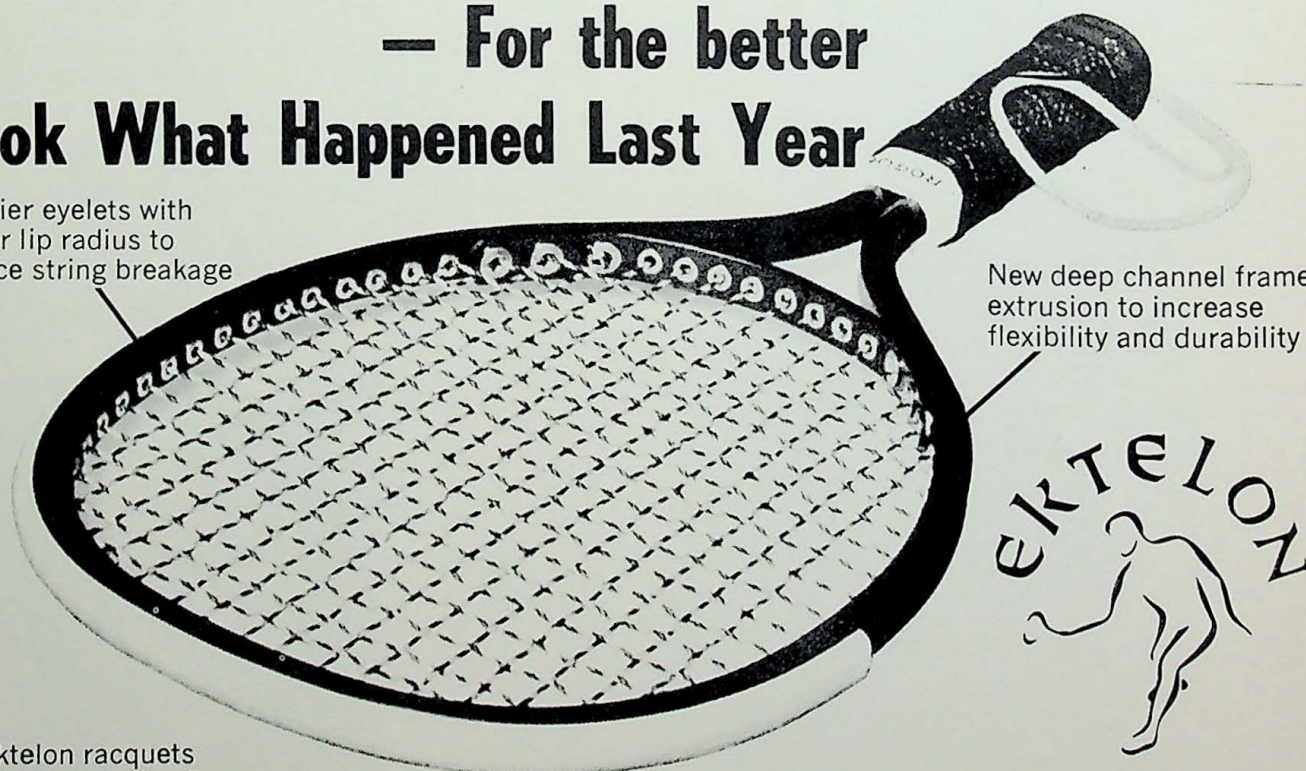
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The National Racquetball Club

The National Racquetball Club (N.R.C.) was formed in April of 1973 by Bob Kendler, after his resignation from the strictly-amateur International Racquetball Association, which he formed in 1968.

The N.R.C. sponsors pro-am tournaments, publishes **NATIONAL RACQUETBALL** magazine, and generally promotes the sport of racquetball on both the professional and amateur levels.

Under contract with the N.R.C. are the 14 best racquetball players in the world, including such stars as Steve Serot, Charlie Brumfield, Steve Keeley and Bill Schmidtke.

The pro-am tournaments sponsored by the N.R.C. enable the average player to match his skills against the pros (if he so wishes) or enter other strictly-amateur brackets to meet players of comparable ability.

"We've tried to offer something for everybody," said Kendler, **"and we think we've succeeded. There has never been any intention to disenfranchise the average player. The N.R.C. represents the pros, sure, but also the amateurs."**

NATIONAL RACQUETBALL, the N.R.C.'s bi-monthly publication, offers instructional material, tournament results and general news about the game and equipment.

The N.R.C. has endorsed as official the Leach racquetball racquets, Seamco green 559 racquetball (developed exclusively for pro-am racquetball play) and Champion racquetball gloves.

"We feel we've aligned ourselves with the most dynamic and forward thinking manufacturers in the game," said Kendler. **"It's been a pleasure working with these companies."**

Serot, Keeley Win First Two N.R.C. Events

HOUSTON

The first N.R.C. tournament was highlighted by Steve Serot's tremendous shooting and the surprising defeat of Charlie Brumfield by Steve Strandemo.

Finals . . . Serot met Bill Schmidtke and the first game went right down to the wire, a 21-20 win for Steve. Schmidtke had held a 20-17 lead and the serve changed hands six times at 20-20 before Serot killed a backhand in the right corner. Schmidtke seemed to be playing very well yet Serot, although winning, did not quite have his usual hot hand.

Game two appeared to be going the route of game one, with the lead changing often and Serot finally gaining the serve with an 11-9 advantage. The youngster then put it all together, as they say, and ran 10 straight points, almost all on booming corner kills or down the line passes, 21-9.

Semi-finals . . . Serot demolished Strandemo, not giving Steve a chance to get his running game going, by killing the ball with uncanny accuracy. Strandemo did his best to slow down the Serot express, time-outs, floor wiping, etc., but to no avail. The games were carbon copies of each other, 21-3, 21-8 for Serot.

On the other side of the draw Schmidtke defeated Steve Keeley in a thrilling three game match, 18-21, 21-14, 21-20. In the first game Keeley let a 10-2 lead vanish and Schmidtke tied the game at 18-all but couldn't get any further. Keeley's game point was an unbelievable overhead, backhand, deep court, cross court corner kill. Schmidtke captured the second game moving from 12-10 to 18-10 before the 21-14 final score. He was never in trouble. Game three was a classic, going 22 innings with nine ties, the last two at 19-all and 20-20. A near-ace to the left was barely returned by Steve and Bill killed the set-up for the match.

Quarter-finals . . . Strandemo shocked the tournament with a brutal three game win over Brumfield, who was hobbled with leg cramps near the end of the second game, and throughout the entire third.

To Strandemo's credit, his great retrieving ability and outstanding conditioning enabled him to keep the ball in play long enough to tire the tourney's top seed. Scores were 17-21, 21-18, 21-13. That Brumfield could score 13 points playing on one leg is itself a marvel.

Serot topped Ron Rubenstein in a battle of shooters, as the youngest pro encountered the oldest. The first game was all Serot, who was taking the first shot and hitting it. Game two was a different story, as Rubenstein moved well to cover and began connecting on his pinch shots. Serot had a lead, tired, but held on for a 21-20 victory.

Schmidtke took a three game win over Mike Zeitman, who won the first game 21-11. After an early second game lead, Schmidtke came on strong, took control and won going away 21-16. The third game saw Zeitman tire badly and Schmidtke took the anticipated advantage for a 21-6 win.

Keeley faced an unexpected opponent in his quarter-final match in young Dan Alder, an upset victor over Charlie Garfinkel in the round of 16. But Steve was too much for Dan, and his overall control contained Dan and the match 21-14, 21-11.

LONG BEACH

The second N.R.C. tournament was highlighted by Keeley's win over Brumfield in the finals and his "revenge" win over Schmidtke in the semi's.

Finals . . . The first game had everybody in shock. To this point Brumfield appeared to be the "Brumfield of old" playing his great control game and taking the good percentage shot when it appeared. But Keeley was too good in this game, holding the hot hand and completely dominating Charlie. His 8-1 and 12-5 leads progressed to a 21-7 win, perhaps the worst single game licking Brumfield has ever had in tournament play. But Charlie came back in the second game. Down 15-8 and seemingly out of it, he took advantage of an avoidable hinder call on

(Continued on next page)

Keeley to an 18-16 lead. Steve tied the game at 18-all, scored two more and lost the serve. Brumfield couldn't score and Keeley won match point on an ace to Charlie's forehand.

Semi-finals . . . Brumfield and Serot had a great match, for two games, with each winning one of them. Charlie took the lead in game one early and although there was great action, was never in trouble for a 21-13 win. In the second game Charlie showed signs of tiring and Steve began hitting some low percentage shots enabling him to get back into the match. As the game wore on, Serot was able to force more Brumfield mistakes and it resulted in a 21-16 win. The third game was disappointing as Brumfield dominated completely in a 21-6 rout.

Keeley and Schmidtke had another of their usual three-gamers, but neither player was "on" his game. Steve won the battle of errors in game one with a 21-15 win, after which Schmidtke commented, "**the way I played he should have given me a donut.**" Game two was reversed, with Keeley erring more and Schmidtke coming out on top 21-13. Finally, in the third game, Steve put together his powerful game and left Bill standing around. His kills were precise and his control at long last regained, accounting for a whopping 21-8 win.

Quarter-finals . . . Keeley had a rough one against Jerry Hilecher before winning with the unusual scores of 13-21, 21-2, 21-16. Jerry's go-for-broke strategy was a winner in the first game, with roll-outs coming forehand and back. Nothing went right for him in game two, however, and Steve's pin-point control dominated. The third game was exciting, but Jerry just didn't have the something extra when needed.

Brumfield had his hands full against Zeitman in this quarter-final match. Mike was playing very strongly, in a match that could have gone either way. But it was Brumfield who got the late points when needed for an entertaining 21-16, 21-18 victory.

Serot again defeated Strandemo, but this time the older Steve gave an excellent account of himself. It was a three-game battle, with Strandemo taking the first game 21-17 and potentially putting himself in another giant killer role. But Serot got hot in the second game, winning 21-9. If Strandemo could have extended the second game he may have won the third. As it was Serot was dead tired but able to hold on for a 21-18 third game win.

Schmidtke battled old nemesis Rubenstein in the other quarter match and Bill had total control of both games scoring 21-13, 21-12 wins. Rubenstein couldn't seem to get the juices flowing, and had trouble adjusting to the glass court. Bill to that point was playing the best racquetball of his career. In a shooter's paradise, it was Schmidtke all the way.

Milwaukee

The third N.R.C. tournament was highlighted by Brumfield's first Pro-Am tour win, Strandemo's upset of Keeley, and standing room only crowds.

Finals . . . Brumfield continued his personal domination over Serot, by beating young Steve for the ninth consecutive time in various tournaments. The match was a well-played three-gamer. The first game was complete overpowering and outcontrol-

ling by Brumfield. Putting every shot just where he wanted it, the goateed San Diegan was never in trouble, running off a devastating 21-8 win. It was the first game Serot had lost in the tourney to this point, and he looked bad doing so.

Game two was completely the opposite, with the amazing Serot turning the tables, playing his shooting and passing game without letting Brumfield play his. The result was a surprising 21-7 Serot victory, setting the stage for the crucial third game.

The fans expected a thriller and it was. With both players trading points early in the game, Serot finally rallied from 9-12 to a 13-12 lead where Brumfield called his third and last official time out. Serot managed another point after the minute's rest for a 14-12 advantage, but Brumfield came back. Utilizing deliberate long serves to re-gain his breath, and then continuing the practice to psychologically upset Serot, Brumfield slowed the match down. And it was enough to capture the victory 21-15.

Semi-finals . . . Brumfield gained some measure of revenge by topping Steve Strandemo, the man who ousted him from the initial N.R.C. tournament in Houston. Charlie was as determined as a player could be, never losing concentration and shooting enough to offset the running game plan of Strandemo. Steve played well and was not out of either game although the scores indicate the Brumfield control.

On the top side of the draw, first seeded Serot was at his best in eliminating Jerry Hilecher. Jerry, in his first visit to the semi's just couldn't get untracked against his St. Louis teammate and succumbed 21-4 in game one before making the second game somewhat of a battle 21-12. Serot was just red-hot in his kill shots and he never cooled off.

Quarter-finals . . . The quarters had one new face, that of Bill Dunn a non-contract pro who eliminated Mike Zeitman in the round of 16. Dunn, for his efforts was rewarded by having to play Serot next and Steve rolled to a relatively routine 21-12, 21-12 victory.

Hilecher then upset the tour's fourth leading money winner, Bill Schmidtke in a thrilling 21-15, 21-17 match. Schmidtke just wasn't playing his normal game and was outshot by Hilecher.

Into the bottom bracket, Brumfield dueled Chicago's Ron Rubenstein. Ruby, the definite underdog gave a great effort in the first game, though losing 21-16. Game two was no contest as Ron ran out of gas and Brumfield kept the pressure on for a 21-7 score.

Strandemo reached the semi's with an upset win over Steve Keeley, 21-10, 21-19.



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THE DRAW

Seedings and match pairings for N.R.C. tournaments are based on results in previous pro-am tourneys. A seeding committee chaired by National Director Chuck Leve, seeds the top player and places him at the top of the draw, then the second ranked player goes at the bottom.

From there, players three and four are chosen, and a coin is flipped, deciding which player goes at the bottom of the top bracket, and which to the top of the bottom bracket.

Players five through eight are then determined based on point standings and their places in the bracket are chosen by luck of the draw. Players nine through 16 are placed in a likewise manner. The remaining 16 slots to a round of 32 are filled by luck of the draw.

The benefits of this manner of draw are twofold. First, the tournament is given balance by separating the top players on opposite sides of the tourney. Secondly, it is fair, by determining opponents by a blind draw.

Current Player Rankings

After three N.R.C. pro-am tournaments, 18-year-old Steve Serot still leads the money rankings, with Charlie Brumfield moving into second place. Complete statistics are below.

Rank	Player	Prize Money
1	Steve Serot	\$3,100
2	Charlie Brumfield	\$2,700
3	Steve Keeley	\$2,300
4	Bill Schmidtke	\$1,800
5	Steve Strandemo	\$1,400
6	Jerry Hilecher	\$850
7	Ron Rubenstein	\$600
8	Mike Zeitman	\$450
9 (Tie)	Bill Dunn	\$250
	Dan Alder	\$250
11	Gordon Kelly	\$200
12 (Tie)	Charlie Garfinkel	\$150
	Charlie Drake	\$150
	Paul Lawrence	\$150
15 (Tie)	Bill Thurman	\$100
	Jim Austin	\$100
	Ken Wong	\$100

The following players have reached the round of 16 once, earning \$50: George Rudysz, Craig McCoy, Trey Sayes, and Tom McKie.



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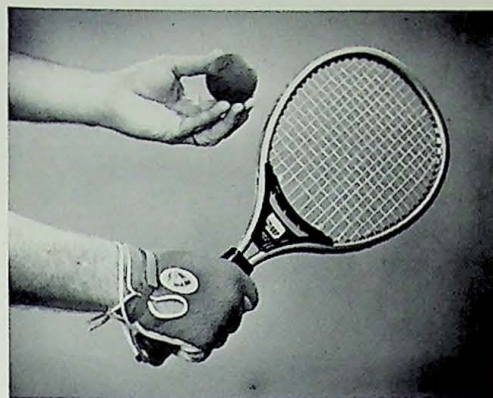
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STEVE SEROT . . . St. Louis

Eighteen-years-old and at the top of the ladder. You can't get much better than young Mr. Serot. This 6'2" southpaw can do amazing things with a racquetball, some of which makes one wonder about the credibility of the matter versus anti-matter physics laws. Hitting a booming forehand and ferocious backhand is just Steve's preamble, for he controls every other necessary skill to be a true champion. Playing with the coolness of a veteran he defeated Schmidtke for the first N.R.C. title in Houston, but lost to Brumfield in the semi-finals in Long Beach. Steve is the only player with enough raw power to totally dominate his opponents. **"I've seen him go for kills,"** says another pro, **"miss the shot, and have it be a winning pass shot. That's how hard he hits the ball."**



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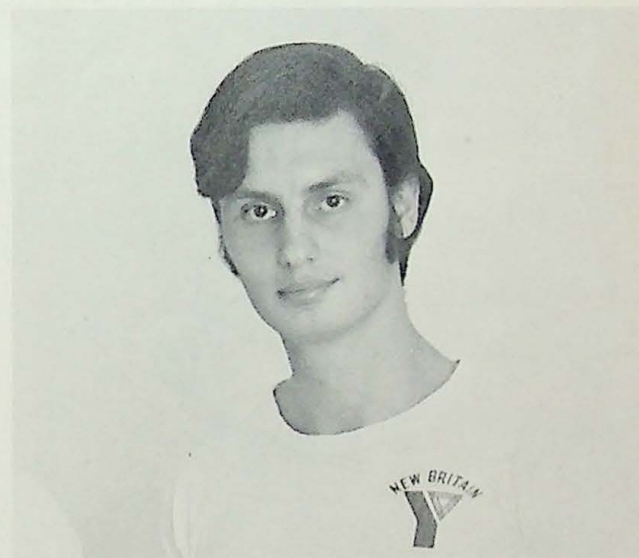
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CHARLIE GARFINKEL . . . Buffalo, New York

The "Big Bird" is 6'6" Charlie Garfinkel, former tennis and squash standout and holder of one of the strangest styles of play of any of the pro players. Loping around the court in a seemingly uncoordinated manner, "The Gar's" elongated reach enables him to reach virtually all shots. When his game is "on" the Gar can shoot the eyes out of the ball, backhand and forehand both. One of the real veterans on the tour at age 34, Charlie presently holds an assistant principalship in the Buffalo school system. Off the court he is well known for his non-stop verbal assault on any and all who will listen.



GEORGE RUDYSZ . . . Largo, Florida

Big George, age 24, formerly from New Britain, Connecticut, brings his power game to the pro-am tour. Recently married, an event that should help settle his sometimes turbulent game, George approaches the tour with a new outlook. Unable to compete in the first pro-am tourney, and disappointing in the second, George has much to prove on the court in 1974. His strength being his most potent weapon, you can count on George to hit the ball as hard, if not harder, than any other player in the game. He is a former (1972) Open Doubles National champion (with Mike Luciw), and two-time Eastern Regional open singles winner.



CHARLIE BRUMFIELD . . . San Diego

The holder of 18 National and International titles has yet to bring home his first N.R.C. championship, but most observers don't feel it will be long before the Brum does so. Owner of the complete racquetball repertoire, Charlie has the shots and knows when to use them. His losses, to Strandemo in Houston and to Keeley in Long Beach, were as hard for him to explain as anybody. Possible lack of conditioning (since remedied) versus Strandemo may have been a factor, but the Keeley loss just saw Charlie not up to his usual game. But you can't knock Brumfield, really, for he has picked up \$1,200 on the tour, and he figures to add greatly to that total.



CHARLIE DRAKE . . . San Diego

As are many of the west coast's top racquetball stars, Charlie Drake is a former Midwesterner and a grad of Michigan State University. Now 29-years-old and living in San Diego, Drake heads the racquetball division of Leach Industries. A doctor of behavioral psychology and teaching professor at the University of San Diego are additional occupations to keep Charlie occupied. Seems like almost too much work to get in any racquetball, but Charlie's fierce competitive drive does not allow him to relax his game. A former paddleball player, Drake has worked hard to meet the daily competition in San Diego.

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KEN WONG . . . St. Louis

Little Ken, the shortest player on the tour at 5'6", has one of the most exciting styles of play there is. A former squash player, this 27-year-old dynamo gives total effort at all times. Ken still shows signs of his squash upbringing, using many side-wall front-wall shots and excellent passing strategy. But that same background has led to the "Wong kill," which in effect is no kill shot at all, being about a foot off the floor. The phrase, taken by Wong in the humorous vein in which it was intended, has come to mean any attempted kill that is left "up." To play Ken is to run, for he takes advantage of his fine conditioning.



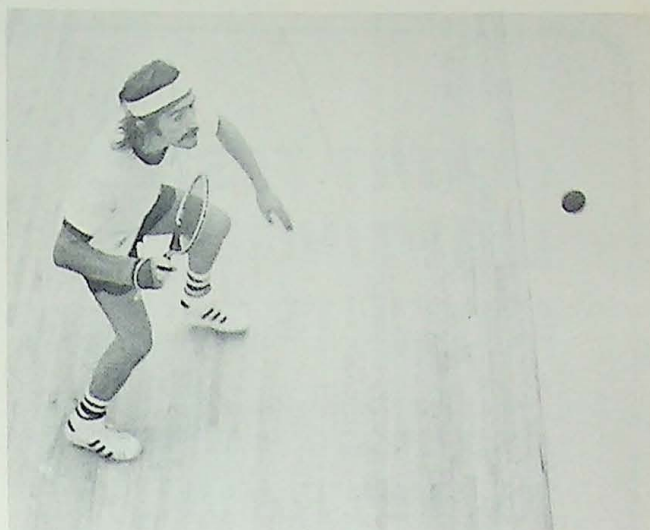
JERRY HILECHER . . . St. Louis

Super-Shooter Jerry is capable of beating anybody at any time. A renowned gambler on the court, Jerry's gutsy style makes for some of the most interesting matches of any tournament. A pure shooter from the very beginning of the match, Jerry has been known to play for a hot streak, — and his opponents play for the opposite cooling off period. A three-game loser to Strandemo in Houston, Jerry came back to reach the quarter-finals in Long Beach, where he lost to eventual winner Keeley, again in three games. Currently a sophomore at the University of Missouri, Jerry is forced to come home on weekends in order to get a good racquetball match, which he does.



JIM AUSTIN . . . Houston

This five time Texas State Open champion has one of the best backhand games on the tour, his backhand actually being more effective than his forehand. An excellent athlete, Jim still is a teaching tennis pro, and manager of the University Club in Houston, which is a combination tennis, handball and racquetball facility. Jim has been able to overcome the forced tennis he must play, plus undersized courts at his home club, two obstacles that would make pro tour competition difficult at best. But the pro competition could be as helpful for Jim as any of the players, since it is top competition that he does not get at home.



STEVE STRANDEMO . . . San Diego-Kenyon, Minnesota

Without doubt Steve is the brightest star on the pro-am tour. Not among the original players to be offered N.R.C. contracts, Steve worked hard on his game, left his native Minnesota for the sunny shores of San Diego, and reached a level of outstanding skill. His strongest suit is conditioning, averaging over seven miles of running daily to get in shape for tournaments. His retrieving ability is second to none, which is why so many players do not relish his competition. "He gets everything," said one opponent. "It seems like you're out there forever against Steve." A big win over Brumfield in Houston has been Steve's highest mark on the tour thus far.



BILL THURMAN . . . Hayward, Cal.

"Wild Bill" Thurman, so named for his off the court antics, has the potential to top any player on the tour at any time. He has all the shots, power, finesse and stamina. Yet, he has not been able yet to "put it all together." Unlucky draws have been a part of Bill's problem, having to face Charlie Brumfield in the second round in Houston, and dropping a tough match to Craig McCoy in the first round at Long Beach. But at age 25, Bill should be just entering his peak period. He and partner Bill Dunn have taken many a doubles title, including a fourth place finish in 1973 Nationals. If Bill is "on" he can give any player on the tour a run for his money.

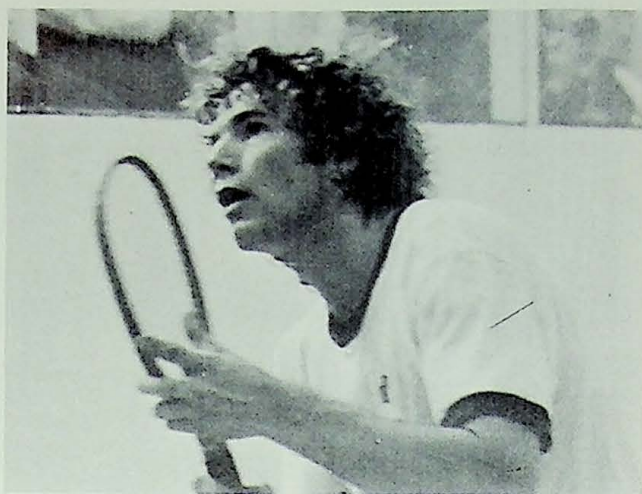
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STEVE KEELEY . . . San Diego

Winner of the second pro-am tournament at Long Beach, California, veterinarian Steve was at the pinnacle of his game doing it, with a strong two-game victory over Charlie Brumfield. With his golden, curly locks flowing through the court, Keeley's combination of shooting and finesse puts him in racquetball's upper echelon. A two-time paddleball national champ (1971, 1973), the strength needed to play paddleball has certainly extended to Steve's racquetball game. A master at the ceiling ball, Steve can also play control racquetball, yet he is better known for his crowd pleasing unusual shots, i.e., backhand overhead deep court corner kills, etc. Whether Steve's choice of shots equals his ability to make them, is questionable, but you can't argue with success.



RON RUBENSTEIN . . . Chicago

The "grand old man" of the tour will be 35 in April, 1974, but you'd hardly know it from his domination of the sport in Illinois. There have been four state tournaments in the Land of Lincoln and Rubenstein has won them all. He has captured the Central Regional championship three times and finished as high as second nationally (1972). Ruby's game is marked by pin-point shooting, with exceptionally effective side-wall front-wall "pinch" shots, both forehand and backhand. A former high school and college basketball and tennis great, Ron has long had the vital eye-hand co-ordination necessary for racquetball.



MIKE ZEITMAN . . . Louisville

Steady improvement has marked Mike's game over the past few years culminating in two solid performances in the N.R.C.'s tournaments. Owner of all the shots and unblemished form, at 25-years-old, Mike can be expected to begin picking up some National tourney wins soon. Two-time Southern Regional champion, and two-time National Doubles champ, Mike has been to the winner's circle before. He lost to Schmidtke in the Houston N.R.C. event, a three-game affair, and then was topped by Brumfield in Long Beach in two close games. He's on the verge of big things in racquetball, and they could be now.

Meet The N.R.C.

ROBERT W. (BOB) KENDLER

Bob Kendler, at age 70 still a dynamo on the court, is the father of all the court sports. Before racquetball was ever imagined, this Milwaukee born real estate giant was wowing the spectators on the handball court. And if you've been following handball or racquetball for a few years, then you know the story of court sport success that has followed Bob.

In 1951, at the urging of his fellow players, and in an attempt to right what were then and still are inconsistencies in the amateur code, Bob formed the U.S. Handball Association. At that time the Amateur Athletic Union (A.A.U.) had total jurisdiction over the sport of handball, but not for long. Within two years, virtually every player of stature had joined the U.S.H.A.

Under Kendler's leadership, the U.S.H.A. grew to a strong and healthy body, the true voice of handball. It's publication **ACE** magazine (since changed to **HANDBALL**) has become the recognized Bible of the sport.

In 1968 Kendler culminated what had been a several year study and monitoring, and formed the International Racquetball Association. As President Bob led the I.R.A. to four and one-half years of unbelievable growth, both in memberships and income. During his term of office, **RACQUETBALL** magazine was born.

Then, in April of 1973 he became disenchanted with some of the policies set down by the I.R.A.'s Board of Directors, policies which he felt were not the natural evolution of the game and that organization. He resigned as I.R.A. President and organized the National Racquetball Club (N.R.C.), in an effort to promote racquetball on both the professional as well as amateur level.

He succeeded in signing the game's foremost 14 players to N.R.C. contracts and began organizing a pro-am tour for the 1973-74 racquetball year. This tournament is one of those pro-am stops.

As President of the N.R.C., and like all N.R.C. personnel, Bob would like to hear your comments about racquetball. You'll see him all over the club this weekend. If something's on your mind about the sport, stop and let him answer your questions.

JOE ARDITO

The newest member of the staff of the National

Racquetball Club is business manager and national commissioner, Joe Ardito. Another "refugee" from handball lore, Joe brings with him limitless court sport experience, in both racquetball and handball.

Joe was on hand at both the Houston and Long Beach N.R.C. tournaments and has played a key role in the growth and success of the pro-am concept. A Chicago native, Joe has been instrumental in organization of the Illinois Handball Association and currently has begun to take an active role in racquetball happenings not only nationally, but locally as well.

As business manager, he has been involved in finding sources of income for the new-born N.R.C. Joe was the key figure behind the endorsement and subsequent contract between the N.R.C. and Champion Glove Company. As National Commissioner he has earned the respect of all the pro players as a fair, but firm enforcer of N.R.C. policies.

CHUCK LEVE

The one man who has ridden herd on the rise of racquetball is Chuck Leve. Signed by Bob Kendler as Executive Secretary of the I.R.A. upon his graduation from college, Chuck quickly assimilated his talents to this babe of a sport.

Racquetball and Leve became synonymous. At his encouragement, and anxious to put to use his journalism degree, **RACQUETBALL** magazine was okayed by Bob Kendler and in November of 1973 it came off the presses. As Executive Secretary of the I.R.A., Leve saw the membership increase 1000 per cent in three years. One could never attend a major tournament without seeing Chuck there, on the job, taking notes, photos, refereeing matches, taping interviews, and quietly seeing to it that each tournament was a total success.

When Bob Kendler left the I.R.A., Chuck was offered the directorship of both organizations and he chose to remain with Kendler and the new N.R.C. Feeling that the future of the sport was in the pro-am concept, Chuck has put all his efforts into making the N.R.C. go.

NATIONAL RACQUETBALL magazine is his creation, and the present format of pro-am play, with a large emphasis on amateurs, is also his brainchild.

As for his playing ability, Chuck says, "I consider my entry fee a donation."



KENDLER



ARDITO



LEVE

CHICAGO PRO-AM OPEN

1500 ft west (downhill)
F-0 ft west

FIDELITY
WILLIAMSON

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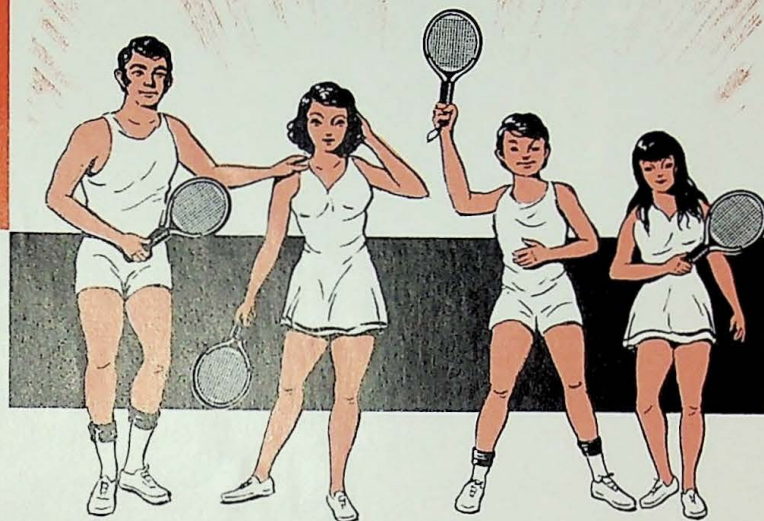
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Our best wishes to the **RACQUETBALLERS...** and to a Successful Pro-Am Tour!

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GREAT "FUN GAME"
FOR ALL AGES...
PROVIDING HEALTH,
EXCITEMENT AND
COMPETITION THE
YEAR 'ROUND!



Families that play together... stay together.

● We may be more optimistic and favorable to the game of Racquetball than any other sport, largely due to the fact many preteen-age boys and girls, as well as their mothers, are enjoying this popular sport . . . a game for all ages with emphasis on the youngsters as our future champions. May they win their laurels in the years to come.

Even though our participation is that of designing and building the finest courts available for professional and amateur competition, (the **F-62-SP Panel Court** and the **DOWELOC® Wood Court**) we are backing the industry 100% by bringing this game to these future champions of Racquetball. Our installations are the answer to every need . . . from practice courts — to courts for private and commercial clubs — to tournament courts and for the "man in business."

We extend congratulations to the National Racquetball Club, Inc., who are forging ahead continuously to make this sport available to people of all ages. We are delighted to be a part and "partner" of this worthwhile project.



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