

KILL SHOT



March/April 1993

\$4.00 U.S.

\$4.50 Canada

Interview:
Cliff Swain

Racquets!

VCI Spreadsheet

Instructionals!

Strandemo

Dynamic Duo

America's Most Wanted

Much More!

BULK RATE
U S POSTAGE
PAID
NASHVILLE TN
PERMIT 777

JIM EASTERLING
321 VILLAGE
LANSING MI 48911

THE GOLIATH



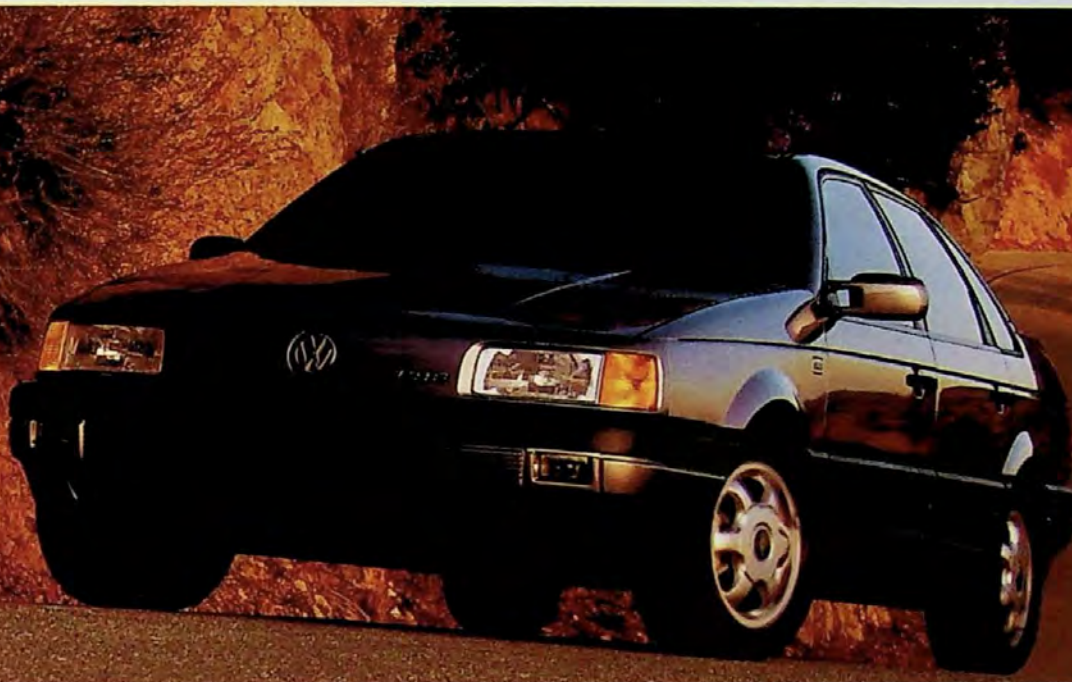
When Spalding teams up with top-ranked pro Mike Ray to design a new racquetball racket, you expect big things. And you get them. Like the new Goliath™ -the largest racket in Spalding's line-up with a full 113sq. in. of hitting surface.

Designed to take the abuse of the pros, the Goliath™ is as durable as it is powerful. With a cross section that tapers on both the sides and front for ultimate stiffness and durability. And backed by a 2-year frame warranty.

The Goliath™. It's one mean giant!

SPALDING
PROFESSIONAL
RACKET SPORTS

Nouveau smart.



The New V6 Passat

A funny thing happened on the way to the 90's.

People came to their senses. Intelligence of all things became more socially acceptable than extravagance.

And things like common sense, honesty and good old-fashioned value were suddenly back in vogue.

In other words, people everywhere started acting, well, just like a Volkswagen.

They started believing that you don't have to show off to stand out.

That a car should cost what a car should cost. Not what a house should cost.

And by no small coincidence, they

began buying the Volkswagen Passat.

A bona fide European touring sedan that asks you not to scale back your expectations, just what you pay for them.

With a heady V6, 172-horsepower engine, electronic traction control and ABS brakes, our Passat GLX is built to massage roads, not egos.

Providing all the driving exhilaration a thinking person could desire along the way.

For details, call 1-800-444-8987. Or visit your Volkswagen retailer.

Where you can discover firsthand that you don't have to be rich to have a driving experience that is.



Experience
Fahrvergnügen

KILLSHOT

March/April 1993
Volume III, Number 2

4 Short Serves

9 Editorial

Where Would Superman be
Without a Payphone?

10 Home Court

12 Interview with Cliff Swain Making the Transition

15 Stranded on Racquetball To Know Where You're Going You Have to Know Where You've Been

17 IRT Tour Seems Like It's Swainin All Over the World

24 Rankings VCI Spreadsheet

26 WPRA Tour Season's Greetings

30 IRT News ESPN: It's Good for All of Us

33 No Strings Attached?

34 Dynamic Duo Cutting Off the Ball

36 America's Most Wanted Racquetball The Ceiling Game: The Forgotten Tool

38 Nutrition Eating for Performance

40 WPRA News Play Ball...Finally!

41 Racquets I Was Framed!

46 Juniors The Future is Now

Cliff Swain's re-emergence on the IRT has shaken up the pro ranks. His talent and abilities have made him a crowd favorite at Pro Stops all across the country. In this candid interview Cliff talks about the tour, old and new, and how it feels to be back in the thick of racquetball battle. **Page 12** Cliff Swain *Making The Transition*



There is an overwhelming multitude of great racquets available today. Lynn Balthazor gives us a company-by-company in-depth look at what is available, strengths and weaknesses, sizes, price range and availability. **Page 41** *I Was Framed!* by Lynn Balthazor

Cover: Cliff Swain
Photographed by: Danny Eckley



The WPRA is back in full swing this season. Their opening tournament in Philadelphia provided lots of excitement and surprises. Marci Drexler proved to be the big winner as her aggressive style served her well. **Page 26** *Season's Greetings*





Not Everything You've Heard About Our Traction Is True.

Ektelon's exclusive Snapper® Rubber outsole is guaranteed to deliver superior traction, for explosive starts and sure stops. So you can plant firmly and drive through the ball. Even on the slickest surfaces. You'll find Snapper on all Ektelon racquetball and indoor court shoes. Footwear that's designed to stand up to anything. Except perhaps gravity. Get Ektelon's new racquetball video "Playing Smart" (a \$19.95 value), free with the purchase of any pair of Ektelon shoes.

EKTELON
The Most Recommended Name In Racquetball
A *prince* Company



SHORT SERVES

Hey, buddy, where's the fire?

No, this is not the new athletic gear sanctioned to defend Cliff Swain's drive serve. So why is this man dressed like a fireman? Because it's Captain Mike Wolfe of the Los Angeles County Fire Department, Station 34. Coming later in the spring is the World Firefighter Games including the Firefighter's Racquetball Tournament.

Last year's event featured 45 sports with over 3,500 competitors from 25 countries. Firefighters, department employees and spouses are allowed to compete. Wonder if they have to wear all that equipment to play?



That's a lot of racquets!

Marty Hogan Racquetball division of Pro Kennex has made a donation of 4000 racquetball racquets to the AARA to benefit the junior racquetball and community outreach programs.

Each of the AARA's state presidents will have access to a portion of the racquet allotment and a supply of protective eyewear and t-shirts, also donated by the San Diego based firm. The merchandise is earmarked to assist in the continuation or development of junior racquetball programs as well as for use by underprivileged youths

"Through this program with the AARA, we hope to underscore our continuing dedication to racquetball and particularly to the younger players who we believe represent the future of the sport," said John Weaver, vice president of Marty Hogan Racquetball division of Pro Kennex.

In addition to the equipment donation, Pro Kennex is working closely with the AARA to develop formats for a variety of programs, tournaments, and clinics that are designed for young racquetball players.

Sudsy Signs

Top Junior racquetball competitor, Sudsy Monchick, 18 has signed a long term contract with Ektelon. The 1992 World Junior Racquetball Champion has captured virtually every junior victory in both singles and doubles. The Staten Island resident first played in 1981, learning from racquetball great Ruben Gonzalez.



Junior National Team Needs You!

Since the travel is expensive and each team member is required to raise a portion of his/her own 1993 summer travel budget, any assistance is welcomed by the elite U.S. Junior National Team (see page 46). In fact to encourage outside help, team members will be providing team shirts and other team sportswear to contributors who participate at various sponsorship levels. To help, contact the AARA in Colorado Springs at (719) 635-5396. What a great way to do something to really help in the growth of the sport!

sizzlers

Who's Hot in Racquetball

Cliff Swain --winning everything in sight

Marci Drexler --big upset in the Philly final against Gould

Andy Roberts --holding fast to #1 Ranking

Michelle Gould -- #1 even with an injury

Ruben Gonzalez --his second win of the season, at age 40

Aaron Katz --consistent early round upsets, big win at **BI RAK IT**

Drew Kachtik --a run of 26 straight points against Andy Roberts in Atlanta

...and returns

"How did you guys get down here, anyway?"

--NBA referee to
Cliff Swain and Tim Doyle during a
game between the Washington
Bullets and Utah Jazz

"I got beat on like a rented mule."

--Tim Sweeney after
a tough loss

"I only went in to ask directions."

--Derek Robinson,
SMSU

All the Right Moves

E-Force

E-Force has moved to new offices in Honolulu. The new address is
E Force Sports
841C Pohukaina Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Pacific Sports Warehouse

Pacific Sports Warehouse has moved to a new location in the San Diego suburb of Santee. The mail order company which used to be known as Frontier Pro Shop now occupies a sales and warehouse facility with nearly triple the floor space of the old site. The new toll-free number is 800-835-1055 and orders will be taken Monday through Saturday.
Pacific Sports Warehouse
10746 Kenney Street
Santee, California 92071

Network Marketing

Network Marketing has been a major supplier to the racquetball industry since 1982 and is the Master Distributor for Tacki-Mac grips, Kleershot eyeguards, Wristlacers, Sport Lavit Dry Grip, Kleer-Vu anti-fogger, Ashaway string, Hex string, and Strokemaxxer.
Network Marketing
205 Axton Court
Roswell, Georgia 30076

Ektelon Wanted "America's Most Wanted"

IRT touring pro Jack Newman, best known for his America's Most Wanted Racquetball Camps throughout the country has signed a long term contract with Ektelon. Terri Graham, player promotions manager with the San Diego based firm announced Newman's affiliation with the company. "Jack Newman is a true promoter of the game of racquetball as well as his sponsors," Graham said. "We're excited -- Jack will be a tremendous asset to Ektelon."



The 29-year old Chicago resident first appeared in the racquetball spotlight when he won the 1981 Junior National Championship. At age 18, he captured the 1982 AARA National Amateur Championship. Using a controlled playing style mixed with power, Newman was attending Memphis State University when he won the 1982 and 1983 National Collegiate Champion titles. He was a member of the first U.S. National Racquetball Team from 1981-1983 and won his first pro stop in Chicago in 1991.



Norm Blum's Passing Shots

Theory #1005

I have always thought part of racquetball's problems in the late '80's was one of public relations. Clubs were going up left and right in the '70's and racquetball was hot. Quite frankly there were too many clubs built so it was no surprise when they started closing at a rapid rate. Somehow the closings were interpreted as a sign that racquetball was on the decline and that did cause some people to put away their racquets. That's why I was glad to see the AARA with a booth at the recent Super Show in Atlanta which attracted thousands of sporting goods manufacturers and buyers.

Comeback ??

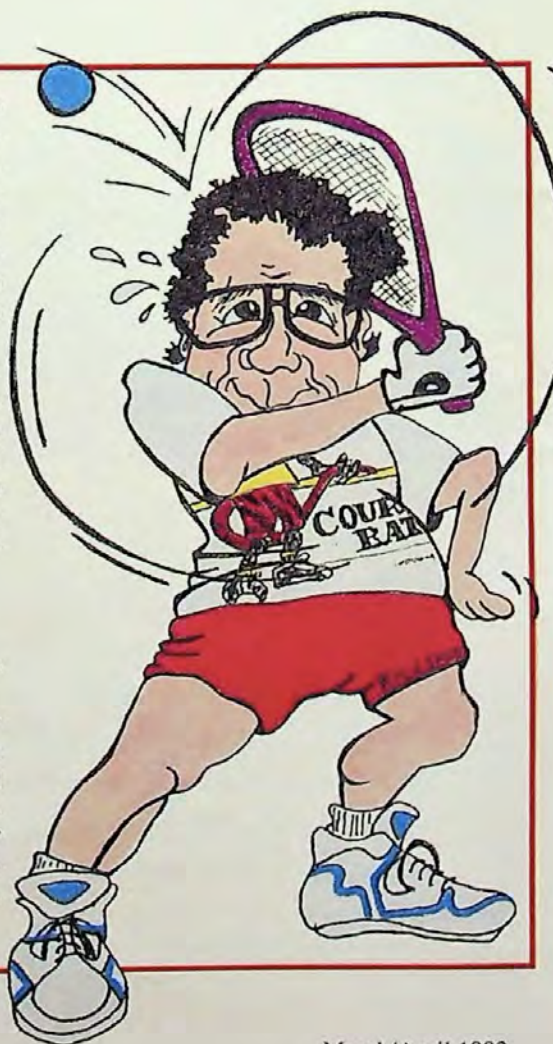
Marty Hogan hasn't exactly been devouring "humble pie" during the first few months of his retirement (?). The flamboyant Hogan, who is tending to his Missouri ranch and promoting Marty

Hogan Racquetball, a division of Pro Kennex, believes he could make a comeback with little effort. "Would I be competitive? Are you kidding me?," Hogan says. "Maybe I'll wait until I'm 40 so I'll be the first national champion to have won in three different decades. If I wanted to come back and dominate again, there's no question I could do it."

Hogan also says today's players lack personality or style and jokingly talks about competing in the age group division of the Ektelon US Nationals. "I'd do it if I was unseeded and met national champ Dave Peck (former professional rival) in the first round of the 30+ and 35+ division."

Potpourri

- The hottest accessory of the '90's will be string.
- You have to admire Cliff Swain for the comeback he's made this year. He took a season off to pursue a tennis career and when it didn't work out returned to racquetball in grand style. Cliff isn't a fan of mine (his lawyer threatened to sue me for one of my one-liners) but you must give him credit.



WANTED!

The
KILL
Family
of Racquetball Strings

ALIVE AND DURABLE!

DuraKill™

**The most
wanted of all
racquetball
strings!**

This villain provides cool, efficient power in combination with the toughest, notch-resistant life in the business. Try it today — it's murder on your opponents!

PowerKill™

**Wanted
by
merciless
power hitters!**

This deadly assassin is designed to provide unrelenting power in every shot of the game. String it up today and eliminate the competition!

SuperKill®

**Wanted by
racquetball
players
everywhere!**

This desperado is known for its tough, yet resilient character at all levels of play. Recommended for any situation where you need to win!

ASHAWAY

24 Laurel Street, Ashaway, RI 02804 • 1 800 556-7260

The only U.S. manufacturer of racket strings



LEWIS W. MULVANEY

NEUMANN®

*"The Tackified™
Racquetball Glove...
improves control
and power."*

Neumann Tackified Racquetball Gloves add a new dimension of skill and confidence to the game. The patented Tackified palm and fingers provide a firm yet relaxed grip on the racquet that can't be matched. No other glove can give the added control and power and get you set for that killshot.

The durability of the Neumann Tackified Racquetball Gloves is unmatched. This glove lasts game after game after game.

Among the several styles of Tackified Racquetball Gloves available, the Gladiator Glove is fast becoming the glove of choice by more and more players. In addition to the Tackified leather palm and fingers, the Gladiator features a patented rugged "Knuckle" protector that helps prevent bruised and injured knuckles when your play gets aggressive.



For better racket control and more power, slip on a Neumann Tackified Racquetball Glove next time you're ready to play. You'll see the difference in your game. And I personally guarantee your satisfaction.



Lewis W. Mulvaney
PRESIDENT AND CEO

NEUMANN® TACKIFIED™ GLOVE CO.
Hoboken, NJ 07030

Our standard is innovation — not imitation.



U.S. PATENT NO. 4,598,429 — No. 4,689,832

KILLSHOT

Editorial Director
Steve Quertermous

Managing Editor
Marvin Quertermous

Fitness Editor
Dan Obremski

Nutrition Editor
Marcy Lynch

Photographic Consultant
Charlie Palek

Regular Contributors

Lynn Adams
Lynn Balthazor
Norm Blum
Mike Ceresia
Jan Chayt
Fran Davis
Chris Evon
Dee Ferreira-Worth
Alan Golombek
Stu Hastings
Mark Henry
Aaron Katz
Ralph Kusche
Hank Marcus
Jack Newman
Gregg Peck
Steve Strandemo

KILLSHOT is published five times a year by Quertermous and Quertermous, Inc. P.O. Box 8036, Paducah, Kentucky 42002-8036. Offices are located at 2212 Kentucky Avenue, Paducah, Kentucky 42003.

Subscriptions in the U.S. and possessions are \$18.94 for one year, \$32.00 for two years; Canadian subscriptions are \$28.94 for one year; South American subscriptions are \$41.95 for one year; European subscriptions are \$56.95 for one year; Asian subscriptions are \$66.95 for one year. (Foreign subscriptions are due in U.S. funds) Back issues are available on selected issues.

Third-class postage paid at Nashville, Tennessee. Printed in March, 1993 (Volume 3, Number 2).

©1993 Quertermous and Quertermous, Incorporated. All rights reserved

Where Would Superman Be Without Pay Phones?

It's the little things in life that are sometimes the most important. It's usually those same little things that we take for granted or generally ignore that we find out later had an immeasurable value.

It's like that guy, Clark Kent. I'm sure he thought a lot about how lucky he was, able to leap tall buildings and all. But, do you suppose he ever stopped to consider just where he'd be without all those pay phones scattered across Metropolis? It helped that those folks around him were a little slow on the uptake and never figured out that the guy behind the glasses was the same one in the blue tights. You can be sure,

though, in this day of cellular phones and open phone cubicles, old Clark couldn't have made such a smooth slide from mild mannered reporter to caped super hero.

We all tend to ignore things until they're gone. I guess the whole point of this is to remind ourselves not to do it with television coverage of racquetball. We should not only watch those events currently being televised, we should let the cable networks know how important they are to us. You can start with your local cable operator or go all the way to the national networks but your voice is important.

While I'm on my soapbox I want to

remind you to send us information about your local tournaments, leagues, and events. Home Court is waiting to provide space to cover your happenings. I also want to remind you that the next issue will be the combined Summer issue, mailing in June. It's a special Instructional Issue with great tips and interviews on ways to improve your game, from the basic beginning learner to the experienced advanced tournament competitor.

Now, if you'll excuse me, I have to remove my glasses while I make a quick phone call...

--S.

LEADING THE GAME IN TOP QUALITY AND LOW PRICES

RACQUETBALL RACQUETS

Pro Kennex	
Asymmetric SO	159.99
Graphite ASM 31	139.99
Ovation SO	109.99
Extreme SO	89.99

Ektelon	
Eminence	209.99
Strobe	169.99
Xiter	159.99
Strion	129.99
Desori	99.99
Elantra	79.99
Optima	59.99
Lexis	49.99
Aris Midplus	149.99

Estca	
Obremski	189.99
Pirotech	149.99

Transition	
Bad Influence	249.99
Phase 2	199.99
Phase 1 Ultra Lite	179.99

Spalding	
Graphite Goliath	139.99
Graphite Assault	109.99

Wilson	
Hammer 2.7	CALL
Hammer 4.0	CALL

Head	
Colossus 3000	139.99
Colossus 2000	89.99
Laserspeed 3000	139.99
Laserspeed 1000	54.99

RACQUET STRING

Gosen OG-Sheep 16 or 17 Gauge	5.99
Ashaway Superkill II 16 Gauge	5.99
Prince Synthetic 16 or 17 Gauge	5.99
Ektelon Mag-Lite 15L Gauge	5.99
Ektelon Mirada 16 Gauge	6.99
Gamma Marathon 15L Gauge	11.99

ACCESSORIES

Ektelon Rubber Grip	5.99
Ektelon Cushion Response Grip	3.99
Tacki-Mac Grip	4.99
Ektelon V-Damp	3.50
Gamma Shockbuster	2.99
Wrist Lacer	2.99
Racquetballs	2.25
Thorlo Mens TX 13	5.50
Thorlo Ladies TC 11	5.50

EYEWEAR

Ektelon Interceptor	24.99
Ektelon Argus	23.99
Ektelon Prism	19.99
Ektelon Legion	16.99
Leader Dallas	19.99
Leader New Yorker	17.99
Hogan Pro	21.99
Action Eyes	22.99

CLOTHING

Ektelon Warm-Up	69.99
Ektelon Short	15.99
Ektelon T-Shirt	12.99
Hogan T-Shirt	13.99

SHOES

Ektelon	
Voltus	69.99
Nirvana	49.99
Indoor Court 3/4	45.99
Indoor Court Low	39.99
Stylus Mns/Ldys	35.99

Mizuno	
CT Supreme High Mns/Ldys	59.99
CT Select Low Mns/Ldys	37.99

Prince	
Court Sport	37.99
Pro Court	29.99

GLOVES

Ektelon Performer Tackified	13.99
Ektelon Classic Cabretta	11.99
Ektelon All Pro Cabretta	9.99
Ektelon Mentor Synthetic	8.99
Ektelon Controller Goatskin	7.99
Pro Kennex Dominator Pittard Cabretta	14.99
Pro Kennex Vision Cabretta	9.99
Pro Kennex Tribute Goatskin	8.99
Pro Kennex Reactor Synthetic	7.99
Penn Tournament Tackified	11.99
Penn Tournament Select Cabretta	9.99
Penn Tournament Synthetic	8.99
Neumann Pro Dyna-Tac (Pro Duratac)	11.99
Neumann Dyna-Tac (Red Duratac)	9.99
Champion 641 Cabretta	9.99

BAGS

Ektelon	
Tournament	44.99
Sport Courier	37.99
RTS Express	29.99

Pro Kennex	
Nitro Pro Travel	44.99
Infinity Pro	37.99
Infinity Weekender	29.99

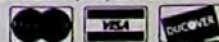
WE'VE MOVED!
NEW TOLL-FREE #
800-835-1055

24-Hour Fax line: 619-596-2140
HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 8 am - 5 pm PST
Sat. 10 am - 3 pm PST

CALL and use your VISA, MASTERCARD, or DISCOVER. By mail, send MONEY ORDER, no personal checks. ADD \$4.50 FOR U.P.S. shipping and insurance. 2nd day air, add \$4.00. C.O.D. add \$4.50. AK, HI, \$12.00. A.P.O., F.P.O., \$9.00. CA residents add 7 1/4% sales tax. Min. order \$15.00. Prices effective 2/15/93. Subject to change without notice.

PACIFIC SPORTS WAREHOUSE

Formerly FRONTIER PRO SHOP 10746 Kenney Street, Santee, CA 92071 (619) 596-2135



HOME COURT

news from the hood

Below: Allan Seitelman, Ellen Crawford, and Spalding's Sharlene Sones Below Left: Eric Muller and Jason Mannino.



Long Island Open

The 16th Annual Long Island Open sponsored by Lite Beer from Miller, Spalding Professional Racket Sports, and Penn continued to be one of the premiere events in the country, drawing 890 entries from fifteen states to the Sportset Clubs in Syosset and Rockville Centre this past fall. This tournament is unique in that it caters to both the world class player as well as the beginner. Every player is treated with the same respect and consideration. Players of all skill levels, from beginner to National Champ, and ages eight to 73, provided fierce competition in 46 categories. For over 20% of the players this was their first tournament.



Putting on such an enormous event is a monumental task and the crew responsible for the success of the LIO volunteered countless hours. Allan Seitelman, Bob Supple, Ernie Fraas, Mike Jones, Regina Ochwat, Jim Mortimer, Rosemarie and J.J. Seitelman, Neil Barsky, Ruth and Jack Seitelman, Elvira Lovaglio, and Tom Adams all deserve a pat on the back.

Winners included Eric Muller, Ellen Crawford, Jeff Kerman, Johnny Rodrigues, Bill Kelly, Megan O'Malley, Jeff Riehl, Ed Garebedian Bill Wolfe, Charles Garfinkel, Don Costleigh, Walter Shur, Scott Fisher, Dan Gottlieb, Ben Williams, and Tony Puggioni.

Wanna Be in HOME COURT?

Send us your tournament news, program specifics or league information to be included in HOME COURT. Enclose a couple of photos and we'll try to get those in too. We can't guarantee all submissions will be printed. All submissions become our property (in other words, we just aren't sending stuff back) and the same goes for the photos. Send to:

**HOME COURT
KILLSHOT**

P.O. Box 8036

Paducah Kentucky 42002-8036

Florida Racquetball Association Newsletter Honored

The Florida Racquetball Association was awarded first place in a Newsletter of the Year contest co-sponsored by Penn and the AARA. The bi-monthly publication won against five other state newsletters produced with the same frequency. The publications were evaluated on the basis of design, content, and overall appeal to racquetball players. Other finalists in order of finish were Hoosier Racquetball, Illinois, Washington, Minnesota, and North Dakota.

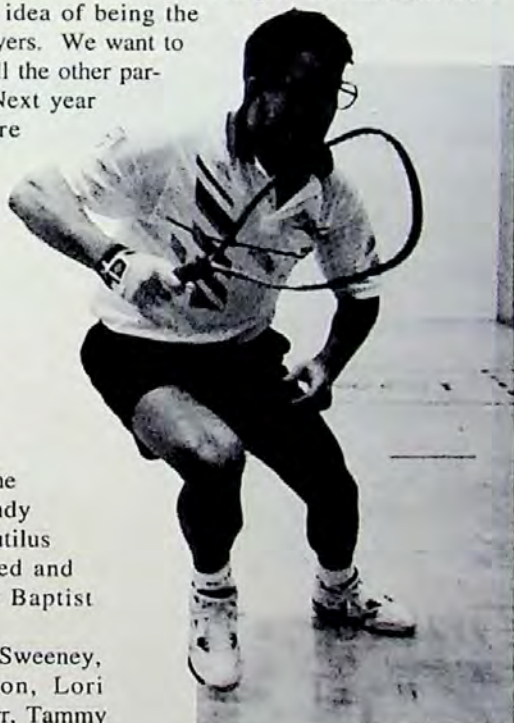
Mid America Invitational

Every year Paducah, Kentucky's Nautilus Racquet and Swim Club hosts what has become one of the best known and best liked tournaments around. Originally the event was called an invitational because of its past invited guest participants such as Mike Ray, Andy Roberts, and Mike Ceresia. Now the headliners are the top intercollegiate players from current World Champions, South West Missouri State, and former champions, Memphis State. Centrally located to both schools, the location and timing of the event have made it a natural for some early preparation for the World Intercollegiate each spring. According to club administrator Darrell Champion, "We like the idea of being the proving ground for the college players. We want to see them get more attention, and all the other participants like having them here. Next year we would like to see even more schools participate."

The Paducah event has become well known for its constant supply of food, and for its tournament shirts as well. In fact, Mid America shirts, supplied by Hultman Sign and Screen Printing, are consistently among the highest valued by shirt traders and collectors.

The tournament directors for the Mid America Invitational are Sandy Trail and Nancy Rucks. The Nautilus Racquet and Swim Club is owned and operated by Paducah's Western Baptist Hospital.

1993 winners included: Tim Sweeney, Carrie Healey, Bruce Fulkerson, Lori Sherman, Jason Gardner, Ron Marr, Tammy Hancock, Lou Zimmerman, Tripp Duperrieu, Tom Pappas, and Jerry Anderson



1-800-243-5033

RACQUETBALL RACQUETS

HEAD

Excalibur OS	121.00
Elite OS	98.00
Elektra OS	67.00
Colossus 3000	155.00
Colossus 2000	98.00
Colossus 1000	68.00
Blitz	34.00
Demon	21.50
Laserspeed 3000	123.00
Laserspeed 1000	58.00

EKTELON

Eminence OS	230.00
Elantra OS	76.00
Centron OS	36.00
Strobe OS	179.00
Strion OS	130.00
Serex OS	80.00
Lexis OS	46.00
Axcel OS	26.00
Dynax OS	20.00
Compra MS	73.00
Tersus MS	46.00
Integra MS	33.00
Protege MS	23.00
Vicor MS	17.00
Trinity MS	49.00

PRO KENEX

MH Shadow 31	105.00
MH 60 31	72.00
MH Graphite Comp	60.00
MH Micro Shadow	99.00
MH Micro Ceramic	90.00
MH Graphite ASM 31	150.00
Graphite Presence 31	130.00
Composite Presence 31	90.00
MH Graphite Infinity 31	105.00
MH Graphite Solution 31	69.00
Graphite Innovator 31	57.00
Composite Innovator 31	44.00
MH Graphite Tribute 100	39.00
MH Graphite Tribute 31	37.00
MH Vanguard 100	33.00
MH Vanguard 31	29.00
MH Asymmetric S/O	160.00
MH Composite ASM 31	110.00
MH Ovalion S/O	95.00
MH Extreme S/O	76.00

SPALDING

Goliath	142.00
New Assault Graphite	112.00
Goliath Comp	83.00
Killshot 102	32.00
Power Assault 103	27.00

STRING

Ashaway Superkill I	4.80
Ashaway Durakill	6.80
Ashaway Powerkill	6.80
Gamma Pro Racquetball	10.00
NRC Nylon Racquetball	1.85
Toa Leoina 88	2.45
Toa Graphite Leoina 88	3.30

Call For

Quantity Discounts!

EYEGUARDS

EKTELON

Neo-Tech	13.50
Sentry	13.75
Argus	24.50
Interceptor	26.00
Prism	18.50
Olympus	28.00
Centurion	7.50
Legion	15.00

LEADER

Optiview	26.00
Maxxum	21.00
Brittany	19.50
Ultima	19.50
Dallas	22.50
New Yorker	18.50
Albany	17.00
Essex	10.50

WILSON

Mark I	8.00
Mark II	10.50
Mark III	12.50
Mark V	19.00
Mark IX Overglass	16.50

GLOVES

Ektelon All-Pro	10.00
Ektelon Controller	8.00
Penn Tournament	10.00

SPECIAL BONUS

Receive a FREE can of Penn Racquetballs with every purchase of a Penn Tournament Glove!
Limited Time Offer

RACQUETBALLS

Ektelon (Dozen Balls)	14.00
Penn (Dozen Balls)	15.00

1993 SPORT BAGS

Carat Action Bag	35.00
Carat Performance Bag	49.00
Carat Tournament Bag	42.00
Challenge Action Bag	32.00
Challenge Champion Bag	42.00
Challenge Carry-All Bag	28.00
Challenge Club Bag	35.00
Hammer Court Tote Bag	34.00
Hammer Club Bag	42.50
Hammer Pro Bag	56.00
Red Court Tote Bag	25.00
Red Club Bag	29.50
Red Pro Bag	36.50

PRINCE

Competition Gear 200 Bag	28.00
Competition Gear 400 Bag	36.50
Competition Gear 500 Bag	47.00
Trend Court 600 Bag	40.00
Trend Gear 200 Bag	28.00
Trend Gear 400 Bag	36.50
Trend Gear 500 Bag	47.00

GRIPS

Ektelon Grip	5.35
Tacki-Mac II	4.60

Our 12th year serving the racquet sports industry!

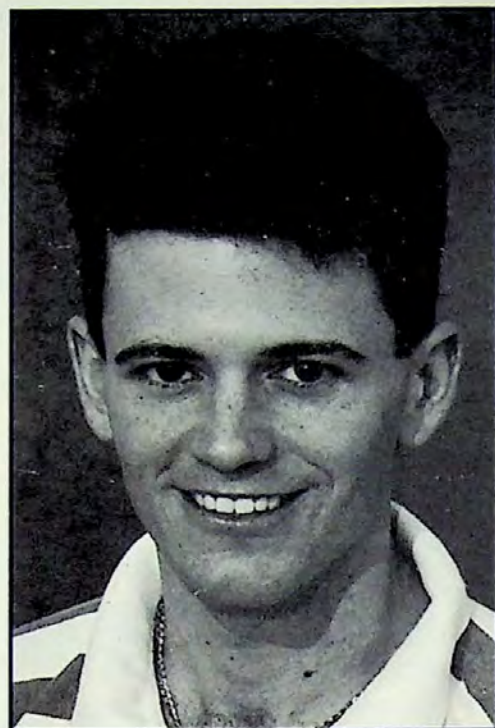


P.O. BOX 331
WEST BOYLSTON, MA 01583

TOLL FREE US & CANADA
1-800-243-5033
Add \$3.00 for UPS in USA
Minimum Order \$25.00
Dept. K

Cliff Swain

In 1985, a seventeen year old from Braintree Massachusetts, Cliff Swain began playing the pro racquetball tour. In Tulsa Oklahoma, in his fourth professional event, he amazed the crowd and other pros by claiming his first tour victory. Weeks later, Cliff went on to win the prestigious Ektelon National Championships. Since that time Cliff has been hailed as one of the most talented natural athletes ever to play the game. Generating tremendous power from (in those days) about a 150 pound frame, he had all the moves, and all the court-smarts. At the end of the 1989 season, Cliff, ranked number 1 in the world, put away his racquetball equipment and ventured into the



making the transition

world of professional tennis. Last year the temptation became too much and he returned to the arena of his first love, racquetball. After playing only a handful of events last year, Cliff opened this season with a big win in the Los Angeles VCI season opener. Now, midway through the season, he lists more victories than any other IRT pro and is one of only four players to post a win.

By Marvin Quertermous
Photos by Charlie Palek

Q: Cliff, since the season opened, you've won most everything in sight. What's gotten into you, to get you so focused and so motivated?

CS: A bunch of things, really. The biggest difference is my demanding 100% from myself. For instance, before I took the time off, I would have a big win, then lapse into losing in the next event needlessly. While I was away from the game, I learned from that.

I came back into this with the attitude that I should go after everything all the time. I appreciate where I am now, and I go for it 100% every time out.

Q: Do you find it frustrating that you have the most pro victories of the season and are still only ranked number two?

CS: No, not really. The IRT rankings are set up to reflect consistency, not just wins. My ranking reflects some tough times in the tournaments when I first came back on the tour. I don't think I'll be in second place very long. This year especially, the ranking doesn't mean as much, since my game plan on returning to the tour has been to use this year to gain motivation for an even bigger showing next year. That's when I should be playing really good ball.

Q: Who are the obstacles on the road back to the top? It's my favorite question, who is your least favorite opponent?

CS: Honestly, I fear myself more than I fear anyone else. If my desire isn't there or if I'm not motivated, I'm in trouble no matter who I'm playing. If I can focus on my desire, I will win, period. Of the other players, Mike Ray is probably the toughest for me. His laid back style and easy confidence make it tough to get fired up to play him. He's smooth and consistent, and takes the wind out of your sails. It's hard to get mad at him to get intense. I play better if I can hate the other guy.

Q: Tell me about your time away from the game.

CS: I got a chance to do something that I always wanted to do, so I took it. Every

athlete wants the chance to play in front of big crowds and get lots of attention. Tennis offered that.

Q: How did it start for you?

CS: I was playing a little tennis—not much, just now and then. Boris Becker and his coach were training at my club while in town and ended up on the court next to me one day. They came over to talk when we finished. They had noticed the way I moved to the ball and some other things about the way I played and suggested that I follow up with some good coaching. I guess they thought I had some potential. Then I kept playing the racquetball tour, and absorbed as much tennis as I could at the same time.

After about a year, I was ready to try pro tennis.

Q: What did you find?

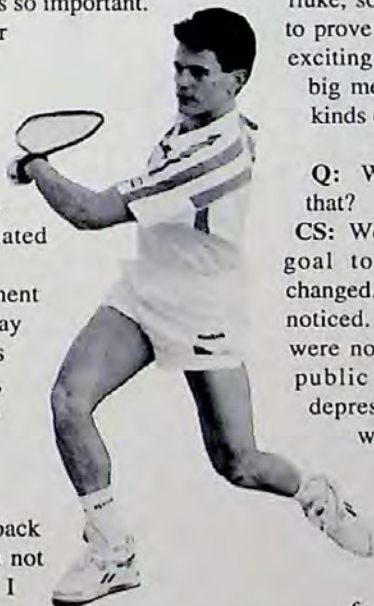
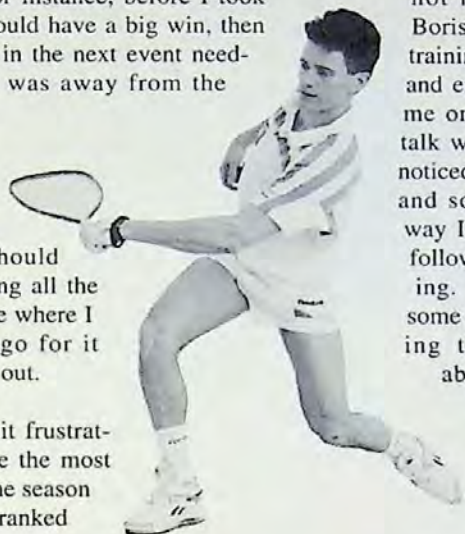
CS: Tennis is such a more recognized game. The attention is always there. The thing that surprised me most is that tennis players had always seemed larger than life because of all the attention. They're really not, but they are great athletes. Comparing though, I think the pro racquetball players are as good or better athletes. Tennis has so much more repetition and consistency is so important. Racquetball takes a bigger range of skills and more natural talent.

Q: Funny that you used the term "natural talent". I think that is the term that has been associated with you all along.

CS: The biggest compliment anyone can give me is to say I'm a natural. It means they appreciate my talent, and my hard work looks like it was no work at all.

Q: What's next?

CS: Well, I'm definitely back on the IRT full time. I'm not closing any doors though. I wish I could play both pro tennis and racquetball, that's really hard. When I was playing tennis, I missed racquetball, now I miss tennis.



Interview **KILLSHOT** C l i f f

They're not like baseball and football that have separate seasons, they both play year-round. Right now I am 100% into racquetball. Maybe there will be a time for more tennis later. I got a lot out of tennis, including one of my best friends, Dick Fell, my coach.

Q: When you came on the tour in the beginning, how did it happen?

CS: There were a lot of money tournaments then, every week. I wanted to be the best and eventually I was winning about

"I like having something to prove, it's a big inspiration for me."

90% of those. The professional game was the next step. I like having something to prove, it is a big inspiration for me. Just like coming back on the IRT. A lot of people thought my Tulsa win was a fluke, so I had to win the nationals to prove myself. Those were really exciting times. Racquetball was a big media deal, and there was all kinds of excitement and attention.

Q: What about the years after that?

CS: Well, winning is winning. My goal to be number one never changed. It just seemed like no one noticed. In the late eighties, there were no televised events and little public interest. It got really depressing after a while. There were a fair amount of events, and competition was good, but that's about all. Being number one was almost disappointing when the fans didn't have any way of knowing what was happening. Now there is **KILLSHOT**, there are the Prime Sports Network broadcasts, and this sum-

mer there is the first ESPN broadcast in years. The fans have always been there, now they can know what's going on. The **KILLSHOT** coverage is tremendous, and now the production team for the ESPN broadcast is better than anything we had before. TransCoastal Mortgage and V.W. Credit have made it the most professional tour ever. The clubs are nicer, the crowds are back.

... I think Tim Doyle gets nearly as much power with better angles.

Q: Let's get into your game. Your serve is legendary, what are your other weapons?

CS: I don't work on the serve as much as you might think. It's important, but my return of service is more important. Serving, everything is in your favor. Returning serve, you are more vulnerable. I work more on my returns, trying to turn a disadvantage into an advantage. If the guy I'm playing knows I'm going to hit a strong return, it takes away his control. No matter how well he serves, I'm all over it. Most pros aren't used to that. I control the action.

Q: Who has serves that are tough to return?

CS: Well Egan has the famous serves. And I think Tim Doyle gets nearly as much power with better angles.

Q: How did your style develop?

CS: I worked a lot for the first few years with Dave Peck. Dave is a great coach and

he taught me a lot. Really, both the Peck brothers, Dave and Gregg, had such a smart, control game, learning from them just raised my natural power style another level.

Q: How do you train now?

CS: I train more off the court than ever before. I do more weights, more running. I really like it too. That's a switch from the past when I avoided all that stuff. I think my career in pro sports will be far longer now than I thought in the beginning, and physical training is just so important.

Q: I see you noticing so many things like that, absorbing so much, learning. I can't help but think that wasn't the case before.

CS: While I was away, I kept thinking about all the things I would do if I ever did go back to racquetball. I decided I would demand more from myself, watch and learn, work out harder, and be a better business man. I'm carrying that out. It's really important to me. I'm really into this.

Q: It sounds like a more mature outlook. I've also noticed you taking an active role with the players group.

CS: Well, I truly care. I feel responsible now. Marty and Mike aren't

around as much to be active in things, so I want to help look after the players' interests. I also like the international growth of the sport. I've been in Europe briefly this year and will be in Japan and Mexico soon, and the response in those countries is very encouraging. It's exciting to be a part of all those things.

Q: You're sponsored by a new company,

Transition Racquet Sports, how has that been working out for you?

CS: Great. When I came back into the game, a few of the current companies started a dialog with me about sponsorship. I liked the potential with TRS, and that I could have some input in the design of the racquet. I went with the TRS people to the Orient (all the racquet technology is in Asia) and we came up with the Bad Influence. It's turning into a prosperous relationship and I'm happy.

Q: And what do you think about the frame?

CS: It's a good stick. Breakage is extremely low. It's light and stiff and feels great.

They're selling like crazy. It's a young company, and I like growing with them.

Q: What are your best memories of the old tour?

CS: I miss Marty [Hogan]. I've almost never enjoyed any match that I've lost. Marty and I had two or three good matches that I ended up losing, but still remember as good matches. The only other one I can say that about is Dave [Peck]. Marty had so much ability, and so much personality on the court. Both he and Dave would do anything to win. That made those matches great. When I played them, you had two guys on the court that would stop at nothing. Talk about intense! Bret [Harnett] is really the natural. Bret never had to be colorful, he was/is just so good. I don't know if you knew him but Mike Griffith had tremendous talent. Mike was nineteen and in his second year on the tour when he was killed in a car wreck in 1986. We had become good friends. I could already see his development and that he was almost certain to be great.

Q: What do you see good in some of the young players on the tour now?

CS: I can see talent waiting to go in some of the crop of younger players now. I think with some hard work and good choices, John Ellis, Sudsy Monchick, and Jason Manino could go far in the game.



STRANDEMO ON RACQUETBALL

By Steve Strandemo

To Know Where You're Going, You Have to Know Where You've Been

As we move on in this series, I think it is probably time to get our bearings before we go any farther. Since the ideas I have presented in **KILLSHOT** may conflict with what you have always believed or what you may have been told, I think it is vital to appreciate the thinking behind the techniques. My intent is to strip away the misconceptions by going directly to the most basic, essential truths of the game. Without that, most players simply build layer upon layer of misconception that leads to a brick wall in the way of real progress.

The basics include: diversified serves, playing off left up shots, playing the percentages, and hitting into an enlarged offensive low zone area. Color commentators, journalists, and the general public spend so much time talking about ball speed, diving gets, amazing rollout kills, etc., that it is easy to get caught up in the idea that those are important components of the game. To dispel this as simply and directly as possible, no player reaches the top levels or even plays to his own potential by working to this end. Kills happen. Great gets happen. If you base your thinking or your practice time on these, you will become frustrated. Sound knowledge and clear ideas about the truth will yield results.

Before this series went into the strategies of serves, returns, rallies, and offensive shot selection, we covered four assignments designed to shed light on the way the game works, and to begin a pattern of thinking that will allow serious progress. As we are moving toward the Summer Special Instructional **KILLSHOT**, please take the time to do these assignments. Only by understanding their

results can you make the next step and follow the path that we will take. This is the shortest article to date, but possibly contains the most wisdom. We have a long way to go, and the payoff is big. To go with us along the way, you have to start here. For more details on these, go back to the September 1991 **KILLSHOT**. Otherwise, just do it and learn.

#1 - Chart a Match. Draw a court, make marks on where the offensive shots hit on the court that are not on serves or returns in a match between two evenly matched players. Realize that most (65 - 70%) shots are left up. Seeing where these shots go will tell you where the action is.

#2 - Chart Winners. Now mark where winners fall. You may be surprised.

#3 - Find Your Low Zone. Have a friend mark on the wall where you must hit full velocity down-the-lines from deep court to get two bounces before the back wall. This zone becomes your offensive target.

#4 - 30-Second Drill. From the back ten feet of the court, keep hitting shots to hit two - five feet up the front wall. Play these shots as in a rally and practice cutting off the ball before the back wall. You will have to learn to hit from an open stance and learn to rally. Do these a lot, then a lot more.

If you do these assignments, you will be able to follow what is to come. And I promise, the payoff is tremendous. As you wait for the Summer Special Instructional **KILLSHOT**, train, and prepare. Oh, and when you start reading that issue, you better bring your racquet!



HOLABIRD SPORTS Beats Them All!

LOW PRICES • 48-HOUR SHIPPING

1 LOW \$3.50 SHIPPING CHARGE—ANY QUANTITY

CALL 410-687-6400

U.S. 2ND DAY AIR AT NO ADDITIONAL CHARGE
FOR ALL RACQUETS—CALL FOR DETAILS

RACQUETBALL RACQUETS—STRUNG

RTS—EKTELON—WIDE	HEAD
EMINENCE—OVER 219.95	COLOSSUS 1000-MED 87.95
ARIS—MIDPLUS 152.95	COLOSSUS 2000-FIRM 87.50
AXCEL—OVER 26.95	COLOSSUS 3000-X FIRM 109.95
TRINITY—MIDPLUS 51.95	LASER SPEED 1000-WIDE 53.95
TETRA—MIDPLUS 79.95	LASER SPEED 3000-WIDE 129.95
DESORI—OVER 94.50	
ELANTRA—OVER 79.95	
STROBE—OVER 167.95	
OPTIMA—OVER 49.95	
PHYCON—MIDPLUS 74.95	
STRION—OVER 121.95	
COMPR—MIDPLUS 79.95	
XITER—MIDPLUS 139.95	
NEMESIS—MIDPLUS 114.95	
PRECIS—OVER 109.95	
LEXIS GRAPHITE—OVER 46.95	

WILSON	KENNEX HOGAN SERIES
DYNAX EXD—OVER-NEW 19.95	ASYMMETRIC-SUPEROVER 149.95
CENTRON—OVER-NEW 37.95	EXTREME-SUPEROVER 79.95
	COMP ASM 31—OVER 99.00
	OVATION-SUPEROVER 89.95
	GRAPHITE OPTIMUM 69.00
	GRAPHITE ASM 31 149.95
	GRAPH PRESENCE 31-OV 129.95
	MICRO SHADOW 69.95

SPALDING—WIDE	E-FORCE—WIDE
THE GOLIATH 124.95	WEAPON 234.95
THE GOLIATH COMP 74.95	REAL DEAL 199.95
KILLSHOT 102 32.95	TERMINATOR (ANSWER) 168.95
PRO EXTREME 74.95	PREDATOR (SIGNATURE) 127.95
EXAC-TECH COMP 64.95	STEALTH 84.95
EXAC-TECH GRAPHITE 77.95	
ASSAULT COMPOSITE 89.95	
ASSAULT GRAPHITE 95.00	
ASSAULT 103 ALUM 36.95	

ESTCA	DAN OBREMSKI PRO-WIDE 174.95
	WB PIROTECH-WIDE 99.95

SUPER RACQUETBALL RACQUET SALE

HUNDREDS OF NEW FIRST QUALITY—LOWEST PRICES EVER!

EKTELON QUANTUS GRAPHITE (ORIG)—MID—SS, XS, FL 43.95
EKTELON OMNI GRAPHITE MID RTS—WIDE—SUPER SM 45.00
EKTELON ARIS GRAPHITE—FLARED—EXTRA SPECIAL 50.00
EKTELON RTS MAGNUM GRAPHITE—MIDSIZE—SS 43.95
EKTELON INTERCEPTOR—SS, XS OR FLARED 29.95
EKTELON MENTOR—MID—FLARED OR SUPER SMALL 31.95
EKTELON CONCORDE MID—SUPER SMALL 27.95
EKTELON OPEX—OVER—FLARED OR SUPER SMALL 29.95
EKTELON STRADA EXD—MID—ALL SIZES 25.00
HEAD MASTER-ALL SIZES OR PROFESSIONAL-3 3/4" OR 4 1/8" 21.95
HEAD PRELUDE GRAPHITE (PROFILE)—MID-3 3/4", 3 7/8", 4" 41.95
KENNEX GRAPHITE MICRO—3 5/8" OR 3 7/8" 33.95

MEN'S & LADIES' SHOES

AVIA 288 INDOOR-LO-M 36.95	HI TECH COURTESY-LO-M 32.95
AVIA 299 INDOOR-MID-M 42.95	EKTELON INDOOR CT-LO 39.95
HEAD ANATOM SONIC-LO 48.95	EKTELON INDOOR CT-3/4 42.95
HEAD ANATOM SONIC-3/4 51.95	EKTELON VOLTUS-3/4-M 64.95
HEAD SONIC LEATH-LO-M 32.95	EKTELON COMMODOR-H-M 49.95
HEAD SONIC LEATH-3/4-M 39.95	EKTELON COURIER-M 35.95
HEAD SONIC LEAMESH-LO 34.95	EKTELON STYLUS MESH-M 32.95
HEAD SONIC LEAMESH-3/4 34.95	EKTELON CENTAR LO-M 36.95
HEAD RADIAL EXPRESS-M 29.95	EKTELON RENEGADE 7/8-M 44.95
HEAD INDOOR—MEN 29.95	EKTELON NIRVANA 3/4-M 39.95
PRO KENNEX P-K MESH-M 27.95	SLAZINGER PHANTOM-M 34.95
POWER GUMMA—MEN 33.95	TRETORN REDON-LO-L 39.95
PUMA DISC INDOOR CT-M 59.95	TRETORN HUNTINGTON-HL 39.95

BALLS, EYEGUARDS & ACCESSORIES

WILSON TRU BLUE RACQUETBALL BALLS 6 CANS 9.95	
PENN OR EKTELON RACQ. BALLS (BLUE) 8 CANS 11.98	
KENNEX RACQUETBALL BALLS (BLUE) 6 CANS 10.95	
SPALDING TOP-FLIGHT BALLS (BLUE) 6 CANS 9.98	
LEADER NEW YORKER EYEGUARDS 18.95	
EKTELON INTERCEPTOR OR PRECEPT EYEGUARDS 24.95	
BLACK KNIGHT ACTION EYEGASSES (CLEAR) 21.95	
THORLO SOX—MOST STYLES—MEN & LADIES PAIR 5.45	
EKTELON ALL PRO GLOVES 9.95 OR CLASSIC GLOVES 11.95	
EKTELON CONTROLLER GLOVES 7.50	
EKTELON PERFORMER GLOVES 13.50	
KENNEX PRO DURA-TACK GLOVES—MEN & LADIES 11.95	
KENNEX VISION GLOVES—UNISEX RIGHT 8.50	
RACQUETBALL WRIST TETHER 3.95	
SORBOthane—ALL PRODUCTS AVAILABLE CALL	
TOURNA GRIP 2.90	SHOE GOO 3.35
TACKI MAC-RACQ 4.75	WHATAGRIP-COLORS 2.75
RACQUETBALL SAVERS 7.95	WRISTLACER 2.75

ALL MAJOR TENNIS & SQUASH RACQUETS & RACQUETBALL BAGS AT LOWEST DISCOUNT PRICES EVER!

9008 YELLOW BRICK RD. • ROSSVILLE IND. PARK

BALTIMORE, MD. 21237 • CALL 410-687-6400

24-HOUR FAX LINE — 410-687-7311

MAIL OR PHONE, SHIP ANYWHERE. CHARGES—INCLUDE VISA OR
MASTERCARD # & EXP. DATE OR SEND MONEY ORDER OR CHECK.
SMALL ADDITIONAL SHIPPING CHARGE OUTSIDE CONTINENTAL
USA & APOS. MD. RESIDENTS ADD 5%. MON-FRI 9-5 / SAT. 9-3.

WRITE OR CALL—FREE CATALOG
QUOTES—ALL TENNIS, RACQUETBALL &
SQUASH RACQUETS, SHOES & ACCESSORIES



It's a whole new ballgame.

The heat's been turned up. The stakes have been raised. Swain, Ray, Gonzalez, Kachtik, Doyle, Yellen, Harnett, Roberts, and the rest of the most explosive group of athletes in the world will ignite in the final stop of the 1993 VCI Challenge Cup Series presented by VW Credit, Inc. Minneapolis' Northwest Racquet & Swim Club (Burnsville) will host the IRT June 23-27. Televised coverage only on ESPN. It's a whole new ballgame.



Check local listings for broadcast times.

Seems Like It's "Swainin" All Over The World

Cliff makes it a Swain-ey night in Georgia and British Columbia.
Gonzalez Wins Pittsburgh.

Vancouver, B.C.

The Swain Show Goes North

By Mark Henry

As the IRT ventured into the great white north for the second time this sea-

son, four players dominated IRT finals. After seven events in the season's first half, only Mike Ray, Andy Roberts, Ruben Gonzalez, and Cliff Swain had posted pro victories. Spalding Canada, always a big

sponsor for pro events in Canada, welcomed the IRT pros to Brentwood Racquet Club hungry for an opportunity to increase the list of winners.

In the round of thirty-two, only Canada's racquetball national hero, Sherman Greenfield walked away with an upset. In five close games, Greenfield eliminated Pittsburgh's Dan Obremski, whose comeback from a shoulder injury has been wrought with disappointment so far this season. All in all, the Canadian qualifiers playing into the regular IRT pros made a very respectable showing, often surprising the tour regulars with good solid racquetball.

Greenfield's advance ended with the first round, as New York's Gonzalez out hustled for a win in a

good four games in the sixteens. The other Canadian resident and crowd favorite still in the draw, Roger Harripersad, captured a big upset in the sixteens by dispatching the #1 seed Ray. Tim Sweeney and Bret Harnett played a rematch of last year's Memphis event, with the win reversing this time in Harnett's favor. #13 Dave Johnson posted one of his famous upsets against the #4 seed Drew Kachtik. Swain, Roberts, and Tim Doyle advanced easily into the quarters. In the only game of the tournament to go past 13 points, Jack Newman grabbed the victory over Texan Mike Guidry in a 15-13 tiebreaker that delighted northern fans.

A true professional is a player that can come from two games down to win a match. That is exactly what Harnett did against Harripersad. Fighting a home crowd advantage for Harripersad, Harnett seemed undaunted by his two game deficit, and even dished out a doughnut to the surprise of Harripersad in the third game. It was a fine showing for the bandana-topped Harnett, while giving fans the first look at the new Richcraft Harnett signature "Rebel" racquet.

Swain repeated the comeback trend with one of his own against Portland's Doyle. Seeming unafraid of Doyle's incredible serve, Swain had assumed control of the match by the third game. Doyle, one of the toughest players on the IRT to come back against, was out in the quarters.

Roberts, out-gunned Newman in four, then breathed a sigh of relief since Newman is one of the few IRT pros against

Cliff Swain

11-5, 11-9, 10-12, 6-11, 11-5

Ruben Gonzalez

SEMIS

Gonzalez d. Harnett

11-2, 11-7, 11-3

Swain d. Roberts

6-11, 12-10, 11-9, 11-5

QUARTERS

Harnett d. Harripersad

8-11, 3-11, 11-0, 11-8, 11-3

Gonzalez d. Johnson

11-6, 11-5, 11-1

Swain d. Doyle

9-11, 11-13, 11-6, 11-5, 11-3

Roberts d. Newman

11-9, 11-9, 1-11, 11-8

SIXTEENS

Harripersad d. Ray

3-11, 11-9, 11-9, 11-9

Harnett d. Sweeney

11-7, 6-11, 11-2, 9-11, 11-9

Gonzalez d. Greenfield

11-4, 3-11, 11-2, 11-9

Johnson d. Kachtik

11-4, 11-4, 1-11, 10-12

Swain d. Kerr

11-1, 11-0, 11-4

Doyle d. Clouse

11-5, 11-9, 11-1

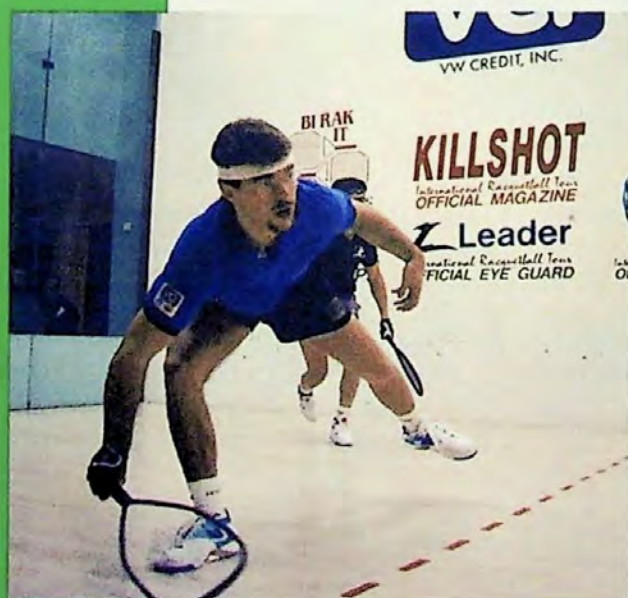
Newman d. Guidry

11-8, 11-9, 7-11, 5-11, 17-15

Roberts d. Evans

11-5, 11-3, 11-5

Vancouver
B.C.



Clockwise, from upper right: The crowd at Atlanta's SportsLife Club Cobb; Tim Doyle sporting his new Brumfield-style goatee; Ruben Gonzalez and Dave Johnson in one of three brutal match-ups in recent weeks; Dan Obremski, mid-air; Bret Harnett and Mike Ray in the closest match at Atlanta.

Photos by Robert Lipareli

whom Roberts often has trouble. Gonzalez, aware of Johnson's big upset potential, never let the tough Californian get started and ended things in a quick three.

Playing tremendous ball, Gonzalez went on to hand the same fate to Harnett in the quarters. Roberts captured the first game at the bottom of the draw against Swain, only to meet with disappointment with Swain's rampage in the next three games.

Two of the hottest players on the tour, Gonzalez and Swain, battled through one of the toughest finals of the season. Gonzalez' comeback in the third for the 12-10 win after being down two games to none, was almost enough to take him all the way to victory. It was enough to spark momentum for the win in the fourth. Swain's flawless play in the fifth was enough to again turn the tide. The resulting Swain win made his third of the season.

Atlanta

V.W. Credit Series third Event Swain and VCI, A Perfect Match By Aaron Katz

The largest pro qualifying draw on record swarmed Atlanta's SportsLife Club Cobb for the ninth stop on the IRT and the third event of the VCI Challenge Cup Series in February. The beginning of the home stretch for the national title, prestigious VCI Challenge Cup ranking points, and the return of the IRT to the South for the first time since August had everyone pumped right from the start. Allen Turem and company at Racquetball '96 along with the Hanover group also produced a first class amateur draw that read like a who's who of Southern racquetball.

The excitement began with the round of 32's with the much anticipated appearance of six-time Junior National Champ John Ellis, who began his full-time pro career in Atlanta. Qualifying into a recently slumping Drew Kachtik figured to be an interesting match-up for the former Southwest Missouri State star. Kachtik's consistency and determination, however, were more than Ellis expected. Ellis went down in three relatively easy games. If Ellis sticks with the tour, look for his classic power style to surprise a lot of pro's over the next couple of years making him the latest in the new group of spoilers in the pro draws.

The round of 16 produced only one upset, but plenty of scares. Johnson, the

#13 seed whose season has been like a roller-coaster, took out a scrappy but less-than-sharp #4 seed Gonzalez in four games. Johnson's athleticism and shot-making ability controlled the majority of the match. At two games to zero and 9-3 in the third, Gonzalez mounted a comeback to send the match into the fourth game. In the end, Johnson would prevail 11-7 in the fourth.

Woody Clouse, working on his best season as a pro, had Kachtik down 7-4 in the tiebreaker until a series of inopportune skips by Clouse aided Kachtik in his comeback. Kachtik's comebacks have become an all too familiar sight for the other touring pro's over the past couple of years. Watching

Cliff Swain

11-0, 11-2, 11-9

Drew Kachtik

QUARTERS

Roberts d. Yellen

11-4, 11-5, 11-4

Kachtik d. Johnson

13-11, 11-6, 8-11, 11-6

Swain d. Doyle

11-8, 11-3, 11-6

Harnett d. Ray

14-16, 9-11, 11-1, 11-9, 11-9

SIXTEENS

Roberts d. Katz

11-6, 6-11, 11-5, 11-6

Yellen d. Newman

6-11, 11-2, 11-2, 8-11, 11-4

Kachtik d. Clouse

12-10, 10-12, 11-2, 7-11, 11-8

Johnson d. Gonzalez

11-9, 11-4, 9-11, 11-7

Swain d. Ceresia

11-5, 11-2, 11-0

Doyle d. Obremski

11-5, 11-4, 6-11, 11-8

Harnett d. Guidry

8-11, 11-4, 5-11, 11-8, 11-7

Ray d. Kelley

11-5, 11-3, 11-5

Atlanta

24 HOUR SHIPPING
EXPERT ADVICE

OPEN
Mon.-Thurs. 9-8 Fri. 9-6 Sat. 10-5 Sun. 12-4

LOWEST PRICES

SAMUELS'



TOLL FREE ORDER LINE
INFO LINE 513-791-4636 U.S. AND CANADA 1-800-543-1153

24 Hour Fax Line 513-791-4036

RACQUETBALL RACQUETS -

EKTELON Strobe RTS (OS).....CALL	Centron OS RTS.....CALL	Tetra MS RTS.....CALL	Composite ASM 31.....CALL
Xiter RTS (OS).....CALL	Optima RTS (OS).....CALL	Trinity MS RTS.....CALL	HEAD Colossus 3000.....CALL
Strion RTS (OS).....CALL	Lexis RTS (OS).....CALL	PRO KENNEX Graphite ASM 31.....CALL	Colossus 2000.....CALL
Eminence OS RTS.....CALL	Axel RTS (OS).....CALL	Graphite Tribute.....CALL	Colossus 1000.....CALL
Desori OS RTS.....CALL	Integra MS RTS.....CALL	Graphite Vanguard 31.....CALL	Laser Speed 3000.....CALL
Elantra OS RTS.....CALL	Aris MS RTS.....CALL	Asymetric SO.....CALL	Laser Speed 1000.....CALL

Write for free catalog. Call for Platform Tennis.

- EKTELON GLOVES -

All Pro Glove.....9.95	Classic Glove.....11.50	RTS Express.....31.95	- HEAD BAGS -
Controller Glove.....6.95	Performer Glove.....13.95	Cross Sport.....28.95	CALL
Contender.....12.95	Enforcer.....12.95	Sport Courier.....37.95	
Mentor.....8.95	Sensur Glove.....14.95	Tournament.....42.95	

- ACCESSORIES -

Penn Tournament Glove.....11.95	Head Conquest Glove.....11.95	Neumann Duratack Glove.....9.95	Ektelon Cushion Grip.....3.50
Kennex Ovation.....CALL	Head XC-1 Glove.....9.95	Neumann Pro Duratack Glove.....11.95	Ektelon Overwrap Grip.....3.25
Kennex Dominator.....CALL	Head Sensation Glove.....13.95	Ektelon Rubber Grip/AME.....5.50	Ektelon V-Damp.....3.00
Head Supremacy Glove.....13.95	Head Maverick Glove.....10.95	Ektelon Wrist Lacer.....3.50	

- EKTELON EYEGLASSES -

Interceptor.....24.95	Classic.....20.95	Regent.....11.95	Surveyor.....9.95
New Specter.....10.95	Legion.....13.95	Argus.....21.95	Prism.....19.95
Quantum.....12.95	Court Specs.....8.95	Deflector.....19.95	Trilon.....22.95
Sentinel.....19.95	Precept.....27.95	Aerial.....24.95	Olympus.....25.95

- OTHER EYEGLASSES -

Bausch & Lomb Action Eyes.....21.95	Leader New Yorker.....17.95	Leader Optiview.....25.95	Kennex Shadow.....22.95
Leader Albany.....16.95	Leader Hi Lite Plus.....22.95	Leader Maxum.....20.95	Kennex Dominator.....19.95
Leader Dallas.....21.95	Leader Hi-Lite II.....19.95	Leader Ultima.....19.95	Kennex Competitor.....16.95

- SHOES -

EKTELON Renegade's (M).....CALL	Stylus (M/L).....CALL	Indoor Court Low (M).....CALL	Anatom Pro (M).....CALL
Nirvana 3/4 (M).....CALL	Volus 3/4 (M).....CALL	HEAD Anatom.....CALL	Anatom Gr. Sonic 3/4.....CALL

SAMUELS TENNISPORT

7796 MONTGOMERY RD. • CINTI, OH 45236

Visit Our Store When In Cincinnati

S.W. Corner Kenwood & Montgomery - Across from Prime 'n Wine-Next to Porter Paint

* Specify grip size • \$3.95 shipping any quantity. Money order or certified check payable to "Tennisport". APO's, FPO's add \$3.05 extra. • COD'S add \$4.00 • Visa, MC, AE, Discover - give card number and expiration date. No credit card fee. • Ohio residents add 5.5% sales tax. • Return subject to inspection & 15% restocking fee.

matches like this one reinforces how much separates the top 12-16 players and the importance of the mental aspect of the game.

Probably the most anticipated round of 16 match was #7 Harnett vs. #10 Guidry. Two lefties and two of the best athletes on the tour, Guidry and Harnett shoot bottom board whenever the slightest opening appears. With a 2-1 game lead Guidry held an 8-5 lead in the fourth and looked like he would defeat Harnett for the first time in his early pro career. Harnett reached deep down as he has so many times in his career and emerged with an 11-8 win to send the match into the tiebreaker. Guidry controlled most of the tiebreaker until he got a little tentative with a 7-5 lead. Harnett was able to capitalize for an 11-8 victory. Guidry who has had more tough losses this season than just about any other pro will have to shake this one off quickly as tour pace increases.

In the only other round of 16 that went to a tiebreaker, Yellen outlasted a consistent and scrappy Newman to spoil Newman's debut with Ektelon. Yellen who has recently semi-retired is still one of the most difficult pro's to play when his inten-

sity is up. In other round of 16 action, Roberts, Ray, Swain, and Doyle dispatched me (Aaron Katz), Vince Kelley, Mike Ceresia, and Dan Obremski respectively with relatively few problems.

The quarterfinals began with seven of the top eight seeds left. Everyone was anxious to make a statement as to who would be the frontrunner for the National title with only a few points separating the top three players.

The first quarterfinal match featured Kachtik and Johnson. Although Kachtik was the higher seed, Johnson had won the previous two times the two had played. Kachtik, the defending national champion has slipped to #5 this season and has yet to win an event. He has, however, become a master of "winning ugly" with his only serve being a lob. Kachtik's shot selection and high percentage play combined with an intensity level that is unrivaled proved too much for the inconsistent Johnson. Johnson was plagued with missed opportunities and forehand skips. Kachtik won in four games.

The second quarterfinal match promised to be a fan's delight featuring the two premiere power players in the game

today, Swain and Doyle. However, there was no doubt who was the premiere power player on this day as the two went "mano a mano" for three games with four lob serves hit between the two of them and just as few ceiling balls. Swain's utter domination was scary as Doyle, consistently among the top 5, played a relatively strong match. When Swain is on his game, he sometimes appears to be playing at a different level from everyone else. His power, serving ability, and tremendous getting ability make him one of the most complete players in the game today.

The third quarterfinal match had plenty of electricity as the hometown crowd came out to root for Ray (although Ray now lives in Hilton Head, he spent many years as a young player in Atlanta) against Harnett. And, although they may have gone away disappointed with the result, everyone witnessed what was the best match of the tournament. Although both are tall lanky left handers, they play opposite styles. Harnett is the consummate power player looking to end each rally as soon as possible. Ray is the total control player, moving the ball around and mixing up ceiling balls until he gets an opportunity to shoot his trusty forehand. The first game took over 45 minutes as never did more than two points separate the two. Ray eventually squeaked out a 16-14 victory in a game that reinforced how much excitement the win by two rule used by the pro's adds to the game. The second game was more of the same as Ray again won a tightly contested 11-9 game.

The feeling amongst the crowd seemed to be that Ray had fought the best of the Harnett fires. Apparently, Harnett would be let down following two tough losses in games he could have just as easily won. However this crowd did not know Harnett well enough. Harnett is a tremendous competitor who works at maximum intensity level every point of every match. In fact, the first two games seemed to take more out of Ray. Harnett won games three and four relatively easily. The Atlanta crowd went bananas on one Ray pass in the fourth that was clearly, absolutely, well out of Harnett's reach, which only after a miracle touch by a supernatural Harnett found its way back to the front in the form of a perfect ceiling ball. Ray was amazed, the crowd was on fire, and Harnett shrugged as if it happened every day. Maybe to Harnett, it does. The entire tiebreaker see-sawed with both Harnett and Ray holding small leads, but in the end it was Harnett who

RIPIT

— INTRODUCING —

THE RIPIT CLUB

FOR AN ANNUAL FEE OF \$10 YOU CAN BECOME A "RIPIT"

MEMBER. YOUR MEMBERSHIP ALLOWS YOU TO BUY ALL

YOUR RACQUETBALL EQUIPMENT AT UNBELIEVABLE PRICES!

— GO AHEAD, CHECK THEM OUT —

1-800-552-6453

FREE CATALOG

"IT'S LIKE OWNING YOUR OWN PRO SHOP"



MICHAEL'S
2368 Dixie Hwy.
Ft. Mitchell, KY 41017



To design our new indoor court shoe,
we consulted the foremost
authority on shoe technology.

Your foot.



Removable Anatom, designed to fit the anatomy of your foot.



Foot is cradled in an anatomical unit for optimal stability.

The elimination of a midsole keeps you lower to the ground.

The same HEAD Anatom technology that revolutionized the comfort, fit and stability in a tennis shoe is now available in our new indoor court shoe, the Anatom Graphite Sonic. In traditional shoe construction, the outsole, midsole and upper are joined as one, providing support through the fit of the upper only. With rapid stop and go movement, the foot can slip and twist, causing instability and fatigue. The outsole may lose ground contact and cause the foot to roll, increasing the risk of ankle-related injuries. With our unique HEAD

HEAD[®] Anatom

Anatom technology, the foot is cradled in an anatomically designed footbed, while the outsole remains in contact with the ground. Secured footing allows the player to push off and move in any direction with maximum power and control. The result is an unprecedented level of comfort, fit and stability. The kind of stability you demand from the extreme lateral movement of indoor court sports. To try on the Anatom Graphite Sonic, call for the HEAD dealer nearest you at 1-800-874-HEAD, ext. 228. © 1992 HEAD Sports, Inc.





Drew Kachtik and Cliff Swain

prevailed with a thrilling 11-9 victory.

Robert's quick dispatch of Yellen in the last quarterfinal match in three surprisingly easy games gave the weathered crowd a break after the previous marathon. Yellen looked a little off this time as Roberts seized the opportunity and went for the kill right from the earliest opportunity.

The semifinals were set with three of the top four players (Roberts, Ray, and Swain) left as well as the last three national champions (Swain 1990, Ray 1991, and Kachtik 1992). The first match pitted two lefties for the third straight round. Harnett was able to get his intensity up as high as he had the night before, but it wasn't enough. Swain's serve to Harnett's backhand was just too much. Swain aced Harnett seven times in the fourth and deciding game. Although the match was not particularly close the intensity was tremendous as Harnett sought his first appearance in the final round all season. Swain was eager to regain the #1 ranking that he relinquished for his tenure on the Pro Tennis Tour.

The second semifinal match will be remembered as one of the weirdest matches in pro racquetball history. It pitted #1 and #2 from last season, Kachtik and Roberts. The match-ups between the two have turned into a bitter rivalry with Roberts controlling with victories over Kachtik in the last two VCI events. The match started off with Roberts dominating Kachtik. Kachtik was losing his cool and being forced into low percentage shots. The frustration of Robert's pinpoint accuracy was wearing on the hot blooded Kachtik. Down two games to zero, things looked hopeless for Kachtik. Then it hap-

pened. Leading 5-4 in the third game, Kachtik ran into Roberts in center court going for a ball. Roberts who has often complained of Kachtik's physical play lost total control of the match. Kachtik started a string of points that would continue until 9-0 in the tiebreaker. That's right, 26 consecutive points! Roberts got to 4 before losing the tiebreaker, but he appeared totally confused by the odd turn of events. The crowd seemed stunned also by the complete turn around in the match. Kachtik changed the pace and got control of his temper while Roberts completely lost his composure. It was a role reversal from the first two games.

Kachtik's win set up an intriguing final with Swain. The two play absolutely opposite styles. Kachtik is almost a complete control player who never hits a drive serve. Swain undoubtedly has the greatest serve in the history of the game. In addition the two had never played before, a remarkable statistic for top players who have played the tour for several years. The one thing they have in common is an intensity level and a drive to win that is found only in champions. However the finals, like football's Superbowl, often don't live up to the hype and this one was no different. Swain's dominance over Kachtik

was complete in every aspect. Swain cruised to an 11-0 first game win and 11-5 second game win and was up 8-2 in the third before Drew mounted his only sustained run of the match coming back to 9-9 before falling 11-9 for Swain's forth pro stop victory of the season.

If the players didn't have the message before, Swain communicated it loud and clear with his domination over the field in Atlanta — he's back, and he wants his #1 ranking back. Swain lost only one game during the entire event. On the way he delivered doughnuts to two top 16 IRT pros. Before a tremendous crowd in Atlanta and a nationally televised audience, Swain has grabbed the IRT by the throat, and started to squeeze.

Pittsburgh Gonzalez 'Steals' the Show By Mark Henry

Last year, Pittsburgh's Shop N Save Pro Am stood as the turning point of the

SEMIS

Gonzalez d. Roberts

11-8, 11-8, 2-11, 11-7

Johnson d. Ray

4-11, 11-9, 9-11, 11-0, 11-8

Ruben Gonzalez

11-4, 4-11, 11-8, 11-9

Dave Johnson

QUARTERS

Roberts d. Yellen

11-3, 11-5, 11-1

Gonzalez d. Kachtik

9-11, 12-10, 9-11, 11-1, 11-8

Ray d. Doyle

11-5, 11-9, 11-6

Johnson d. Swain

11-4, 5-11, 11-3, 11-9

SIXTEENS

Roberts d. Sable

11-6, 11-5, 11-1

Yellen d. Newman

2-11, 11-1, 6-11, 11-2, 11-4

Gonzalez d. Clouse

11-3, 12-10, 11-9

Kachtik d. Obremski

11-2, 11-4, 11-1

Ray d. Ceresia

11-2, 9-11, 11-5, 11-5

Doyle d. Guidry

11-6, 11-3, 11-5

Johnson d. Harnett

4-11, 11-9, 11-1, 8-11, 11-5

Swain d. Krickorian

11-6, 11-8, 11-3

Pittsburgh

season. It was Yellen's first win in his battle back to number 1. It was Swain's first tournament back on the IRT. It was Ray's first showing fully recovered from a pre season knee injury. This year, the Racquet Club of Pittsburgh welcomed the pros for even more surprises as the upsets for this event came in the semi's instead of the early rounds. When the smoke cleared, Gonzalez left with the check and his second big win of the season.

In the opening round, #1 seed Roberts had his hands full with qualifier Rob McKinney. Looking a little stiff, Roberts got off to a slow start before flexing his IRT muscles for the decisive win in the breaker. Rookie Ellis put up a good fight before losing to #12 Clouse in four games. In a battle of Estca teammates and club favorites, #13 Obremski had a bit more trouble than expected with #20 Brian Jorgenson before closing in four. Krickorian posted a good win in four over Memphis State top gun Scott Reiff.

The only real upset in the round of sixteen came to #7 seed Harnett at the hands of #10 Johnson. In five games of grit and hustle, Johnson proved he is still the tour giant killer in that he can post an upset at any time, anywhere. A little con-

sistency would be a valuable weapon for Johnson. Harnett, in the midst of a long, tough climb back through the ranks of the IRT, is seeking some big wins to get back to the top spot.

Yellen and Newman played a smart shoot-and-move five games that left Yellen on top with the aid of an impeccable ceiling game. Ray was extended to four games by Ceresia. All other match-ups in this round ended with the favorite on top in a quick three.

Two of the quarters were over with no time wasted. First Ray came out of the gate with Doyle's number and capitalized in three. Next, Roberts struck hard and fast to grab the victory over Yellen in three.

Johnson scored yet another in his amazing string of upsets by dispatching Swain in four games. Swain, having won three of the last four events, never anticipated Johnson's mounting an all out attack. Johnson played solid ball and advanced to the semi's.

Always a war when they meet, Gonzalez and Kachtik matched up in the quarters as well. Regarded as two of the best hustlers on the court, each has more than his share of drive and heart. Gonzalez just never accepts that any ball is out of

play. Kachtik simply sacrifices his body and is not afraid to scramble to "win ugly" when he has to. In five tough very physical games, Gonzalez claimed the win.

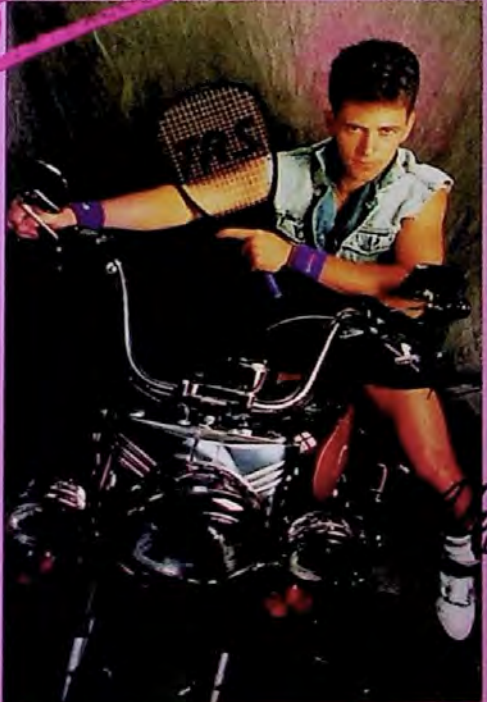
As Johnson and Ray met in the semi's, most of the crowd wondered if Johnson could keep up the upsets for one more round. Down two games to one after three, he mounted an offensive that proved that he could. The victory brought the Southern Californian into his first final of the year, a big win against the #2 seed, and the better side of a doughnut along the way in the fourth game.

Gonzalez had less trouble from Roberts in the top bracket. Going only four games, Gonzalez proved that he is one of only a handful of IRT pros that can topple the Memphis Powerhouse.

In the final, Gonzalez allowed Johnson only one game victory before finishing him off. Just past his fortieth birthday, Gonzalez has established himself as being as strong as any player on the tour. Always a crowd favorite in any city on the IRT, Gonzalez used Pittsburgh to add credibility to his earlier season win in Montreal. The victory keeps all the wins this season among the top four players, Roberts, Swain, Ray, and Gonzalez.

Bad Influence

By TRS



World's Hardest Hitting Racquet...Sure It Has Been Said Before...Now The Proof Is In Your Own Hands

TRANSITION RACQUET SPORTS

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE NEAREST DEALER OR FREE CATALOG CALL 1-800-473-4425

VCI Spreadsheet

IRT

1. Andy Roberts (2)
Memphis, Tennessee
2. Cliff Swain (3)
Braintree, Massachusetts
3. Mike Ray (1)
Hilton Head, South Carolina
4. Ruben Gonzalez (5)
Staten Island, New York
5. Drew Kachtik (4)
Dallas, Texas
6. Tim Doyle (6)
Huntington Beach, California
7. Bret Harnett (8T)
Las Vegas, Nevada
- 8T. Jack Newman (7)
Hoffman Estates, Illinois
- 8T. Dave Johnson (13)
Huntington Beach, California
10. Mike Guidry (10)
Dallas, Texas
- 11T. Woody Clouse (11T)
Jacksonville, Florida
- 11T. Dan Obremski (11T)
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
13. Tim Sweeney (8T)
Chicago, Illinois
14. Mike Ceresia (14)
Montreal, Quebec, Canada
15. Jason Krickorian (15T)
Boston, Massachusetts
16. Roger Harripersad
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

WPRA

1. Michelle Gould (4)
Boise, Idaho
2. Marci Drexler (6)
San Diego, California
3. Jacqueline Paraiso-Gibson (1)
San Diego, California
4. Toni Bevelock (3)
Santa Ana, California
5. Dotty Kelly (5)
Allentown, Pennsylvania
6. Malia Bailey (2)
Norfolk, Virginia
7. Robin Levine (10)
Sacramento, California
8. Marcy Lynch (7)
North Wales, Pennsylvania
9. Kaye Kuhfeld (9)
Indianapolis, Indiana
10. Lynne Coburn (8)
Baltimore, Maryland
11. Chris Evon (11)
San Diego, California
- 12T. Dee Ferreira-Worth (12)
Anaheim Hills, California
- 12T. Robin Whitmire (13)
Atlanta, Georgia
14. Janelle Mariott (15)
West Warwick, Rhode Island
15. Molly O'Brien
Souderton, Pennsylvania
16. Ellen Crawford (16)
Syracuse, New York

VCI Challenge Cup Series

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

American Amateur Racquetball Association

18 & Under

1. Jason Thoerner
 2. James Mulcock
 3. Jason Mannino
 4. Craig Rappaport
 5. Javed Aghaloo
-
1. Elkova Icenogle
 - 2T. Britt Engel
 - 2T. Rachel Gellman
 4. Letisha Bussell
 5. Amber Frisch

Racquetball Canada

1. Sherman Greenfeld
 2. Simon Roy
 3. Roger Harripersad
 4. Mike Ceresia
 5. Haydn Jones
-
1. Heather Stupp
 2. Carol McFetridge
 3. Sue McTaggart
 4. Jose Grandmaitre
 5. Vicki (Brown) Shanks

Garden State Racquetball Association

- Semi-Pro
1. Dan Llacera
 2. Sudsy Monchik
 3. Jason Maninno
 4. Bill Serafin
 5. Mike Sekul
-
- Open
1. Lorraine Galloway
 2. Marcy Lynch
 3. Molly O'Brien
 4. Doreen Metzold
 5. Ellen Crawford
-
- Open
1. Bill Leavy
 - 2T. Glen Carlson
 - 2T. Mitch Posner
 4. Kevin Devine
 5. Eric Eisman
-
- Open
1. Tina Bates
 2. Lisa Gaertner
 3. Jean Hallahan
 4. Helen Thomas
 5. Doreen Metzold
 - 5T. Jennifer Hendel
-
- A
1. Glenn Garrison
 2. Glenn Carlson
 3. Peter Appel
 4. Jesus Reina
 5. Guy Petty
-
- Open
1. Teresa Vaccaro
 2. Ann Stark
 3. Helen Thomas
 4. Lisa Calitri
 5. Gab Delorenzo

The featured state in the next issue
of VCI Spreadsheet will be
Florida



VW CREDIT, INC.



Season's Greetings

Drexler takes Philadelphia in the exciting WPRA season opener

With all the changes in the administration of the WPRA, the first stop on the

women's professional racquetball tour, the Philadelphia Grand Slam, came with a bit of confusion. Always a first class event, the Highpoint Athletic Club's pro stop has been a tour favorite. This year, changes in personnel on the WPRA board, and last minute adjustments to the schedule left a few players wondering exactly when the official season would start. Injuries and retirements also played their part leaving a somewhat unusual draw. With the season now underway, most of the confusion seems to have subsided and a now solid schedule promises an ample portion of exciting competition.

At this event, #3 ranked Toni Bevelock was out due to a sprained ankle. Dottie Kelly (#5) is on maternity leave. #10 Robin Levine didn't show. Lynn Adams and Caryn McKinney have retired from regular

touring. Michelle Gould played the event, but in obvious discomfort in the aftermath of knee surgery.

#1 seed, Jackie Paraiso-Gibson ran into a surprisingly close first round match with Chicagoan, Cheryl Gudinas. Gudinas put away a bad lob serve and won the first game with a perfectly executed killshot off the back wall. Unable to hold the momentum, Gudinas eventually fell victim to Paraiso-Gibson's tremendous consistency. Jackie proved tougher in the quarters, defeating Chris Evon easily in three.

Paraiso-Gibson was then poised to meet ex-doubles partner, Michelle Gould in the semi's. To get to the semi's, Gould easily defeated new mother of twins, Lauren Sheprow-Echegaray in three. Lynne Coburn proved a worthy challenge in the quarters to test Michelle's four-weeks of knee surgery recuperation. After winning the first game, Coburn looked to have control of the match. Gould came on strong with a powerful, accurate service game and won the next three to advance. Former doubles partners, both Paraiso-Gibson and Gould were hungry for their semi final. Gould controlled the pace from the start and ripped into the final in three straight.

The bottom half of the draw demonstrated more crowd-pleasing, nip-and-tuck matches with both quarters reaching tiebreakers. #2 seed, Malia Bailey advanced to the quarters with a decisive win over Nebraska's Laura Fenton. Fenton has a smooth game and was part of the doubles team that ousted Gould and Kelly at the AARA National Doubles last year. She was not strong enough this time to con-

Marci Drexler and Molly O'Brien in Philadelphia.



Right: Jacqueline Paraiso-Gibson.
Far right: Kaye Kuhfeld.

tend with Bailey's experience and lost in three. Tour veteran, Kaye Kuhfeld, also advanced without a problem over Southern California's Dee Ferreira-Worth. Ferreira-Worth put up a great fight, but Kuhfeld was in control for the win in three.

Those two quarter final defeats set up a familiar quarterfinal battle between Bailey and Kuhfeld. As with all the matches from Philly, this one was eagerly awaited as one of the tell-tale matches that would show how strong each player was coming into the new season. Well-matched through four games, Bailey finally buckled down for the decisive win in the breaker.

This set up an interesting semi final between Bailey and #4 seed Marci Drexler. Drexler reached the quarters with relative ease beating New Yorker, Lorraine Galloway in three. She then ran into her toughest competition of the tournament,



home-town favorite Molly O'Brien. O'Brien had upset #5 seed, Marcy Lynch in four games. O'Brien has always been difficult to beat in her own club, and the crowd was behind her 100% to upset the left-handed Drexler and become a dark horse in the semi's.



It was a match of momentum, with the server controlling the game. Each player fought through the first four games, dominating the other with plenty of flare! Marci's go-for-broke game style kept her alive and kicking in the first and fourth, taking them 11-3, 11-5 respectively. But

TRANSITION

Racquet Sports



T.R.S.

Features The New Phase I Ultra Light

- World's Lightest ... 195 Grams
- 100% Graphite Frame
- 2 Built In Vibration Dampening Systems
- Great For Females, Juniors, and Players With Chronic Arm Problems
- Generates Tremendous Head Speed With Little Effort
- Serious Power Without Jeopardizing The Control

Used By Top Players Everywhere

Elaine Mardas Hooghe

11 National Titles
8 Ohio Women's Open
Championships
2 Time U.S. Team Member

Shane Vanderson

3 World Titles
5 Regional Titles
5 National Titles
5 State Titles

Looks Can Kill...

FEATHER WEIGHTS.....

Phase I UltraLight

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE NEAREST DEALER
OR FREE CATALOG CALL 1-800-473-4425



O'Brien's control and court wisdom kept her going strong in the second and third winning 11-7, 11-3. The tie-breaker looked to be all Molly as she pulled out to an early lead. The tide turned with a series of Drexler overhead reverse pinch rollouts.



The Drexler/Bailey semi was anticlimactic after that roller coaster ride of a match. Although each game was close, Bailey couldn't shut the door, and lost in three straight.

This led to what should have been a

Far left: Malia Bailey. Left: Marci Drexler's backhand.

great final match; all spectators were looking forward to a major shoot out between two of the hardest hitting women on the pro tour. No one knew what to predict as the two challengers began their warm up. Michelle had said earlier that her goal was to make the quarterfinals after not playing for several months while she rested her injury-worn body. But injured or not, Michelle is always a threat with her precision/power game. The Paraiso-Gibson match was evidence of that.

The Philadelphia tournament in 1991 was the only time Drexler had beaten Gould in their four meetings. Her game plan this time was clear—move Gould around to take advantage of the knee problem. The plan paid off. Unable to bend for good clean kills, Gould fell victim to Drexler's pinches and passes. Able to do little more than go to the ceiling, Gould was unable to put up a fight beyond the first game. In the end, Drexler took the cash in three.

What's the point of buying a racquet with great feel and touch... and then settling for gloves that interrupt your sense of oneness with it?

Well, for one thing,

not much else has been available. That's why Marty Hogan Racquetball decided to introduce our own gloves — with patterns that are cut to fit the natural shape of your grip, and sewn on a precurved last.

Ovation

Pittard Quartz



Dominator

Pittard Staysoft



The only way to handle



Marcy Lynch

Marci Drexler

11-7, 11-3, 11-3

Michelle Gould

SEMIS

Gould d. P.-Gibson

11-7, 11-6, 11-9

Drexler d. Bailey

11-9, 11-7, 11-10

QUARTERS

P.-Gibson d. Evon

11-4, 11-0, 11-9

Gould d. Coburn

6-11, 11-6, 11-8

Drexler d. O'Brien

11-3, 7-11, 3-11, 11-5, 11-8

Bailey d. Kuhfeld

11-4, 9-11, 11-4, 1-11, 11-3

SIXTEENS

P.-Gibson d. Gudinas

10-11, 11-4, 11-4, 11-9

Evon d. Whitmire

11-6, 11-0, 11-5

Coburn d. Crawford

11-9, 11-6, 4-11, 11-2

Gould d. Sheprow

11-0, 11-1, 11-5

Drexler d. Galloway

11-9, 11-5, 11-5

O'Brien d. Lynch

11-5, 5-11, 11-7, 11-1

Kuhfeld d. F.-Worth

11-4, 11-8, 11-4

Bailey d. Fenton

11-7, 11-6, 11-4

Philadelphia

There's less bunching.
So you feel the racquet —
not wrinkles. And we use
only premium materials
like Pittard Quartz Cabretta,
the thinnest and most supple
type of textured leather
available — specially treated
to resist water and dry soft.

Tribute
Goatskin



Vision
Cabretta



Never stiff and hard.
**Finally, you can buy gloves
designed with FlexLogic™,
just like our racquets.**

**Gloves
that go hand-in-hand
with winning.**

Reactor
Synthetic



your racquet.

**Marty Hogan
Racquetball**

A Division of ProKennex

9606 Kearny Villa Road

San Diego, CA 92126

**MARTY
HOGAN**
RACQUETBALL

ESPN: It's Good For Us All

By Hank Marcus

Commissioner, International Racquetball Tour

ESPN: Professional racquetball returns to the bigtime for the first time in 10 years! Thanks to the tremendous support of VW Credit, Inc. once again some of the best athletes in the world will be seen by everyone who loves sports, not just racquetball. The VCI Challenge Cup Series finals to be played June 23-27 in Minneapolis at the beautiful Northwest Swim, Racquet, & Health Club in Burnsville will provide the perfect setting for racquetball's return to "major media". Thanks to VW Credit and its interest in the long term growth of the tour, we will all be able to see Swain vs Ray or Roberts vs Gonzalez on national television. ESPN is sports television's highest step before the big 3 networks and where the talents of the pro's should and will be showcased.

Now that you have the facts, what does it all mean? Over the years that I have been involved with racquetball, I have always been told that any worthwhile goal that the sport accomplished was good for me as a racquetball player. The pro tour is good for me, the AARA is good for me, **KILLSHOT** magazine is good for me, the Olympic movement is good for me, and now ESPN. I bought into this for a long time like most other players I knew accepting that all these things were good for me. Want to know why?

I am not here with the answers for everyone but I think I have an idea. First, all these things are good for the sport of racquetball and therefore for everyone involved. That's the easy answer but it is true. I think this "all for one" attitude is one of the great things about our sport. When

you take 10,000,000 people in North America playing racquetball that equals a lot of people but those of us in the sport know that the numbers are not as important as the relationships with the people that you develop playing a tough opponent in your club, seeing familiar faces at tournaments, or getting up close to the best players in the sport in person or through **KILLSHOT**. That, I argue, is the reason that whatever happens that is good for racquetball is good for you and me; because, it promotes the sport we all love and always affects someone we know in the sport from the junior player at the club to the golden masters player. In a way, we are all in this together and when the pro's move up to ESPN this summer, it does more than just promote the sport; it excites and causes our sport to grow. With ESPN in the future, and the amount of television exposure VW Credit has brought to the pro tour we may finally get the ball color change so many of you have asked me about. And, you know what? That will be good for all of us too because we will be able to finally see the ball when Doyle or Harnett hit it 175 mph.

Crew West Bonus Pool Standings

1. Andy Roberts
2. Cliff Swain
3. Tim Doyle
4. Dave Johnson
5. Ruben Gonzalez
6. Jack Newman
7. Woody Clouse
8. Tim Sweeney

Head Anatom Bonus Pool Standings

1. Mike Ray
2. Dave Johnson
3. Bret Harnett
- 4T. Woody Clouse
- 4T. Dan Fowler
- 4T. Mike Ceresia
7. Dan Obremski
- 8T. Jason Krickorian
- 8T. Scott Lipareli
10. Doug Ganim

BI RAK IT Standings

1. Woody Clouse
2. Aaron Katz
3. Michael Bronfield
4. Egan Inoue
5. Sudsy Monchick
6. Jason Mannino
7. Mike Brady
8. Sonny Greene

Penn Glove Bonus Pool

1. Cliff Swain
2. Dave Johnson
3. Woody Clouse
- 4T. Dan Fowler
- 4T. Jason Krickorian
- 4T. Scott Lipareli
- 4T. Mike Ceresia
- 8T. Scott Reiff
- 8T. Roger Harripersad
10. Jeff Evans

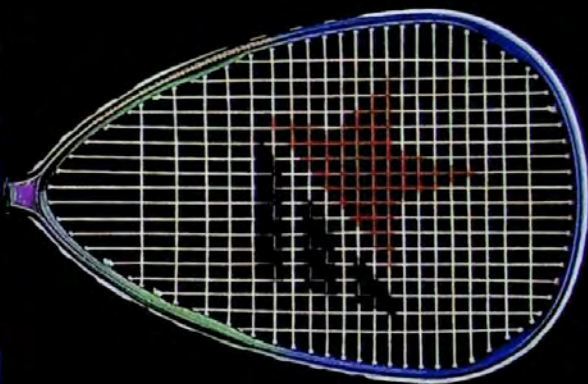


Special Offer: Dan Obremski Pro Issue \$169.99
Pacific Sports Warehouse
1-800-835-1055
(Expires May 31 1993)

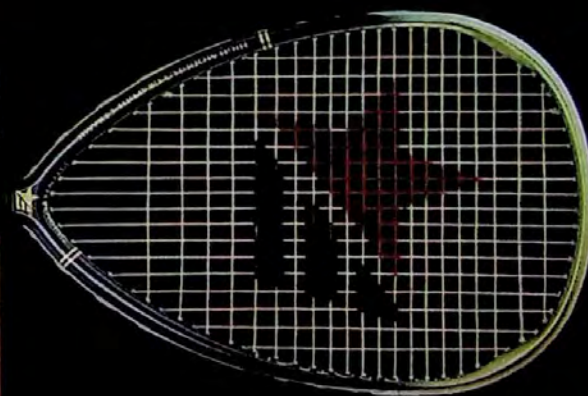
ESTCA Racquetball Products

Estca racquetball products
 pro-designed for optimum
 performance, utilizing
 state-of-the-art
 technology and years of
 engineering experience.

WIN WITH IT 



Dan Obremski Pro Issue
 Exclusive Widebody Design



WB Pirotech
 Patent Pending Roundbody/Widebody Design

Call now for information on the new
 Estca Dan Obremski signature
 line of racquetball products.

ESTCA 17720 NE 65th Street Redmond WA 98052-4903 USA
 Phone 206-881-8989 FAX 206-885-4354

Development, not repetition

For the athletic purist, there are few more perfect ideas than that of going one on one against the enemy in an enclosed arena with nothing more than skill, intellect, and courage. With no means of escape, and no excuses for less than peak performance, he must fight to his potential or fall. Occasional defeat is inevitable, but a poor showing is unacceptable.

For this athlete, every factor is vital. Improvement is the result of a complicated mix of physical and intellectual conditioning. This athlete understands that his own growth is much more complex than just perfecting a new technique. Total, balanced evolution is achievable and is the result of a dynamic milieu of factors that elude the narrow focus of limited range repetition.

The racquet sports world has traditionally emphasized the skill of the body's dominate side. Today, racquet enthusiasts that understand the necessity for a more beneficial system of development are growing through **BI RAK IT**. More than strengthening a weak side, **BI RAK IT** encourages a bilateral symmetry whose effects directly contribute to the complex matrix of athletic ability. More simply put, the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.

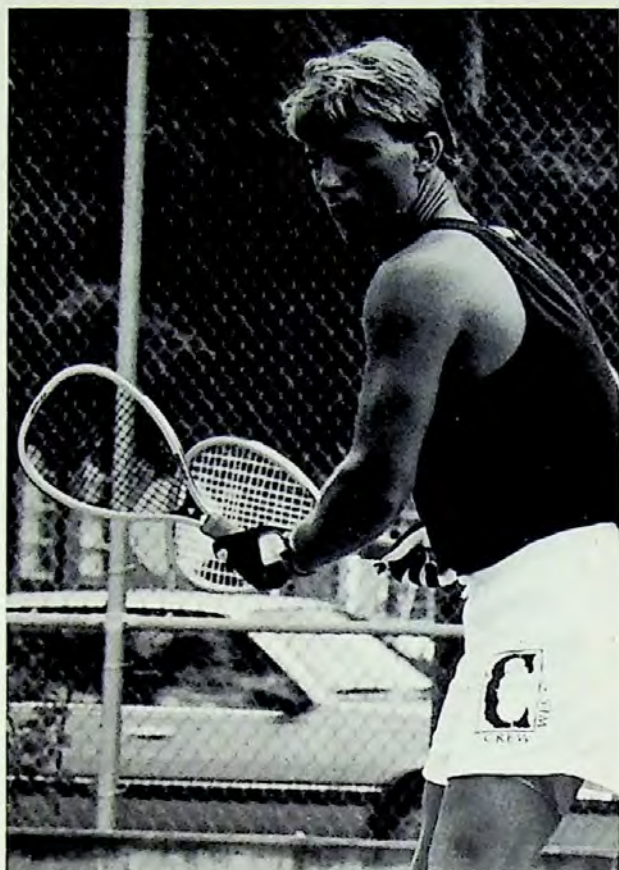
Because of its benefits, **BI RAK IT** is now the official cross training sport of the International Racquetball Tour and is played at all Pro Stops. The IRT pros report noticeable benefits, fierce competition, and ...fun. Woody Clouse and Aaron Katz are only the first winners in the nationwide series of events leading to the **BI RAK IT** Nationals.

To learn = to modify oneself = **BI RAK IT** = development,
not repetition.



(904) 398-5428

5049 Riverpoint Road
Jacksonville, Florida 32207



No Strings Attached? (Part I)

By John Boudman

Somehow you've lost all the "pop" in your shot. You haven't grown that much older, but after increasing your vitamin dosage, your racquetball shots still get weaker. Is it time to see the doctor? No, it's probably time to see your stringer!!

There are definitely times when racquetball players need stringing services. If you've lost your pop, or frayed a few strings, here are some areas to consider as you contemplate restringing your racquet.

Stringing Frequency. Players should have their racquets restrung as many times per year as they play per week. This is a general guide for all racquet sports. It may differ, depending on a player's needs. If you are seriously equipment-conscious you will have your racquet strung more frequently. (Some players maintain a log as to the number of playing hours on a racquet.)

String Quality. With the use of space

age materials in the newer frames, the quality of string should be suitably matched to player, frame, and style of play. To utilize a thick, inexpensive string in a space-age expensive racquet is like putting wooden wagon wheels on Mario Andretti's race car.

With string, the higher the number, the thinner and better playing it is. An equipment-conscious player should be putting nothing less than a good quality 16 gauge string in the racquet. Although with today's stiffer frames and more open string patterns, hard hitters and frequent players may find it necessary to go to some of the better playing 151 strings to satisfy their durability needs.

Tension/Pattern. Manufacturers recommendations should be followed for tensions and string patterns. Failure to adhere to these instructions can void the warranty and cause severe damage to the racquet.

In special cases, usually with professional players, string tensions and methods of stringing may vary. But generally equipment-aware players will find that manufacturers specifications may be right on for their game. After you consider the details of having your racquet strung you should seek a regular stringer. Someone who knows you and appreciates your return business, is more likely to give you good service, especially in an emergency. Also, having a regular stringer greatly increases the odds of getting racquets strung consistently. This attention to quality will give you fewer unpleasant surprises as you play.

Remember, your racquet and your game are only as good as your strings. The game is usually played off the string bed. Spend more time and effort in that area and you'll be rewarded by a better game.

HIGHTOWER USA

1-800-358-3566

CALL FOR FREE CATALOG

GLOVES

Penn Gloves.....	Please Call
Hogan Dynatack (Red).....	9.99
Hogan Pro Dynatack (Blk/Yel).....	12.99
Ektelon Classic Cabretta.....	10.99
Ektelon All Pro Cabretta.....	8.99
Ektelon Controller.....	7.99
Ektelon Performer.....	14.99
Ektelon Mentor(Synthetic).....	8.99
Head Gloves.....	Please Call
Kennex Gloves.....	Please Call

ACCESSORIES

Balls,Grips,Socks.....	Please Call
Vibration Dampers.....	Please Call
Prince,Wilson String.....	Please Call

RACQUETS

Ektelon Eminence.....	Please Call
Ektelon Strobe.....	Please Call
Ektelon Strion.....	126.99
Ektelon Desori.....	96.99
Head Colossus.....	Please Call
Head Laserspeed.....	Please Call
Hogan ASM/Asymetric SO.....	Please Call
Splading Goliath/Assault.....	Please Call
Estusa Obremski.....	Please Call
Wilson Hammer 2.7.....	Please Call
E-Force Models.....	Please Call



SHOES

Ektelon Voltus 3/4.....	69.99
Ektelon Renegade.....	52.99
Ektelon Nirvana 3/4.....	49.99
Ektelon Indoor Court.....	Please Call

SPORT BAGS

Ektelon Tournament.....	44.99
Ektelon Sports Courier.....	36.99
Ektelon RTS Express.....	29.99
Spalding Pro or Geometric.....	Please Call
Hogan Nitro Pro.....	Please Call

EYEWEAR

Ektelon Interceptor.....	24.99
Ektelon Olympus.....	26.99
Ektelon Prism.....	18.99
Action Eyes.....	Please Call
Leader Eyewear.....	Please Call

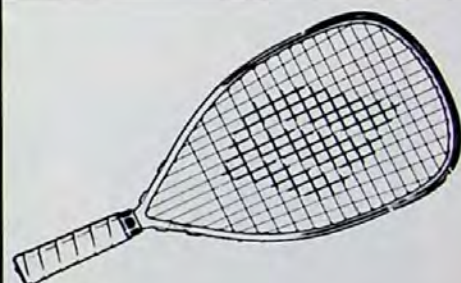
Visa/MC or Discover Card Accepted or send Money Order. Add \$4.95 for UPS Shipping & Insurance. COD add \$4.00. Air shipping available for additional charge. AK, HI, PR, APO or FPO \$11.95. CA residents add 8.25% Sales Tax

INFO (213) 259-8666 FAX (213) 259-9516

Hightower USA 4691 Eagle Rock Blvd. Department RB Los Angeles, CA 90041

Open Mon-Thu 9 am-4pm. Fri. & Sat. 9am-1pm PST.

RAC213

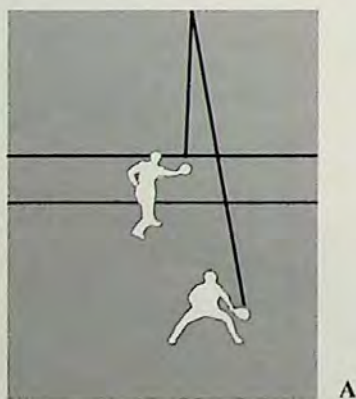


Cutting Off The Ball

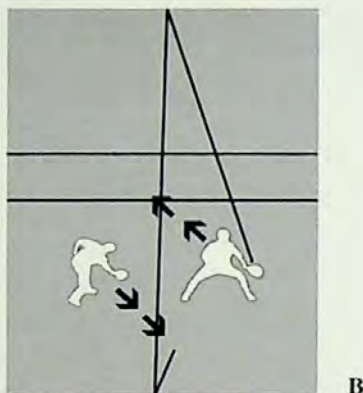
By Fran Davis & Stu Hastings

What does the term "Cutting off the ball" really mean? It means taking the ball out of the air before it bounces. What this does is it keeps your opponent off guard and guessing as well as giving your opponent less time to react, set up and get in position. Most players are taught to wait, be patient, and let the ball bounce (always), but this gives your opponent all the time in the world to react, set up, and get in position. Being aggressive and attacking the ball out of the air is what we advocate. Your opponent is often surprised. The element of surprise works because it keeps your opponent deep and out of position, the name of the game.

During a Rally

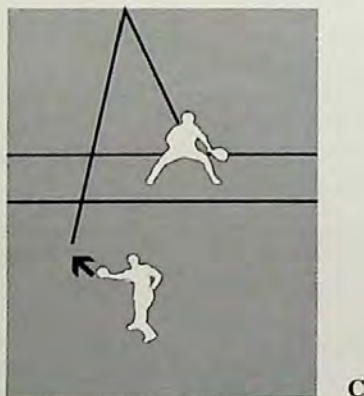


In Diagram A the opponent attempts to hit a pass shot, mis-hits it and it now floats through the middle of the court where you are positioned. Step over, cut it off out of the air and your opponent is caught deep and out of position. This also establishes your center court position and allows greater room for error because your opponent is out of position and caught off guard.



In Diagram B your opponent attempts to hit a pass shot, mis-hits it and it now floats through the middle of the court where you are positioned. You elect to let it bounce and retreat back to hit it. When you move back you relinquish good center court position and your opponent moves up into better court position to defend. This is a definite "no-no". Now your shot has to be perfect because your opponent has gained control of center court.

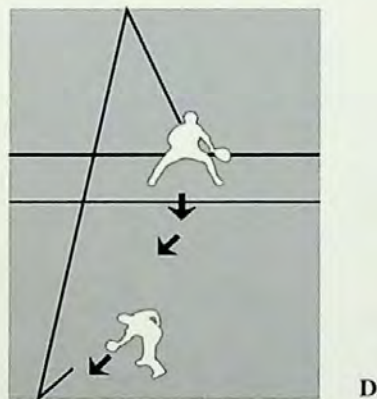
Return of Serve



In Diagram C your opponent attempts

to hit a serve and you elect to attack it and cut it off out of the air. You are now in better court position, your opponent is caught off guard and has little time to relocate back into good center court position to defend.

In Diagram D your opponent attempts to hit a serve and you elect to let it bounce and you retreat back to hit it. When you move back, you wind up deep and out of position. Your opponent can now relocate out of the service box and get into good court position to defend your return.



You can see how effective this shot can be because of the element of surprise and the less reaction time it allows your opponent. Add this to your game, little by little, only after you've practiced it. You should practice two drills:

1. Drop & hit (no bounce)
2. Set-up & hit (no bounce)

Don't go crazy and attack everything and cut everything off. Generally, if it is chest high or higher, let it bounce and drop into your hitting zone or come off the back wall. Remember, your goal is to keep your opponent off balance and deep. You also want to diversify your shots so that you don't become predictable. By adding this shot to your shot selection you become a more well-rounded threatening player.

Coming to Baltimore
April 29- May 2, 1993

The 1993 Diet Pepsi WPRA National Championship

See the top women racquetball
pros compete for over \$15,000

Amateur Divisions Are Open
For All Levels of Players

For More Information Call:
**Merritt Athletic Club-
Security**
(410) 298-8700

To Benefit the Juvenile Diabetes
Foundation

Harbor Square Athletic
Club
(Edmonds, WA)
Hosts the

The TransCoastal Grand Nationals

The National Championship
of the
TransCoastal
International Racquetball
Tour

May 12-15, 1993



June 3-5, 1993
Portland, Oregon

*The Multnomah Athletic Club
Presents*

The TransCoastal Tournament of Champions

The top ranked players from
the IRT battle it out for the
coveted title



FRAN ^{PLUS} STU

= the Total Solution

A Winning Formula from a Winning Team

Add it up. You'll get more for your money with the racquetball coaching team, **Fran Davis and Stu Hastings (U.S. Team Coaches).** **The TWO BEST HEADS** are together again, conducting 3-day racquetball camps in your area.

Physical and Mental Skills + Nutrition + Conditioning + Training Methods = Our Total Training Solution.

Only Fran and Stu have the combined World Class training skills that you need. And that's **THE REAL PLUS!**

—TIMES—

FRI. 7:30PM-11:00PM
SAT. 9:00AM-6:00PM
SUN. 8:30AM-1:00PM

Jun. 11-13	Cincinnati, OH	Midtown Athletic Club	Aug. 6-8	Wilmington, DE	Pike Creek Court Club
Jun. 18-20	Colma, CA	What A Racquet	Aug. 13-14	*Aurora, CO	Aurora Athletic Club
	(San Francisco Area)			(Denver Area)	
Jul. 16-18	Seattle, WA	Olympic Athletic Club	Aug. 27-29	South Plainfield, NJ	Ricochet Health & Rac. Club

*Special 2 Day Price & Hours:
\$159, Friday 6pm-11pm, Saturday 9am-4pm

MAIL TO OR CONTACT: A HEALTHY RACQUET, INC., 28 Ramsey Road, Middlesex, NJ 08846 (908) 560-0647 FAX (908) 469-2262

Affiliated with ADA, AARA and US National Team

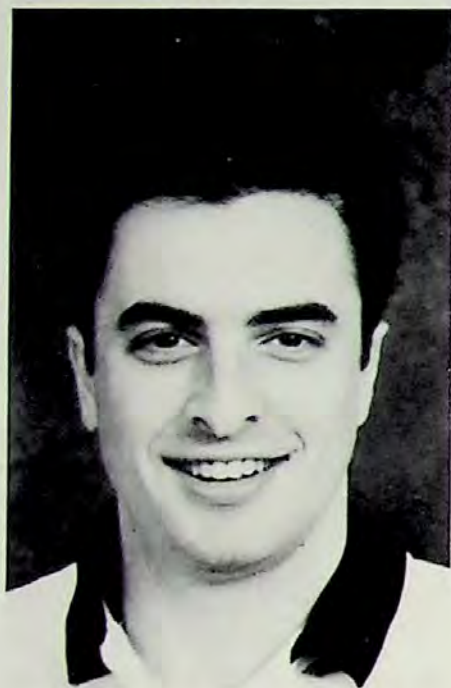


KILL SHOT • 35

America's

MOST WANTED

Racquetball



A Strong Ceiling Game...

- 1) Forces your opponent into back court and affords control of center court.
- 2) Usually leaves you with a lot of offensive shot opportunities.
- 3) Provides a valuable option when you find yourself out of position or off balance.



The Ceiling Game:

The Forgotten Tool

The ceiling ball is probably one of the least liked but most effective tools in Racquetball. Boring to watch and even more boring to practice, it is often neglected for the sake of more dramatic, more directly offensive weapons. With the always-shoot-to-kill mindset of today's player, a strong ceiling ball is frequently missing or at least weak at all levels of play.

While passes and pinches have always ended rallies with more pizzazz, an effective ceiling game has been a vital tool for all the greats of the game. Charlie Brumfield, the dominant player of the 1970's, utilized a truly great ceiling game. "Brum" used well-timed and well-placed shots to the ceiling as part of a brilliant overall array of strategic play.

In the 1980's, Marty Hogan and Mike Yellen included strong ceiling games in arsenals that allowed them to dominate the

By Jack Newman

pro field. Because he is most often remembered for his innovative power game, Hogan's ceiling balls often received less credit than they deserved. Yellen's defensive game was legendary and is still effective against the world's best.

Mike Ray and Andy Roberts, the top players in the 1990's, effectively use the ceiling as well. Roberts executes ceiling balls as a smart change-up from his usual drives. Ray employs deception as he can shoot a reliable ceiling ball from the same movement he uses for his patented overhead kills.

A good ceiling ball is so effective because it forces opponents into the back court and affords control of center court. Having a better ceiling game than your opponent, will usually leave you with a lot

of offensive shot opportunities. A reliable ceiling game provides a valuable option when you find yourself out of position or off balance.

My recent experiences against Mike Yellen in pro play reminded me just how much difference a strong ceiling game could make. I had the misfortune of running up against Mike in back to back tournaments in February of this year, and so had to face one of the best ceiling games ever. First in Atlanta at the VCI Pro Am, then in Pittsburgh at the Shop-N-Save Pro Am, Mike used a smart game plan and consistent execution to claim the victories in five games. Without a doubt, his tremendous consistency in the ceiling game was a huge factor in his success.

In both matches, Mike served me lobs and lob Z's to both sides of the court. I originally went to the ceiling with my returns, soon finding that it was extremely

A Good Ceiling Shot

To hit a good ceiling ball, as Mike Yellen does, begin by facing the side wall with your racquet up. Use a stiff wrist to hit the ball with the racquet face angled up. If you "snap" your wrist, you will sacrifice control and over hit. As with any shot, let your body do the work. Rotate your shoulders toward the front wall by pivoting your hips. This movement gives you the power you need when shooting for the ceiling.

difficult to go shot for shot to the ceiling with Mike. I found myself losing most rallies since he was able to go to the ceiling with authority, even from an off-balance stance. I became more and more aggressive out of the gate, cutting off Mike's serves, and playing more drives to keep him even more off balance. Sensing my difficulty, he still flicked my shots up to the ceiling. I was the one off balance since it seemed I was always forcing shots off good ceiling balls. My ceilings, on the other hand, seemed to always catch side walls, kick out, and become set-ups for Mike. As boring or routine as the ceiling

game may seem, it is undeniable that to defeat Yellen today, my ceiling game must improve so I can find a way to turn the situation into my advantage.

While ceiling balls lack the impact or drama of the usual rally ending shots, they are vital to set up the situation necessary for effective put-aways. Since a less-than-perfect ceiling ball usually turns into a set up, many players shy away from it early on. For the same reason, it is extremely important to perfect the ceiling ball early in your development, and to include it in your regular practice sessions.

UnderGlove

The 100% Cotton Sock
for your Hand

- Extends glove and grip life
- Prevents the "Squishy" feeling
- Always a SURE GRIP
- SAVES YOU MONEY
- Wear under any sport glove



UnderGlove
1916 Bryn Mawr N.E.
Albuquerque, NM 87106
(505) 266-4461

America's Most Wanted Racquetball Camps 1993



Andy Roberts



Tim Sweeney



Jack Newman



Doug Ganim



Ruben Gonzalez

Learn Today's Power Game from America's Top Pros

- Men, Women & Juniors of All Abilities (Beginner to Advanced).
- One on One Instruction with the World's Best Players.
- Videotape Analysis.
- Camps Limited so Sign-up in Advance!
- Great for Instructors; Learn New Updated Teaching Techniques.
- Hours: Sat.-Sun. 10am - 4pm
- Cost: \$ 150 (Juniors \$ 100)

City	Date	Instructors	City	Date	Instructors
Minneapolis, MN	May 1 - 2	Newman/Roberts	Albuquerque, NM	July 24 - 25	Newman/Roberts
Richland, WA	May 10 - 11	Newman	Canoga Park, CA	July 31 - Aug. 1	Newman/Gonzalez
Sterling, VA	June 12 - 13	Newman/Gonzalez	Billings, MT	August 14 - 15	Newman/Roberts
Atlanta, GA	July 10 - 11	Newman/Roberts	Columbus, OH	August 21 - 22	Newman/Ganim
Woodbridge, NJ	July 17 - 18	Newman/Gonzalez	Lombard, IL	August 28 - 29	Newman/Sweeney

VISA OR MASTERCARD welcomed. **PHONE: 1-800-ROLLOUT**

Eating for Performance

By Marcy Lynch
Nutrition Editor

A considerable amount of interesting research is starting to surface relating food and its inherent nutrients to chemical reactions in the body. We know that we need carbohydrates for fuel and energy, fat for long term reserves, and protein for building and repairing cells. But the research goes a step further and suggests that our appetites and food choices may relate to hormone levels and neurochemical activity within our bodies. Body chemistry may dictate what we crave and when. Learning to eat so that our consumption is in line with our chemical system is the key to any goal whether it be blood sugar regulation for the dia-

betic, weight loss for the obese, or optimal performance for the athlete.

Many of our habits today wreak havoc on neurochemical balances; over consumption of caffeine, fat, sugar, or alcohol, skipping meals, overeating, and being "stressed-out".

Chemical imbalances may be responsible for our feeling irritable, depressed, and taken to extremes, may lead to dysfunctional behavior, even violence.

So what do we eat and how do we tune in to our body chemistry?

Carbohydrates tend to elevate mood. They have a calming effect but can also cause sleepiness and lack of alertness. Carbs stimulate the release of insulin from the pancreas which then



Subscribe Today!

Action
Personalities
Instruction
Equipment

KILLSHOT

M A G A Z I N E

Don't miss a single issue. Subscribe today and have the exciting world of racquetball delivered to you bi-monthly

Please send 5 issues of **KILLSHOT** at the subscription price of \$16.95. \$26.95 in Canada (Please pay in U.S. funds)

Enclosed: \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

KILLSHOT P.O. Box 8036 Paducah, KY 42002-8036

lowers the blood levels of all the amino acids except tryptophan. Normally tryptophan competes with other amino acids for entry into the brain. Without competition, tryptophan is able to enter the brain where it is converted to serotonin. Serotonin sends messages to nerve cells and helps to regulate sleep and appetite, reduce irritability, and elevate mood. If you remember, tryptophan was promoted as a cure for insomnia until it was recently taken off the market.

Contrary to carbohydrate, protein and fiber-rich foods slow down the rise and fall of blood sugar caused by carbohydrates and actually help stimulate our systems and make us more alert.

Caffeine and sugar are often used to regulate mood and fatigue levels. The effect, however, is temporary and the sugar or caffeine must be repeated to maintain the effect. Eliminating sugar and caffeine altogether has been shown to make people feel better without setting up the vicious quick fix cycle.

The best breakfast from a neurochemical standpoint involves carbohydrates. We need them to kick start our blood sugar levels after fasting all night. Simple carbs

(sugary cereals, pastries, etc.) do the job but cause too severe a rise in blood sugar followed by a severe drop. Complex carbs (orange juice, wheat toast, whole grain cereals) cause a more gradual increase in blood sugar.

The body starts to crave protein around lunchtime and the need for it continues through dinner. Both lunch and dinner should contain a source of protein.

In the late afternoon our taste for fat increases with increased galamin production. Galamin is a neurochemical produced in the brain which "turns on" our taste for fat. This can be satisfied with a lowfat (rather than nonfat) snack such as a home-made muffin or piece of banana bread.

In terms of performance, the best food to eat before a workout or a match would relate to the time of the day. A morning match would be best preceded by carbohydrates. An afternoon or evening match, based on the above information, should include a combination of protein and complex carbohydrates. This is contrary to the notion of "carb-ing-up" or eating carbs for fuel before a match. Carbo loading is actually done days before a

competition and involves eating a high percentage of complex carbohydrates for several days to load the muscles with glycogen. A plate of pasta or bagel prior to a match is likely to make you tired and sluggish. The pasta or bagel would be a better meal to have post-match (or in training) in the evening to feel relaxed and ready to sleep. A protein source along with a complex carbohydrate will leave you feeling more awake and alert. Some examples are:

tuna or turkey and wheat bread or crackers

lowfat cottage cheese or yogurt and fruit

bean salad (humus) on pita or tortilla

Fat should be avoided since it takes more time to digest than protein or carbohydrates and digestion could interfere with performance.

The suggestions here are based on what I have learned through reading and personal experience. For both health and performance the regimen of choice is high complex carbohydrates, moderate protein, and low fat.

PERFORMANCE RACQUET SPORTS

Information 303-447-9795

Toll Free Order # 1-800-358-2294

•Open M-F, 8 A.M. to 5 P.M. Mountain Time •24 hour message center

RACQUETS

EKTELON	
Eminence	240.00
Strobe	164.55
Xiter	144.95
Strion	122.05
Desori	90.05
Elantra	67.65
Optima	47.55

HEAD

Colossus 3000	141.40
Colossus 1000	59.80
Laser Speed 3000	118.05
Laser Speed 1000	51.65

PRO KENEX

Asymmetric S/O	144.65
Graph ASM 31	137.50
Comp ASM 31	102.85
Graph Presence 31	121.55

SPALDING

Goliath	142.40
Assault Graphite	97.55
Goliath Comp	85.45

BAGS

EKTELON	
Tournament Bag	36.35
Sport Courier	30.75
RTS Express	25.15
Cross Sport	22.95
Racquetballer	16.80

GLOVES

EKTELON	
Sensor	13.45
Performer	12.25
Enforcer	11.00
Classic	9.85
All Pro	8.70

NEUMANN

Gladiator	14.45
Pro Duratack	14.10
Duratack	12.50

EYEWEAR

EKTELON	
Regent	9.55
Legion	12.75
Prism	15.95
Classic	19.15
Argus	21.05
Interceptor	22.35
Olympus	24.25

LEADER

Optiview	22.10
Dallas	20.90
New Yorker	17.20
Albany	16.05

WILSON

Mark I	7.80
Mark III	12.20
Mark V	18.75

SHOES

EKTELON	
Voltus	63.00
Renegade	59.00
Nirvana	46.00
Centar	40.00
F/C Trainer 3/4	52.00
F/C Trainer 5/8	43.00
F/C Lady Trainer	43.00

HEAD

Radial 500	41.50
------------	-------

GRIPS

Ektelon rubber grip	5.50
TackiMac II pkg	5.10
TackiMac II unpkg	4.45
GX Grip pkg	4.20
GX Grip unpkg	3.75

ACCESSORIES

The Worm	2.95
Shockbusters	2.75
Wristlacers	2.50

STRINGS

call for strings available

CUSTOM RACQUET STRINGING AVAILABLE

PERFORMANCE RACQUET SPORTS
12651 Polo Place Broomfield, CO 80020

Visa/Mastercard, COD cash or certified check. \$3.50 shipping, COD add \$4.00. Prices subject to change without notice.



Play Ball...Finally!

After what seems like forever, lots of administrative changes, lots of schedule changes, and months of training, the WPR A season is in full swing. The 1993 tour is short, but strong with some terrific clubs for spectators and some intense competitors.

The Penn pro series is a bonus program for players who finish in the top eight of four of the five designated Penn sponsored WPR A Events. The five Penn events include: Philadelphia in February; Atlanta, Los Angeles, and Syracuse in March; and the WPR A Diet Pepsi Nationals April 29 - May 2.

Penn Pro Series Rankings:

- 1 Marci Drexler
- 2 Michelle Gould
- 3 T Malia Bailey
- 3 T Jacqueline Paraiso-Gibson
- 4 T Lynne Coburn
- 4 T Chris Evon
- 4 T Kaye Kuhfeld
- 4 T Molly O'Brien

Join the WPR A! Support the women racquetball professionals with your membership. Various membership and sponsorship levels are available for competitors, or the general public. Membership packages begin at only \$15. Contact Lauren Sheprow at (305) .

NOW AVAILABLE! NEW KLEER-HOTTM RACQUET & SPORTS EYEWEAR

- ◆ Virtually Indestructible ◆ No Distortion
- ◆ Approved for Racquetball & Squash
- ◆ Made in the USA ◆ Removable side shields
- ◆ Come in a range of designer colors.
- ◆ Replacement lenses available (amber or clear)
- ◆ Will not distort color perception or vision
- ◆ Available in prescription lenses
- ◆ Less expensive

ONLY THE BEST... AT LESS tacki-mac[®] RACQUETBALL GRIPS

- ◆ Wristlacers
- ◆ All Hex Strings
- ◆ Sport Lavit Dry Grip
- ◆ Ashaway Superkill II ◆ Strokemaxxer
- ◆ Kleer Vu Anti-fogger
- ◆ Spalding Rackets ◆ Court Rock Shirts
- ◆ GlovBōnz ◆ Mike Ray Gloves

Available at your Club or Pro Shop, Major Distributors or:

NETWORK MARKETING

205 Axton Ct., Roswell, GA 30076
Phone: (404) 751-9463
FAX: (404) 751-9469

"I Was Framed!"

All the evidence is in on the racquets of the 1992-93 season

By Lynn Balthazor

Every February at the Super Show in Atlanta all the giants of the sports industry meet to display everything new for the new year. In general, the players won't see all this great new stuff until at least Nationals in May, when the first new racquets appear. In June the new lines will be available to the world. All this hype for the new stuff has made me wonder how many players saw all the great stuff that came out in 1992.

1992 was a great year to be playing racquetball. Not only because the game is great fun and a healthy, competitive sport, but also because there were more new, tournament quality frames announced in 1992 than ever before. There were three companies that offered racquets for the top level tournament player for the first time; Esteca, Transition Sports and Wilson. In addition, current top producers like E-Force, Ektelon, Head, Pro Kennex and Spalding offered great new sticks with solid engineering behind them.

In general, competition racquets got lighter, with more weight distributed toward the head. Lighter racquets produce less fatigue and players are less likely to be "hand-cuffed" by the racquet when the ball comes right into their body during play. The increased head weight causes the racquet to follow through and provides a strong, smooth stroke with less effort. If you think your current racquet may be too heavy for your game, pay attention to your back swing in the tie-breaker, particularly on your backhand. If the racquet is too heavy, fatigue will cause you to punch at the ball from waist high instead of getting the racquet well back and up before the stroke. If you are having fatigue problems, some of the new superlight racquets could make a visible difference

in your game.

Several of the manufacturers (Esteca, Wilson) began forming the racquet handle out of graphite like the head of the racquet. This eliminated the need for a foam or soft grip handle and top cap and reduced the racquet's overall weight, and particularly the weight in the handle. This strategy allowed a more head heavy balance with lower overall weight. However, a torsion tube of graphite cannot be shaved to shape like the old foam handles. So like the Ektelon cushion grip system, the new handles must be selected with care to be the right size and shape for you. Dealers are getting much more creative in suggesting new grips to adjust the feel of unchangeable handles. The Ektelon, Gexco, TackiMac and Unique grips all give a very different feel and size to the handle. They are also different weights and can affect the balance of the new superlight frames. Accordingly, the right grip should be selected with care. The Ektelon and Unique are

lightest and thinnest, followed by Gexco, then TackiMac, the thickest and most cushioned. The best way to get an overview of the racquet market is to look at each company in alphabetical order.

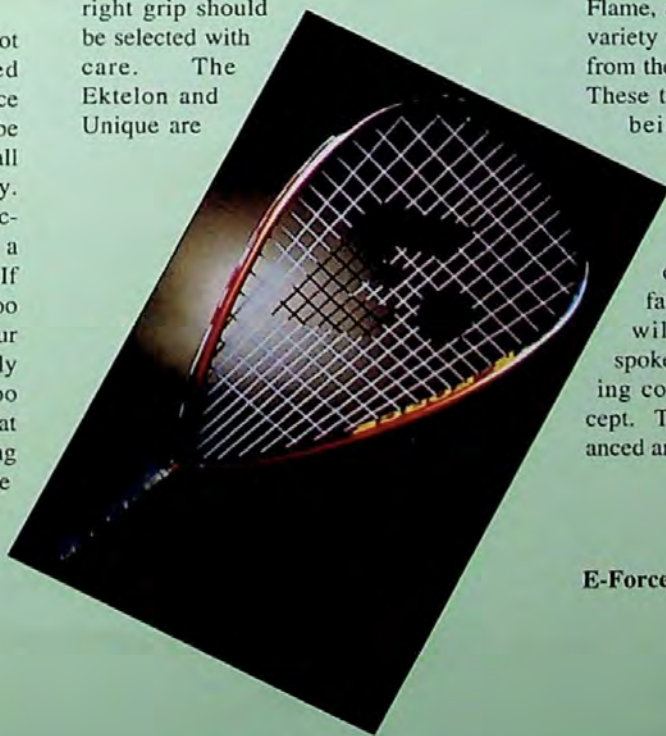
E-Force

E-Force renamed popular the top-of-the-line (formerly in its second incarnation as "the Answer") again to the Terminator. The Signature was renamed the Predator and given new colors and graphics, but aficionados of these frames will be glad to know that these models are still in line.

E-Force also announced a new intermediate racquet called the Stealth. Late in the year E-Force announced two new high performance racquets, the Weapon and the Real Deal. The word on the weapon is that it has been welcomed warmly by that segment of the playing public that was already generating high ball speeds. Also joining the line were two new low end frames, the Flame, and the Phantom, creating a wider variety of frames than has been available from the Honolulu based company to date. These two also mark a new direction by being the first aluminum frames offered by E-Force.

E-Force was the first of the current companies to go to the superlight concept. The effect on power shots and the decreased fatigue indicate that it is an idea we will see more of. Company spokesman, Egan Inoue, has been having considerable success with the concept. The E-Force racquets are well balanced and always worth a try.

E-Force Weapon



Ektelon

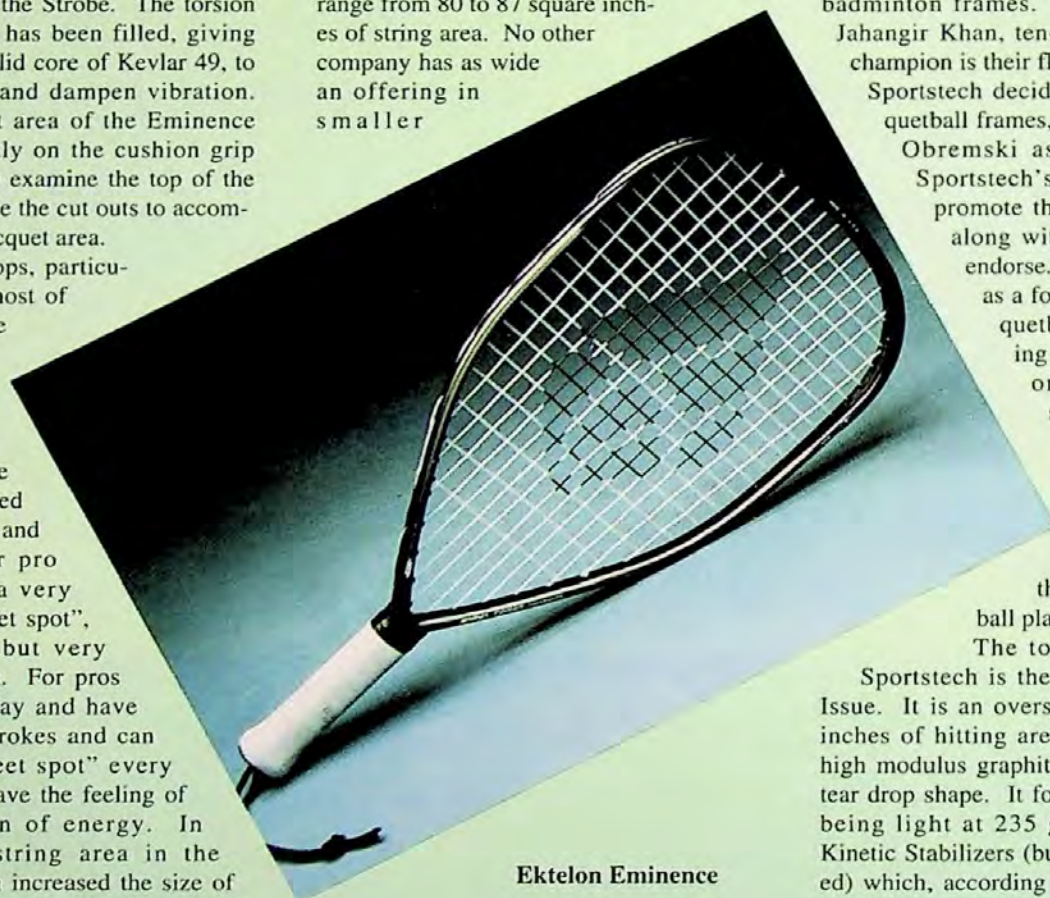
Ektelon kept its successful Strobe in line, but did introduce several new frames including a new top-of-the-line model above the Strobe called the Eminence. The Eminence pushed the racquetball racquet price limits with a suggested list of \$300. It is 21 inches in length, with two more square inches of string area (97 as compared to 95) than the Strobe and the previous Mirada. At 240 grams, it is weighted and balanced like the Strobe. The torsion tube construction has been filled, giving the Eminence a solid core of Kevlar 49, to reduce breakage and dampen vibration. The extra racquet area of the Eminence encroached slightly on the cushion grip handle, and if you examine the top of the handle, you will see the cut outs to accommodate the new racquet area.

In the pro stops, particularly the men's, most of the pros have stayed with the Strobe rather than switching to the Eminence. The Strobe was designed for expert players and is very good for pro players. It has a very concentrated "sweet spot", that is a small, but very potent hitting area. For pros who play every day and have very consistent strokes and can hit with the "sweet spot" every time, the Strobe gave the feeling of an intense return of energy. In increasing the string area in the Eminence, Ektelon increased the size of the "sweet spot" but also diluted the potency, or at least the feeling of power. For the average club player, who plays two or three times a week and never, ever practices, trying to hit the sweet spot on the Strobe could be the never-ending quest. The higher percentage of times that he/she would hit the sweet spot on the Eminence would make up for a slight dilution in the feel. Therefore, despite the price point, the Eminence is probably a better choice for the less consistent player, although it is still aimed for the "Expert" level. The tennis industry has said for years that there should be different racquets for the pro and the club level players. Racquetball has never publicly embraced this concept. The Eminence may be the first racquet that dra-

matically points out this dichotomy.

Also in the Ektelon line is the Xiter made popular in 1991. The Xiter is the same surface area and length as the Strobe, but five grams heavier. Next in line is the Strion and Desori. Both are 245 grams and offer 92 square inches of string area, but the Desori is shorter at 20 inches.

For players who prefer midsize racquets, Ektelon offers a full range of racquets described as "Mid-Plus" that range from 80 to 87 square inches of string area. No other company has as wide an offering in smaller



Ektelon Eminence

frames. In fact, few are offering any "mids" at all. The top-of-the-line mid in 1992 was the Aris, which is the same shape, feel and string pattern as the previous Nemesis. Also for tournament level play is the Tetra, two square inches larger than the Aris. In all, Ektelon's 1992 line-up included 17 frames, so they should have an offering for every game style and price point.

All of the top Ektelon racquets come with the Cushion Response System handle, which is a thermoplastic handle that provides a cushioned feel and vibration dampening.

Estca

Estca Racquetball is a division of Sportstech of Redmond, Washington, a company created by Jackson Tse in 1984. Sportstech markets Estca racquetball, squash and badminton racquets and Amerpro and Estusa tennis racquets. Jimmy Connors is among the top tennis names playing with Amerpro frames.

Sportstech has racquetball, squash and badminton frames. In the squash line, Jahangir Khan, ten-time World Squash champion is their flagship player. When Sportstech decided to introduce racquetball frames, they signed pro Dan Obremski as their top player. Sportstech's policy has been to promote their pro staff players along with the products they endorse. They are using Dan as a focal point in their racquetball product marketing with his photograph on posters and the stencil card on each racquet. It looks great, and anything that promotes racquetball or enhances the image of racquetball players is great by me.

The top-of-the-line from Sportstech is the Dan Obremski Pro Issue. It is an oversize with 108 square inches of hitting area and an ultra stiff, high modulus graphite / boron frame in a tear drop shape. It follows the industry in being light at 235 grams. It also has Kinetic Stabilizers (bumps to the uninitiated) which, according to the manufacturer, are extra wraps of graphite at strategic stress points along the frame. The Kinetic Stabilizers are added to enhance the racquet's durability and stiffness and to improve the racquet's balance. As I understand it, the wing shape of a racquet frame cross section causes the frame to tend to rise when you swing it. The Kinetic Stabilizers break up the wing shape and cause the racquet to swing smooth and level. When I tried it, I hit flatter than ever before, so maybe it works. Or maybe I am very susceptible to marketing hype. In any case, if you can find a demo anywhere, this is definitely worth trying.

Also in the innovative design category is the WB Pirotech, from r2 (pie r square). In the throat area of the racquet, the cross

Estca Dan Obremski Signature

section of the racquet is round. Totally round. Estusa has also used the roundbody concept in tennis. Round is an inherently stable shape. Making the throat area round makes the throat very solid and stable, and gives the racquet a feel of incredible control. It definitely looks different than what you have seen before, but it is an interesting and playable concept.

Also worth mentioning from Estca is their intermediate Quadrapower. Its suggested price is \$100. In a price/performance comparison, it is one of the best racquets available. If you are looking for a lower priced frame that still provides good performance, check into this one.

Head

Head kept the super-oversized Colossus in line, with the Colossus 3000 being the top-of-the-line. They also introduced the slightly smaller LaserSpeed series. The LaserSpeed is an "inside trace" of the Colossus, that is, the outside of the LaserSpeed is the same size and shape as the inside of the Colossus. Head also reinforced the throat of the LaserSpeed to provide more control. While anyone could generate power with the Colossus, some people could not control the ball off the Colossus. With its stiffer throat, the LaserSpeed is a more precise weapon. There are two LaserSpeed models, the high end 3000 and intermediate 1000. At 245 grams, these racquets are traditional in weight and balance. If you like the power potential of the Colossus, but would like a little more precision, try the LaserSpeed. If pure power and a huge, hard to miss sweet spot is your style, the Colossus 2000 is very close in performance to the 3000 at a much lower price point.

The string pattern in the 1991 Colossus was very open at the head which resulted in breakage from mis-hits off the

tip of the racquet. In the 1992 Colossus and LaserSpeed an additional top cross has been added to eliminate this problem. If you are having breakage problems with an old Colossus, your stringer can change the racquet to the new string pattern by using the old tie-off hole at the head as a shared hole for the new top cross. In order to make this work, the stringer must enlarge the hole immediately to the right or left of the tie-off hole to use as the new tie-off. Contact Head Sports or your local USRSA certified stringer for more information.

If you are looking for an aluminum frame, the Head Blitz with 108 square inches of surface area and a price under \$50 should be considered.

Marty Hogan Racquetball Division Pro Kennex

Pro Kennex had an exciting year, introducing their first super oversized frames. Pro Kennex has long had a reputation as a maker of solid, dependable frames, with excellent warranty policies, and good engineering, but they have never before offered a big oversized frame for the raw power that the huge string areas offer. Pro Kennex now has three frames with 110 square inch string area, the top-of-the-line Asymmetric SO, and the standard wide-body Ovation SO and Extreme SO. (If you haven't guessed already SO is super oversized). The Graphite ASM 31 and Composite ASM 31 from 1991 are still in-line. If you really have not been paying attention, you may have missed the whole asymmetric design. First introduced in the ASM 31, the asymmetric design features opposite tapers on the opposite sides of the frame. (See drawing). According to the manufacturer, the purpose of the asymmetric design is to stabilize the racquet upon ball contact, as each arc of the frame responds at a frequency that cancels out its opposite. The design should prevent the racquet from "torqueing" in your hand and gives it a very solid feel.

The Asymmetric SO is a superlight, head heavy frame at 215 grams. As with

all of Pro Kennex's offerings, it is a well-designed, solid racquet and worth a look and a test drive. The racquet's gun metal gray finish did not appeal to me, but every guy who saw it was instantly enamored. They thought it looked like a "serious weapon" or a "serious tool". If you like the flashier looks, the Ovation SO and the Extreme SO have a rainbow of colors in their frames. If I were picking a racquet just by its appearance, the Extreme SO would be my choice.

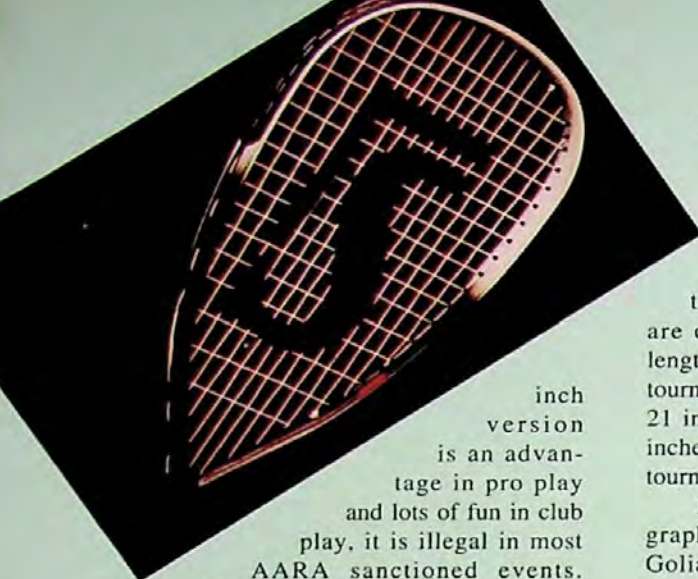
Richcraft

Richcraft was sold by FTM Sports of Miami, Florida to Harold Enquist of Boise, Idaho in late 1991. The previous Richcraft line was very competitive and the sponsorship program was awesome, particularly for juniors. Mr. Enquist has spent 1992 promoting the sport of racquetball with the new Richcraft sponsoring more than 20 amateur tournaments and three Pro Am events, each with more than \$1000 in prize money. Richcraft was also responsible for the National level Pro Am held in Las Vegas in March with \$25,000 in cash and prizes. In June, after signing Bret Harnett to their pro staff, Richcraft announced a new top-of-the-life racquet called the Rebel, designed for Bret's spectacular style of play. The Rebel has 104 square inches of string area, and is one of the new generation of lighter frames at 225 grams.

It is offered in 21 and 22 inch lengths.

While the 22

Pro Kennex
Marty Hogan ASM 31



inch version is an advantage in pro play and lots of fun in club play, it is illegal in most AARA sanctioned events.

Players who plan to compete should select the 21 inch version. Richcraft also offered two other tournament caliber racquets, the Epic TE, and the Pulsar. The Epic is the 1991 top-of-the-line with a new paint job, in shiny, glittery black to replace the previous matte black which scuffed easily. The Pulsar is described as a SuperMid and is one of the very few choices for tournament level players who prefer smaller frames. Contrary to the rumors that sprung up during the transfer of ownership, Richcraft offers a one year warranty on each of these frames.

Richcraft's current line-up of players includes: Bret Harnett, Vince Kelly, John Mack, Craig "Clubber" Lane, and Tammy Brockbank. Richcraft is working on continuing and enhancing this sponsorship program. As with the old Richcraft there will be special emphasis on juniors. Mr. Enquist would like to encourage any juniors who believe they could be nationally competitive to contact him at (208) 344-4773.

Spalding

Spalding shook up the racquetball industry in 1992 when they released a high performance racquet called the Assault with a suggested list of only \$159.95 with good performance and a two year warranty. The high "bang for the buck" and an active sponsorship program aimed at amateur and pros just breaking into the ranks guaranteed Spalding popularity. In 1992 the graphite and composite versions of the Assault continued their appeal. The smaller and more precise Exac-Tech was discontinued, a victim of the appeal of the raw power available in super-oversize frames.

Spalding also led the industry into the over length frames, offering the Assault in a 21 1/2 inch length, and leading the AARA

Spalding Assault

into a two year trial of longer racquets for all but regional and national events. Now that the trial period has expired, the Assaults are offered in both 21 and 21 1/2 inch lengths. Anyone planning on playing in tournaments should be sure to specify the 21 inch length because racquets over 21 inches are not legal in AARA sponsored tournaments.

New in 1992 was the Goliath in both graphite and composite versions. The Goliath is elongated quadraform shape with a superoversize 113 square inches of string surface. It was designed for top-ranked pro Mike Ray. He showcased the racquet brilliantly throughout the year. The Goliath is available in a 21 7/8 length, which is an advantage in pro play, or 21 inch for AARA tournament players. Spalding uses a super shock absorbing material known as Sensathane in the handles of the Goliaths and Assaults.

If you are looking for an aluminum racquet, for example, to bang around outdoors, the Spalding Power Assault offers exception power and feel for an aluminum frame and is priced around \$45.

Transition

Transition Sports was a new entry in the racquetball market in 1992, and concentrated only on racquetball. Like E-Force and Wilson, Transition believes in light racquets with head weight. The Phase II was introduced by pro Dave Johnson and given a fine showcase at 1992 pro events. The Phase II is one of the lightest racquets available at only 205 grams. It is a teardrop shaped with a dense string pattern, and comes strung with 17 gauge string for higher performance. Transition also offers the Phase I with a yoked throat at 210 grams. The Phase I is also offered in an ultra light version at an incredible 195 grams, the light-

est production racquet currently available.

The latest in the Transition Sports line is the Bad Influence, championed by top-ranked pro Cliff Swain. The racquet is all black and comes with 17 gauge string, also in black. The racquet comes unstrung but does include a \$10 rebate toward stringing, allowing each player to customize the feel of the racquet to their particular game. With the oversize and superoversize frames and dense string patterns, the strings can provide an incredible variety of feels. If you think about it, it is obvious that the string and tension that would play well and last for a male pro player hitting the ball in the 160's would not play well for example, for a lady in the club's B league. More manufacturers are considering this innovation. The Bad Influence comes with a synthetic, wrap grip but also includes a packaged TackiMac grip, in black of course, for players who prefer rubber grips. The racquet cover is a full bag that holds up to five racquets and includes a shoulder strap and wet pocket. Cliff Swain has had incredible success with this racquet winning four of the first five stops since he picked up the frame. The Bad Influence is designed for the A to Open player.

Transition also offers a line of accessories including sweatshirts and pants, T-shirts and collared shirts, shorts, and jackets along with bags and hats with hot colors and striking graphics. Transition's slogan is "Looks Can Kill" and their products show the attention to appearance.

Wilson

Wilson has been making lots and lots of racquet ball frames for a number of years, but they have traditionally been the low-end, inexpensive frames, the kind you would find in discount department stores. In 1992,



Transition
Bad Influence

RACQUET SPECS

Name	Head Size (Sq. In.)	Material	Weight	Retail
E-Force (808) 845-9990				
Terminator	100	Carbon Graphite	215-225g	\$189 - \$219.
Predator	94	Graphite	215-225g	\$150 - \$165.
Stealth	90	Graphite / Fiberglass	220-230g	\$89 - \$99.
Ektelon (619) 560-0066				
Eminence	97	Graphite / Kevlar	240g	\$300.
Strobe	95	Graphite / Kevlar	240g	\$250.
Xiter	95	Graphite / Kevlar	245g	\$220.
Strion	92	Graphite / Kevlar	245g	\$185.
Desori	92	Graphite / Fiberglass	245g	\$135.
Aris (mid)	85	Graphite / Kevlar	245g	\$200.
Tetra (mid)	87	Graphite	245g	\$100.
Estca (206) 881-8989				
Dan Obremski	108	Graphite / Boron	235g	\$200.
WB Pirotech	111	Graphite / Ceramic	240g	\$160.
Quadrach	108	Graphite	220g	\$130.
Quadrach	108	Graphite	225g	\$100.
TKO2	107	Aluminum	230g	\$35.
Head (303) 530-2000				
Colossus 3000	115	Graphite	245g	\$259.95
LaserSpeed 3000	108	Graphite	245g	\$199.95
Colossus 2000	115	Graphite / Fiberglass	245g	\$159.95
Colossus 1000	115	Graphite / Fiberglass	245g	\$99.95
LaserSpeed 1000	108	Graphite / Fiberglass	245g	\$89.95
Blitz	108	Aluminum	245g	\$49.95
Pro Kennex (Marty Hogan) (619) 271-8390				
Asymmetric SO	110	Graphite	215-220g	\$224.99
Graphite ASM 31	94	Graphite	215-220g	\$199.00
Comp ASM 31	94	Graphite/Fiberglass	215-220g	\$149.99
Ovation SO	110	Graphite/Fiberglass	215-220g	\$133.99
Extreme SO	110	Graphite/Fiberglass	215-220g	\$129.99
Richcraft (208) 344-4773				
Rebel	104	Graphite	225g	\$250.
Epic TE	104	Graphite	225-230g	\$200.
Pulsar	95	Graphite	225-230g	\$180.
Spalding (413) 536-1200				
Goliath Graph.	108	Graphite	230g	\$250.
Assault Graph.	103	Graphite	230-240g	\$190.
Goliath Comp.	108	Graphite Comp.	235g	\$140.
Power Assault	103	Aluminum		\$45.
Transition Sports (614) 457-4076				
Bad Influence	102	Graphite	205g	\$249.
Phase II	103	Graphite	205g	\$205.
Phase I	103	Graphite	210g	\$175.-\$185.
Phase I Ultra Lite	103	Graphite	195g	\$175.-\$185.
Victory	104	Aluminum	245g	\$39.
Wilson				
Hammer 2.7	100	Graphite / comp.	210g	\$190.
Hammer 4.0	100	Graphite / comp.	210g	\$156.

Wilson targeted the high-end of racquet frames, and came up with a winner. Pojen Cheng led Wilson's development team in almost two years of research and development regarding the application of the Hammer theory that had been successful in tennis to racquetball. At 210 grams, the Hammer is superlight, with the majority of the weight in the head of the racquet, like a hammer. The low overall weight of the racquet reduces fatigue and quickens reaction to the ball, while the head heavy balance gives power to the impact with the ball and produces a smooth follow through. In the Hammer 2.7 and 4.0 racquetball frames, Wilson has the stunner of the year.

In their first year in a new market, the Wilson racquetball frames received little notice in many racquet sales locations. I would like to encourage you to check out the new frames, both because the frames are well done and may suit your game, and because it is good to see new blood in the competition racquetball racquet market.

gexco
GX Grip
14 Colors Available



WristLacer
E-Force
Carson Glove
Made in the U.S.A

Many More Accessories
Dealers only
1-800-829-8222



The Future is Now

In its second year of competition, the U.S. Junior National Team has become a group of first class ambassadors to the international sports world for the U.S. Now under the guidance of former touring professional Jerry Hilecher, the team has a summer schedule that includes stops in Germany, Holland, Belgium, Paris, Barcelona, London, and Ireland.

Hilecher's influence both on and off the court is evident in both the level of play of the group, and in the positive attitude and focus of each individual. You'll remember Hilecher for his success as a pro player in the late 1970's and early 1980's, for his intense court rivalry with Marty Hogan, and for his work as the former leader of the professional association.

In addition to the international benefits of the team, the effort marks a move toward involving youth as part of an overall effort by the AARA to encourage greater participation at all levels. Youth programs such as training camps, the High School Racquetball program, and others, help assure a continued interest and influx of players for the game.

Clockwise, from left: Andy Yambrek; Elkova Icenogle with lunch; Coach Hart Johnson with a pep talk for Craig Rappaport; Vanessa Tulao and Shane Wood during a break; The team, Coach Hart Johnson, Allan Engel, Jenny Myer, Brett Parker, Shane Wood, Andy Yambrek, James Mulcock, Coach Jerry Hilecher, Jason Mannino, Amy Crocker, Craig Rappaport, Rachel Gelman, Letisha Bussel, Vanessa Tulao, Sudsy Monchick, Elkova Icenogle and Andrea Buegen (Shannon Fuller isn't pictured).



Quick!! Before they all get away!!

If you missed the first colorful issues of **KILLSHOT** you can still get selected back issues. Issues #1, #2, and #3 are already completely gone and only a limited number still remains of issues #4, #5, #6, #7, and #8. Don't delay. Just fill out the coupon below and mail it with your check.

#1 Premiere Issue (Aug 91) (Ray)

#2 Nationals Issue (Sept 91) (Gilman)

#3 October 91 (Gan)

#4 November/December 91. (Adams) Lynn Adams profile, Egan Inoue interview, Holiday Buying guide, SMSU racquetball, instruction and tournament coverage. Limited number still available. \$5.00

#5 Jan/Mar 92. (Roberts) Malia Bailey interview, photographing racquetball, equipment of the pros, Brian Hawkes Gallery, instruction and tournament coverage. Limited number still available \$5.00

#6 Sept/Oct 92. (Yellen) New format. Tim Sweeney interview, evaluating a string job, Mike Yellen profile, instruction and tournament coverage. Limited number still available \$4.00

#7 Nov/Dec 92. (Kachtik) Drew Kachtik profile, Holiday Buying guide, VCI spreadsheet, instruction and tournament coverage. Limited number still available \$4.00

#8 Jan/Feb 93. (Gonzalez) Ruben Gonzalez profile, racquetball on the road, tennis elbow, Gregg Peck's Basics, instruction and tournament coverage. Limited number still available \$4.00

KILLSHOT Back Issues

P.O. Box 8036
Paducah KY 42002-8036

Please send the following back issues of **KILLSHOT**. I have enclosed a check or money order. Enclosed \$ _____

____ #4 \$5.00 ____ #5 \$5.00 ____ #6 \$4.00 ____ #7 \$4.00 ____ #8 \$4.00

Name _____

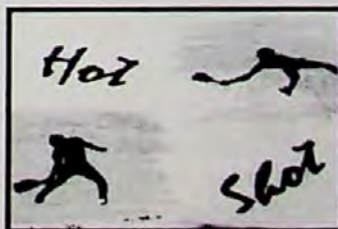
Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

14 KT GOLD PENDANTS



Large Charm	\$52
w/Gold Ball	\$67
w/Diamond	\$112
Small Charm	\$39
w/Gold Ball	\$55
w/Diamond	\$91
Lightweight Chains	\$2/inch
Heavyweight Chains	\$4/inch



1-800-762-4653

ORDER TODAY 1-800-762-4653

Court Rat T-Shirt	\$12.95
(White)	
AARA Sweatshirt	\$19.95
(White)	
Kill It T-Shirt	\$12.95
(White)	
Canton Fleece	\$28.95
(Neon Pink, Lime or Yellow)	
Hot Shot T-Shirt	\$12.95
(White or Black)	
Racquetball Tie	\$15.00
(Maroon or Navy)	
Hogan Video	\$19.95
Racquetball Bracelet	\$299.00
w/Diamonds	\$600.00
Racquetball Earrings	\$89.00
Racquetball Pinky Ring	\$72.00
Regular UPS \$3.50, 2nd Day Air \$6.00	

Guaranteed Holiday Delivery

Mail Check and Money Orders to:

FIRST COAST PROMOTIONS

1760 Shadowood Lane, #410A

Jacksonville, FL 32207

Fax (904) 396-6936



E • FORCE

WARM-UPS
ARE HERE!!!!

Egan Inoue
Two-Time
World Champion

\$100
for all
E•FORCE
racquet owners

Style1000

Style1002

Style1004

Style1003



These top quality **E•FORCE** warm-up suits are available in sizes S,M,L,XL, and in a choice of jade, purple or cranberry (not shown). All jacket styles include matching black warm-up pants. Black **E•FORCE** shorts also available for \$12.95 with each warm-up purchase. For those of you that have purchased an **E•FORCE** racquet within the past year and have registered your warranty, we offer our warm-ups for just \$100!!! The price for all others is \$149. (Please add \$3.95 for shipping and handling.)

BY PHONE:

Please Call (714) 694-8454 and have your Visa or M/C ready.

BY MAIL:

Please send in your check or money order for full amount indicating style #, color and size to:

E•FORCE INT'L APPAREL
P.O. Box 890576
Temecula, CA 92589



NOW AVAILABLE!

Egan Inoue's
Racquetball
Clinic
ON VIDEO



EGAN INOUE
Two-Time Racquetball
World Champion



E-FORCE

RACQUETBALL
RACQUETS

1993

E-FORCE SPORTS

220 Puuhale Rd.#A-4

Honolulu HI 96819

(808)845-9990

Fax (808)845-2060

CHOOSE YOUR WEAPON

gStick

NEW

Weighing 20%
less than other
superoversize
racquets
for uncanny

maneuverability, the
Asymmetric S/O
is a stick of
Triple-X dynamite
with 110 sq. in.
of blasting area.

Every serve lets you
set up an instant win
with the zero vibes
and laser accuracy
of FlexLogic™ — plus the
white-hot power
of ultra high modulus
graphite.

If your opponent survives
the earthquake
and the court
is still standing,
you can finish off the game
with racquet coverage
that seems practically
boundless — along with
racquet handling that's so
precise, you can just about
pick the lint out
of a flea's belly button.

The ASM S/O.

The Big Stick for the . . .

BigBAN

MARTY
HOGAN
RACQUETBALL

**Marty Hogan
Racquetball**

A Division
of ProKennex
9606 Kearny
Villa Road
San Diego,
CA 92126