

INSTRUCTION: COURT POSITION / GROUP INSTRUCTION FOR SERVING AND MOVEMENT
WHO'S BEHIND THE JUNIOR PROGRAM? ■ TOURNAMENT APPLICATIONS

Racquetball®

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Racquetball

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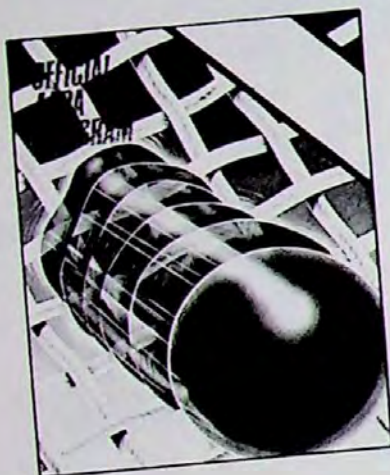
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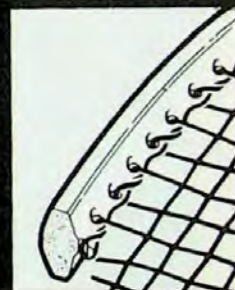
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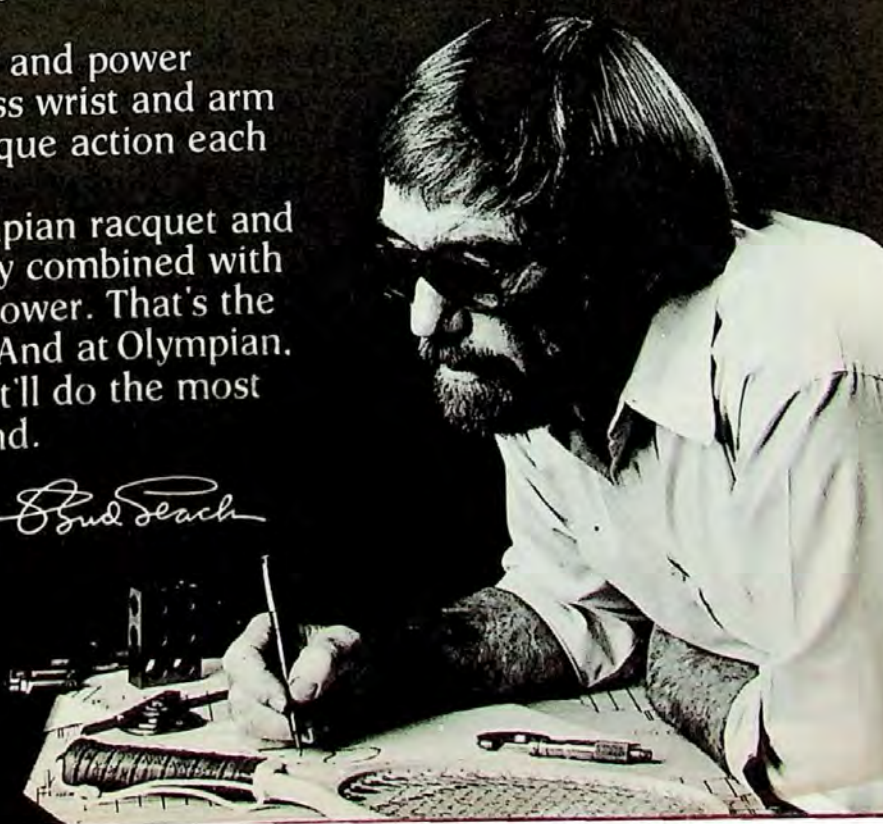


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NEW DIRECTIONS

Dear Members,

Over the past few months we've been hearing that the growth of the racquetball industry has tapered off; is even declining. Before anyone panics about the situation, it would be wise to examine the state of the industry objectively. The point has come in the evolution of our sport that growth without promotion is no longer possible. The days of a court club owner opening his doors and the facility automatically filling up are gone. We have attracted all the players by word of mouth that we are going to. Now the real work begins.

Other sports, such as tennis, football, and soccer, did not have the wildfire growth that racquetball has experienced. Their growth is the result of sound promotional and developmental programs that have stood the test of time. In order to ensure the healthy growth and future of our sport, it is important that we introduce it to youngsters as early as ages six, seven, and eight. It is at these early ages that children are first acquainted with what become lifetime patterns of exercise and recreation. Since racquetball is a sport which can be played most of their lives, it is best to introduce them to it early on. We can do this through schools, court clubs, parks and recreation centers. By establishing junior leagues, clinics, camps, as well as state, regional, and national championships we will set the tone for continued involvement of these players at the collegiate level. And of course these same players will eventually move on into the court clubs, thereby ensuring the continued growth of our sport.

It is estimated that court clubs lose 30 percent of their members annually. The single most important concern to the future of the racquetball industry is the retention and activation of court club members. The programs outlined above will go far to improving the percentages of court club members retained and activated by establishing a continuing feeder system of players.

Regards,

Luke St. Onge
Executive Director

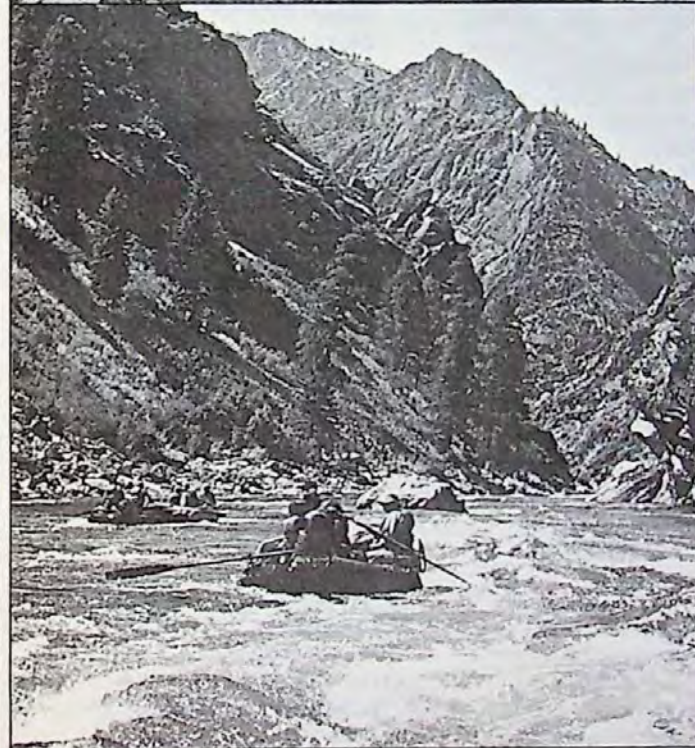
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PLAYERS' FORUM

TAKE A HIKE... AT THIS YEAR'S NATIONALS



This year's Nationals will be in Boise, Idaho. That's right, Idaho. And if the only image of Idaho that you can conjure is one of baked potatoes, you're in for a pleasant surprise. Idaho is a wilderness rich state of mountains and rivers. So much so, in fact, that tournament host Bob Petersen thinks anyone who comes to Boise and doesn't take advantage of the opportunity to stay over and see the surrounding area "is going to miss a chance to make this the most memorable National tournament ever."

To aid those visitors who'd like to do just that, Petersen's already arranged with the Mackay Bar Corporation to

make available to players a discount package on a two and a half day float trip down the middle fork of the Salmon River. The trip is scheduled to start the day after the tournament is over. All gear and food will be provided, as rafters float down this scenic river aided by experienced guides. The trip includes one night of camping out and one night at the Mackay Bar Lodge — so isolated it can be reached only by river or private aircraft. For more information about the raft trip, contact the Mackay Bar Corporation, 3190 Airport Way, Boise, Idaho 83705; or call 208-344-1881. Reservations will be accepted on a first

come, first serve basis.

Also, for those racquetballers who prefer to keep their feet on solid ground, Petersen will assist in arranging wilderness area backpacking trips. Tournament headquarters will act as a clearinghouse for all parties interested in such arrangements. Contact the tournament committee at: The Court House, 7211 Colonial, Boise, Idaho 83705; or call 208-377-0040.

Make your trip to the Nationals more than a tournament — make it an adventure.

WATCH FOR NATIONAL SINGLES ENTRY BLANK IN NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE. ■

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AARA REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Level (5)



APRIL 23, 24, 25, 26, 1981
(Region 2 will be played April 30 - May 3)

DIVISIONS:

- () Men's Open Singles
- () Men's 30 + Senior Singles
- () Men's 35 + Senior Singles
- () Men's 40 + Senior Singles
- () Men's 45 + Masters Singles
- () Men's 50 + Masters Singles
- () Men's 55 + Golden Masters Singles
- () Men's 60 + Golden Masters Singles
- () Men's 65 + Golden Masters Singles
- () Women's Open Singles
- () Women's 30 + Senior Singles
- () Women's 35 + Senior Singles
- () Women's 40 + Senior Singles
- () Women's 45 + Masters Singles
- () Women's 50 + Masters Singles
- () Women's 55 + Golden Masters Singles
- () Women's 60 + Golden Masters Singles
- () Women's 65 + Golden Masters Singles

2ND EVENT

PARTNER'S NAME (if applicable) _____

ENTRY DEADLINE:

Postmarked Tuesday, April 14, 1981, \$10 fee for late entries if accepted.

ENTRY FEES:

\$25 for first event, \$10 for second event. (Refer to individual regional information as fees may vary from region to region for second events). Make checks payable to: AARA Regional Championships.

All entries are final.

OFFICIAL BALL:

Voit Rollout Bleu

RULES:

Official AARA rules apply. Two games to 21 with a 15 point tie-breaker.

ELIGIBILITY:

Current AARA membership required. Must bring proof of current membership (current AARA membership card), or purchase membership at registration.

AWARDS:

1st, 2nd, 3rd and consolation. Winners in all Championship events will be seeded in AARA 1981 National Singles Championships to be held in Boise, Idaho, May 21-25, 1981. Each player will receive free hospitality, free LaCoste, collared shirt, and free Voit Eye-Guard.

QUALIFYING:

Only amateurs may participate. A professional shall be defined as any player (male, female or junior) who has accepted prize money regardless of the amount in any PRO SANC-TIONED tournament. (NRC, PRA, WPRA, IPRO, NARP) or any other association so deemed by the AARA Board of Directors.

Region 1: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut

Region 2: New York, New Jersey

Region 3: Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, Delaware, District of Columbia

Region 4: Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina

Region 5: Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee

Region 6: Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma

Region 7: Texas, Louisiana

Region 8: Wisconsin, Iowa

Region 9: West Virginia, Ohio, Michigan

Region 10: Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky

Region 11: North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Nebraska

Region 12: Arizona, New Mexico, Utah

Region 13: Wyoming, Colorado

Region 14: Nevada, California, Hawaii

Region 15: Montana, Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Alaska

Region 16: European Countries

A MINIMUM OF SIX (6) ENTRANTS MUST PARTICIPATE IN AN EVENT. IF NOT ENOUGH ENTRANTS FOR AN EVENT DIVISIONS WILL BE COMBINED.

(This entry blank is to be used for all Regionals. For specific information related to your Regional, see reverse of this form.)

MAIL THIS FORM WITH YOUR ENTRY FEE TO:

The address listed for your Regional.

CHECK SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO: AARA Regional Championships. All entries are final!

NAME (PLEASE PRINT) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

BUSINESS PHONE _____

HOME PHONE _____

I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the American Amateur Racquetball Association, its affiliated clubs and their respective agents, representatives, successors and assigns for any and all injuries which may be suffered by me in connection with my participation in Regional or National tournaments.

DATE _____

SIGNATURE (parent or guardian if applicant is a minor) _____

AARA REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

GENERAL INFORMATION

REGION 1

Dates: April 23-26
Fees: \$25.00 1st event
 \$10.00 2nd event
Extra events offered: Men's B, C, and Open Doubles
 Women's B, C and Open Doubles
Housing: Best Western in Chicopee, MA.
 Rodeway Inn in Chicopee, MA.
Mail all entries to: Paul Henrickson
 20 Oakes St.
 Millbury, MA 01527
Site: Empire One
 85 Lemay Street
 Chicopee, MA 01021
 617-754-6073

REGION 2

Dates: April 30 - May 3
Fees: \$25.00 1st event
 \$13.00 2nd event
Extra Events offered: Men's Open Doubles, B Singles and C Singles
 Women's Open Doubles, B Singles and C Singles
Housing: Ramada Inn 518-489-2981
 Throughway House 518-459-3100
 Tom Sawyer Motor Inn 518-438-3594
Mail all entries to: 21st Point Club
 McKowan Road off Western Ave.
 Albany, NY 12203
Site: 21st Point Club

REGION 3

Dates: April 24-26
Fees: \$25.00 1st event
 \$10.00 2nd event
Extra Events: Men's B Singles, Open Doubles, Senior (35+) Doubles
 Women's B Singles, Open Doubles
Housing: Sheraton Inn
 4th and Hamilton Streets
 Allentown, PA 18101
 215-437-9876
 800-325-3535
Mail all entries to: Bernie Howard
 RD 1, Box 362
 Reedsville, PA 17084
Site: Allentown Racquetball Club
 601 Union St.
 Allentown, PA 18101
 215-821-1300

REGION 4

Dates: April 23 - 26
Fees: \$25.00 1st event
 \$10.00 2nd event
Extra Events: Men's B Singles, C Singles and Open Doubles
 Women's B Singles, C Singles and Open Doubles
Housing: Holiday Inn
 212 Woodlawn Road
 Charlotte, NC
 704-525-8350
 Ramada Inn
 Interstate 77
 Charlotte, NC
 704-527-3000
 Motel 6
 512 Clanton Rd.
 Charlotte, NC
 704-527-0230
Site: Charlotte Health & Racquet Club
 5501 77 Center Dr.
 Charlotte, NC 28201
 704-527-0975
Mail all entries to: Tony Giordano
 701 E. Trade St.
 Suite C
 Charlotte, NC 28202
Site: Charlotte Health & Racquet Club
 5501 Seventy Seven Center Dr.
 Charlotte, NC 28202

REGION 5

Dates: April 24 - 26
Fees: \$25.00 1st event
 \$10.00 2nd event
Extra Events: Men's B, C and Novice Singles - Open and B Doubles
 Women's B, C and Novice Singles - Open and B Doubles
Housing: Sheraton
 407 - Chestnut 615-756-5150
 Double \$27.00
 Double \$36.00 no charge for children
 Be sure to indicate you are with Racquetball Tournament
 Holiday Inn
 401 W. 9th St. 615-265-8571
 Double \$34.00 (sleeps 4 with no charge for extra person)
 Deadline for guaranteed reservation is March 31, 1981
 Please indicate you are with Racquetball Tournament
Mail all entries to: Sports Barn
 301 Market Street
 Chattanooga, TN 37402
No phone entries
Site: The Sports Barn
 615-266-1125

REGION 6

Dates: April 23-26
Fees: \$25.00 1st event, \$10.00 2nd event
Extra Events: Men's B, C, D and Novice Singles
 Women's B, C, D and Novice Singles
Housing: Best Western 501-624-4436
 Indicate Racquetball Tournament to receive special rate of \$24.00 a double.
 On premises are the park and campground available \$7.00 per night.
Mail all entries to: Otto Beck
 c/o Pleasure Park
 2303 Highway 70 East
 Hot Springs, Arkansas 71901
Site: Pleasure Park
 2303 Highway 70 East
 501-623-5559
 Club has indoor heated swimming pool, whirlpool, saunas, weight room and much more available to all entrants. No out of Arkansas State entries will be scheduled to play before Friday April 24 for first round play.

REGION 7

Dates: April 23 - 26
Entry Fee: \$20.00 1st event
 \$7.00 2nd event
Extra Events: Men's B, C, & D Singles - Open and B Doubles
 Women's B, C, & D Singles - Open and B Doubles
 2nd event restricted to championship divisions or doubles
Housing: Ramada Inn
 504-293-4100
 Holiday Inn South
 504-924-7021
Mail all entries to: Ron Jeter
 6363 Renoir Ave
 Baton Rouge, LA 70806
Sites: Foxy's Health & Racquet Club
 4343 Rhoda Drive
 Baton Rouge, LA 70816
 co-ordinator - Linda Denham
 Off The Wall Court Club
 13541 Tiger Bend Rd.
 Baton Rouge, LA 70816
 co-ordinator - Don Griffin
Tournament Director: Ron Jeter
 504-923-0271

REGION 8

Dates: April 24 - 26
Entry Fee: \$25.00 1st event
 \$10.00 2nd event
Extra Events: Men's B & C Singles
 Women's B & C Doubles
Housing: Holiday Inn
 909 Middle Road
 Bettendorf, Iowa 52722
Mail all entries to: Will Mulvaney
 1523 Vista Ave.
 Janesville, WI 53545
Site: Wildwood Racquetball Club
 1423 18th Street
 Bettendorf, Iowa 52722
 319-359-9141

REGION 9

Dates: April 23 - 26
Entry Fee: 1st event \$25.00
 2nd event \$12.00
Extra Events: Juniors for both boys and girls in 17-and-under and 13-and-under Singles
 Men's B & C Singles, Open Doubles, B Doubles, Seniors 35+ Doubles and Masters 45+ Doubles
 Women's B & C Singles, Open and B Doubles
Housing: Sheraton Inn Beachwood
 216-831-5150
 Holiday Inn
 216-831-3300
 Marriott
 216-464-5950
 Stouffer's - Shaker Heights
 216-752-5600
Mail all entries to: Jerry Davis
 19713 Shaker Blvd.
 Shaker Heights, OH 44122
Site: Severance Athletic Club
 Mayfield Road and Severance Circle
 Cleveland Heights, OH 44118
 216-291-5550

REGION 10

Dates: April 23 - 26
Entry Fee: \$25.00 1st event
 \$10.00 2nd event
Extra Events: Men's A, B, C, D, E Singles and Open, A, B, C, D Doubles
 Women's A, B, C, D, E Singles and Open, A, B, C, D Doubles
 Mixed Doubles Open, A, B, C, D
Housing: Itasca Holiday Inn
 860 W. Irving Park Road
 Itasca, IL 60143
 312-773-2340
Mail all entries to: Ray Mitchell
 5724 W. Diversy St.
 Chicago, IL 60639
Site: DuPage Racquet Club
 Addison, Illinois

REGION 11

Dates: April 23 - 26
Entry Fees: \$25.00 1st event
 \$10.00 2nd event
Extra Events: Men's B Singles, Open Doubles and 40+ Doubles
 Women's B Singles, Open Doubles and 40+ Doubles
Housing: Best Western Gill's Sun Inn
 1901 West Main
 Rapid City, SD 57701
 605-343-6040
Mail all entries to: Clint Koble
 126 E. New York
 Rapid City, SD 57701
 605-341-6678
Site: Supreme Courts
 4020 Jackson Blvd.
 Rapid City, SD 57701
 605-348-5858

REGION 12

Dates: April 23 - 26
Entry Fee: \$25.00 1st event
 \$10.00 2nd event
Extra Events: Men's B & C Doubles
 Women's B Doubles
Housing: Quality Inn
 801-268-2533
 Indicate you are with "Racquetball-AARA Regional"
Mail all entries to: Attn: "Crock"
 c/o Fountain of Youth
 4300 S. 300 W.
 Salt Lake City, UT 84107
Site: Fountain of Youth
 4300 S. 300 West
 Salt Lake City, UT 84107
 801-262-7487

REGION 13

Dates: April 23 - 24
Entry Fee: \$20.00 1st event
 \$5.00 2nd event
Extra Events: Men's B and C Singles and Open Doubles
 Women's B & C Singles
 Mixed Doubles
Housing: Sheraton Denver Tech Center
 4900 DTC Parkway
 Denver, CO 80237
 303-779-1100
 Please indicate "AARA - Racquetball Tournament" for discount
Mail all entries to: Steve Krum
 413 Skyway Dr.
 Ft. Collins, CO 80520
 303-493-2101 (club)
 303-226-6734 (home)
Site: Denver Sporting Club
 5151 DTC Parkway
 Denver, CO 80111
 303-779-0700

REGION 14

Dates: April 23 - 26
Entry Fees: \$25.00 1st event
 \$10.00 2nd event
Extra Events: Men's B Singles
 Women's B Singles
Housing: Vagabond Motor Lodge
 Salinas, CA
 408-758-4693
 Indicate "Racquetball" for room discount
Mail all entries to: Attn: REGIONALS
 Racquetball Sportsworld
 20 E. San Joaquin
 Salinas, CA 93901
Site: Racquetball Sportsworld
 408-757-8331

REGION 15

Dates: April 23 - 26
Entry Fees: \$25.00 1st event
 \$10.00 2nd event
Extra Events: Men's B, C and Novice Singles - Open, B & C Doubles
 Women's B, C, & Novice Singles - Open B & C Doubles
 Juniors - for both boys and girls 15-and-under, 13-and-under, 10-and-under
Housing: Pullman Travel Lodge
 509-334-3500
 Thunderbird Lodge
 509-332-2646
 The Manor Lodge Motel
 509-334-2511
 Indicate "Racquetball" for discount on rooms
Mail all entries to: Bob Stephens
 c/o Campus Recreation Department
 Washington State University
 Pullman, WA 99164
Site: Washington State University
 Wilson Compton Building
 Pullman, WA
 509-335-2651



OFFICIAL BALL FOR THE 1981 REGIONAL AND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

March '81 Racquetball 11

AARA JUNIOR NATIONALS

Sponsored by

penn

April 13-16, 1981

Supreme Court East, 6100 East Central, Bldg. 3, Wichita, KS 67208, 316-945-8331

ENTRY FEE:

\$20.00 - Single

\$10.00 - Doubles

\$10.00 - No Bounce

Make all checks payable to: AARA Junior Nationals

ENTRY DEADLINE:

Postmarked no later than April 8, 1981. ALL ENTRIES ARE FINAL and no applications will be accepted after this date. Mail all entries to:

Supreme Court West, c/o Dewane Grimes, 3725 West 13th St., Wichita, KS 67203

OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT BALL:

Penn Ultra-blue

DOUBLES PARTNERS MAY BE ACQUIRED FIRST DAY OF TOURNAMENT

AWARDS:

For first place in each division and first in consolation.

RULES:

Age as of January 1, 1981 (VALIDATION OF AGE MUST ACCOMPANY ENTRY)

AARA Official Rules will apply - Only amateurs may participate. A professional shall be defined as any player (male, female, or junior) who has **accepted** prize money regardless of the amount in any PRO SANC-TIONED tournament. (NRC, PRA, WPR, IPRO, NARP) or any other association so deemed by the AARA Board of Directors.

EYE PROTECTION IS NECESSARY TO PLAY IN ANY EVENT.

HOUSING INFORMATION: HOME HOSPITALITY AVAILABLE - contact: Dewane Grimes, 316-945-8331.

For those interested in hotel accommodations contact: Hilton Inn - East, 316-686-7131 or Ramada Inn - East, 316-684-0541 and indicate you are with Junior Racquetball Tournament.

DIVISIONS:

SINGLES

DOUBLES

BOYS:

- ☐ 10 and under
☐ 13 and under
☐ 15 and under
☐ 17 and under

GIRLS:

- ☐ 10 and under
☐ 13 and under
☐ 15 and under
☐ 17 and under

BOYS:

- ☐ 10 and under
☐ 13 and under
☐ 15 and under
☐ 17 and under

GIRLS:

- ☐ 10 and under
☐ 13 and under
☐ 15 and under
☐ 17 and under

NON
CHAMPIONSHIP EVENT
NO BOUNCE

☐ 8 and under

☐ 8 and under

☐ 8 and under

☐ 8 and under

(Please Print)

NAME _____ AGE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PARTNER'S NAME _____

WAIVER: I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims I may have against the American Amateur Racquetball Association, Supreme Court West, or their representative agents for any and all injuries. VALIDATION OF AGE MUST ACCOMPANY THIS FORM.

DATE _____ SIGNATURE _____

SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN _____

penn
ATHLETIC PRODUCTS COMPANY

AARA
AMERICAN AMATEUR RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

JUNIORS UNITE

FUND RAISING CAN BE FUN

By Linda Wallman



Juniors award chickens to winners of the first tournament run by the Sun Oaks Juniors as a fund-raiser. Left to right: tournament director D. Bales, 3rd place winner D. Woods, 2nd place winner Mike Walsh, 1st place winner Jerry Hahn, regional director Lou Wallman.

I am the mother of a Junior racquetball player, and before being involved in the Sun Oaks Program there were many frustrating moments. Our old club wouldn't allow the Juniors to play, much less teach them, and in tournaments they were truly second class citizens. Then we joined our present club and all that changed. I would like to share some of our ideas with those of you out there who are frustrated about Junior development in your area.

Headed by Lou Wallman, our Western Regional Director, and three adult Advisors, Monty and Debbie Carmona, and Nita Adams (who is also our trusted Treasurer), the Team elected Junior Officers to run the meetings and help make decisions. Our current slate of officers are Sheri Anthony-President, Michele Gilbertie-Vice President, Lisa Anthony-Secretary and David Perrine-Sergeant at Arms. In addition, we have our own freelance photographer, Randy Downey, and of course our teaching pro/coach Dennis Bales. With all this guidance our Team has evolved from a few Juniors attending tournaments to a travelling Team of 20 active players and a whole slew of younger players on their way up. We're on the upswing and can only get bigger and better.

We want to clue you in to what and how we have managed to raise enough money to send 31 Juniors and parents to the Junior Nationals. So-o-o take note...Juniors around the na-

tion—UNITE and take a load off your parents and club. Get ambitious and put on your thinking caps and come up with some fund raisers suitable for your area or borrow some of our ideas.

"Fun-Raising" can be fun especially when you have a goal. Ours just happens to be the 1981 Junior Nationals to be held in Wichita, Kansas, this April, under the mid-western hayseed Dewane Grimes as tournament director. The Sun Oaks Junior Team has been hard at work since the 1980 Junior Nationals which were held here in Redding, California.

We started out with a bang by selling



Novice winner Jim Mathuson (center) won a turkey for his efforts.

ads to local merchants for the tournament program. Then we beat the Junior Tennis Team to the punch by selling raffle tickets at the Pepsi Cola/Sun Oaks Open Tennis Tournament for a Head Vector tennis racquet. It went over so well that we decided to do it again during the Junior Nationals. There, during the banquet dinner, we raffled off an Ektelon 250 G, and as an extra we sold T-shirts that said "I SAW THE BEST." Our ambitious young racquetball stars had an extra added incentive. We presented a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Our Racquet, our own pro shop, to the Junior selling the most raffle tickets during both sales. Our big winners were Sheri Anthony, for selling the most tennis racquet raffle tickets, and Shelley Wallman, who sold the most racquetball raffle tickets. With the ball rolling here are some other ideas we've done since then, like...



Barry Campbell, center, was the lucky winner of an Ektelon 250G racquet in a raffle held to raise money for junior racquetballers.

RENT A SLAVE — six hours of work for \$10 plus lunch. We put a note in our Club newsletter and a sign-up sheet at the office window and our Juniors did everything from soup to nuts and Slave Day is still being taken advantage of. Juniors could be found stacking wood, raking leaves, mowing lawns, pulling weeds, collecting pine cones, baking cookies, and doing all kinds of housework and babysitting. Do you get the idea?

One week before Thanksgiving, our Juniors held their very first tournament, "The Turkey Shoot." Under the watchful eyes of tournament directors Lou Wallman and Dennis Bales and co-sponsored by Marler's Liquors and Mike Walsh's Enterprise Chevron; the Juniors had scheduled shifts for everyone. They ran the desk, did refereeing, kept the hospitality table manned, ran the towels, and did the clean up. The winners for 1st place took home turkeys, 2nd place received a chicken, and 1st place Consolation took home a pair of cornish game hens. And, it was fun for everyone.

Christmas vacation brought work outs, play days, and a Racquetball Marathon. Our Juniors went to neighborhoods, relatives, local business people and the malls to collect pledges. Pledges ranged anywhere from 10¢ to \$2 per hour and the goal was to play 12 hours, 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. We had 14 Juniors who were able to participate in this event and the total amount collected from the pledges was over \$1,000. Not bad for one night's work. Parents came and went and brought with them all kinds of goodies to keep minds and bodies awake. The sleepless threesome who stayed with

**You do not
have to be born
with epilepsy. It
can result from
many causes...
viral encephalitis,
meningitis,
measles, high
fevers, poisons,
or serious head
injuries.**

Epilepsy.
It's not what you think.

*Help light the candle of understanding.
Contact your local chapter of the
Epilepsy Foundation of America.
Or write Epilepsy, Washington, D.C. 20036.
(An organization of the former National Epilepsy League.)*



Two people who can keep up with the fast pace of fun-loving Juniors are Ed Martin, left and Lou Wallman.

them through the night were Nita Adams, Debbie Carmona, and Lou Wallman, without them for support we would have had a lot of sleeping beauties. But there they were, ever faithful, keeping the little ones pumped up and on their toes. The rules were: you played 55 minutes and had a five minute break each hour. (Such a deal.) But do you know at 6 a.m. we had one little mugger by the name of Jeff Stark who was still diving and rolling them out! What stamina; watch out Wichita! Now that the New Year has rolled on in, the Juniors are actively out selling ads for the Northern California Championships programs. And still upcoming we have a gigantic garage sale/flea market with members and friends alike donating articles to be sold, all to go toward tournament expenses. The Juniors have one more tournament to hold coming up this month—an in-house no frills tournament; that means no trophies, no T-shirts, just a lot of racquetball and free beer. To be eligible you must be 21 years old and the cost is \$10 for singles and \$5 for doubles. What a bargain! And last, but not least, if weather permits we may hold a car wash.

Between now and the Nationals there is no telling how many more brilliant ideas we'll come up with to raise additional monies. If anyone out there has something they'd like to share with us we're ready for it. And if there is something more we can help any of you with just get in contact with Lou Wallman c/o Sun Oaks Racquet Club, 3452 Argyle Road, Redding, California 96002, 916-221-4405 or 221-4257. Remember, we are challenging all of you Juniors to make it to the Junior Nationals in April—See you in Wichita.



Lisa Mark

What more could a 12-year-old girl accomplish, when she is already a straight A student, a competitive snow skier, a tournament tennis player, and a star on her school volleyball team? Would you believe she could also be a national junior racquetball champion? Well, look out Wichita, because Lisa Mark will be there trying to add a racquetball championship to her list of achievements.

Having recently celebrated her 12th birthday, it is more than a little surprising that Lisa is already reaching the finals in Women's "B" division competition. It is particularly impressive in light of the fact that just one year ago, Lisa was not playing racquetball tournaments, but was instead competing on the Northern California Tennis Association's junior circuit. "It is extremely rare to find a junior with less than one year's experience competing at the level Lisa is," says Ed Martin, AARA National Junior Commissioner. "I have been watching her develop over the past year, and there are two major reasons for her success...intelligence and incredible support from her parents."

Dennis Bales, teaching pro at the Sun Oaks Racquet Club in Redding, California, agrees, saying: "She is the most intelligent player on the court for her age that I have ever seen."

It's tough enough playing someone with exceptional physical talents; but when they also out-think you on the court, the combination can be explosive! So, look out Wichita, this one may take you by storm. ■

Correction:

Awards will be given for first *four* places in each division at this year's Junior National, not for first place only as stated on the application in last month's issue.

The tournament will be held at Supreme Court East, not West.

FIRST STEPS

What Is The Junior Program And Who Is Behind It? BY WANDA WEBB

In most sports it can be said that the promise of tomorrow is in the children of today. Racquetball is no exception. The emergence of programs geared to junior players is one of the fastest growing and most exciting facets of racquetball today. Much of the credit for the rapid achievements made in this area over the past few years can be attributed to the relentless efforts of those who make up the American Amateur Racquetball Association's (AARA) Junior Council. The Council is comprised primarily of parents and coaches who recognize the need for successful junior programs, both for the future of the sport of racquetball and for the benefit of the junior player.

Next month the AARA National Junior Racquetball Championships will be held in Wichita, Kansas. The tournament is the yearly climax for the hard work and training which take place throughout the year, and is quickly becoming a stepping stone for young adults considering a professional career in racquetball. This National Championship is perhaps the most visible aspect of junior racquetball, but only the tip of the iceberg to what the AARA junior program is all about.

The driving force behind junior racquetball is found in dedicated adults such as Dewane Grimes, manager of Supreme Court East in Wichita, host club for this year's national tournament. Grimes is one of nine regional junior commissioners and a front-runner in the movement to stimulate interest in the junior program. On the local level, his involvement with junior racquetball has helped to make it an exciting and rewarding program for the junior player.

Like many, Grimes first became interested in racquetball to lose weight and get in shape. It's now a family sport for Grimes and his children, Darin (14) and Derek (8), and wife, Nancy. When Darin competed in the National Junior Championships three years ago, it was the

beginning of Grimes' involvement in the junior program. "I saw the need to help because of a few things like poor sportsmanship and attitude problems in tournament play. We take the emphasis off winning and put it on sports, emphasizing camaraderie."

This interest in racquetball has now become a career. In addition to his regular duties as manager of Supreme Court East, Grimes has developed a junior program at his club, and was instrumental in getting the national tournament held in Wichita, eagerly accepting all the responsibilities of planning such an event.

Having coached little league baseball, Grimes has experience working with children and feels that it is important to develop racquetball talent early. "I get along well with kids. Kids keep me young. I believe the young adults are the backbone of racquetball. Once you've got them, they're hooked," he says with genuine enthusiasm.

It would be difficult not to be hooked by Grimes' enthusiasm for racquetball. He has developed programs at his club with the junior player in mind, such as junior clinics and camps which not only include racquetball, but other sports as well. "We had a junior camp where we played racquetball and then took the kids roller skating. We want them to know there are other sports. They had a good time. That's the primary thing."

He has also organized a program for the Pee Wee bracket, ages three through five, and has created an innovative class of play called the "no bounce," designed specifically for the younger player, aged eight and under. The "no bounce" is just beginning to be included in junior programs across the country and will be a new addition to this year's national tournament.

The main purpose of the "no bounce" is to introduce younger, less experienced players to racquetball. Grimes explains, "In 'no bounce' the rules of racquetball apply, except for one major point. Once



"I believe the young adults are the backbone of racquetball. Once you've got them, they're hooked," Dewane Grimes enthuses.

the serve is legal and crosses the short line, the ball can bounce as many times as necessary before the player has to hit the ball back to the front wall. Once the ball is struck by the player and leaves the racquet, it must hit the front wall before it hits the floor. Essentially it teaches the eight-and-unders the game of racquetball and the rules, but it allows them to get to the ball. It's a fun division. It gives the younger players a chance to participate."

Working on the national level to develop successful junior programs is Ed Martin, AARA National Junior Commissioner. Martin, owner of Sun Oaks Racquet Club in Redding, California, and program director for five other clubs, began working in the junior racquetball program after several years of active involvement with junior tennis. Martin has coached the Sun Oaks team, winner of the junior national team title for the past three years. His daughter, Rodie, is ranked fourth nationally in the ten-and-under girls division and first in national doubles competition. With his experience, Martin recognizes the different focus club owners must take in organizing a successful junior program.

"One of the things that people have a hard time understanding is that juniors have different needs from adults. The junior doesn't go to a club to slim his waistline or meet business contacts. For a junior, there's a certain amount of peer pressure involved — they're excited by competition, travel, by being on a team and going to tournaments," he points out.

With this in mind, Martin travels

across the country helping clubs organize the rapidly increasing number of junior programs. He works to set up junior instructional camps in each of the country's nine regions. Such camps are held for one or two weeks to help juniors learn the proper strokes and skills of the game. Several professional players, recognizing the importance of developing junior talent, have volunteered to help in the camps with instruction, support and advice.

As National Junior Commissioner, Martin coordinates the regional tournaments and works with the regional directors, contributes to the "Juniors' Page" in *Racquetball*, handles the extensive prep work for the national championships and works with the national tournament sponsor.

Martin is excited about the growth he has seen in the junior program over the six years he has been involved with racquetball. "I've been able to see the program grow from 75 participants three years ago to over 220 last year. Also, there are probably 10 times the juniors playing all around the country now than there were three years ago. And it's just getting started now."

This year's national competition will be held April 13-17 and is expected to draw 300 participants. Leading up to the nationals are the state competitions held in February, and the regionals this month. The winners from the states and regionals go on to compete in the nationals, but the national tournament is open to any junior. Entry fees are \$20 for singles and \$10 per person for doubles. (See page 10 for application.)

Separate boys and girls, singles and doubles are held in five age groups: 10-, 13-, 15-, 17-, and the 8-and-under "no bounce." Trophies will be awarded to first, second, third, fourth, and consolation winners in each age group. This year's national sponsor is Penn, who will also be giving racquetball bags and shirts to all participants.

Grimes has worked to make this year's tournament a totally enjoyable event. Scheduled to talk to the players will be "Mr. Racquetball," Bud Muehleisen, in addition to a surprise guest speaker. Clinics will be held the last two days of the tournament for the losers, and a magician will even be on hand to present a special show.

Local support enlisted by Grimes for the tournament includes a \$5,000 donation from the local chapter of the Optimist's Club and publicity from Wichita television and radio stations and newspapers. Grimes has also had the responsibility of coordinating volunteers for housing, transportation, and entertainment.

The national tournament has become a springboard to becoming a professional

player, and a primary benefit to the sport of racquetball lies in the junior program and its importance to racquetball's future. According to Grimes, "The national tournament is the only avenue the junior kids have to become professionals and the only way racquetball has to produce its professionals." Martin echoes



"There are probably 10 times the juniors playing all around the country now than there were three years ago. And the program's just getting started," says Ed Martin.

these same feelings. "If you take a look at Chris Evert, Jimmy Connors, John McEnroe, they all came out of strong junior programs. All the world champions were in strong junior programs. We're going to establish essentially the same kind of movement from our juniors."

The junior programs are already producing results. Up-and-coming professionals like John Egerman and Scott Hawkins once competed in the junior nationals and came from strong junior programs. Such players are also showing that they are definite competition to the established racquetball professionals. For instance, Gregg Peck lost in the quarterfinals in last year's 17-and-under division at the Nationals. A couple of months later, he defeated Marty Hogan.

Though Martin and Grimes see that such a "feeder system" of new players is beneficial to the future of the sport, they

are equally if not more concerned with the benefits to the children from playing racquetball and competing in tournament play. Both are convinced that racquetball is a perfect sport not only for its physical conditioning, but also because it provides a learning experience for juniors.

Grimes sees several assets. "Juniors have the opportunity to meet kids from all over the country. They learn good competition, and the competition teaches them the aspects of winning and losing. When you're out there in the court you've got nobody else to depend on, no team to fall back on like in basketball or soccer. They learn to depend on numero uno. It's physically conditioning, and the hand-eye coordination learned from racquetball is invaluable in other sports."

Juniors learn how to travel and stay in other people's homes as guests and take care of themselves while away from their parents. Racquetball can be played year-round, unlike most other seasonal sports a child plays, and is a sport a junior can learn as a child and play all his life. Also, it can be fairly inexpensive since most clubs have special rates for juniors.

The emphasis of the Junior Council is placed primarily on the grass roots player, since only five to ten percent of the juniors who compete are national caliber players. According to Martin, "We're really interested in a year-round national program to try and do a lot of things with juniors to help the potential professional, of course. But 85-90 percent of our energies must go to the grass roots player who is not going to be a professional." For those players who are considering a career in racquetball, the Junior Council offers advice and publicity.

The growth of the junior program is quickly gaining speed as club owners across the country are recognizing the importance and need for such programs. For instance, Martin began a junior program at the Fairfield Club (California) a few weeks ago and can already boast of 40 players working out twice a week when before there were none.

The various programs available in racquetball today for juniors can be attributed to the foresight and dedication of enthusiastic individuals such as Grimes and Martin. Their sensitivity in developing programs with the juniors' interests in mind will make the success of junior racquetball a certainty.

Perhaps Grimes best states the spirit of the Junior Council, "The adults involved have to be a cheerleader for these kids. I'll do anything I can. I'm happy to be with it." ■

For information about junior programs, contact Ed Martin c/o Sun Oaks Racquet Club, Redding Calif., 96001.

FOCUS ON SAFETY

WHAT'S BEING DONE TO DECREASE EYE INJURIES IN RACQUETBALL?

Len Ziehm is a reporter for the Chicago Sun-Times.

Chuck Leve first learned a sad fact about racquet sports back in 1971 when he saw a man die of an apparent heart attack as he left the court following a paddleball match. That fact concerns the danger inherent to such sports as racquetball, squash, and badminton. And, while the danger of falling prey to heart attack is primarily for those who push too far, too fast, when not in condition, there is another danger ever-present to *anyone* who enters that cubicle known as a racquetball court. That danger is the threat of eye injuries. (See *Racquetball*, June 1980.)

While refereeing — and later organizing — the National Racquetball Club pro tour, Leve saw Fran Davis, Steve Keeley, Steve Serot, Craig McCoy and John Lynch — all among the best players in the game at the time — victimized by eye injuries on the court.

He heard about amateurs around the country blinded, at least temporarily, when they were hit by either the ball or an opponent's racquet during a match. In one of the few surveys available, Dr. Paul F. Vinger of Lexington, Mass., revealed that approximately 8,000 players had suffered eye injuries



The eyeguards shown in this article are a few on the market today. Above are the new Sport-Specs from Allen Enterprises. Cover: Rainbo Combat Glasses.

from racquet sports in 1978. He concluded in his report that streetwear glasses offer substantial — but not complete — protection for tennis and badminton and that plastic glasses designed to industrial specifications are required for safety in squash and racquetball.

Unfortunately, there have been some events that may discourage the growth of eyeguard manufacturers. For instance, there is the case of the Champion Glove Co. of Des Moines, Iowa. Champion had purchased the M.K. Anderson Co. and added eyeguards to the products it already was producing. In 1975 Champion had product liability of \$300.

Several players sued the company over injuries incurred while wearing Champion eyeguards, and the company settled out of court every time. Its liability insurance rose to \$65,000. Champion is no longer in the eyeguard business. And, they may not be alone; for there is at least one other company with an eyeguard suit pending.

"That's a dangerous trend," says Leve. "We in racquetball always felt that the only problem with our sport was that you couldn't play indoor racquetball outdoors. But now there's a bigger problem. If people perceive it as a dangerous sport, they won't play it — especially women and children who are so important to our sport's future. It was a sorry thing to learn that there are risks involved in this fun thing."

Leve is campaigning for more eyeguard use in his current position as executive director of the National Court Clubs Association (NCCA). In December he was named to a newly-formed Sports Eye Safety Advisory Committee by the National Society to Prevent Blindness. He represented racquetball's interests at a one-day meeting at the Society's headquarters on New York's Madison Avenue.

Among the other groups represented among the 21 people in attendance were the U.S. Squash Racquets Association, the U.S. Tennis Association, the National Collegiate Athletic Association and the National Association of High School Coaches.

"My role was limited," Leve admits. "Basically all I did was describe the problems in our sport." He also listened, and came away with some ideas.

"Some of the people there thought we should put up some gruesome posters, ones that show people with eye injuries," said Leve. "That won't work. We need to promote eye safety, but not turn people off the sport."

The committee did uncover obvious problems regarding eye safety in racquetball:

The professionals on tour generally don't wear eyeguards. "They could do more to enhance safety in the sport by example," says Leve. "I talked with a number of the pros when I was still with the NRC and asked them, if eyeguards were mandatory if they would use them. They all said they would. They won't be a problem. They just need someone to kick them."

*Much needs to be done in teaching eye safety to beginning

B Y L E N Z I E H M

OPTICAL SOLUTIONS

The Canadian Racquetball Association (CRA) has a mandatory eyeguard rule for all their sanctioned events. The American Amateur Racquetball Association (AARA) has made eyeguards mandatory for all juniors (under 18), who play in their sanctioned events. The following are excerpts from candid conversations with John Hamilton, executive director of the CRA; and Luke St. Onge, executive director of the AARA; about their associations' policies regarding eye safety.

Luke St. Onge/AARA

Racquetball: What steps has the AARA taken to promote eye safety?

St. Onge: "Every tournament kit we send out has an eye protection poster in it, saying 'We Recommend Eyeguards,' which can be prominently displayed in the club. We also encourage and endorse the wearing of eyeguards at every opportunity. We have a rule requiring use of eyeguards by all junior players in any of our sanctioned events."

"We've had virtually no problems with the rule for juniors, except for one incident at the National Junior Championships in Redding, California last year. We stopped play and required a player to obtain eye protection before play was resumed. Other than that one incident there haven't been any problems enforcing the rule."

RB: Why doesn't the AARA require eye protection for adults?

St. Onge: "We don't require protection for adults because of an overwhelming response to a survey of our membership, which indicated they preferred to have the option to choose whether or not to wear protection. Also, there is still the unanswered question of implied liability. Still, we encourage articles on the subject, and through our efforts to make the players aware, I think we've increased the use of them. Three years ago I'd say only about 10 percent of tournament players in this country wore eye protection. Now, thanks to our efforts and those of the court club owners to educate people, there's been an increase to about 40 or 50 percent of adult tournament players wearing protection."

"Eyeguards are much more acceptable now because for one, people know they will protect them and, two, they are now fashionable, with many different models available."

RB: Are you doing anything special to emphasize eye safety in the near

future?

St. Onge: "As a matter of fact, both Voit and the AARA feel so strongly about this that a Voit eyeguard will be given to every participant in the AARA Regional and National tournaments this year."

RB: (St. Onge has had his own encounters with eye injuries, see *Racquetball*, June 1980 for details.) What are your personal feelings, as a player, about the use of eyeguards?

St. Onge: "Personally, I think anyone who goes on a court without eyeguards is insane—and you can quote me directly on that. And as far as the Association, I think the safety of its membership should be paramount. Mandatory eyeguards are definitely the thing of the future."

John Hamilton/CRA

RB: What steps has the CRA taken to promote eye safety?



Hamilton: "We are very concerned about encouraging the use of eyeguards, and have therefore made them mandatory in all our sanctioned tournaments. They are mandatory for all adults and juniors, and are used in all clinics we conduct as well. Also, we've developed four posters that we distribute to all court clubs."

RB: How long has your policy of mandatory eye protection been in effect?

Hamilton: "Actually, it was first brought up in February of '78, but was not implemented until September of '78. I think what finally swayed us was the argument that, although many players feel they should have the right to choose whether or not they will take the risk of losing an eye, we felt that decision would also affect their opponent. In other words, the person who injures someone not wearing eye protection is obviously going to feel emotional effects from that incident as well. And while the emotional effects may not be as severe as to the player hurt, they may be enough to make a person give up the game."

RB: In the USA, we've had some question regarding implied liability, and that is one reason no one has yet taken the stand that your association has of making eyeguards mandatory. Have you faced any such problems?

Hamilton: "No, we've never been sued. But, then, the laws may be a little different regarding the implied liability of the association. And, we feel that it is so important an issue, we won't back down from our position. Studies have shown that even when a player is injured while wearing eyeguards, the injury is never as serious as it might have been without some protection."

RB: Who has done these studies, and are there any more in the works?

Hamilton: "Well, of course Dr. Michael Easterbrook, from Toronto has done quite a number of studies in this area. Also, we have an association which is funded by the government. Called the Canadian Standards Association, it was originally founded to study standards for safety in construction. I sit on that board now, and it is because of the growing recognition of the necessity for eye protection in such sports as squash and racquetball."

"We will soon be testing eyeguards to determine which ones are the safest. Actually, the testing will be done by the University of Waterloo, and we will fund the study."

RB: When are these tests planned, and what method will be used?

Hamilton: "They should be underway this spring. They have a gun device which will shoot balls at a head form, constructed with eyes, which will have eyeguards on. The balls will be shot at the head with each of the different eyeguards presently manufactured, to see what kind of damage will result."

"We still don't know which eyeguards are safest—the open ones or the closed ones. But in the meantime, we'll stick by our policy, because as I've said, wearing some kind of eye protection is better than none."

RB: Other than the liability question, why do you think Canada has been able to take this step toward eye safety in racquetball, while the USA hasn't?

Hamilton: "I think it's largely due to the fact that we have only one association governing the sport. If a racquetballer doesn't play in one of our sanctioned events, it's not likely he'll be playing in tournaments here. But in your country, if one association made it mandatory and the other didn't, people might just go to one group's tournaments and boycott the others."



Gargoyles by Pro-tec, Inc.

racquetball players. "There's such a variety in the quality of teaching pros," Leve points out, "There is really no method for instruction on safety on the court. When I did some teaching I always made the point, 'When in doubt, bail out.' In other words, if you see any chance of being hit in the eye with a ball or racquet, get out of the way and forget about winning the point."

"Though virtually all eye injuries are accidental they most often occur when the player most forward in the court looks over his shoulder to see where the ball is. Facial accidents happen when players are hit by racquets. Ninety-five percent of the players hit by racquets are at fault. Players should judge their opponent's style of play, making sure there is plenty of room to play. Players should take into consideration their opponent's backswing, point of contact and follow through."



The Viper NR-59 Goggle by Carrera International Corp.

Don't try to beat the odds by crowding. It doesn't work."

*Eyeguard manufacturing must improve. People can still get hurt even wearing eyeguards.

"There are excellent eyeguards and lousy ones," says Leve. "The consumer doesn't know which are good and which aren't. Guidelines must be set. Eyeguards must also improve aesthetically or people aren't going to wear them. I've seen some real baskets, and I can't see anybody going onto a court wearing some of these contraptions on their head."

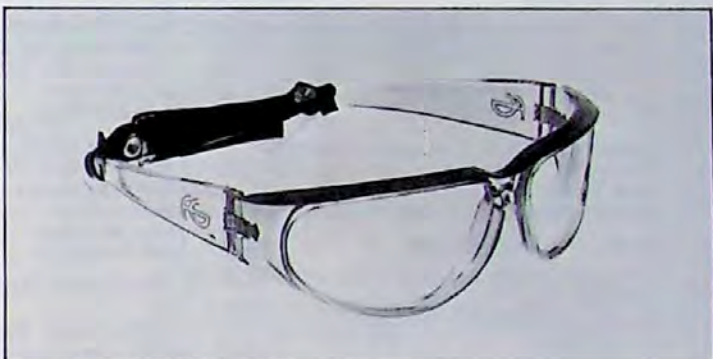
Leve said about 10-12 companies make eyeguards. He won't recommend any "because I haven't tested them all." And herein lies a major problem. Testing techniques need to be developed. You can't test an eyeguard like you can a racquet or a racquetball. You can't just put on an eyeguard and let players fire shots at you.

*Court club owners have largely ignored the problem.

"They are in a quandary," admits Leve, whose NCCA numbers 350 clubs nationwide, 71 in the Chicago area alone. "Injuries are bad for business. On the other hand, to tell people

they must wear eyeguards would be to put a club out of business. Players would just go to a club where they didn't have to wear them. There's also the problem of liability. If a club owner required players to wear eyeguards, and a player still got hurt, would the club owner be liable?"

One thing that has been done to make the court club owners more aware of the situation, was the introduction of Dr. Michael Easterbrook of Toronto — an expert in sports eye safety — to court club owners at the recent NCCA annual convention. Easterbrook has already made great strides in the field as the chairman of the Canadian Standards Association's Committee on Racquet Sports Eye Protection. That committee's proposals have already led to mandatory eyeguard use at some clubs in Canada. (See Sidebar.)



Foster Grant's version of the eyeguard.

For now the Society to Prevent Blindness is simply pointing out the significance of the problem. It claims that 35,000 eye injuries treated in hospital emergency departments each year occur in sports and recreational activities and that racquetball is among a number of sports termed "most hazardous." The Society claims that more than 90 percent of the time proper eye safety practices and appropriate eye protection can prevent injuries. But much more information is still needed.

While the Society is still gathering information, and Chuck Leve is seeking ways to correct the problem, the American Amateur Racquetball Association (AARA) has taken some positive steps in this direction. The AARA, while unable to make a blanket mandatory rule regarding eyeguard use, due to the question of liability, does conduct a strong lobbying campaign for their use. This includes information sent to tournament directors who are hosting AARA sanctioned events.

In addition, the AARA has long since made use of eyeguards mandatory for its Junior (under 18) members [rule 2.5 (c)], thereby attempting to instill safety precautions at an early age. So, perhaps the up and coming generation of racquetballers will see the importance of protection. ■



Ektelon's Eye Sentry™.

R - A - C - Q - U -

MARCH 5-8
March of Dimes 5th Annual
Oregon State Championships (3)
Court House II
Salem, Oregon
Dennis Hubel
503-222-4422

MARCH 6-8
Massachusetts AARA State Singles (2)
Brockton Racquet Club
Brockton, MA
Maureen (Boulette) Henrickson
617-754-6073

1981 Connecticut State Championships (2)
Cedar Hill Club
Newington, CT
Ron Mirek
203-666-8451

Tennessee State Championships (2)
Nashville, Tennessee
Mike Mjehovich
615-792-7829

AARA Junior Regionals

In-House Greely Athletic & Racquet Club (2)
1300 9th Ave.
Greely, CO 80631
Clete Faddis
303-352-6498

Gillette Charleston Family YMCA Open (3)
Charleston Family YMCA
Charleston, WV
Harold Cox
304-345-1625 (home)
304-345-9622 (club)

MARCH 7-8
Dutch Open (3)
Laan Van Nieuwoost
Indie 287 2593 BS
Den Haag, The Netherlands
Han van der Heijden

MARCH 13-15
Lancaster-Osteopathic Hospital Benefit (3)
Lancaster County Racquetball
and Health Club
Lancaster, PA
Warren Koch
717-569-0463

1st Annual Do-Nut (Doubles ONLY) (2)
Red Bluff Racquet and Athletic Club
100 S. Jackson St.
Red Bluff, CA 96080
Gregg Colby - Al Yrigoyen
916-529-1221

Miller Open (2)
Union County's Racquetball Center
Cobden, IL 62920
John Lipe
618-893-2611

Florida State Singles (2)
Orlando Tennis and Racquetball Club
825 Courtland St.
Orlando, FL 32804
Van Dubolsky
Mike Mojer
305-644-5411

Alabama State Singles (2)
Racquet Club
467 N. Dean Rd.
Auburn, AL 36830
Bob Huskey
205-887-9591

3rd Annual Spring In-House Tournament (1)
Charleston Racquetball and Nautilus Center
1642 Hwy. 7, Sam Rittenberg Blvd.
Charleston, SC 29407
Jerry Rogers
803-571-1020

MARCH 14-16
Fox's Racquetball Open (3)
2500 Interplex Dr.
Trevose, PA 19047
Joe Borcich
215-638-7320

MARCH 20-22
Illinois State Singles (2)
DuPage Racquet Club
Addison, IL
Ray Mitchell
312-745-9400

2nd Annual Heart Fund Winter Warm Up (3)
Jacksonville Racquetball Club
6561 Crestline Dr.
Jacksonville, FL 32211
Ray Ashworth
904-724-6994

Capitol Courts/Ormsby House Open (3)
Capitol Courts
3759 Gross Circle
Carson City, Nevada 89701
Rich Bennett - Mike Longero
702-882-9566

**Eastern and Northwestern
Junior Regionals**

**The Shop & Save/Natural Lite/March of
Dimes Open (3)**
Off The Wall
Albany St. Extension
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Carol Grocowski
603-431-1430

MARCH 26-29
Natural Lite MDA Spring Open (3)
Centralia Racquetball Club
1827 S. Pine
Centralia, IL 62801
Al Danielwicz
618-532-3441

MARCH 27-29
13th Annual Maine Open (3)
Holiday Health & Racquetball
Odlin Rd.
Bangor, Maine 04401
Keith Mahaney

West Chester Open (4)
Pelham Racquetball Club
6 Pelham Parkway
Pelham Manor, New York 10803
Bob Anderson/Judy Villanova
914-738-1800

Big "10" Championships (3)
Burnsville Racquet Club
14600 Burnhaven Drive
Burnsville, MN 55337
Dave Safranski
612-884-3575

**New Jersey State Intercollegiate
Tournament (2)**
Hopewell Valley Racquetball Club
P. O. Box 277
Pennington, NJ 08534
Lonnie Allgood
609-737-1555

New Hampshire State Singles (2)
LaConia Racquetball Club
O'Shea Industrial Park
Laconia, NH 03246
Mike Shea
603-528-1823

**qualifying tournament for:
Florida's Sunshine State
Games 1981 (2)**
Region 3 - Suncoast Courthouse
2147 Pine Forest Dr.
Clearwater, FL 33516
Bill Cottrill
813-531-8933

Rhode Island State Singles (2)
Woonsocket Racquetball and Health Club
600 Social St.
Woonsocket, RI 02895
Dennis Culberson
401-766-6766

West Virginia Open State Championships (4)
West Virginia Racquet Club
at Waddle's Run Rd.
Wheeling, WV 26003
Kevin Becker
304-242-5688

APRIL 1-5
1981 Nike Ladies Only Pro-Am (3)
Celebrity Courts
500 Quaker Lane
Warwick, RI 02887
Frank Rawcliff
401-826-1800

APRIL 2-5
California State Singles Championships (2)
Perfect Racquet
1201 Apollo Way
Sunnyvale, CA 90486
Bill Masucci
408-738-4545

**New Hampshire AARA Open/Nashua Girls'
Club Benefit (3)**
Off The Wall
576 W. Hollis St.
Nashua, NH 03062
Dawn Laliberte
603-889-5520

APRIL 3-5
South Carolina State Championships (2)
Charleston Racquet and Nautilus Center
1642 Hwy. 7, Sam Rittenberg Blvd.
Charleston, SC 29407
Jerry Rogers
803-571-1020

C - A - L - E -

E - T - B - A - L - L

Maryland Farms April Open (3)
Maryland Farms Racquet and Country Club
 Brentwood, TN 37029
 Marie Copley
 615-373-2900

1981 World Open Singles (3)
Off The Wall Racquetball Club
 230 Oser Ave.
 Hapague, NY
 516-231-3322
 Bill Dotter
 516-862-9241

Montecarlo Mixed Doubles
Extravaganza (3)
Sacramento Court Club
 947 Enterprise Dr.
 Sacramento, CA 95825
 Mark Greunke
 916-920-1933

APRIL 9-11
4th Annual Heart Fund Tournament (3)
Stillwater Racquet and Fitness Club
 1225 N. Perkins
 Stillwater, OK 74074
 Susan McMasters
 405-372-7188

APRIL 10-12
Forest Hills Open (3)
Forest Hills Athletic Club
 3910 Caughey Rd.
 Erie, PA 16506
 Mark Salvia
 814-833-2468

Blue Point Tournament (3)
Blue Point Racquetball Club
 9 A Montauk
 Blue Point, NY 11715
 Garrett Jones
 516-363-2882

Muscular Dystrophy Benefit (2)
Redwood Health Club
 3101 S. State Street
 Ukiah, CA 95482
 Dean Hutton/Bob Page
 707-468-0441

INTERCOLLEGIATE NATIONALS (6)
The Racquet Club
 Memphis, TN
 901-761-1172
 See Page 27

District Qualifying Tournaments for Ohio
State Championships (2) to be held May
 15-17
Qualifying Tournament sites:
 Toledo, Cleveland,
 Columbus, Cincinnati
 For more details, contact Jerry Davis
 216-751-5574

Helena, Montana City Championships (2)
Capitol Courts and Health Club
 406-443-7788 AND
Broadwater Athletic Club in Hot Springs
 406-443-5777
 Lee Tickell
 406-443-4559

WFNE Open (3)
Playoff Racquetball Club
 15 Catemore
 East Providence, RI 02914
 401-434-3600

Dodge City Club House AARA Open (3)
Dodge City Club House
 Comanche & Ave. F
 Dodge City, KS 67801
 Steve Westphal
 316-225-0206

Washington State Singles (2)
Seattle Athletic Club
 333 N.E. 9th
 Seattle, WA 98115
 Yvonne Calavan
 206-522-9400

Open Idaho State Championships (3)
Sports World
 1633 Olympus Dr.
 Pocatello, ID 83201
 Wayne Weinrum
 208-237-9100

1981 Natural Lite Classic (3)
The Racquet Place
 2401 20th Pl. S.
 Birmingham, AL 35223
 Gerald Cleveland
 205-870-0144

Wyoming AARA State Championships (2)
Rocky Mountain Health Club
 1881 Westland Rd.
 Cheyenne, WY 82001
 Scott Nelson
 307-634-8884

1981 Atlanta Falcon Open (3)
The Complex
 Suwanee Road at I-85
 Suwanee, GA 30174
 Cathy Gluvna
 404-945-8977

APRIL 13-16
JUNIOR NATIONALS
 Wichita, Kansas
 Supreme Court East
 Dewane Grimes 316-945-8331
 Ed Martin 916-221-4405
 See Page 12

APRIL 24-26
AARA REGIONALS
 See Page 10

APRIL 28-30
National Air Traffic Controllers RBT
 Sport Rooms
 1500 Douglas Rd.
 Coral Gables, FL 33134
 Carl Dean
 305-443-4228

MAY 1-3
East Coast Jubilee (4)
Seniors Only 30+ to 60+
Boston Tennis Club
 Boston, MA
 John Lepore
 617-662-6791

2nd Annual Hemophilia Racquetball
Benefit (3)
Kessinger's Court Club
 2611 S. Mendenhall
 Memphis, TN 38118
 901-794-9300

qualifying tournament for:
Florida's Sunshine State Games, 1981 (2)
Region 1-Racquetball West
 125 Miracle Strip Parkway SW
 Ft. Walton Beach, FL 32549
 John Maddox/Jay Schwartz
 904-243-5494

MAY 8-10
The Sporting House 1981 Spring Open (3)
The Sporting House
 Enfield, CT
 Ken Navarro
 203-745-2408

MAY 15-17
Mayfest (3)
Gamepoint Racquet Club
 Plymouth, MA
 Rick Cash
 617-746-7448

3rd Annual MINN DAK All Air
Force Tournament (2)
TAC Club
 Grand Forks, ND
 Ben Beck

qualifying tournament for:
Florida's Sunshine State Games, 1981 (2)
Region 2-Omega 40
 1 South Kings Road
 Ormond Beach, FL 32074
 Tasso Kiriakes
 904-672-4044

AARA/ORA Ohio State Championships (3)
Severance Athletic Club
 Mayfield Rd. & Severance Cir.
 Cleveland, OH 44118
 Jerry Davis
 216-751-5574

MAY 21-25
AARA NATIONAL SINGLES
The Court House
 7211 Colonial
 Boise, Idaho 83705
 208-377-0040

JUNE 5-7
Second Annual Cancer Society Benefit (3)
Backwall Racquetball Center
 Altoona, PA
 Contact: Bernie Howard
 717-667-2209

AARA sanctioned
tournaments in bold
 (1) - 1st level tournament
 (2) - 2nd level tournament
 (3) - 3rd level tournament
 (4) - 4th level tournament
 (5) - 5th level tournament
 (6) - 6th level tournament

* To put your tournament on this calendar, call Halie at 901-761-1172.

N - D - A - R

BY TOM SLEAR

PLAYERS' CHOICE

RUNNING A COURT CLUB ISN'T AS EASY AS IT ONCE WAS

Racquetball, besides being an enjoyable, addictive sport, is big business. Some 10 million people in the United States spent \$120 million in 1980 for racquetball accessories alone. Such large scale commercialization and the accompanying competition have offered many benefits to players. Racquets are better, balls last longer, safety glasses are better designed and, most important, courts are more readily available. But development has come only at a price. Certain rules had to be learned, particularly in regard to starting and running a court club.

"Running a court club (for discussion of starting a club, see *Racquetball*, March 1980), is like running any other small business," says Kenny Navarro, manager and part owner of The Sporting House in Enfield, Connecticut. "You have to keep a close look at costs and work like hell to generate a market for your club. Of course, I'm assuming you've picked a good location. The days of sitting back and waiting for people to come to you are long gone."

Few club managers will disagree. Racquetball sells itself but clubs are plentiful now — roughly 2,700 (1,300 private, 1,400 public) in the United States — and a player can afford to be discriminating. In the San Diego area, for example, 40 clubs service a population of only 1.7 million. Some clubs in the area have failed and several others are looking for buyers. The difference between the money makers and losers is simple, according to one of the area's managers.

"It all comes down to management," he says.

The term management, however, is as ambiguous as morality. What some see as all right others view as all wrong. Yet, a competitive marketplace has a way of making the rules of the game very clear. In the 10 years that racquetball clubs have been on the scene, certain principles have been tried and proven.

"As a manager, you have to run a racquetball club, not a racquetball facility," says National Court Club Association (NCCA) executive director Chuck Leve. "There is a difference. A facility offers only one reason for joining. A club uses the courts as the main attraction but offers many other fitness options." And, it's those options that most benefit the player looking to get a lot from his or her club.

In essence, the racquetball business is now a buyers' market. Racquetball players can afford to shop around, to choose the club that offers the most for their money and best meets their needs. Therefore, it's beneficial for players to know what goes into running a club, and what sorts of things are possible.

Some possible options are leagues, walleyball (volleyball in a court) exercise classes, Nautilus, and though it may be stretching the fitness aspect a bit, Leve recommends that "every club should have a bar and lounge."

"The idea," Leve says, expressing the businessman's point of view, "is to offer as many reasons as possible for people to join your club and spend money. Racquetball courts by themselves worked back in the mid '70s but not anymore."

These additions often times require physical changes to the club which usually mean a capital investment — little problem for managers who are also owners. But the manager who is merely

getting a salary must present his case to an owner(s) who sees the club maybe once a week.

The wisdom of "absentee management" — turning the day-to-day operation of a club over to a salaried manager who has no money invested — sharply divides those in the court club business. Kenny Navarro, a part owner/manager, thinks the salaried manager is a good idea. "His business decisions will be more objective," he says.

Paul Gelinis, part owner and manager of the Empire One in Chicopee, Massachusetts, disagrees. He thinks that the little bit of extra effort necessary to make a club successful is more likely if the manager has a piece of the action.

Probably the most pragmatic example comes from Bob Petersen, part owner and manager of The Court House in Boise, Idaho. While he thinks a salaried manager is not a good idea, he's found it necessary to forego any misgivings and do just that. When he and the other owners opened another club in Billings, Montana, they brought in a salaried manager "who is doing an excellent job," says Petersen.

"Even if the manager is not also an owner," says Kenny Navarro, "he should be offering well-thought out suggestions on how to make the needed changes to the club and how to come up with the money. The manager is not just an administrator. He is the one talking to the members every day and he knows best what changes or new programs are needed."

Physical changes, however, can accomplish only so much. Or so says Jean Sauser, a ranked woman pro racquetballer who owns the Milwaukie Racquet Club and Fitness Center in Portland,

Oregon, along with another top pro, Jennifer Harding. "People need to be told how to use your club. Just showing them an impressive facility is not enough," Sauser opines.

According to Sauser's partner, Jennifer Harding, one of the most important aspects of running the club is to have a friendly representative behind the front desk. The first person to greet a new or potential member is usually the desk clerk. If this person isn't courteous and helpful, it will leave a lasting impression about the club that won't easily be changed. It's important to make a person feel a part of the club, and this is just one way to facilitate that happening, says Harding. Another good way is to encourage participation—particularly in league play.

Sauser runs a complex, in-house league structure — 10 leagues, 40 members each — in an eight court facility. Managing the leagues occupies a good part of her day but "I find leagues our most valuable program, and more useful than lessons," she says. "The leagues create, at the same time, membership interest and paid court time."

At Bob Petersen's 27-court facility in Boise (the site of the 1981 AARA National Singles Championships) there are aerobic dance classes that draw 500 participants and a Nautilus with several hundred regular users.

"The purpose is to give the members many fitness options," Petersen says. "In the case of aerobic dance, it offers women prone to noncompetitive group activity a reason to come to the club and get exposed to the individual activity of racquetball."

Yet Petersen warns against letting the extras become an end in themselves. They help bring in members and fill up the courts but they are "just services," he says, and should not be looked upon as major sources of income.

Racquetball clubs have evolved into a product that hardly resemble their predecessors of the early '70s. During the decade, the spartan clubs which offered only courts and showers have grown into lavish facilities complemented with programs more or less connected with racquetball. The change was inevitable as racquetball players became more sophisticated and the clubs that survived had people in charge who divorced themselves somewhat from the daily operations and noticed the trends that were forming around them.

But keeping current is no guarantee of success. Even the best products fail and often times because of poor marketing. In racquetball, as in all other competitive businesses, you have to get out and make the calls.

"Your number one priority, of course,

is a clean, courteous club," says Paul Gelinas. "You can't be turning away the customers you have. But nearly as important is the need to advertise, give speeches, send out brochures, conduct clinics and tours — anything to show off your facility and its programs."

Jean Sauser agrees but her technique is more specific.

"I like to sell once people are in the club. When a guest comes in, I am notified and I make sure I introduce myself and offer to show him around before he leaves. Also, I follow up with a phone call."

Though managers typically handle the

summer influence rises.

Selling court time, obviously the major source of income for a racquetball club (though some clubs have no court fees and charge monthly dues instead — a kind of "minimum use" fee), is not as straightforward as it may seem. There are peak seasons — fall and winter — and times of the day — 5 to 10 p.m. — which must be considered when putting together a marketing strategy.

For example, a member who has a 9-to-5 job and prefers tennis in the summer is not worth the effort of an extensive advertising campaign.

As Navarro explains: "He only uses

Racquetball clubs have evolved into a product that hardly resemble their predecessors of the early '70s. During the decade, the spartan clubs which offered only courts and showers have grown into lavish facilities complemented with programs more or less connected with racquetball.

selling responsibilities themselves, Navarro tries to get extra mileage through delegation. His morning, afternoon, and evening shift managers are hired with the understanding that they will take an active part in selling the court time during their shifts. When the time comes to talk raises, Navarro holds them accountable.

"Giving them a chance to use their initiative has paid off," he says. "I got a call the other day from a member complaining that there are no courts available at six o'clock in the morning. Can you believe it? No courts that early in the morning. The morning manager is doing a helluva job."

Bob Petersen carries Navarro's method one step further. He has five people on his staff whose only job is to sell memberships. "I had to do something," he says, "because I was so busy at the club that I wasn't getting out and selling like I should. They work only for commissions and they do a great job." And, such enthusiasm can improve the lot of all racquetballers, as their numbers increase and thus their con-

prime time courts during the wintertime and if he doesn't play, someone else will. But a housewife interested in playing year round at 2:30 in the afternoon is a different matter. If we can't keep her playing, we lose income that we will have a difficult time recovering."

The point Navarro makes is rather subtle but other aspects of selling court time are not. "Anything short of destroying the integrity of your membership (i.e., going public) should be looked into," he says. "Unused courts serve no purpose and do nothing for your bottom line."

As Navarro and I were talking, the owners of a nearby club in West Springfield, Massachusetts, were sponsoring a celebrity racquetball day to raise money for cerebral palsy research. Local well-knowns played each other while a radio station broadcasted live from the club.

"Dance on down to the Best-In-Town Courts and donate towards cerebral palsy research while watching the celebrities play racquetball," the disc jockey repeated throughout the day. Of course, the owners didn't mind if you

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Tel. 714-449-0740

Explanation of Grand Master National Champion Listing as seen in *Racquetball*, January 1981

It has been brought to our attention that some of our readers did not understand the Grand Master National Champion listing as published in January. For those who did not understand, totals are derived only from points accumulated by winning National IRA/AARA titles. For instance, 250 points are awarded for a doubles title, 500 points for a singles title. A player receives 2,000 automatic points for having won a National title, plus either 250 or 500 points, depending on whether it was a doubles or a singles title. (These "gold" points are accumulated over a lifetime of play, as opposed to yearly ranking points.)

Only amateurs are eligible for the listing, which only covers National title winners of IRA/AARA competition since 1968. One amusing result is that Marty Hogan, for instance, will not surpass his younger sister Linda unless he reverts to amateur status. And then, Bud Muehleisen, has a total of 8,750 points from having won 7 doubles and 10 National singles titles. Muehleisen still plays in national tournaments, so he stands a good chance of staying at the top.

Finally, for those who couldn't understand why someone else was listed before them, although they have the same totals, there is a simple answer. In the men's listings, numbers 25 through 62 are all equal and are just listed numerically for the sake of clarity. The same goes for the women's numbers 63 through 101.

There were a couple of misprints, and they should read as follows: Men: number 27 should be Bowes; number 79 should have a total of 2,250 points; number 101 should be spelled Yellen; and Pete Talbot's total should be 2,530. If you have further questions, contact Pete Talbot at 201-356-6900.

danced on down and also used the courts. Or even brought a friend and signed him up as a member.

The merits of aggressive salesmanship, however, can only be determined when compared with costs. What good is an advertising campaign that brings in \$1,000 in new business but costs \$1,200? Such snafus even on a larger scale are not uncommon, particularly when owners/managers are into expanding.

"Keeping track of costs is a daily thing," says Paul Gelinis. "I'm always trying to keep my costs, excluding taxes and debt retirement, at 60 percent of income. If not, I find I don't have enough cash to handle the unexpected or to make the necessary changes to the facility."

Anything magic about 60 percent? Probably not. As Jean Sauser says, "I have never heard of that before but it's worth looking into. The only general rule is that you have to keep a *daily* watch on your financial figures and maintain good records. How can I compare my energy costs with a club in the Northeast?"

When I talked to Sauser, the temperature in Portland was 60°. On the other end of the line in Connecticut, it was barely above zero. Yet, no matter the location, managers will say energy costs are an uncontrollable sore point. Some other costs are not.

For example:

Cleaning — "We use high school students," says Sauser. "They ask for less pay and are more productive."

Maintenance — "Choose your courts very carefully," says Navarro. "Panels, for instance, can be cleaned easily. And don't be penny-wise and pound-foolish. Lowering the heat does nothing to lower costs if your pipes freeze."

Vendors — "Watch them closely," says Sauser. "Let them know you are always looking at the competition."

Turnover — Managers all agree on this point. Take the time to carefully interview and select your help. The time spent training new employees is costly.

Running a court club is a complex undertaking. Keeping an eye on current trends, selling aggressively, and cutting costs without taking shortcuts are the three tips that first come to most managers' minds. But more important than what the manager does is his outlook on the job.

"If he is not highly motivated," says Chuck Leve, "he is in the wrong line of work."

Kenny Navarro agrees: "Racquetball club management demands an awful lot of hard work and long hours for a relatively small financial return — at least in comparison to other small businesses. You have to really want to work at it. If not, you will be out of work in no time." ■

BOSTON MASSACRE REVISITED

THE VOIT/BOSTON HOLIDAY FESTIVAL

By John Lepore



Tournament director, John Lepore (center) congratulates Bob Folsom (3rd) and Champion Pat Columbo (right). These men helped make the Masters Invitational a great success.

Not far from the site of the Boston Massacre was a racquetball version of the historical event, only this time it was 1981, not 1770.

"Massacre" may be too harsh a word, but little else seems adequate to describe the dominance of Pat Columbo in the premier event — the Masters Invitational — held at the Boston Tennis and Racquet Club last January 2-4. Although all the best Masters players in the country were invited, it was largely the hearty Northeast players that braved the below zero temperatures to play in Boston that first weekend of 1981.

Players and spectators, when not outside the Club starting their cars to keep the batteries operative, were treated to some fantastic racquetball. The before mentioned Pat Columbo, an airline pilot from Scarsdale, N.Y., flew through all six of his round robin matches without a loss. In fact, he never lost even one game on his way to trophyland.

Columbo had his greatest scare when he opposed Maine's Bob Folsom (15-11, 15-13). Folsom refused to be intimidated by Columbo's "man in the iron mask" routine, (i.e., every time the New Yorker lob served, he would charge back toward his opponent peering through his racquet.) Columbo cried foul several times when Folsom charged past him, hitting the ball inside the safety hash mark, but once the rule was explained (AARA over USRA) calm settled in until the last point of the game which some felt was tainted.

In scurrying to retrieve a Columbo pass, Folsom tripped over someone's sneaker (his own or Columbo's?). Folsom knew it was Columbo's, Columbo wasn't sure and the referee let the point stand — match, point, and game. Despite the human frailties involved, both players displayed superb body and racquet control as they covered the court fore and aft, and side to side with semi-miraculous retrievals.

The also-rans to Columbo's clear victory were: Howie Coleman of Worcester, Mass., second; Bob Folsom, third; Tom Waltz of Connecticut, fourth; Pete "the Pro" Talbot from New Jersey, fifth, while Vermont's Burt Moffitt was sixth over local club member and 1980 Massachusetts State Doubles Champion John Solio.

Men's Open

While the Masters Invitational was the gem of the stellar Holiday Festival, there were nine other divisions played, none more dexterously fought than the Men's "Open." Advance hoopla had hordes of pretenders coming from all over the Northeast to meet and dethrone the local champion, Mike McDonough, whose recent claim to fame was going all the way to the National 1980 AARA Amateur finals in Miami last June. Yet the only non-Massachusetts players to arrive to challenge McDonough were Mike Reddy (Canada) and Bill Burnett of Vermont, who stayed around until the finals.

McDonough, who has a characteristically relaxed, almost careless attitude on court, (until provoked to hit the ball, then he suddenly comes alive and cat-like, pounces on it), had little difficulty with quarterfinalist Leo Jolly (15-10, 15-4). But in the semis, he met up with diminutive Gul Khan of the famous squash family Khans.

Gul (pronounced "Ghoul") as expected, lost the first game 15-12. But he served warning of what lay ahead when he scored 12 points, most of them on spurts of three and four points at a time. The second game was a shocker, for Gul never allowed McDonough to establish any type of rhythm, and he won easily 15-8. The tiebreaker brought out some of the best racquetball of the weekend, with constant exchanges of serve. Khan finally dethroned McDonough when at 10 all, he hit a typically "squash" sidewall pinch that narrowly missed a lunging McDonough racquet.

All eyes were now focused on the finals where Khan would meet the Paul Bunyon of the North, Bill Burnett, who advanced to that august spot without losing a game. Burnett came down from Vermont with high hopes of playing against McDonough, but now he had to contend with the slings of a David, rather than a Goliath.

The two players were starkly contrasted, Khan being swarthy and short, and Burnett very fair and tall. But once the game began, size meant little and skill meant everything. Each point was a battle. Burnett startled the gallery by constantly serving a high garbage serve to Khan's forehand. Although Khan never scored directly off this serve, he

time and again hit punishing returns to gain supremacy in the rally; so much so, one wonders whether Mr. Khan leaked the false information that the forehead was his weakness, a la Brother Rabbit in the Brier Patch.

Khan, wearing a T-shirt with huge cubes of dice, confirmed everyone's unspoken thought, that 100 years ago he would be very much at home on the Delta Queen as a riverboat gambler. Once every other stroke, Khan gambled on a bizarre sidewall/front wall pinch shot; but so deep were his sidewall attempts, one never knew where they would land, least of all a frustrated Burnett who just kept shaking his head. Khan missed often enough to give the Vermonter the first game 14-15, but after that, the luck of the riverboat gambler held, and Khan overcame a gallant challenge from his opponent, and won out 15-10, 11-9.

Women's Open

The females' open finale produced a similar tiebreaker and almost made the spectators choose between their stomachs and their racquetball. Since a delicious lasagne and salad dinner was being served at the same time, the less stalwart went upstairs for their victuals, yet were cheered to see on the Advent screen, the closed circuit live coverage of the "Open" match between Judy Bryant and Nora Davis.

On her way to the finals, Bryant overcame a flu-ridden gallant gal named Joni Wade (15-11, 15-3), then had her next opponent, Sheila Laperle, diving all over the court in a losing cause (15-12, 15-10). Then along came the tiny, but stout-hearted Nora Davis who "came to play" as they say.

Bryant's strategy in the beginning was to lob serve Davis because of the Voit ball's heaviness, thus saving her arm. But when her opponent won the first game 15-11, Bryant went back to the drawing board and drive-served everything, whence she soon kept Davis retrieving in the back court. Results: Bryant a sore arm and a championship (15-12, 11-8).

Senior Men (35+)

In one of the most convincing displays of true skill, Dan Giordano, a local teaching pro from Hanscom Air Force Base, destroyed all his opponents on his way to the Senior title, not letting any one of them score over seven points a game. His final match against Skip Elman was a classic example of brains and control shooting. It seems Elman never got two serves in a row. If he served and leaned to his left, he was passed. If he served and leaned a little to the right, Giordano shot down the line to his



Dan Giordano, former AARA Regional Director still has his game together, as he readies his backhand killshot on the way to another Senior Championship.

left. The champ made the Voit people happy, since Giordano is one of their player-reps in the Northeast.

Men's B

The so-called Men's "B" division was a misnomer because it boasted one female and a 15-year-old boy. Ms. Janet Simon generally plays in this division because it gives her better competition and she hopes to parlay this experience by playing in a Pro-Stop some day. Usually she makes the semis in the Men's "B," and this tournament was no exception. Yet the championship went to the small 15-year-old, Cliff Swain who battled his way to the top, humbling bigger and faster opponents. Remember the name — Swain is going places!

Best Of The Rest

The largest participant draws were the Men's "C" and Novice divisions with 45 men in each. "Big John" Jagielski outlasted his fellow "C" players with exhausting tiebreakers in almost every match while Jim Compton finished off his opponents almost totally in straight games.

In the regular Masters division, "Big-Big John" Hickman routed all comers with a convincing 6-0 round robin victory which made some observers wonder why he wasn't in the Invitational half of the Masters. (After playing Bob Folsom in a fun match following the tournament, Hickman became convinced he wasn't quite ready for prime time yet.)

The women's divisions had a few massacres of their own when Vicky Edelman won the Women's "B" title by a convincing 15-1, 15-1 score in the final, while Marsha Kazarosian took the "C" championship by almost the same score from her opponent, 15-1, 15-0. In the Women's Novice category, Chris Howard served notice she is no longer a novice by playing a brilliant tournament, capping her final effort with a 15-10,

15-1 victory.

Final Note

No coverage of this Holiday Festival in Boston would be complete without mention of Flying Fred Kelloway (Men's "B" — where else?) and his cannonballing through the glass door of Court E, thus immobilizing the use of the court for the entire tournament, much to the dismay of tournament director John Lepore who tried to fit 206 players into the remaining eight courts. Fortunately, Flying Fred was unhurt and now we know, unbreakable glass is breakable.

East Coast Jubilee

Based on the successful response of the senior racquetball types in the Holiday Festival Tournament held at the Boston Tennis and Racquet Club, the East Coast Jubilee promises to be an even greater event.

Geared to senior players *only*, The Boston Tennis and Racquet Club plans to have the following divisions: 30+, 35+, 40+, 45+, 50+, 55+, and 60+. Scheduled for the merry month of May (May 1, 2, and 3), the Club will become the mecca for all those along the eastern seaboard who hope to prove their mettle against the best in the East.

Don't delay, get the applications from tournament director John Lepore: 72 Prospect Street, Melrose, Mass. 02176, phone 617-662-6791; or from the Boston Tennis Club, 653 Summer Street, Boston, Mass. 02210, phone 617-269-4300.

Time Out

A debt of thanks is extended to the entire crew of the Boston Tennis Club facility, especially the manager Maureen Bonin, and her assistant Eileen Lonergan. Dennis LeCroix outdid himself (again) in managing the tournament desk along with his capable floor persons, Ginny Walsh and Carolyn Donovan.

Audio-visual expert Ron Ford creatively hooked up not one, but two closed circuit TV screens in the upstairs lounge to handle the overflow viewers who saw live video coverage of the action downstairs.

Greeter Martha Lepore cheerfully and judiciously handled the registration desk, while John Solio and Russ Kelly ran roughshod over the courts to keep things moving.

Last but not least, we must thank the Voit people, personified by Francine Davis, whose concern for details guaranteed a great tourney; and Jack Armstrong, whose diligent and prompt mailing of tournament supplies and sharp-looking shirts kept the tournament director from getting ulcers. ■



April 10, 11, 12, 1981

penn



AMERICAN AMATEUR RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION'S 1981 INTERCOLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

SITE:

The Racquet Club of Memphis
51111 Sanderlin Road
Memphis, TN 38117
901-767-6980

ELIGIBILITY:

See accompanying Official AARA Intercollegiate Rules

DIVISIONS:

Men's 1, 2 and Doubles

Men's Team

Women's 1, 2 and Doubles

Women's Team

Men's and Women's Team

ENTRY FEE:

\$15.00 per player, limit one event no. 1 singles no. 2 singles and doubles—ENTRY FEE INCLUDES 3 month membership in AARA

DEADLINE:

Postmarked Wednesday, April 1st, NO EXCEPTIONS
Entry fee and Eligibility letter MUST accompany entry
(see Rule 3, No. 1)

TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS:

Larry Liles (901-454-2807)
Luke St. Onge (901-761-1172)

HOUSING:

Home Hospitality available upon request NOTIFY Tournament Director or

Holiday Inn I-240

901-682-7881 indicate Intercollegiate Racquetball

PLAY BEGINS:

3:00 p.m. on Friday, April 10, 1981

OFFICIAL BALL:

Penn Ultra-blue

TOURNAMENT SHIRT AWARDED TO ALL PLAYERS

HOSPITALITY BEGINS WITH LUNCH ON Friday, April 10, 1981
through Lunch on Sunday, April 12th

SCHOLARSHIPS: \$6,000 in scholarship money will be awarded.

Level (6)

RULE ONE—MATRICULATION

No one shall participate in any intercollegiate racquetball contest unless he is a bona fide matriculated undergraduate student at an accredited university or college (not business college, trade school, etc.) and is regularly enrolled and doing full work as defined by the regulations of the institution at which he is enrolled. Eligibility based upon NCAA rules and regulations.

RULE TWO—PARTICIPATION

1. Participation in intercollegiate racquetball shall be limited to four varsity years over a period of five consecutive college years counting from the date of matriculation.

2. In the event of a student's regular attendance being interrupted by military service in any of the armed forces, his period of eligibility shall be five years exclusive of his period of military service, except for the years in which, during his military service, he may have represented an educational institution.

3. Freshmen are eligible for varsity competition in racquetball. Women are eligible.

4. Transfer students or graduates from a junior college may continue their racquetball competition without complying with the one-year residence rule. Total years of competition shall not exceed four years.

5. No professional racquetball player shall be permitted to compete in any intercollegiate tournament. However, in accord with intercollegiate legislation of 1974, professionalism in any other sport shall not preclude competition in racquetball as long as the player maintains amateur standing in the sport of racquetball.

6. Only amateurs may participate. A professional shall be defined as any player (male, female or junior) who has accepted prize money regardless of the amount in any PRO SANCTIONED tournament. (NRC, PRA, WPRA, IPRO, NARP) or any other association so deemed by the AARA Board of Directors.

RULE THREE—TOURNAMENTS

1. Eligibility of participants shall be verified prior to the tournament by letter from the Office of the Dean of Admissions or Registrar to the tournament director, with the school seal affixed.

2. Teams shall consist of four players from the same institution; teams cannot comprise players from different schools in the same system (example, University of Texas-Austin, Arlington and El Paso campuses). Members of a doubles team must be from the same institution.

3. A team of four shall consist of one player in Class No. 1 Singles, one player in Class No. 2 Singles and one doubles team. No player may compete in more than one event.

4. Scoring shall be as follows:

Placement - The champion of each event shall receive 10 points, runner-up 7 points, third place 4 points, fourth place 2 points.

Advancement - A player shall receive two points for each match won, except that no advancement points shall be awarded to the winner of the championship finals, or the third place match. A forfeit or any injury default shall be considered a match won. One point shall be awarded to a player receiving a bye, if he wins his next match.

OFFICIAL ENTRY BLANK



**INTERCOLLEGIATE
CHAMPIONSHIPS**



Men - ☐ No. 1 Singles ☐ No. 2 Singles ☐ Doubles

Women - ☐ No. 1 Singles ☐ No. 2 Singles ☐ Doubles

NAME: _____ COLLEGE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ if members of college's four-player team No _____

I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against the American Amateur Racquetball Association, The Racquet Club of Memphis and their respective agents for any and all injuries.

Date _____ SIGNATURE _____

ENCLOSE YOUR CHECK AND ELIGIBILITY LETTER AND MAIL TO:

AARA INTERCOLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS, 5545 Murray, Suite 202, Memphis, TN 38119

By Terry Fancher

THE MORE THE MERRIER

Group Instruction For Serving And Movement



Terry Fancher (far right) and an enthusiastic gaggle of students.



Students must limber up before serving practice.

Since group instruction involves large numbers of new players, it is important that drills for new skills be functional as well as provide maximum use of time and involve as many people as possible. Standing around watching should be kept to a minimum.

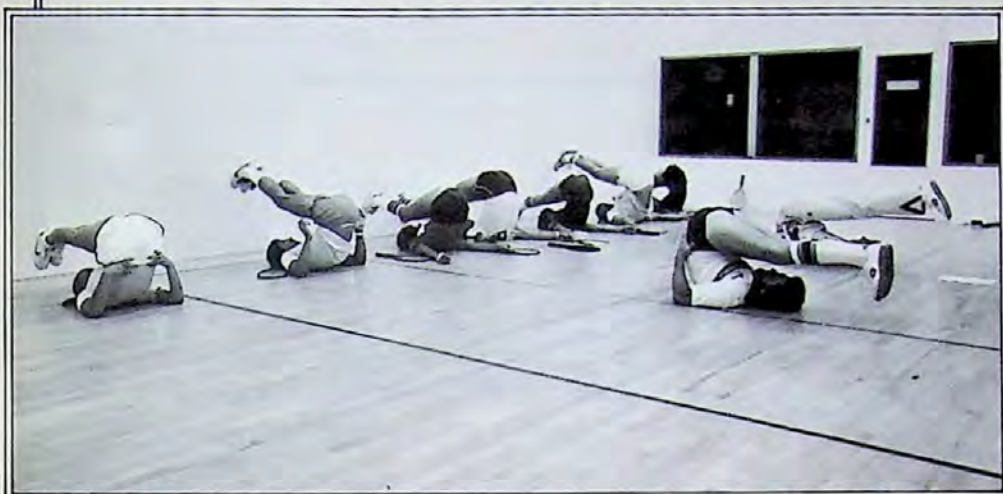
For group instruction at the Courtrooms, we use a variety of training aids to make drills more meaningful and understandable. Instructors go by written outlines so that classes are all taught the same way with adequate time being devoted to each segment of the lesson. To supplement verbal instruction and drilling, instructional cassettes are viewed by each class before going on a court. Using targets for serving practice is a cheap and handy device that visually illustrates where a serve should strike the front wall. Using buckets of balls for drills is an old tennis aid but it works just as well for racquetball, allowing the instructor or students to hit numerous consecutive strokes. Another supplement to good group instruction is a "match-maker" book which lists students by skill level and the times they are available to play. By keeping these records, players may readily find a partner to play with. Instructors should wear a designated uniform or shirt indicating "instructor" status meaning they have completed APRO certification or are otherwise qualified to teach at the club. Other than that, all that is required are some eager students.

For proper serving practice, students must first limber up by enforcing the previously learned techniques of the forehand stroke. Keeping the racquet cocked before putting the ball into play is also emphasized. One good pre-class exercise is the back-over stretch which helps stretch the muscles in the lower back. This exercise, as all loosening up exercises, should be done slowly. Another excellent means of stretching which imitates the shifting of weight while retrieving the ball is the lateral leg stretch which should be done by leaning on one leg to the left and then alternating to the right back and forth, slowly.

After an adequate warm-up period, the drive and lob serves are explained and practiced. For the drive serve, emphasis is given to accuracy and correct technique to ensure success. It is explained that the drive serve is probably the most effective serve in the game if served properly because it is hit low and hard to a corner of the court (normally the opponent's backhand) thereby not giving the receiver much time to react. If accurate, it is the most difficult to return effectively and can lead to many weak returns and early scoring opportunities for the server.

It is stressed that serving is not just

WINNING POINTS



The back-over is a good pre-class exercise.



The lateral tag stretch is another good warm-up exercise.

the act of putting the ball into play; it is more of an art. Since a poor serve can result in a quick loss of the opportunity to score points, it should not be treated lightly but as something which is most important to remaining games and matches.

Since a player does not have to move to the ball before striking it, as would be the case in a rally shot, we stress that in serving you are in control of the ball and your opponent. You determine where the ball will be hit (within the 10 second period allowed by the rules). You control the speed of the ball; and you control the placement of the serve. All of these factors combined give the server a decided advantage.

For group lessons, players are told to drop the ball well away from the body in order to allow a free and unrestricted swing of the arm and racquet. They are also taught to start with the wrist cocked and the top of the racquet pointing toward the ceiling as in any well conceived forehand stroke. The server's feet should be positioned in a slightly closed stance to prevent the common tendency to pull the ball away from the desired

target. To stress this point, we actually tape rifle targets on the front wall to designate where the ball should strike on the wall.

For group lesson purposes, we have two people serve at once, one into the left corner and one into the right corner. A single bucket of balls or two buckets are placed directly behind the two servers and balls may be taken from the bucket as needed. The instructor positions himself directly behind the two students to assist either or both with their serving or to correct problems. Students in the rear of the court collect the served balls and place them back in the buckets, then the class is rotated in a clockwise manner with each player hitting about 10 serves to the left corner and 10 serves to the right corner. One option is to have the students in the rear of the court catch the served balls with their hands as if they were going to return the serve.

Again, the reason two people serve at once is because twice as much work can be accomplished within the same court space. It keeps things moving. This drill, and many of our group drills, was in-

vented by Chuck Sheftel, president of APRO, and has been successfully utilized by thousands of beginners in group lessons.

For the lob serve, the same formation is used, except the students are told that the lob is basically a "slow motion" serve which should strike the front wall very high and angle back and die deep in either corner of the court, usually to the receiver's backhand.

The advantage of the lob serve is that it gives the server a great deal of time to set up in position for the return of serve and is applicable and effective for singles, doubles, or cutthroat. A high follow through is stressed and very little, if any, wrist break is recommended. Dropping the ball from a height over the server's head allows the ball to rebound at a high height on the bounce of the serve and makes it a little easier to get under the ball on the slow upward stroke.

During all serving drills players must be constantly watched to ensure they watch exactly where their serves wind up because that indicates the success of the drill. If accuracy is not achieved, it is usually because the server is in too big a rush to hit several serves in a row without regard to where the ball is going, or else the service motion or stroke is poor. That is where supervision comes in.

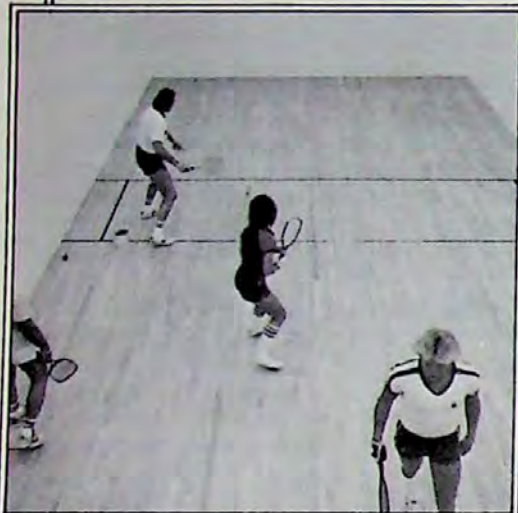
Movement drills are highly important in group instruction because learning to move to the ball and strike it is the most fun and stimulating part of the game of racquetball. That is where the exercise and use of necessary skills come in. For new players, this is where their first huffing and puffing are done. New players most often comment on the fun of these drills and their importance during the course of instruction.

Movement drills imitate actual good habits necessary for basic racquetball play. Constant starting and stopping either before or after the ball is struck is



For group lessons, two people serve at once, one into each corner.

WINNING POINTS



To drill as a group, everyone is placed in a line along the left sidewall, with one player in the center of the court.

what the game is all about and new players are forced to do this during these drills. The total involvement of the entire group makes everyone in class work together and can provide comic relief as everyone realizes they are not the only ones who have some difficulties in learning the game as it is correctly played.

Students are taught that racquetball involves moving to the ball to return it to the front wall as well as moving after you hit it to get back into good return position. Above all, students are told not to linger in back court after returning the ball. Players who come up toward the all important center court position have a chance to retrieve the ball in front court or can also retreat back to deep court if the ball gets past them. However, to stay in deep court allows coverage of the rear area only. Any ball that strikes low on the front wall will be very difficult to reach.

To drill as a group, everyone is placed in a line along the left sidewall with one player in the center of the court. The players are told by the instructor that they will have to return every other shot while the instructor will hit each alternate shot. After striking the ball, the center court student quickly returns to the end of the line and, the next player moves into center court ready for the instructor's return shot. Play is continuous and often quite fun as students often break into laughter at some of the contortions they go into to return the ball to the front wall. Play continues on a clockwise rotation. After the class gets fairly proficient, the instructor sets a goal for the class such as 10 or 20 consecutive shots depending on class skill level, so that is a reason for the drill and something to achieve.

The final movement drill is probably the most difficult in all group instruction practice. It is called "touch-and-go,"



A high follow through and very little wrist break are points stressed when teaching the lob serve.

another Sheftel innovation. The purpose of this technique is to force the students to move back even faster into center court position than they normally would while actually playing. This drill should be administered by the instructor with an eye out for fatigue in new players. They should not be pressed past their current endurance level.

To begin as before, a single player moves to center court with the racquet up ready to move to the forehand or backhand side of the court. The rest of the class is positioned along the left sidewall and ready to take their turn.

It is explained that if the instructor hits the ball to the forehand side of the court the student must return the ball, then audibly touch the right sidewall with the

racquet, then immediately return to center court and the instructor will return his shot. Play is continuous and students are coached to keep moving constantly and to do the drill more proficiently, they should watch the ball as they go to strike the sidewall in order to give themselves advantage in seeing where the next shot will go.

Trying to do the drill correctly, that is, touching the right wall after hitting a forehand and left wall after hitting a backhand, can produce some comical situations as students often get confused. But, the fun, as well as the difficulties, of the drill put almost all beginners in the same situation and there is not any embarrassment. This is a unique and truly challenging drill. ■

By Allen Ascher

COURT POSITION

Reading Your Opponent's Weaknesses

This is the first of a three part series on instruction for Intermediates.

In last October's issue of *Racquetball* I spoke about the importance of developing a game plan geared to the exploitation of your opponent's weaknesses. "Exploiting weaknesses in your opponent's game," I wrote, to quote myself, "is something like making rabbit stew according to the old recipe which directs you to catch a rabbit first. First, you must find the weaknesses."

Now at first glance finding weaknesses in your opponent's game may seem about as difficult as finding an elephant in a 9 by 12 room: you hit the ball to his forehand or backhand or feet or body or left or right. If the ball comes back at you as though it had been shot out of a cannon you look for a different weakness. If it doesn't come back at all you look no further. So what's so hard about finding weaknesses?

Ah, but if racquetball were that simple everyone would be a star and no one would bother playing; why spend time on something that easy? The fact is that everyone is playing and very few people are stars, and one of the reasons is that few people can recognize weaknesses and even fewer know how to exploit them. Most people simply go for their best shot; when their best shot is blasted back at them for a winner, they lose. And that's as much thinking as they ever do about the game. But if you want to win, and win regularly, you must be able to recognize all of your opponent's weaknesses and use them to your own advantage.

What do you look for in your opponent's play? Three things, principally: 1) court position, 2) the kinds of shots he can and can't return, and 3) the kinds of shots he can and can't make.

Without question court position is the most important factor in winning, and losing, racquetball strategy. In comparison every other component of the

game sinks to a subordinate position.

That's a strong statement to make without qualification, but consider this: other than a roll-out kill or the rare drive that seems to go right through you, is there any shot — *any* shot — that you couldn't return if you were standing in the right place for it? Even answer with a strong offensive shot of your own if you were in a particularly good position? The average shot's effectiveness is in fact determined largely by its placement; the most common point winners in intermediate play are those shots that cannot be returned because of their placement, and not, as most people believe, devastating serves and awesome kills. You can satisfy any skepticism you may have on this point through simple observation. Watch an intermediate game for 10 minutes and count the number of rallies that are won and lost on common shots, shots that would be easy to return from the right spot on the floor. In addition to the large number of those shots, you'll also find that most of them are being made by the winner.

The most important part of your game strategy, then, is simply — simply? — to put the ball where your opponent can't retrieve it. That, of course, entails knowing which court areas he'll have the most trouble reaching, which is in turn determined by his position, both on the serve and during the rallies.

Your serve is, of course, where you have the greatest advantage, something akin to the free kick in soccer. Ask yourself what's important in serving well and you'll probably answer power, accuracy off the wall, and the proper selection of service. Power is a pure element of racquetball whose effectiveness is determined only by its degree, but the latter two factors are really functions of your opponent's court position, since they both have as their object ball placement. Where you place the ball, and how, should be determined by where your opponent is standing rather than by

where your strongest serve lies.

His position on the service return should allow him to cover the greatest possible court area, but intermediates, for some strange reason, often exhibit a mini-agoraphobia: they ignore their best position in favor of an intangible, and wrongheaded, comfortableness which they feel when they stand too close to one of the walls, or too close to the server. Either way they leave themselves vulnerable to a variety of serves, all of which are designed to take advantage of the consequent poor position.

Most often the phobic intermediate stands a step or two too close to the back wall, leaving himself open to any serve that lands near the short line. There are several such serves. A short ball served directly off the front wall is one possibility, but you must make the ball touch down as close to the short line as possible in as low a trajectory as possible to prevent it from bouncing up and back to your opponent.

A better possibility, although it requires more power and accuracy to execute, is a serve that caroms off the sidewall and again, lands just over the short line. Much of the kinetic energy imparted to the ball by your racquet is absorbed by the sidewall, thus minimizing the chances of it reaching your opponent. Mix these serves to either side and you'll have a powerful offensive weapon.

Another effective serve against an opponent who pins himself too far back is the drive serve off the back wall, with the ball kept as close to either sidewall as possible. The key to success with this serve is velocity — sheer power. Ideally the ball should bounce out two feet beyond the point where your opponent is waiting to pick it off the back wall. And since, as with the carom serve, the ball will lose velocity if it hits a sidewall before, or after, it hits the back wall, serve it neat — like good scotch, as straight as possible.

If you score enough points with these serves your opponent may try to creep up towards the short line to protect himself. Or he may tend to move too far forward as a general rule. Overprotecting against one set of weaknesses, however, only creates vulnerability somewhere else; instead of balancing his game, he's merely giving you a different but equally effective set of options. You can lob a serve into one of the deep corners where its low velocity will let it die, or you can play a long variant of the carom serve. This serve is, in fact, a variation of one of the most basic shots in the game. Drive the ball low and into the sidewall at a point parallel to where your opponent is standing. This keeps the ball out of his reach in the forecourt. It will

WINNING POINTS

bounce out off the sidewall behind him and should stay too low for him to play it off the back wall.

Poor court position isn't limited to your opponent's front and back stance, but extends to his position with regard to the sidewalls as well. In particular, you'll often find an opponent who attempts to protect a weak backhand by cheating to the backhand side. Again, this gives you a number of reasonable options. The most direct and, therefore, the one you should try first is a drive against his backhand side. This may seem to be a contradiction of what I've been saying about court position, but it's always a good idea to take the word of your opponent until he proves you wrong. Since he's told you by his stance that his backhand is too weak for him to trust, test it with accurate serves to that side. Most often you won't be disappointed. A second option, of course, is to attack the vacant forehand side, using any of the serves already discussed.

How effective these serves are depends almost entirely on you, on your power, accuracy, and the intelligence of your service selection. It goes without saying that you'll be a stronger player if you have a large number of shots, and serves, to choose from, and stronger still if each of these serves is developed to a high degree. In October's *Racquetball* I pointed out that an opponent's weakness is a weakness if and only if you can take advantage of it. If you play against someone whose one great weakness is an inability to return a short serve to the backhand side, and you don't have one, you're affording him a degree of invulnerability he doesn't desire and shouldn't enjoy. Develop every serve to the fullest.

The basic concepts underlying the proper use of serves to exploit poor court position hold true for your choice of shots during the point as well. The added dimension of the forecourt, however, leaves your opponent even more open to attack during the rally than he is on your serve. This is especially true if his tendency is to hang too far back, because your shot selection is no longer constrained by the short line. In other words, you can kill.

The term kill, however, is subject to a variety of definitions. A purist might limit it to a roll-out or dead kill. More practically, particularly for those of us who rarely hit dead kills, it means any ball that bounces twice before reaching the short line (a good shot to practice when you're alone, incidentally, and working on keeping the ball low). Most practically it's any ball that bounces twice before reaching your opponent or, more precisely, before your opponent can reach it.

The last two definitions encompass a wide variety of shots: the roll-out power kill that we all fantasize about in unguarded moments, of course, but also shots hit off two walls at a wide angle, shots hit directly into a corner that die, and "soft" kills that seem to trickle off the front wall. The point is that whether or not a shot is a successful "kill" depends to a large extent on your opponent's court position: the farther back he is, the less perfect your "kill" has to be, and the more likely it is you'll be successful with it. Therefore, don't concern yourself with being a purist; be a pragmatist instead. Use a natural

Poor court position isn't limited to your opponent's front and back stance, but extends to his position with regard to the sidewalls as well.

rhythm in your swing but learn how to take something off the ball. Use the corners and sidewalls. Get to know your own arm, how much your knees should be bent, how low to let the ball fall before hitting it. As with the serve, increased control over the shot will increase its efficiency, and, as with any shot in racquetball its success will determine how good a shot it is.

One more possibility for this situation: rarely, and only if your opponent is within two feet of the back wall, you can successfully drive a very high shot the length of the court off the front and back walls on a line parallel to the sidewalls. If you're strong enough and hit it right, it will come off the back wall and reach the front wall on one bounce, leaving your opponent hopelessly behind it. The shot is dangerous because it leaves you wide open if he catches up to it, and it goes against a cardinal rule of racquetball: keep the ball low. But racquetball,

especially intermediate racquetball, is situational, and if the situation warrants it, this shot, used sparingly, can be enough of a surprise to be extremely effective.

The kill is your best weapon against the player who stands too far back, but several shots are possible against the player who stands too far forward. Imagine him, for illustration's sake, to be a foot or two behind the short line. The area behind him, then, becomes your target; everything that bounces behind his back and away from him (thus ruling out shots off the back wall) will be difficult for him to reach.

There are three principal ways to accomplish this. The first is a low drive that passes him on one or the other side, and the second is a lob over his head. The third is a carom off the sidewall that bounces out behind him. This shot, a type of which is the short carom serve I mentioned earlier, is one of the most devastating shots in intermediate racquetball and one that you should work hard to develop.

The idea is to hit the ball low and very hard at such an angle that it strikes the sidewall at a point parallel to or a foot in front of a line drawn through the player and perpendicular to the sidewall. The ball will then come off the wall fast, low, and in back of him, forcing him to turn around if he's to have any shot at all. There's some room for error in execution, but not much. If the ball hits the sidewall too far in front of him it will stay in front of him when it bounces out and he'll pick it up easily; if it hits too far behind him or too high off the sidewall it will give him too good an opportunity to take it off the back wall. And, unlike the off-the-wall accuracy you can develop on a particular serve, this shot requires flexibility, simply because the point you're trying to hit on the sidewall will shift every time your opponent changes position. Nevertheless, it's one of the most important shots an intermediate can master. If your game is too much of a one-wall affair, and you aren't using the sidewalls properly, work on this shot. It will make a huge difference.

The constant movement of two players and a ball on the court gives you new problems to solve with every play of the game. What I've written in this article is nothing more than a broad overview of a complex idea in racquetball, that of court position and its effects on strategy. There are an infinite variety of subtleties in the game which familiarity will slowly reveal to you. Undoubtedly you've already made a beginning in your understanding of court position. That is, if you've followed these suggestions; if you haven't, start the next time you play. The results will be worth the effort. ■



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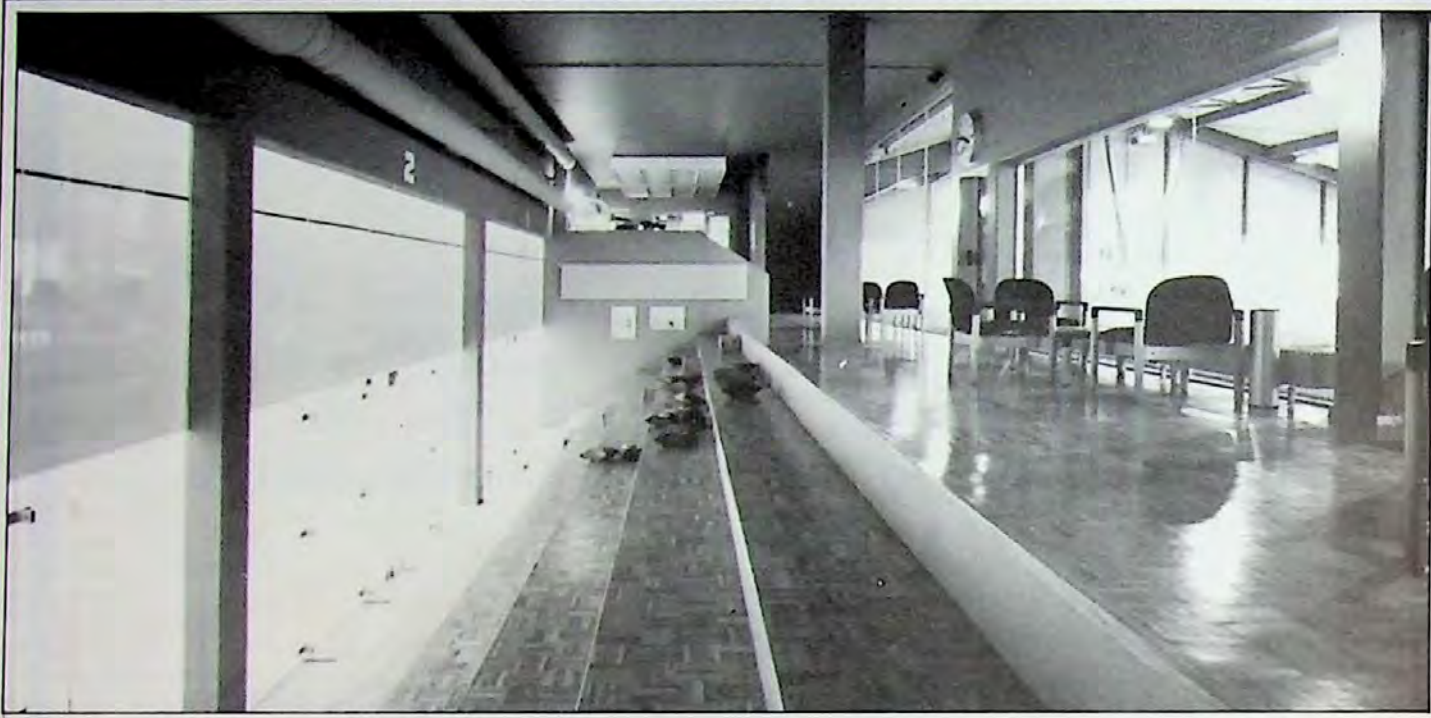
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FIRST SERVICE



Tennis Und Racquetball Aesch

Aesch, Switzerland

A tennis and racquetball athletic complex opened in Aesch, near Zurich, last October. Called Tennis Und Racquetball Aesch, the club was originally designed as an all tennis complex. However, after seeing the sport of racquetball in the United States, and visiting the racquetball complex in Westvliet, Holland, Rolf Gaszner (engineer), and Peter Wenk (architect), and Miklos J. Szönyi; (technical advisor) decided to add four racquetball courts to the Swiss complex.

As the first such complex in Switzerland, the Aesch facility was responsible for introducing a previously unknown sport to the country. So, at the opening of the club, top class American and Dutch men and women players demonstrated exactly how the sport is played.

After various activities which served to promote racquetball, the Aesch facility held the first racquetball tournament in Switzerland, on January 17th of this year.

In addition, the First International Swiss Racquetball Championship will be held this autumn. In anticipation of this soon to be annual event, last month the Racquetball Club Aesch was founded.

Butler, Pennsylvania

Butler Racquetball Club opened last month at North Duffy Road in Butler. Amenities include an exercise room,

separate locker facilities with saunas, and whirlpools, a fully staffed nursery, a pro shop, and a lounge with spectator viewing area. The club is open from 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 midnight on weekdays, and 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. on weekends. Memberships are available for individuals, families and corporations, in six month or full twelve month payments. For more information, contact the Butler Racquetball Club, Box 215, North Duffy Road, Butler, Penn., 16001; or call 412-285-4050.

Lower Burrell, Pennsylvania

Jim Leslie, part owner of the Butler Racquetball Club in Butler, Penn., is also owner of the Hillcrest Health and Racquet Club at One High School Drive in Lower Burrell. This club was started three years ago with \$2,000 and an old barn on five acres of land outside the city. The club now has five racquetball courts, saunas, steam rooms, whirlpools and an outdoor swimming pool. For more information, contact the Hillcrest Health and Racquet Club at the above address; or call 412-339-7100.

Oak Ridge, Tennessee

Tenn Courts opened recently at 610 Emory Valley Road, Emory Square in Oak Ridge. The new club features 10 courts for racquetball and squash. The locker rooms include saunas, whirlpools,

steam rooms and lockers which may be rented yearly, or used on a daily basis for free. Special amenities the club offers members include use of a nursery, and laundry. There are also Nautilus and warm-up rooms, an indoor track, a game room and a refreshment bar. Membership costs range from \$50 for a senior (55 and up) to \$100 for family.

For further information, contact Kay Lamuno at 615-483-1010.

Maryville, Tennessee

Olympia Athletic Club in Maryville, Tennessee, recently opened three racquetball courts. The racquetball complex features a viewing balcony, a fully stocked pro shop, instruction, challenge play, leagues and tournaments.

Olympia has two sheltered screen tennis courts; separate weight training studios, saunas and whirlpools for men and women; group-led floor exercise classes; a swimming pool; and a 12-1/2 lap per mile sheltered jogging track surrounding the racquetball complex and neighboring Maryville's Greenbelt Courses. Other Club amenities include a grill and salad bar, a refreshment center, lounge area, sunning balconies, a hair salon and a free, supervised nursery.

Olympia is open seven days a week and offers individual and family memberships. For additional information, contact Lon Herzbrun at Olympia Athletic Club, 315 C Avenue, Maryville, Tenn. 37801; or call 615-984-8300. ■

AARA AFFILIATE COURT CLUBS

If you're traveling farther than 75 miles from your home court, the following affiliate court clubs will honor your AARA (IRA) card. Please call ahead for house rules and guest fees.

Listing Key: wlr-women's locker room, mlr-men's locker room, ws-women's sauna, ms-men's sauna, ww-women's whirlpool, mw-men's whirlpool, wsr-women's steam room, msr-men's steam room, tc-tennis court, sp-swimming pool, r-restaurant, b-bar, sb-snack bar, ps-pro shop, er-exercise room, n-nursery.

ALASKA

Anchorage Racquet Club
700 South Bragam
Anchorage, AK
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, w/mw,
tc, ps, er

ARIZONA

Metro Athletic Club
4843 N. 8th Place
Phoenix, AZ 85014
Call Darlene 602-264-1735
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, w/mw, msr,
sp, r, b, ps, er, n

CALIFORNIA

Fairfield Court Club
1471 Holiday Lane
Fairfield, CA
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, b,
sb, ps, er, n

Valley Court Club
11405 Chandler
N. Hollywood, CA 91601
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw,
sb, ps, er

Marin Racquetball Club
4384 Bel Marin Keyes Blvd.
Novato, CA 94947
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, w/mw, r, b,
ps, er, n

Sun Oaks Racquet Club
3452 Argyle Road
Redding, CA 96002
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, tc, sp, sb,
ps, er, n

Sacramento Court Club
947 Enterprise Dr.
Sacramento, CA 95825
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, b,
sb, ps, er, n

Sacramento Handball/Racquetball Club
14th & H Streets
Sacramento, CA
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw,
wsr, msr, tc, sp, r, b, sb, ps, er, n

Racquetball Sportsworld
20 E. San Joaquin St.
Salinas, CA 93901
408-757-8331
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, wsr,
msr, sb, ps, er, n

CONNECTICUT

Racquetball Spa
500 Kings Highway Cut-Off
Fairfield, CT 06430
203-366-7888
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, wsr,
msr, r, ps, er, n

Southport Racquet Club
226 Old Post Road
Southport, CT 06490
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ps, n

Center Court Health and Racquetball Club
234 Route 83
Vernon, CT 06066
203-875-2133
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, msr, sb,
ps, er, n

FLORIDA

Sportrooms of Coral Gables
1500 Douglas Road
Coral Gables, FL 33143
305-443-4228
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, wsr,
msr, r, sb, ps, er, n

Sportrooms of Hialeah
1900 West 44th Place
Hialeah, FL
305-557-6141
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, wsr,
msr, r, b, sb, ps, er, n

Jacksonville Racquetball Club
6651 Crestline Dr.
Jacksonville, FL 32211
904-724-6994
wlr, mlr, ws, ww, mw, msr, b,
sb, ps, er, n

Kendall Racquetball and Health Club
10631 SW 88th Street
Miami, FL 33176
305-596-0600
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, wsr,
msr, r, b, sb, ps, er, n

Sportrooms of Sabal Chase
10680 SW 113 Pl.
Miami, FL 33176
305-596-2677
wlr, mlr, ww, mw, wsr, msr, r, b,
sb, ps, er, n

Sportrooms of Plantation
8489 NW 17th Ct.
Plantation, FL 33322
305-472-2608
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, wsr,
msr, r, b, sb, ps, er, n

HAWAII

The Courthouse Racquetball Club
45-608 Kam Highway
Kaneohe, HI 96744
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, sb,
ps, er, n

ILLINOIS

Court Club of C'oeale
Old Rt. 13 East
Carbondale, IL 62901
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, tc, r, b,
ps, er, n

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston Tennis Club
653 Summer Street
Boston, MA 02210
617-269-4300
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, tc, r,
b, sb, ps, er, n

Mid-Cape Racquet Club
193 White's Path
South Yarmouth, MA 02664
617-394-3511
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, tc, r, b, sb,
ps, er, n

MICHIGAN

Keatington Racquetball Club
1755 Waldon btwn. Joslyn & Lapeer (M-24)
Pontiac, MI 48057
313-391-3334
wlr, mlr, ww, mw, sp, r, ps, er, n

MINNESOTA

Exercise Dynamics
Old Highway 71 North
Bemidji, MN 56601
218-751-8351
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, ps, er

NEW JERSEY

The Racquet Ball Club
19 East Frederick Place
Cedar Knolls, NJ 07927
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ps, er, n

Racquetball Court Club
17-10 River Road
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, msr

King George Racquetball Club
17 King George Rd. (US 22 West)
Greenbrook, NJ 08812
201-356-6900
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, wsr,
msr, r, ps, er, n

Racquetball 23 and Spa
318 Route 23
Pompton Plains, NJ 07444
201-839-8823
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, msr, ww, mw,
r, ps, er, n

Ricochet Racquet Club
219 St. Nicholas Avenue
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
201-753-2300
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, ps, er, n

The Court House
20 Milburn Avenue
Springfield, NJ 07081
201-376-3100
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ps, er, n

What's Your Racquet
1904 Atlantic Ave.
P.O. Box 1402
Wall, NJ 07719
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw,
wsr, msr, tc, sp, b, sb, ps,
er, n

NEW YORK

21st Point Club
McKown Road off Western Avenue
Albany, NY 12203
518-469-3276
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, r, b, sb, ps, er, n

Point Set Tennis and Racquetball Club
225 Howells Rd.
Bay Shore, NY 11706
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, tc, sb,
ps, er, n

The King's Court Racquetball Club
4101 Avenue V
Brooklyn, NY 11234
212-338-3300
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, tc, sb, ps, er, n

The Pelham Racquetball and Health Club
6 Pelham Parkway
Pelham Manor, NY 10803
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, wsr,
msr, r, b, sb, ps, er, n

OREGON

Eastern Oregon Sports
366 S.E. 5 St.
Ontario, OR 97914
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, sp, r,
sb, ps, er, n

PENNSYLVANIA

The Supreme Courts
90 West Chestnut St.
Washington, PA 15301
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw,
ps, er, n

Indian Springs Golf and Racquet Club
949 Church St.
Landisville, PA 17538
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, wsr, msr,
tc, r, sb, ps, er, n

SOUTH CAROLINA

Charleston Racquet
Nautilus Center
1642 Highway 7
Charleston, SC 29407
803-571-1020
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, msr, tc, sb,
ps, er, n

TEXAS

Killeen Athletic Club
405 South 2nd
Killeen, TX 76541
wlr, mlr, ws, ww, mw, msr, sp,
sb, ps, er, n

UTAH

The Court Club
120 W. Hilton Inn Dr.
St. George, UT 84770
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, ww, mw, tc,
sp, r, sb, ps, er, n

WEST VIRGINIA

Charleston Racquet Club
P.O. Box 3328
Hillcrest Drive
Charleston, WV 25332
wlr, mlr, ws, ms, tc, r, b, er, n

For more information on how to list a court club on this page, call Cheryl at 901-345-8000.

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404-256-2120

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205-749-0776 (Home)
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Eastern Tennessee
Ernie Catignani
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Knoxville, TN 37917
615-794-5111

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Scorecard

RACQUETBALL welcomes all tournaments to report their results. Please list all rounds of each event. Scorecard will report as many rounds of each tournament as space allows.

For reasons of space and clarity, tournament results submitted for listing in "Scorecard" should be arranged as shown in the example below. Entries using this format stand a better chance of being included in the "Scorecard" section.

Men's Open
Semifinals: John Smith over Peter Smith 21-7, 21-15;
John Doe over Peter Doe 21-20, 21-13.
Finals: John Smith over John Doe 21-20, 13-21, 21-16.

1980 Optomist Jr. Racquetball Special YMCA Van Buren, Nebraska December 24-31

10 & UNDER

1st: Tom Snarr; 2nd: Joshua Friedberg; 3rd: John Deckenbach; 4th: Jared Holroyd.

13 & UNDER

1st: Robert Gaither; 2nd: Mike Patterson; 3rd: Byron Turner; 4th: Mark Schonlaw.

15 & UNDER

1st: Mike Rangel; 2nd: Kip Walker; 3rd: Jim Bryant; 4th: Chandler Cummins.

3rd Annual Maine Closed Andy Valley Racquetball Club Lewiston, Maine January 9-11

Men's Open

1st: Randy Olson; 2nd: Steve Larabee; 3rd: Steve Dubord; 4th: Norm Bernier.

Men's B

1st: Bob Waterman; 2nd: Robin Liller; 3rd: Dave Bouthot; 4th: Tom Fournier.

Men's C

1st: Barbara Olson; 2nd: Ken Haley; 3rd: Dennis Johnson; 4th: Palmer Sargent.

Men's Novice

1st: Wayne Brincat; 2nd: John Ewing; 3rd: William McDonald; 4th: Dale Smith.

Men's Juniors

1st: Lenny Hall; 2nd: Tim Larabee; 3rd: Don Marden; 4th: Mike Spugnardi.

Men's Seniors

1st: Jax Krouse; 2nd: Mike Friedman; 3rd: Randall Smith; 4th: Paul Nadeau.

Women's A & B

1st: Leslie Olson; 2nd: Marsha Giglio; 3rd: Diane Poulin; 4th: Joyce Adams.

Women's C

1st: Leslie Olson; 2nd: Christy Brouillard; 3rd: Heather Spaulding; 4th: Joyce Adams.

Women's Novice

1st: Debbie Greenleaf; 2nd: Muriel Jalbert; 3rd: Linda Dumont; 4th: Maxine Michaud.

Rapid City Recreation Dept. 5th Annual Holiday Tournament S. D. School of Mines Rapid City, South Dakota December 27-30

Men's A

Semifinals: Don Patterson over Bruce Martin 21-11, 21-15. Finals: Glen Golden over Don Patterson 21-10, 21-21, 11-9. Consolation: Rob Hammerquist over Todd Johnson 21-16, 21-14.

Men's B

Semifinals: Jim Synhorst over Jim Johnson 18-21, 21-20, 11-10; Harvey Magee over Doug Peterson 16-21, 21-5, 11-8. Finals: Jim Synhorst over Harvey Magee 21-14, 8-21, 11-8. Consolation: Bill Jacoby over Pete Legeros 14-21, 21-11, 11-4.

Men's C

Semifinals: Tom Trewick over Bob Stotter 21-8, 21-14; Bob Weiland over Marshall Bird 21-2, 21-12. Finals: Bob Weiland over Tom Trewick 21-15, 21-18. Consolation: Jerry Condra over Leon Blackwell 21-9, 21-14.

Voit Holiday Open Game Point Racquetball Club Plymouth, Massachusetts December 12-14

Women's Open

1st: Adrienne Freddie; 2nd: Janet Kelleher; 3rd: Joni Wade; 4th: Martha Callahan.

Men's Open

1st: Dennis Aceto; 2nd: Mike McDonough; 3rd: Al Manditch; 4th: Art Pacheco.

Men's B

1st: Bill Poccia; 2nd: Jeff Howard; 3rd: David Harrison; 4th: Janet Simon.

Women's B

1st: Donna McKaskill; 2nd: Sharon Jeffe; 3rd: Karen Baptista; 4th: S. Bonazoli.

Women's C

1st: Joanne McCormack; 2nd: Mary Primavera; 3rd: Ann Conway; 4th: Marilyn Feltelberg.

Men's C

1st: Dick Jogoutz; 2nd: Jack Caputo; 3rd: Rick Billings; 4th: Wayne DeShamp.

Men's Seniors

1st: Paul Henrickson; 2nd: Rocky Delorenzo; 3rd: Richard Voto; 4th: Mike Sheeran.

Men's Novice

1st: Dick Silva; 2nd: Mark Axelrod; 3rd: Jerry Lozzi; 4th: Kurin Fahy.

Women's Novice

1st: Sally Sikorsky; 2nd: Beth Labelle; 3rd: Ann Dadak; 4th: Linda McKenna.

Juniors 1st

Ralph Grillone; 2nd: Barry Wadsworth; 3rd: Frank Middleton; 4th: Mike ManFeddle.

Second Annual Backwall Holiday Open Backwall Racquetball Club Altoona, Pennsylvania December 12-14

Men's Open

1st: Jim Jones; 2nd: Don Fletcher; 3rd: Jr. Powell; 4th: Jay Krevsky.

Men's B

1st: Dan Magee; 2nd: Mike Hartman; 3rd: Dan Eby; 4th: Frank Soltis.

Men's C

1st: Joe Corsi; 2nd: John Stevens; 3rd: Miles Brkovich; 4th: Jim Williams.

Men's Seniors

1st: Jr. Powell; 2nd: Jay Krevsky; 3rd: Jere Willey; 4th: George Ruckno.

Men's Open Doubles

1st: Jim Jones - Rick Zewe; 2nd: Scott Johnson - Jeff O'Malley; 3rd: Don Fletcher - Dave Sismour; 4th: Al Schattner - Mitch Buckler.

Women's Open

1st: Cindy Baxter; 2nd: Jan Peterson; 3rd: Nancy Hollowid; 4th: Samantha Brem.

Women's B

1st: Nancy Hollowid; 2nd: Helen Fogel; 3rd: Teri Johnson; 4th: Samantha Brem.

Women's C

1st: Mary Brickley; 2nd: Vicki Caseino; 3rd: Ann Berry; 4th: Fran Hofner.

Women's Open Doubles

1st: Jan Peterson - Eileen Carlson; 2nd: Diane Conner - Helen Fogel; 3rd: Kate Conway - B. J. Bollinger; 4th: Nancy Vicek - Lidie Gray.

Western New England Open Pittsfield, Massachusetts December 5-7

Women's Open B

1st: Claudia Russell; 2nd: Marie Cushing; 3rd: Judy Gully; 4th: Frank Borek.

Women's C

1st: Stephanie Borcea; 2nd: Cindy Leach; 3rd: Lori Hickie; 4th: Diane Cleary.

Men's A

1st: Barry Russell; 2nd: Phil Fisher; 3rd: Howard Peele; 4th: Dave Janelle.

Men's B

1st: Ed Chandler; 2nd: Dick Levy; 3rd: Charles Kubickowski; 4th: Phillip Williams.

Men's C

1st: Bob Lefebvre; 2nd: Roger Guachione; 3rd: Ron Griffin; 4th: Doug Milne.

Men's Seniors

1st: Roger Crim; 2nd: Tod O'Donnell; 3rd: John Lepore; 4th: Jack Wheeler.

Miller Lite Holiday Open Court Club - New Haven New Haven, Connecticut December 5-7

Men's B/C Doubles

1st: Wayne Bruno - Marty Wresbrot; 2nd: John Cassese - Anthony Rodalokis; 3rd: W. Verhoeff - R. Bararo; 4th: R. Marshall - Berry Lucibiello.

Men's Seniors

1st: Dave Yuvgotis; 2nd: Harvey Adler; 3rd: Michael Mellon; 4th: Brian Strong.

Men's Novice

1st: Kevin Delaney; 2nd: Anthony Hodon; 3rd: Pat Leory; 4th: Vince Stephens.

Men's C

1st: Kevin Delaney; 2nd: Stephen Sirco; 3rd: M. Wayne; 4th: P. Dzibino.

Men's B

1st: Anthony Redalokis; 2nd: William Verhoeff; 3rd: Wayne Bruno; 4th: John Cassese.

Women's B/C

1st: Trudi Hienemann; 2nd: Cathy Mayes; 3rd: Sue Mantucci; 4th: Kara Kerman.

Boston Holiday Festival Boston Tennis Club Boston Massachusetts January 2-4

Masters Invitational

1st: Pat Columbo; 2nd: Howie Coleman; 3rd: Bob Folsom; 4th: Tom Waltz.

Men's Open

1st: Gul Kham; 2nd: Bill Burnett; 3rd: Phil Fisher; 4th: Mike McDonough.

Men's B

1st: Cliff Swain; 2nd: Jeff Howard; 3rd: Charles Savage; 4th: Ray Toothaker.

Men's C

1st: John Jagielski; 2nd: Dave Scall; 3rd: Herb Wilson; 4th: Dave Bryant.

Men's Novice

1st: Jim Compton; 2nd: Henry Spencer; 3rd: Vin Puccio; 4th: Dave White.

Men's Seniors

1st: Dan Giordano; 2nd: Skip Elman; 3rd: Dennis Culbertson; 4th: Warren Pierce.

Masters 1st: John Hickman; 2nd: Roger Vachon; 3rd: Joe Goldman; 4th: Dick Martin.

Women's A

1st: Judy Bryant; 2nd: Nora Davis; 3rd: Deb Beck; 4th: Sheila Laperle.

Women's B

1st: Vicky Ekelman; 2nd: Charmaine Dunn; 3rd: Judy Leerer; 4th: Marie Cushing.

Women's C

1st: Marsha Kazaroian; 2nd: Lori Macsata; 3rd: Sue Harris; 4th: Tracey Daly.

Women's Novice

1st: Chris Howard; 2nd: Paula Shugrue; 3rd: Jean Phelan; 4th: Gloria Gullotti.

1981 Lite Classic (Easter Seals) Kessinger's Court Club. Little Rock, Arkansas January 15-18

Men's A

1st: Bob Daniels; 2nd: Fred Aylett; 3rd: Jim Hunt; 4th: Ray Schull.

Men's B

1st: Ron Maise; 2nd: Mark Bullock; 3rd: Fred Gordon; 4th: Seaborn Bell.

Men's C

1st: Tripp Wetzel; 2nd: Don Blakey; 3rd: Tom Ruff; 4th: Vic Jacuzzi.

Men's D

1st: Steve Vicary; 2nd: Dick Barland; 3rd: Mike Beard; 4th: Ken Rota.

Men's Novice

1st: Tim Burnham; 2nd: Raymond Pascak; 3rd: Tim Walton; 4th: Joe Bruggess.

Women's Open

1st: Gail Ferguson; 2nd: Lisa Collins; 3rd: Given Young; 4th: Martha Robertson.

Women's B

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Women's D

1st: Tracy Wood; 2nd: Besty Lee Crews; 3rd: Kathy Sawyer; 4th: Vickie Crawford.

Women's Novice

1st: Besty Lee Crews; 2nd: Tracy Woods; 3rd: Kathy Hoffman; 4th: Carla Kell.

Men's Seniors

1st: Oscar Mack; 2nd: Dean Stordahl; 3rd: Hugh Groover.

R & R Racquetball Open
R & R Racquet Club
E. Bridgewater, Massachusetts
January 16-18

Men's A

1st: Dennis Aceto; 2nd: Gerry Cassidy; 3rd: Art Pacheco; 4th: Bob Kabilian.

Men's B

1st: Steve Willis; 2nd: Al Wiencek; 3rd: Frank Howard; 4th: Chris McMillan.

Men's C

1st: Ron Vitti; 2nd: Frank Fleck; 3rd: Richard Saad; 4th: Shawn Mathewson.

Men's Novice

1st: Mark Axelrod; 2nd: Tom White; 3rd: Rob Johnson; 4th: Jim Grant.

Men's Seniors

1st: Skip Dolman; 2nd: Dave Cahill; 3rd: Dennis Culbertson; 4th: Roger Crim.

Women's Open

1st: Judy Bryant; 2nd: Cindy Alba; 3rd: Nan Higgins; 4th: Joni Wade.

Women's B

1st: Sharon Jeffe; 2nd: Sue Koss; 3rd: Grace Low; 4th: Kris Nash.

Women's C

1st: Paula Hennessey; 2nd: Mary Prenavera; 3rd: Lois McGee; 4th: Lucille Clerti.

Women's Novice

1st: Gail Hickson; 2nd: Christine Parisi; 3rd: Ann Dadak; 4th: Florrie Davidson.

2nd Annual Niagara Falls Open
Niagara Falls Racquetball Club
Niagara Falls, New York
September 26-28

Men's Open

Quarterfinals: John Moshidos over Roger Ohnsorg 21-6, 21-7; Don DeStefano over Brian Dunstan 5-21, 21-12, 15-9; Ralph Hackbarth over Joe Tarantino 21-16, 21-11; Joe LoTempio over Jonny Negast 21-19, 17-21, 15-14. Semifinals: Moshidos over DeStefano 21-14, 21-6; Hackbarth over LoTempio 21-19, 21-15. Finals: Moshidos over Hackbarth 21-9, 11-21, 15-4.

Men's B

Quarterfinals: Larry Geracitano over Gary Poscillo 21-9, 21-20; Jacob Solomon over Kevin Jacques 21-19, 11-21, 15-12; George Riscile over Ron Lawrence 21-13, 21-5; Don Thompson over Ken Miller 21-19, 21-20. Semifinals: Solomon over Geracitano 21-18, 21-20; Thompson over Riscile 21-16, 21-14. Finals: Solomon over Thompson 21-13, 6-21, 15-10.

Men's C

Quarterfinals: Duke Summerson over John Ciesliviocz 14-21, 21-19, 15-8; Robert Tangle over Rob McNamara 6-21, 21-20, 15-13; Mike Paolo over Mike Maynard 21-8, 21-9; Bill Bentley over Woody Janese 21-18, 21-6.

Men's Novice

Quarterfinals: Joe Bruno over Curt Jarvis 21-11, 21-8; Paul Bugler over Joe Oblamski 21-13, 21-7; Fred Tezanos over Tim Doyle 21-9, 21-6; Steve Evert over Sam Mantell 21-6, 21-12. Semifinals: Bugler over Bruno 21-9, 3-21, 15-5; Tezanos over Evert 21-8, 21-9. Finals: Tezanos over Bugler 21-11, 21-15.

Men's C Doubles

Quarterfinals: McNamara and Maynard over K.C. Marker and Mike Paolo 21-10, 21-12; Gates and MacIag over Cieslewicz and Angelo 21-9, 21-2; Jousstra and Conley over Tezanos and Montalso 21-14, 21-10; Reed and Summerson over Janese Madeiras 21-18, 21-19. Semifinals: Gates and MacIag over McNamara and Maynard 21-15, 21-11; Reed and Summerson over Jousstra and Conley 17-21, 21-7, 15-4. Finals: Summerson and Reed over Gates and MacIag 16-21, 21-18, 15-5.

Novice Doubles

Quarterfinals: Bruno and Martino, Bye; Becker and Boudard over Oblamski and Willmott 21-16, 21-14;

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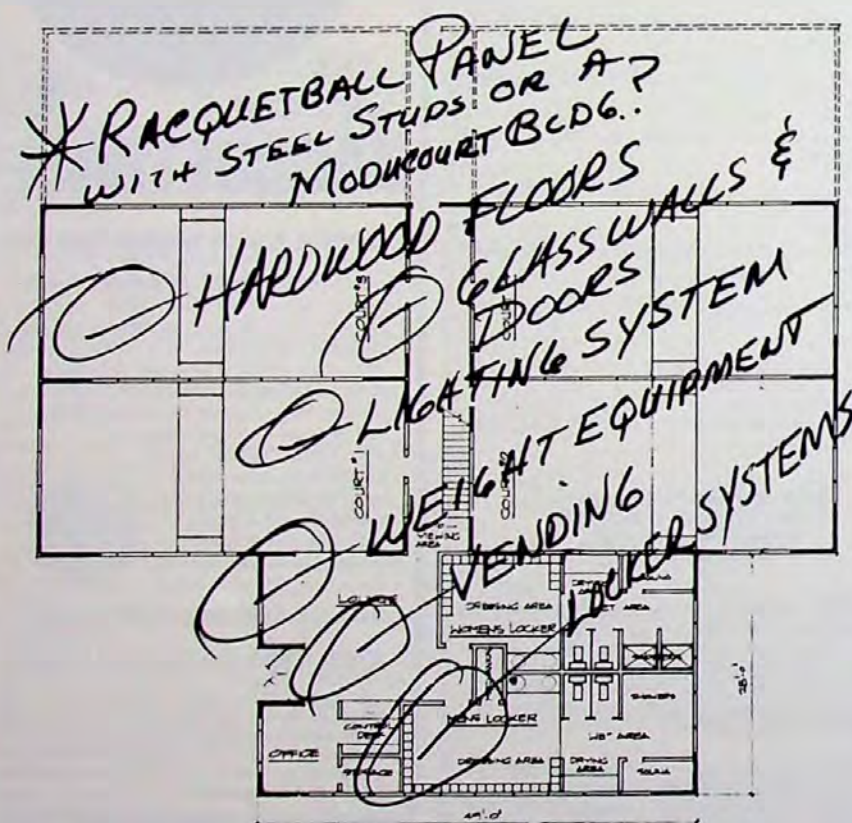
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Veechies and Veechies over Killian and Galassi 21-10, 21-14; Jarvis and Zimmerman over Neri and Bevilacqua default. Semifinals: Bruno and Martino over Backer and Bougard 21-12, 11-21, 15-1; Zimmerman and Jarvis over Veechies and Veechies 7-21, 21-20, 15-9. Finals: Bruno and Martino over Jarvis and Zimmerman 16-21, 21-9, 15-6.

Junior Boys 15-and-under

Quarterfinals: Bobby Bruno, Bye; Bill Horne over Paul Ingham 21-2, 21-8; Dan McTaggart over T.R. Casamento 21-3, 21-3; Juron, Bye. Semifinals: Bruno over Horne 21-8, 21-6; Juron over McTaggart 18-21, 21-8, 15-3. Finals: Juron over Bruno 21-20, 21-10.

Women's B and A Round Robin

1st: Carol McFetridge 141 points; 2nd: Cathy Nichols 138 points; 3rd: Lise Baronet 119 points.

Women's C

Quarterfinals: Feonnula Killian over Laura Smith 21-12, 21-4; Candy Kane over Carol Luders 21-5, 21-13; JoAnn Bugler over Donna Rosen 21-14, 21-16; Gerri Golossi over Judy Miller 21-5, 21-14. Semifinals: Killian over Kane 21-20, 21-10; Golossi over Bugler 21-6, 21-8. Finals: Killian over Golossi 21-7, 21-19.

Women's Novice

Quarterfinals: Judy Koska over Lorna Earl 21-17, 21-16; Eileen Evert over Debbie Crocker 21-6, 21-9; Donna McLean over Sandy Dempsey 21-1, 21-4; Hope Novak over Jeanine Juron 21-5, 21-11. Semifinals: Koska over Evert 21-13, 21-14; McLean over Novak 21-4, 21-9. Finals: McLean over Koska 21-6, 21-0.

Miller Lite/WGBY Supreme Courts Racquetball Open Supreme Courts West Springfield, Massachusetts January 1-11

Men's Open

1st: Dave Jannelle; 2nd: Dennis Aceto; 3rd: Bob Kelleher; 4th: Pete Silvano.

Men's B

1st: Ken Pulsford; 2nd: Ted Jez; 3rd: Keith Eksozian; 4th: Leonard Wesley.

Men's C

1st: Jack Murphy; 2nd: Mark O'Connor; 3rd: Joe Tyburski; 4th: Mark Havis.

Men's Novice

1st: Andy Johnson; 2nd: Doug Arnold; 3rd: Roland Brooks; 4th: Mike Amato.

Men's Seniors

1st: Neil Shapiro; 2nd: Jim Laraia; 3rd: Paul Henrickson; 4th: Don Houghton.

Men's Masters

1st: Howie Coleman; 2nd: Dave Weinberg; 3rd: Ed Schaub; 4th: Art LaBaasseur.

Women's Open

1st: Robin Wadsworth; 2nd: Cindy Alba; 3rd: Jackie Boyer; 4th: Joni Wade.

Women's B

1st: Donna Benoit; 2nd: Rox Ann McCormick; 3rd: Fran Borek; 4th: Claudia Russell.

Women's C

1st: Jean Quinlan; 2nd: Lisa Sabbatino; 3rd: Buffle Readinger; 4th: Susan Skohland.

Women's Novice

1st: Milanie Martin; 2nd: Jean Abrahamson; 3rd: Deborah Gibbs; 4th: Ellie Pierce.

Racqueteers Racquetball Classic Racqueteer Courts Brandon, Florida January 9-11

Men's Open

1st: Randy Godwin; 2nd: Gene Owen; 3rd: Jim Abbitt; 4th: Steve Smith.

Men's B

1st: Steve Smith; 2nd: John C. Hall; 3rd: Ted Koukoulis; 4th: Ed Dale.

Men's C

1st: Steve Cote; 2nd: Greg Vanbebber; 3rd: Gene Rodriguez; 4th: Denny Porter.

Men's Novice

1st: Eddie Lacost; 2nd: C. R. Baker; 3rd: Rick Bauerban; 4th: Ed Filangarie.

Men's 35+

1st: Charlie Behar; 2nd: Sonny Marcus; 3rd: Ed Vlock; 4th: Jack Mims.

Women's B

1st: Linda Icaza; 2nd: Doreen Holliman; 3rd: Bibi Rodriguez; 4th: Eleanor Smith.

Women's C

1st: Beverly Nist; 2nd: Debbie Martin; 3rd: Susan Ritter; 4th: Yolanda Fiedler.

Women's Novice

1st: Sharon Valdes; 2nd: Sherie Bustin; 3rd: Dottie Trauscht; 4th: Linda Millholen.



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Point Two: Power. Ektelon's carefully controlled use of stiffer, lighter graphite fibers gives the 250G tremendous snap at impact with the ball.

Point Three: Control. Ektelon's unique use of tough, heavier fiberglass fibers provides exceptional flexibility and control, while adding strength.

Point Four: Durability. Utilizing a torque tube design (the fiberglass completely encases the graphite), Ektelon minimizes racquet face distortion and maximizes durability. Like all Ektelon racquets, the Composite 250G features a full two-year racquet frame and ninety-day string warranty.

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2. Continuous fiberglass fibers.
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