

International Professional Racquetball Organization . . . Sanctioned by IRA

1976

SAN ANTONIO

PRO-AM
RACQUETBALL
TOURNAMENT



Feb. 12-15, 1976

Thursday - Sunday



Racquetball and Handball
Club of San Antonio

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The "XL Bill Schmidtke" racquet is longer, lighter, with extra power.



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a message from the Host Sponsor

Welcome to San Antonio, the second stop of the International Professional Racquetball Association's Pro Tour. We extend our hospitality to all the guests and families of the players and thank you for your support.

It was my pleasure to direct the 1st International Racquetball Association Championships in 1967 in St. Louis, and I am proud to be a part now of professional racquetball in its inception. In just a few short years, the game's popularity has grown and the pros are here today to show us some of the finest racquetball we'll ever have the opportunity to witness.

We, at the Racquetball & Handball Club of San Antonio, are proud to be your host and hope we may continue to help the growth and enthusiasm of racquetball everywhere.

Bruce Hendrix

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Prove it to yourself with a good old-fashioned drop test. Those extra inches of bounce promise the liveliest game you've ever played.

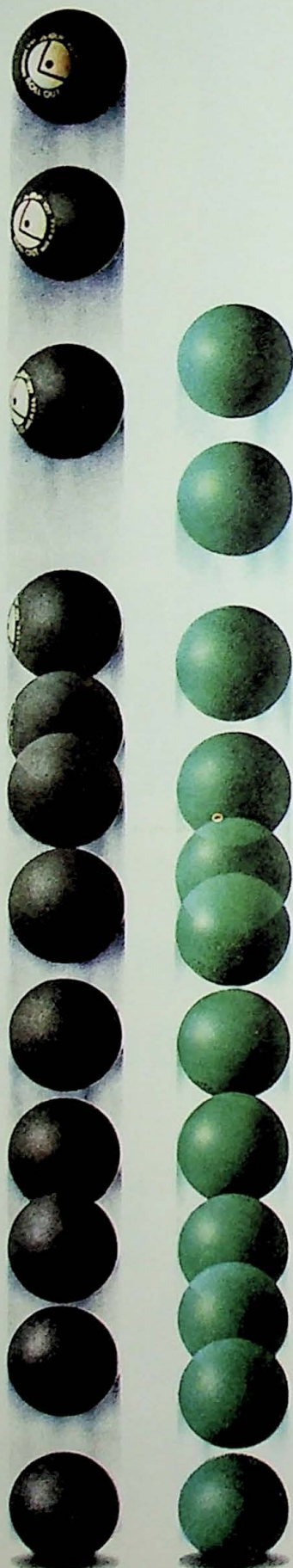
But the Roll Out is more than just a hot ball. For one thing, it's more accurate because it's rounder. Hold it up against the ball you've been using and you'll see the difference immediately. Other balls tend to bulge at the "poles" which makes them bounce erratically and wobble in flight. Which can mess up your best shots.

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percent of the green balls had broken. And the black version was just slightly better with a failure rate of 56 percent.

By comparison, only a scant 8 percent of the Roll Out balls failed prior to 500. Concrete proof that the rugged Roll Out ball will be around long after the others have split.

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AMF Voit Roll Out racquets and accessories. You'll find the same top quality built into our aluminum and fiberglass racquets, racquetball bags and racquet covers. Plus pro-quality shorts and shirts for on-the-court comfort and distinctive good looks wherever you go.

Give the game your best shot with Roll Out. A great new top performance ball...and a top-notch line of equipment. All designed to bring out the best in you.

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LILA COCKRELL
MAYOR

February 12, 1976

Dear Friends:

It is a great pleasure for San Antonio to be the site of your tournament in 1976. Welcome to one of America's four unique cities.

I hope you will have time to enjoy some of the unusual attractions and amenities which our City has to offer including our Missions, our Riverwalk, and our HemisFair Plaza. We are a multicultural City which will supply something of interest to each of you.

Again, welcome to San Antonio.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lila Cockrell".

LILA COCKRELL
Mayor

LC/bh





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TOP STARS GATHER FOR SAN ANTONIO TOURNEY

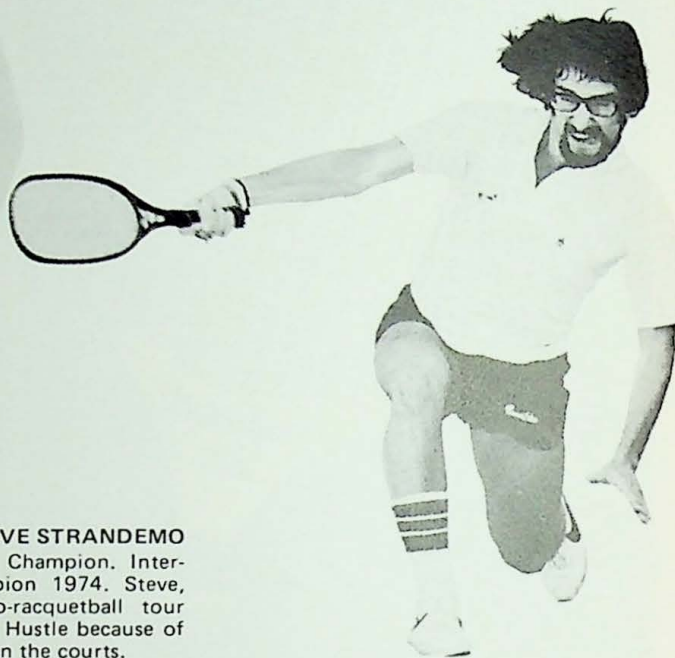
BILL SCHIMDTKE

International Singles Champion 1971-'74. The IRA honored Schimdtke as Male Athlete of the Year 1974 after a remarkable performance in the IRA singles championship in San Diego. Better known as Mr. Cool on the court, Bill is noted for one of the finest forehands in the game.



CHARLIE BRUMFIELD

Two time National Champion, three times National Invitational Champion, and five times National Invitational Doubles Champion. Pro-racquetballer's all time money winner, may leave a record of National titles that will never be equalled. One of the game's best "thinkers."



STEVE STRANDEMO

1973 Canadian National Champion. International Doubles Champion 1974. Steve, top ranked on the pro-racquetball tour circuit — nicknamed Mr. Hustle because of his quickness and agility on the courts.

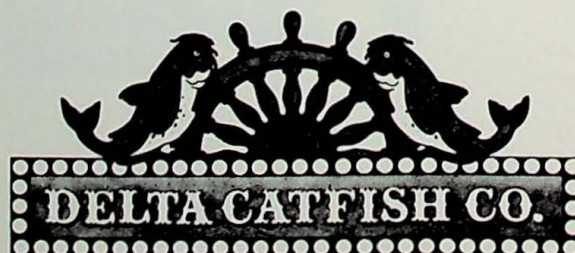
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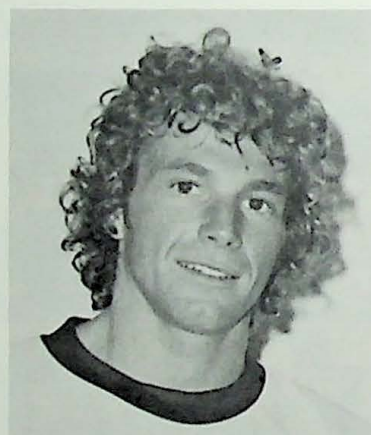
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More top stars

DAVEY BLEDSOE...MEMPHIS...What a difference a year can make. His game is 100 per cent improved, his speed, quickness, and power have all meshed into a devastating combination that spells trouble for all his opponents. The Tanner Pro-Am saw Davey narrowly beaten 21-20 in the 3rd game of the semi-finals. It looks like Davey Bledsoe's time has arrived.

JERRY HILECHER...ST. LOUIS...is one of the most colorful players on the tour. A St. Louis powerhouse, he is a shooter all the way. When he's hot, look out! Such was the case in Denver, where he beat Serot 21-19 in the first game, then had four chances at match point — only to lose the second 21-20. Although he eventually lost the match, for a game and a half he killed the ball as though a magnet were driving it into the corners. An "on" Hilecher is trouble for anyone he plays.



Good sport **STEVE KEELEY...SAN DIEGO...**a sometime veterinarian, is the health nut of the tour. A resident of San Diego, he rode his bicycle to St. Louis for a tournament this summer! At 27, Keeley is a purist in style. He switched from paddleball to racquetball in 1971, having won two national championships with the wooden paddle. A knee problem seems cured, although you may see him wearing a knee pad for protection, but most observers expect him to bounce back.

The newest of the San Diego contingent, **RICHARD WAGNER...SAN DIEGO...**like Zeitman, is still that one big win away from breaking in with the big boys. But unlike Zeitman, it's not inconsistency due to mental problems on the court, but rather inconsistency due to inexperience. Wagner has been playing for fewer years than any other player on the tour, and the result is sometimes brilliant, sometimes terrible play. He's got all the tools; speed, shots, stamina, desire, if he can put them together.



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Women, and Amateur Players, Important facets of San Antonio Tournament



PEGGY STEDING

Without a doubt one of the top women racquetball players. Peggy has won IRA singles and doubles twice, Canadian singles once and went undefeated with a perfect score in the San Diego Women's Invitational Singles Championship!

MIKE ZEITMAN...MEMPHIS... is one big win away from pushing his game over that invisible barrier that divides him from the top. Zeitman has long been accused of having the best game in racquetball, from the neck down, an accusation he has still not been able to eliminate. But Mike seems on the verge of that big win, and if he can get it, he may never look back.



STEVE SEROT...ST. LOUIS... at 19 years of age, has a great racquetball career ahead of him. He is usually in the top four — and that's playing the game with the "wrong" hand! Naturally right-handed, he hurt his arm years ago pitching Little League baseball. Now he's a pro with the racquet in his left hand, and he's one of the hardest hitters in the sport. His running, diving, and shooting make him the favorite of galleries craving excitement. Serot was a finalist and is looking to gather his first tour win here in San Antonio, in the pro tour's first event this season.

MARTY HOGAN...ST. LOUIS... 17, burst into the racquetball limelight in October with a stunning first place finish in the New England Pro-Am in Vermont. Hogan, who had never placed higher than the quarter-finals in any pro tourney, defeated the best in the world. He toppled Brumfield in the quarters (21-7 in the third game), and then beat Serot in a thrilling 21-20 third game. In the finals, he whipped Keeley in 2 straight. Hogan is confident, cocky and as hard a hitter as there is.



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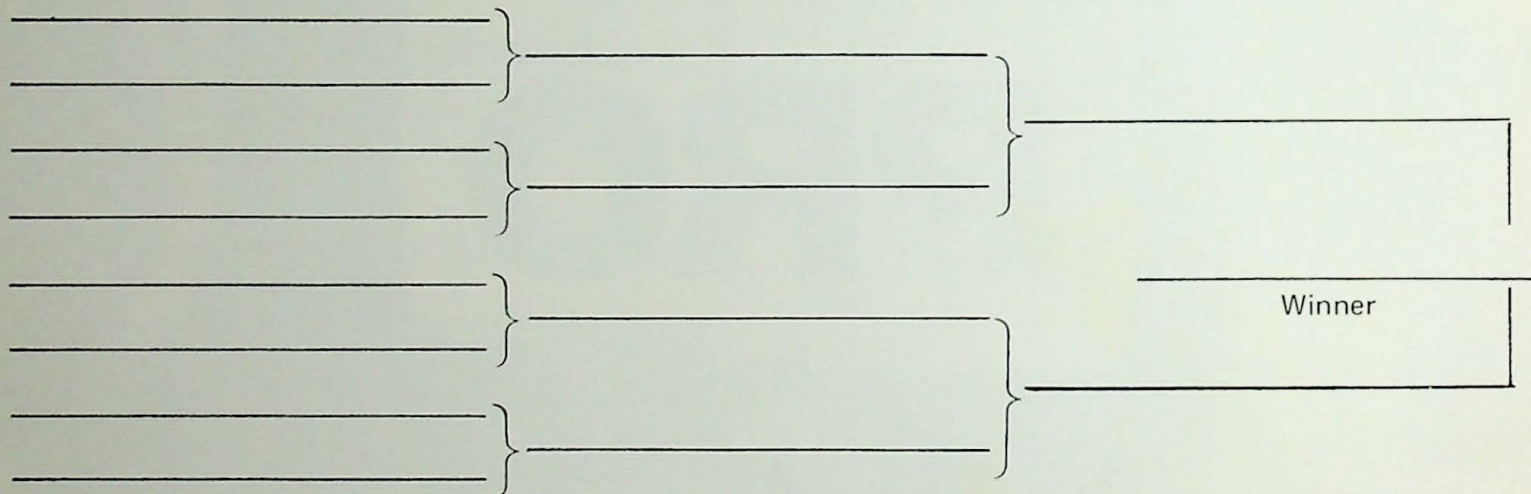
The San Antonio

Racquetball Tournament

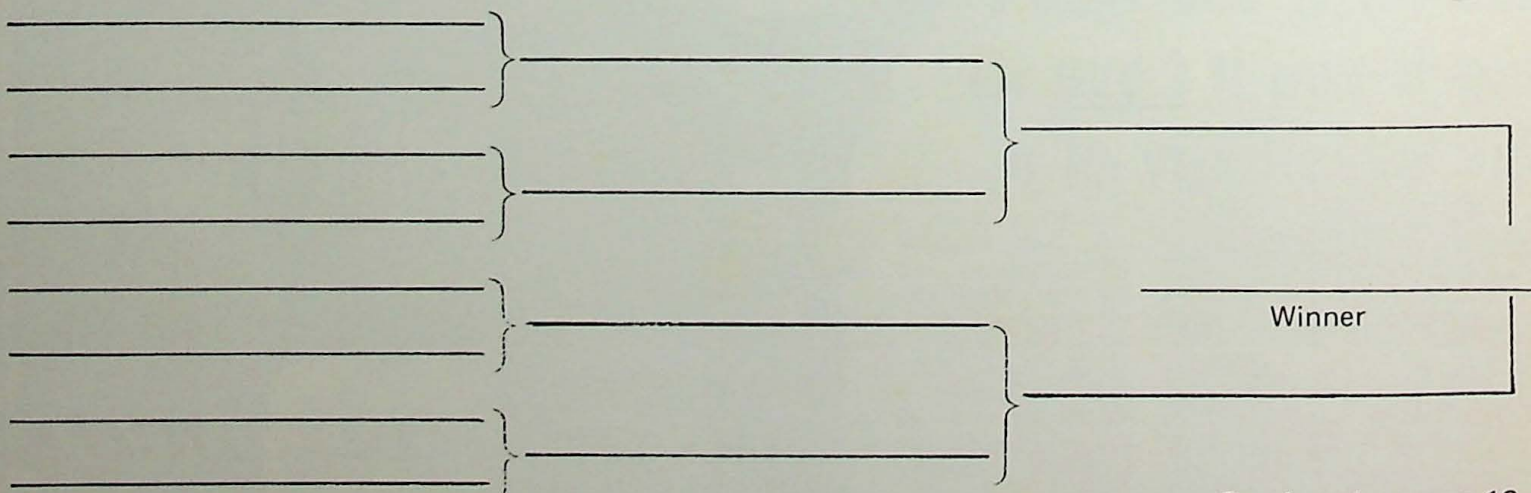
WELCOME TO THE 1976 SAN ANTONIO TOURNAMENT

On this and the following pages are brackets for the finals, semifinals, and quarterfinals. We hope they will add to your enjoyment of this event.

MEN'S PRO SINGLES



WOMEN'S PRO



Continued on page 16



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San Antonio Racquetball Tournament

MEN'S OPEN

1974 Champion — Charlie Garfinkel

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_____	}	_____	}		Winner
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Congratulations
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INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

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TOM McKIE
Executive Director
Res. Ph. (901) 767-8906

Dear Racquetball Players and Supporters:

It's with a great deal of pleasure that the International Racquetball Association welcomes you to the first pro-am tournament in San Antonio. We are sure that with the fine facilities at the Racquetball and Handball Club of San Antonio and with the outstanding experience in running tournaments possessed by its manager, Bruce Hendin, that this will be a great tournament.

Pro-Am racquetball showcases the best players in the world while also providing tournament exposure to the very beginner. We hope you will enjoy the competition on your level and learn from watching the best.

Our thanks go to Bruce Hendin, his partners, and their staff for all their efforts toward the success of this event.

Sincerely,
Tom McKie
Tom McKie
Executive Director



Tom McKie, Executive Director, International Racquetball Association

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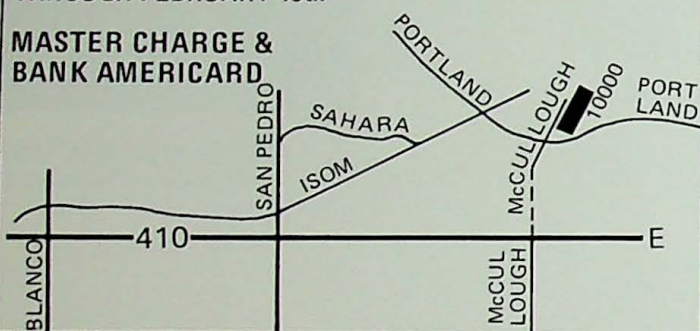
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WITH THIS AD
THROUGH FEBRUARY 19th

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Greetings from our President



Welcome players and spectators alike to the first IRA pro tournament of 1976.

One would have to look far and wide for a better organizer than Bruce Hendin and I would certainly like to see the racquetball extravaganza that Bruce, with the pros, will put on. Best of luck.

DeWitt M. Shy
President



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FEBRUARY 12-15, 1976

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2nd	900
3rd	700
4th	600
5 - 8	300
9 - 16	100

WOMENS PRO

1st	\$350
2nd	250
3rd	150
4th	100
5 - 6	50

Facts About Racquetball

— Racquetball is played on a handball court (enclosed, 40 feet long by 20 by 20) with basic handball rules and scoring. The ball is slightly larger and softer than a handball, and the players hit it with a stringed racket about 18 inches long. This saves wear and tear on the palms, although sometimes a player is "waffle-faced," or struck flush by an opponent's racket. . . accidentally, of course.

— A player receiving service must be a minimum of five feet behind the short line awaiting service? Once the server has struck the ball he may move forward but at no time may he encroach over the short line with either body or racquet to strike the ball. Penalty is a point for the server.

— You can leave the court only with the referee's permission? This is true even during the time between the first and second game. If a third game is necessary, you can leave at your own discretion. Leaving the court without permission after the referee's warning results in forfeiture of the entire match.

— You may bounce the ball only three times while in the server's box and must strike the ball on the third bounce? Accidentally dropping the ball while in the server's box counts as one bounce. Resultant penalty for excessively bouncing the ball — handout.

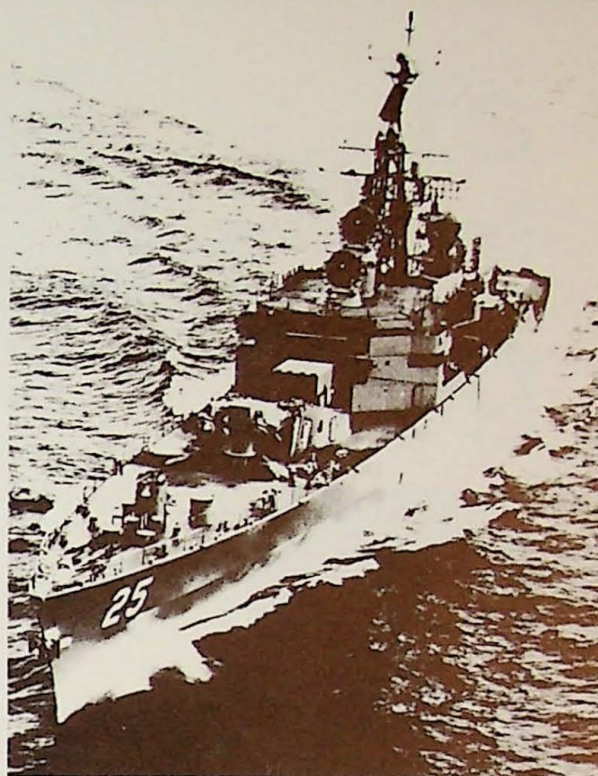
— If the server swings and misses the ball entirely while attempting to serve the resultant call is a handout.

— Any player who catches the ball on the fly, regardless of his position on the court, shall be called for an out. This means that in a doubles match, those of you in the service box awaiting your partner's service, may not catch the ball if it is inadvertently hit at you by your partner. You may use your racquet or let the ball strike you, but you may not catch it. The call is a handout.

— The server has only ten seconds to put the ball into play?

— The duration of a time-out (towel) is only thirty seconds? In case of an injury, the injured player has a cumulative total of fifteen minutes in which to recover. If he is unable to do so, he shall forfeit the match.

continued on page 24



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Information for All Players

HOSPITALITY — La Quinta Motor West, 219 N.E. Loop 410,
Rm. No. 201

Thursday	February 12	6:00 - 11:00 P.M.
Friday	February 13	8:00 - 11:30 P.M.
Saturday	February 14	8:00 - 11:30 P.M.

Co-Chairmen: Mike Atkinson
David Stringer

REGISTRATION

Thursday	February 12	6-10 P.M., La Quinta Motor West, Room 201
Friday	February 13	All day, Racquetball & Handball Club

All players must present their I.R.A. membership card at
registration, or join at the time of registration.

HOSPITALITY — (Meals)

Thursday	February 12	6:00-9:00 P.M., Dinner at La Quinta Motor West
Friday	February 13	11:30-1:30, Lunch at The Racquetball & Handball Club
Saturday	February 14	7:30-10:30 A.M., Coffee and rolls at the Racquetball & Handball Club 11:30-1:30, Lunch at the R & H Club
Sunday	February 15	7:30-10:30, Coffee and rolls at the R & H Club

All meals and refreshments are free to players. For guests, the
prices are as follows: breakfast — \$1.00, lunch and dinner —
\$2.00 per person.

ADMISSION TO MATCHES

All players will be given passes to view all of the matches.
Reserved viewing spaces will be sold on a first-come, first-
served basis. Players will be expected to purchase viewing area
spaces to be assured of choice spaces. The tickets are priced as
follows:

General Admission—Reserved Space—	3 days	\$10.00
General Admission—	3 days	5.00
General Admission—	1 day	2.00
Current Racquetball & Handball Club Members— Complimentary General Admission Pass for 3 Days		

LOCKERS

We have a limited number of large lockers for your use while
you are playing. But when your match is over, please allow
someone else their use! Thank you.

San Antonio Tourney

Player Checklist

PLAY STARTS Approximately as Follows:

Friday	February 13	9:00 A.M.
Saturday	February 14	8:00 A.M.
Sunday	February 15	8:00 A.M.

OFFICIATING

We all know how important it is to have referees for our matches. Please help out and referee when asked to so we can be assured of a referee for every match. Floor Mgrs.: Rick Medders, Jesse Reiningger.

CONSOLATION

Consolations will be played in all divisions. All rounds will be 31-point matches.

1. *You must sign up yourself if you want to play!* Entry deadline 12:00 Noon, Saturday. Draw posted at 2:00 P.M. Saturday.
2. Play starts early Saturday for consolation.
3. You are eligible only if you lost the first match you played.
4. Enter consolation match at the front desk.
5. Be sure to state which division you are signing up for.

We are expecting over 300 single entries. We need your help and cooperation to make this the greatest and by far the most successful tournament we have conducted.

If you have any questions, you can contact either La Quinta Motor West, or the Racquetball & Handball Club of San Antonio.

La Quinta Motor West	Racquetball & Handball Club
219 N. E. Loop 410	of San Antonio
San Antonio, Texas 78216	121 N. W. Loop 410
Ph: 4 512/342-4291	San Antonio, Texas 78216
	Ph: 512/349-2781

Enjoy yourself and best of luck in the tournament.

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The story behind Mama's boys



Mama is Mama Adelaida Cuellar. And her boys are Frank, Mack, Gilbert, Alfred and Willie Jack.

Their story begins back in 1924 when Mama Cuellar opened a small tamale stand to supplement the family income. Mama Cuellar's special Mexican recipes became so popular she began to develop other authentic Mexican recipes. And business prospered.

Today, Mama's boys carry on her tradition for fine Mexican food at every El Chico Restaurant. The basis for El Chico's truly authentic Mexican taste is still Mama's original family recipes — prized secrets which Mama's boys follow exactly. No one else, anywhere, has ever been able to duplicate them.

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Mexican food with "Mama's Touch"

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"Top Notch"

The following rankings are the final results of ratings from fifteen experts across the country. These fifteen people have had the opportunity to see all of the players from coast to coast. So, they are quite valid. That doesn't mean they won't be changed a year from now.

As for the balloting itself, it could not have been closer. In some of the closer balloting, Steve Keeley and Steve Strandemo tied at No. 3 on the list of the best players today. Jim Austin and Craig McCoy tied for fifth on the best backhand list. Bill Thurman and Davey Bledsoe tied for fifth for players with the best serves, and Keeley and Strandemo again tied for No. 3 in ceiling game department. Charlie Brumfield edged Dr. Bud Muehleisen by one vote; as the game's best doubles player.

Final rankings were taken right from the players own balloting. We are not releasing the experts names, as they do value their lives, and some have families.

Look at the rankings, and discuss them with your friends. We know there are some surprises, but that's what racquetball is all about. Isn't it?

5 Top Men Players

1. Charlie Brumfield
2. Steve Serot
3. Steve Keeley
4. Steve Strandemo
5. Bill Schmidtke

3 Top Women Players

1. Peggy Steding
2. Jan Pasternak
3. Jan Campbell

5 Best Forehands

1. Bill Schmidtke
2. Dr. Bud Muehleisen
3. Charlie Brumfield
4. Jerry Hilecher
5. Steve Keeley

Honorable Mention — Serot, Strandemo, and Roderick

5 Best Backhands

1. Steve Serot
2. Steve Keeley
3. Charlie Brumfield
4. Steve Strandemo
5. Jim Austin (tie)
5. Craig McCoy (tie)

5 Smartest Players.

1. Charlie Brumfield
2. Dr. Bud Muehleisen
3. Steve Strandemo
4. Bill Dunn
5. Steve Keeley

Honorable Mention — Schmidtke and Garfinkel

5 Players with Best Serves

1. Charlie Brumfield
2. Dr. Bud Muehleisen
3. Bill Dunn
4. Steve Strandemo
5. Davey Bledsoe (tie)
5. Bill Thurman (tie)

Honorable Mention — Bill Schmidtke and Steve Keeley

5 Best Return of Serves

1. Charlie Brumfield
2. Steve Serot
3. Steve Strandemo
4. Steve Keeley
5. Bill Dunn

Honorable Mention — Craig McCoy

5 Players with Best Ceiling Games

1. Charlie Brumfield
2. Bill Dunn
3. Steve Keeley (tie)
3. Steve Strandemo (tie)
5. Steve Serot

Honorable Mention — Craig McCoy

5 Fastest Players

1. Davey Bledsoe
2. Steve Serot
3. Charlie Brumfield
4. Steve Strandemo
5. Mike Zeitman

Honorable Mention — Roderick, Keeley, Thurman, and Wagner

Five Hardest Hitters

1. Steve Serot
2. Jerry Hilecher
3. George Rudysz
4. Mike Zeitman
5. Bill Thurman

Honorable Mention — Brumfield, McCoy, and Bledsoe

5 Players with Best Potential

1. Craig McCoy
2. Davey Bledsoe
3. Marty Hogan
4. Richie Wagner
5. Eric Campbell

5 Best Sportsmen on the Court

1. Steve Keeley
2. Bill Schmidtke
3. Charlie Garfinkel
4. Craig McCoy
5. Kenny Wong

Honorable Mention — Austin, Dunn, and Muehleisen

5 Best Doubles Players

1. Charlie Brumfield
2. Dr. Bud Muehleisen
3. Steve Serot
4. Mike Zeitman
5. Craig McCoy

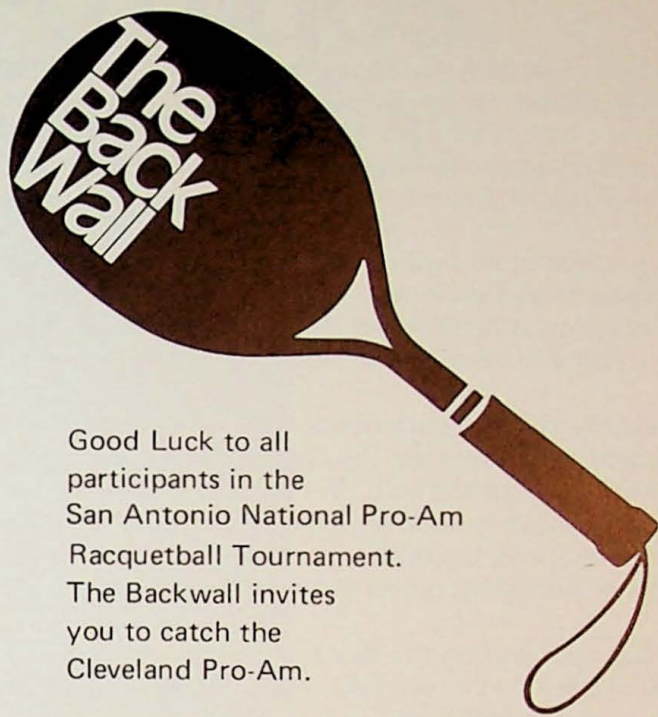
Honorable Mention — Charlson, Thurman, Strandemo

Top Ten — All Time

1. Charlie Brumfield
2. Bill Schmidtke
3. Dr. Bud Muehleisen
4. Steve Serot
5. Steve Keeley
6. Craig Finger
7. Steve Strandemo
8. Paul Lawrence
9. Ron Rubenstein
10. Mike Zeitman

Honorable Mention — Hilecher, Porco, and Garfinkel

Honorable Mention was only included in the categories where the players warranted enough votes to be rated.



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Best of Luck

to all Participants!

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on a Successful Tournament!!!!

Mike Kaihlanen, M.D.

and Family

— You must give your opponent not only an unimpeded view of the ball, but also a direct path to the ball? It should not be necessary for your opponent to run around you (or your partner, in doubles) to reach the ball. Failure to do so shall result in a hinder call and, if in the judgment of the referee, you had an opportunity to do so and failed, then you should be called for an avoidable hinder resulting in either loss of point or handout whatever the situation.

You are also at all times obligated to permit your opponent a free and uninhibited swing at the ball. As participants in a national tournament, you should be aware at all times of the location of the ball and the direction it is traveling; therefore, you should make every reasonable effort to get out of the path of the ball and permit your opponent unobstructed movement towards it.

— Bodily contact does not automatically indicate a hinder? This hinder should be called only if, in the judgment of the referee, the contact impedes the ability of the receiving player to get into proper position to strike the ball. In that regard a player whose backswing is impeded may call interference as soon as contact is made and before striking the ball. This is the only call a play may make — all other calls are made at the discretion of the referee. A player who fails to make this call is bound by the results of his swing, unless the referee has seen the contact and calls it.

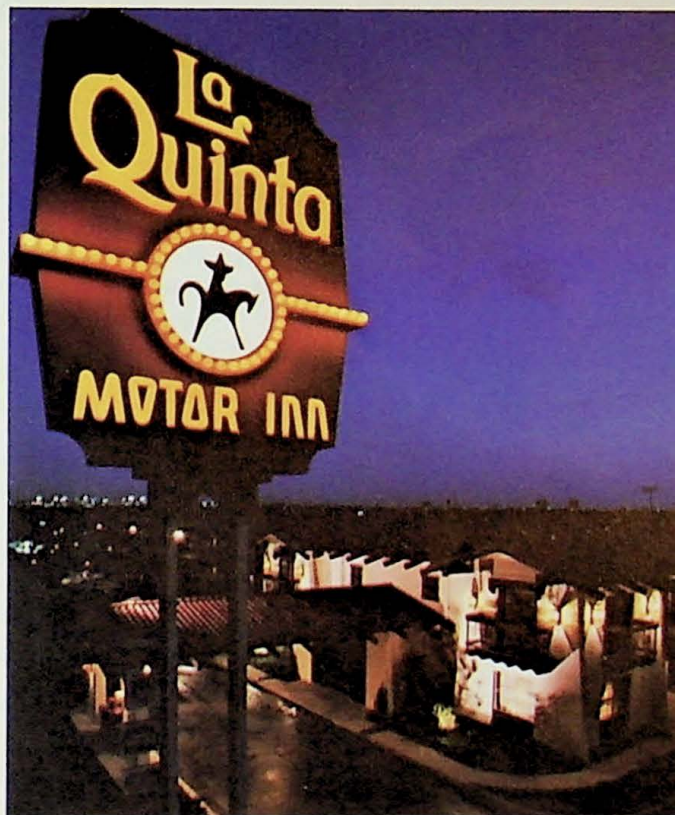
— A crotch ball on the front wall is always an out? However, the very reasoning that makes this ball an out indicates that a rear wall crotch on service is in play, as is a three wall serve that strikes the crotch on the third wall.

— A ball that leaves the court after hitting the front wall shall be considered dead and the ball replayed? However, a player who hits the ball out of the court while attempting to hit the back wall first shall be penalized with either loss of service or point, as the case may be.

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Practice makes Perfect

Why should a racquetball player spend time practicing such fundamental skills as serving, stroking, shot-making, backwall play and footwork? Psychological studies indicate that over-learning needs to take place before an individual can execute a motor skill correctly, i.e. the skill must be practiced until it becomes part of his neuromuscular pattern.

No amount of knowledge and understanding of the game can substitute for the practicing of these fundamental skills. They should be practiced until they can be performed automatically. The racquet should feel natural in the hand and literally become a part of the player. The use of repetitive drills is an excellent way of developing these skills. In this way contact between racquet and ball will be coordinated to permit good timing and stroking.

For efficient learning to take place make your practice sessions meaningful by having a plan of attack and following it intently. To relieve the monotony that often accompanies repetitive drills, try to imagine or simulate actual playing conditions. However, do not practice when tired. For best results, work progressively mastering the easier drills before moving on to more complex.

Up and Coming

From a modest beginning in Connecticut in the early 1950's, racquetball has enjoyed an enormous growth. The International Racquetball Association estimates that in the last 5 years the racquetball-playing public expanded to half a million. And what a diversified public it attracts — doctors, lawyers, wallpaperers, wrestlers, housewives, even former roller skating stars, running the gamut from kids to seniors... a testimony to the sport's universal appeal.

1974 was the year that saw racquetball begin to emerge from the ranks of obscure amateur sports. Now in 1975 we find that racquetball has finally come of age. The sport... the equipment... the players, particularly the players have developed such a degree of finesse, accompanied by superb physical conditioning and stamina placing the game of racquetball in the light of professionalism.

Racquetball needs exposure to the American people and for exposure on a wide scale, television coverage must be utilized. Television executives have expressed their interest to become even greater with an outstanding pro-circuit... even a pro-celebrity tournament.

Indeed greatness is a goal. Eight top players in the world have signed contracts with the IRA and a spectacular series of six pro-amateur tournaments have made the 1975 season a great one. Racquetball has had an exciting history and an even brighter future is before us... "You ain't seen nothin' yet..."

ALL TIME MONEY WINNERS IN IRA PRO-AM TOURNAMENTS

MEN

1. Brumfield	\$9,000
2. Strandemo	5,700
3. McCoy	4,000
4. Serot	3,400
5. Keeley	2,700
Hilecher	2,700
7. Schmidtke	2,600
8. Muehleisen	2,000
9. Bledsoe	1,350
10. Zeitman	1,300
Dunn	1,300
12. Thurman	1,100
13. Strom	900
Roderick	900
15. Hogan	650
16. Hennen	500
Stafford	500
18. Niederhoffer	400
Garfinkel	400
20. Wagner	300
21. Zuckerman	100

WOMEN

1. Steding	\$1,350
2. Pasternak	850
3. Campbell	700
4. Harding	500
5. Wright	250
6. Marriott	150
7. Carow	100

San Antonio's 25 Best Men

Rinaldo Gonzalez
Alan Miller
Bob Lindley
Dennis Telzrow
Ernesto Ancira
Jerry Stone
Joe Bueno
Mickey Penner
Rick Medders
Mike Wish
John Seals
Tom Murphy
Rudy Rios

Mike Atkinson
Ed Carmody
Jim Siegel
Herb Goerner
Bob Riehl
Albert Hirsch
Mike Miller
Alan Gurinsky
Bruce Hendin
Eric Locker
Fred Kline
Harris Sterling

San Antonio's Best Women

Linda Guerrero
Liz Huff
Margit Krellwitz
Tina Weiner
Susan Jacobson
Judy Turlington
Jackie Black
Barbara Syamken
Bev Trevor

Doris Yorloff
Nancy Sanford
Kathlene Hill
Geri Patterson
Luann Cohen
Diana Leibowitz
Marie Gerstenberger
Ellen Klar
Dana Hendin

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From left to right — Harris Sterling, Tom Nissalke, Bruce Hendin, and Phil Barshop. Best of Luck from us to all the participants!

TOP RANKED WOMEN PLAYERS



SHANNON WRIGHT — A second place finish in the 1975 IRA Singles Championships propelled Shannon into the spotlight last spring. She added the runner-up spot in the 1st IRA Pro-Am event of the season to her list this fall. A student at North Texas State, Shannon and her husband Pete, are the pros at the Inwood Racquet Club in Dallas.



JAN PASTERNAK — A 22 year old graduate of Arizona State, Jan is already a veteran in major racquetball tournaments. She holds two National titles, 2 second place finishes and a third in IRA Singles Competition and a 1st, a 2nd, and a 3rd in Doubles. A native of Houston, Jan is on the staff at the JCCA in St. Louis.



From left to right — Jan Campbell, Peggy Steding, Janell Marriott.

JAN CAMPBELL — The outstanding woman racquetball player on the West Coast, Jan has been near the top for four years. She has two third place finishes in the IRA Singles Championships and a second and third in doubles. A knee injury recently slowed her some but this San Diego lass is ready to go again.

JANELL MARRIOTT — Fresh from winning the IRA Womens Singles Invitational in San Diego, Janell has moved into the top echelon. She holds the 1975 IRA Doubles Championship (with Jennifer Harding) and top place finishes in many other tournaments the past year. Janell's recent graduate of Utah State and is on the staff at the Desert Gymnasium in Salt Lake City.



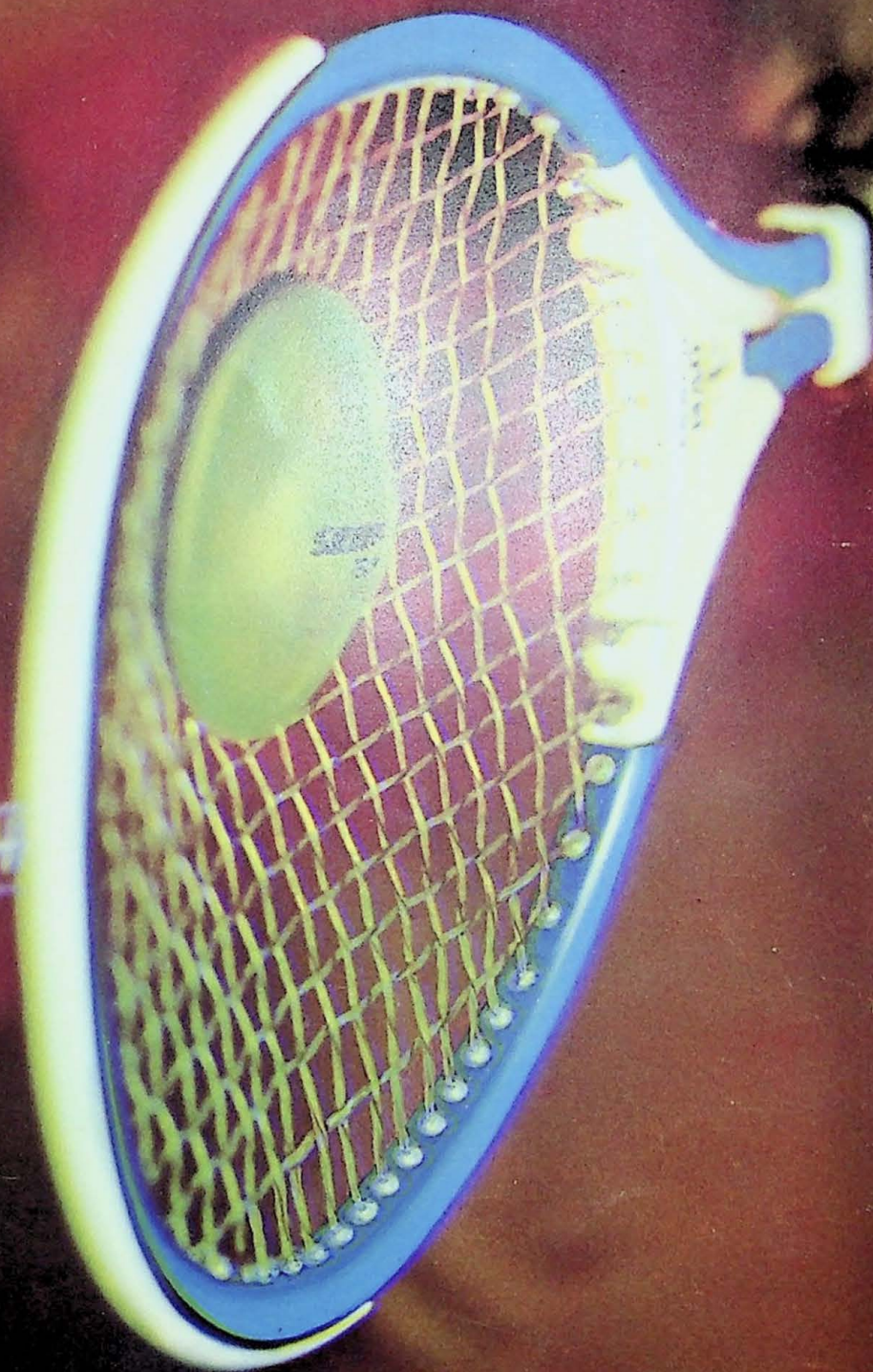
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