

...
**National
Racquetball**

VOLUME 5 NUMBER 1 • \$1.00 • JANUARY, 1977

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE U.S. RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION



- **16 PAGES OF INSTRUCTION**
 - Seldom Used Shots
 - Basics For Beginners
 - An Instructional Court

- **HOGAN WINS TWO MORE PRO STOPS**

- **5 MORE STATES AFFILIATE**

- **RACQUETBALL FOR WEIGHT CONTROL**

WILLIAM A. SCHULTZ
1316 Chandler St.
Madison, WI 53715

THE MAGNUM

It's Ektelon's best!

Extraordinary balance and playing characteristics. Lightweight (270 grams) for maximum maneuverability. Extra length (18½") for increased reach and power. Exclusive patented milled extrusion for better control. Four grip sizes.



EKTELON

Ektelon, Dept. NR-01 7079 Mission Gorge, Rd., San Diego, CA 92120

Ektelon is a registered trademark of Ektelon, San Diego, California. Made in U.S.A.

shoot it  serve it  pass it 
belt it  splash it  whack it 
slap it  dunk it  bounce it 
freeze it  spin it  cream it 
chop it  wet it  dribble it 
lob it  hit it  ace it  loft it 
hang it  clobber it  bang it 
center it  spike it  kill it 
smash it  hook it  boot it 

buy it, Seamco

SEAMCO SPORTING GOODS COMPANY
DIVISION OF DART INDUSTRIES
LaGrange, Georgia 30240

Pro Racquetball Gloves

R-70 PRO — Already acclaimed nation wide as the finest glove for racquetball. Made from Saranac's own native deerskin — hand selected for its natural lightness and tackiness. Our supertite elastic and magic Velcro closure on the back gives this glove that added touch of class to make it the "choice of the Pros." Easily identified by Saranac's new Pro emblem. Colors: Bone deerskin with Red, Columbia Blue, Gold, Green, Orange, or White backs. Available in Left or Right hand. Sizes: Men's XS — S — M — ML — L — XL.



**SARANAC GLOVE CO. BOX 786
GREEN BAY WISCONSIN 54305**

National Racquetball

VOLUME 5 NUMBER 1 • \$1.00 • JANUARY, 1977

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE U.S. RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION

CONTENTS

Editorial	
From Bob Kendler	4
From the Editor	6
National Commissioner	8
Letters	10
Health	16
Instructional	
Seldom Used Shots by Steve Keeley	18
Basic Strategy for Beginners by Terry Fancher	28
An Instructional Court by Len Sporman	31
State News	34
Features	
Slam! Crash! Racquetball! by Carl Tucker	38
Stewardess League a Big Success by Ivan Fuldauer	42
Healthiest Office In Town by Joe Werne	44
Extra!	46
Court Clubs	52
Upcoming Events	
Calendar of Events	72
Seamco-Leach Houston Pro Entry	73
Leach-Seamco Denver Pro Entry	75
National Juniors	76
Regional Tournament Information	78
National Championships	80
Tournament Results	
Miscellaneous Results	58
Leach-Seamco Pro Tour 3 Burlington	83
Seamco-Leach Pro Tour 4 Ft. Lauderdale	91

On The Cover . . .

If you're young enough to walk and old enough to run, you can play racquetball. This tiny player was on hand throughout the New England Pro-Am, trying to get a game with any pro or am who came by. Will you please play racquetball with me?

—Photo by Peter Schiller

National Racquetball Magazine is the official publication of the United States Racquetball Association and is published bi-monthly by the National Racquetball Club, Inc., 4101 Dempster Street, Skokie, Illinois 60076, (312) 673-4000.
President and Publisher • Robert W. Kendler
National Director and Editor • Charles S. Leve
National Commissioner and Business Manager • Joseph Ardito
National Executive Coordinator • Terry Fancher
Circulation Manager • Ellen H. Kendler
National Court Construction Consultant • Forest D. Wendt, A.I.A.
Photographic Consultant • Arthur Shay

National Racquetball Magazine is produced by Corporate Graphics, 330 West Frontage Road, Northfield, Illinois 60093, (312) 441-7250.
Executive Coordinator • Joseph M. Patten
Design Director • Milton W. Presler
Art/Production • Rand K. Kington
Printed by American Press, Inc., Gordonsville, Virginia 22942

Advertising Representatives are Patten Publications, 330 West Frontage Road, Northfield, Illinois 60093, (312) 441-7250, Joseph M. Patten, President/Account Supervisor.

All editorial communications should be addressed to The Editor, National Racquetball Magazine, 4101 Dempster Street, Skokie, Illinois 60076. Manuscripts must be typewritten and double spaced. Color and black and white photographs are welcomed.

Subscriptions are \$5.00 for one (1) year and \$12.00 for three (3) years. Application to mail at second-class postage rates is pending at Skokie, Illinois 60076 and at additional mailing office. Postmaster send form 3579 to *National Racquetball* magazine, 4101 Dempster Street, Skokie, Illinois 60076.

1977 - Year of the Amateur!

You may have noticed that our magazine has gradually evolved to its current format of making known all of the "unknown warriors,—those unsung heroes who play day after day without recognition. These players are the great majority who make up the main body of our sport by participating in all the local, state and regional tournaments, or perhaps, not competing at all. But whether they play for competition or fun, or both, it is now their turn to share the national spotlight with the professionals. And justly so.

We think we have moved forward very well in our few, short years. Our national amateur championships stand alone in prestige and acceptance; our national juniors succeeded beyond our wildest expectations; our women's professional prize money shocked everyone but our lady players; the men's professional tour is the standard of comparison. It is true that we poured more into the prize money than any player ever dreamed, but to meet the public's (and television's) demands, this was an absolute must.

Now is the time to turn our attention to the players who really count. It is time to build an amateur sport of racquetball.

That's why we say this is the year of the amateur. We are bringing racquetball to the local level, starting with a network of association affiliates in each and every state. Our promotional efforts will not be going entirely to the elite few,—instead we have initiated a

program to stimulate state and local racquetball, for the overall good of as many players as possible.

For example, we are now sharing our subscription dues with the state organizations. A full 40 per cent of our subscription income goes to the state affiliate, to better spend racquetball's funds on the average and beginning players.

We plan to begin a program of assistance for each affiliate so that local winners can reach state tournaments, state winners reach the regionals, and the regional winners reach the nationals. That's besides our current program which supplies guidelines on running tournaments, refereeing, rule books, scorecards, draw sheets, instructional material, statistics on racquetball's growth and much more.

This is your stake in our association of states. If you are one of the very few states without an organization, please write us at once for organizational charts, sample by-laws, plus funds to help you organize. Take your place, while there is still room, in the organization for both national and international amateur racquetball!

For years handball has given scholarships in one form or another and one of these days we will do the same for racquetball. That should make a lot of kids and their parents



happy. It makes us happy too, because it's the right thing to do. It will also give you a view of things to come and the character of both the U.S. Racquetball Association and the people who direct it. We like to think that when we extend our hand in giving, it is out, open and prepared to receive.

Not all of the goodies are for the youngsters. We are going to add more tournaments and events for seniors, masters and golden masters players. We're planning to move forward forcefully into the inter-collegiate field, and you can soon expect big news in the outdoor three-wall sector. There is no reason why racquetball can't rival handball for its share of the sun worshippers.

What I am really trying to tell you is that to do all these things you must be geared up for them. And we are. New staff members like our National Co-ordinator Terry Fancher and our great new staff of State Chairmen now make it possible to do much more good than ever before. Especially for the amateurs,—in the year of the amateur.

It is truly a Happy New Year! ●

Bob Kendler

NOT ALL RACQUETBALLS ARE CREATED EQUAL.



Some are rounder than others. At Seamco, we inject superheated rubber into our molds. This gives us a uniform wall inside. And a roundness outside that nobody in the industry can match.

Technically, our racquetballs are within

seventeen one-thousandths of perfect roundness. Our next closest competitor is "out of round" more than twice that figure.

Calibrations aside, we give you a truer bounce where it counts.

Off the wall.

SEAMCO RACQUETBALLS

The official ball since the game began.

Resolutions For The New Year



One of the nice things about being an editor is that persons in such a position usually get in the last word, and since the word is printed, it lasts for some time. One of the oft-used remarks around U.S.R.A. headquarters is that nobody here has any pride of authorship, which translated, means if what you write is no good, — do it over.

At times our editorial opinions are not shared by all of our readers, which is actually good, for if we make a mistake (the other side of the coin is miracles, and they're rare, too) we want to know about it.

This time of year, however, is a time for reflection and each new year brings the thought of personal resolutions to help each individual better his or herself and thusly, the world around us.

We each know what we, as individuals resolve to do in the coming year, deeply personal resolutions that should remain so. If, however, The Great Racquetballer in the Sky were to grant each of us a New Year's wish, I would like them to be the following:

For **Bob Kendler**, president of the U.S.R.A.: National television coverage of a major U.S.R.A. or N.R.C. event, — God knows Bob has worked hard enough for so many years to have earned it by now.

For **Joe Ardito**, national commissioner of the U.S.R.A.: Another 30 years on the court. His newly transplanted hip has allowed him to play again, and if he's not careful he might soon become a threat on the hardwood.

For **Terry Fancher**, national coordinator of the U.S.R.A.: 15 more states to make his affiliation program complete. The work Terry has done in

six months could not have been duplicated by anybody, anywhere.

For **Al Mackie**, president of Seamco: A continuation of the great progress in promotion and ball improvement over the past year. There is no doubt in our minds that Seamco is the best.

For **Charlie Drake**, vice president of Leach: A continuation of the excellent job he has done in promotion, clinics and, of course, racquet development.

For **Charlie Brumfield**, defending national professional champ: a rebirth of his former abilities, both mental and physical.

For **Marty Hogan**, current top ranked pro: Good luck. You need it to stay on top.

For **Richard Wagner**, sixth ranked pro: Happiness in his marriage and good health to his new baby.

For **Bill Schmidtke**, former national champ: A graceful culmination of a truly outstanding career.

For **Peggy Steding**, defending ladies national professional champ: The fortitude to stick it out against the influx of new female talent.

For **Bill Tanner** and the I.R.A.: Success. Anything and anybody that promotes racquetball is good for the game.

For the **Court Club Business**: A solid and sane growth so that the untouched millions will be able to enjoy the great fun and relaxation that is racquetball.

For **Joe Patten**, president of Corporate Graphics, and **Milt Presler**, his design

director: An award of some kind for producing the finest sports magazine in America, — *National Racquetball*.

For **Steve Keeley** and **Steve Serot**, professional players: A renaissance in their games to bring them back to the great entertainment they provided for so many years.

For **John Lynch**, **Charlie Rish**, **Jerry Hilecher**, **Wagner**, **Ken Wong**, **Mike Zeitman**, **Schmidtke**, et. al: the queen of spades.

For **The Media**: Knowledge. The knowledge to recognize racquetball as the participatory sport of the '80's and to treat it accordingly.

To **My Father** and **Family**: Happiness and success in their new venture. It won't be the same around here without them.

For **You All**: Health, happiness, prosperity and an abundance of kill shots.

And lastly, **For Myself**: The Status Quo. I have been blessed with good fortune in both my public and private lives. May I continue to work for racquetball, and most importantly, continue to share my life with my fiancée, the most wonderful woman in the world.

Happy New Year! ●

Now! Start play on schedule.

Install this floor in just hours!



Quick, easy installation, superb construction, lasting durability, low maintenance . . . you get it all with Precision Courts "Cincinnati sectional" floors . . . the same nationally famous floors found in premium coliseums throughout the country.

Pre-fabricated and pre-finished the floor sections arrive at your job-site completely ready for immediate installation . . . in just hours, as opposed to weeks or even months for most other floor systems.

By sanding and finishing the floor panels in our plant, valuable time is saved by eliminating the

need to perform these critical functions on-the-job, where damp, dusty conditions exist. Furthermore, you avoid premature installation of the floor system. This is particularly important where excessive humidity conditions can cause problems of cupping, warping and, or, shrinkage of the floor at a later date.

If you are up-grading old courts, or building new courts, plan now to avoid costly delays, start play on schedule. Install a Precision Courts "Cincinnati sectional" floor . . . the floor system you can install in just hours. Write, wire, or phone for an exact quote and shipment date.

**The ultimate in Complete court systems—
Racquetball • Handball • Squash • Platform Tennis**



Precision Courts Inc.

3626 Roundbottom Road / Cincinnati, Ohio 45244 / (513) 561-7642



Our Goal For 1977: Keeping Moving Forward

Two of the most important projects that we at the U.S. Racquetball Association have undertaken in the past year are the implementation of a state affiliate program and the continuation of our National Juniors program. Each of these phases of the overall U.S.R.A. promotion are crucial to the future successes of our sport.

It was one year ago to the issue, that I first related to our readers our desire to begin a state affiliate program. At that time all we were lacking was the manpower necessary to co-ordinate and administrate such a bold endeavor. It has become obvious that Terry Fancher, the U.S.R.A.'s National Co-ordinator has been the exact person to carry out those duties.

In the six short months that Terry has been with us, he has been able to organize, charter, and work with 35 state associations. Needless to say, our whole organization, Terry included, have the brightest of hopes for the state affiliates in the coming year.

It is important to note that these are not just paper commissioners. These are people and associations who have a strong desire to promote racquetball on their local level.

We are only too happy to help them out, initially with a \$100 organizational donation, then with guides and outlines on chartering, by-laws, organization, committee structures, instructional material, refereeing information and much more.

Next we sent free rule books, draw sheets, scorecards and magazines to

each affiliate-sanctioned tournament, plus 12 dozen free Seamco racquetballs.

Our 1977 goal is simply to bring in the last 15 states that have yet to affiliate. Some feel they can do better on their own, others lack the needed leadership and support locally to get the ball rolling. We are talking to these people, and feel certain that we can be of tremendous value and help to each state as they attempt to promote racquetball in their area.

Our most recent aid to state racquetball is a sharing of subscription monies with each affiliate, — a full 40 per cent of all subscription income which comes into the U.S.R.A. goes right back into the state treasury.

With the funds, direction, leadership and guidelines, a state affiliate cannot miss. And that's good for the sport, because there is still so much to be done.

Equally as important is our National Juniors promotion. How can anybody estimate the good that is done for racquetball and its future through the National Juniors? As readers will see in this issue, we plan one of the greatest tournaments of all time at this season's National Juniors.

But what we do with the juniors is not a matter of how many entries, or who wins what division. The good of the juniors goes far beyond two games to 21.

Our \$23,000 budget for the National Juniors is our way of saying that we care about the future, that we are willing to invest today for tomorrow. Today's kids are tomorrow's leaders, today's racquetball playing youngsters are tomorrow's pros, sponsors, organizers and promoters.

We are proud that we can continue to promote racquetball for youngsters. It is our hope that each and every entrant at the National Juniors does not remember this tournament for who won or who lost, but he remembers it for the good time he enjoyed.

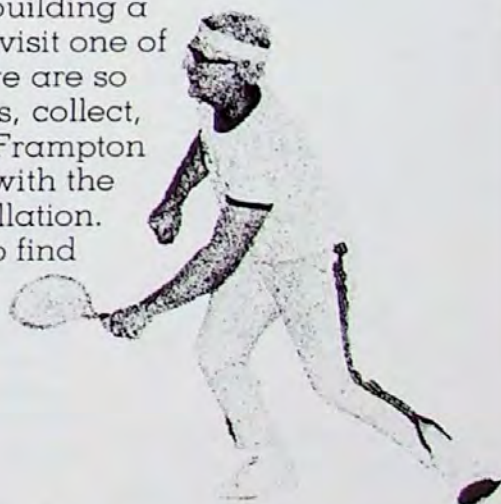
This is what National Juniors racquetball, — U.S.R.A. style, is all about. And it is only the beginning. We see Junior Regionals, Junior Commissioners, and further juniors promotion.

We are dedicated to improving youth through racquetball, and I for one agree wholeheartedly with our president, Bob Kendler, when he says, *"If we can improve the life of one boy or girl, if one youngster will come off the street and kill a racquetball instead of another human being, then our entire program is justified and worthwhile."*

That's what makes this sport so great. ●

With more than 600 of our courts installed throughout the United States, nobody should have to travel far to visit one.

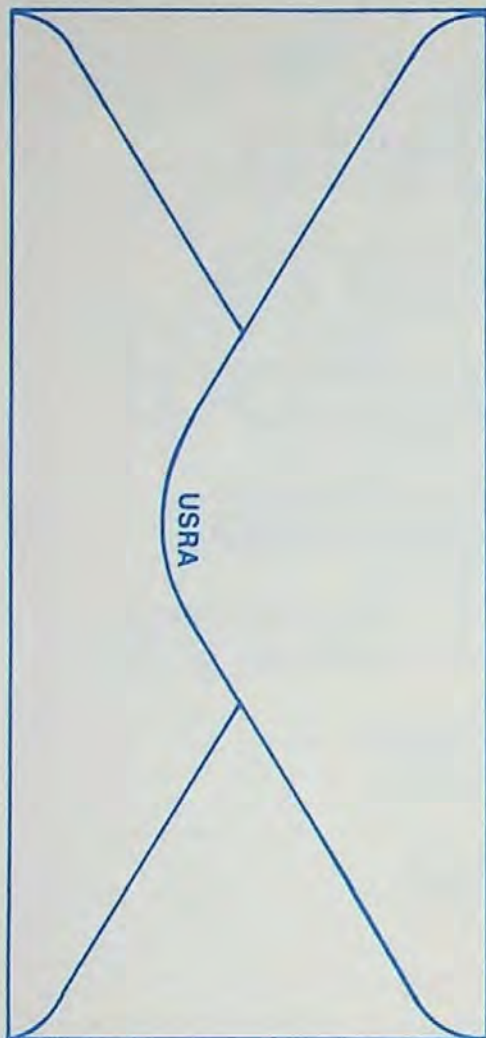
We invite anybody who is interested in building a handball/racquetball or squash court to visit one of our installations to see for himself why we are so proud of our Frampton courts. Just call us, collect, and we will give you the address of the Frampton court nearest you, and we will arrange with the owner or manager to show you his installation. That's the best way we know of for you to find out for yourself the many advantages of Frampton courts. Seeing is believing. To arrange your personal visit, call collect, (614) 861-5682.



FRAMPTON

D. B. Frampton & Co., Inc., 5330 East Main Street, Columbus, Ohio 43213, Phone (614) 861-5682

LETTERS



Dear Mr. Kendler:

Just a short note to thank you for my autographed copy of *Winning Racquetball*. I have already read it from cover to cover and must extend highest compliments to both Art Shay and Chuck Leve.

Our affiliation with the U.S.R.A. here in Wisconsin has already made giant steps towards amateur racquetball. Our State Committee is made up of many talented and enthusiastic racquetballers. These attributes combined with you and your staff's dedication and expertise can have only one end result — success!

Thank you again.

Robert N. Keenan
President
U.S.R.A. — Wisconsin chapter

Dear Bob,

Thanks for sending the book, *Winning Racquetball*, and for your note about organizing the whole country. Congratulations, you are the best thing to happen to any sport including Racquetball.

We are still moving ahead with our plans for our new building at the Riviera Country Club, and we expect to do a really first class job on it.

Frank G. Hathaway
Los Angeles

Dear Mr. Leve:

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 24 advising that at the present time there are no tournaments for players in the 65 and over age category.

Don't you think that establishing such a classification would be beneficial to the game? It would open the door to participation by the older players and the publicity connected with it would indicate that racquetball is a game which can be played at any age.

Just by way of suggestion perhaps your organization could determine whether or not there are enough players and whether or not there is enough interest to set up a tournament for the age group which we are speaking about. Initially perhaps this can be done by notifying all of the

YMHA's and YMCA's throughout the country that such regional tournaments are to be held, then follow up with a national tournament if there has been enough interest.

What do you think?

Samuel A. Wiener
Paterson, NJ

We agree, — ed.

Gentlemen:

We would like to congratulate you on your latest issue (November 1976) of *National Racquetball Magazine*.

Your new format is excellent, particularly the section on instruction and Terry Fancher's State News.

Since we are all interested in promoting racquetball on the local, state and national level, it is important that we share the ideas and programs that are effective for us, with as many other interested persons as possible. Thanks to you, and your fine magazine, we are now able to do just that — Thank you!

Lee Duda, Pro
Dottie Trauscht, Manager
Evanston (IL) Court Club

Dear Editor:

Because of my personal interest in racquetball I was delighted to see substantial articles about its rapid growth in three different and unexpected sources recently. The articles, all well done, were, in chronological order of appearance: "Slam! Crash! Racquetball!" by Carll Tucker, beginning on page 63 of *The New York Times Magazine*, November 28, 1976; "Racquetball: A new sport replaces handball" by Marc Markowitz on page 51 of *The Morning Call/Weekender*, Allentown, Pa., December 4, 1976; and "The Latest Racquet" on page 78 of *Time*, December 6, 1976. All of these articles indicate that there is an extremely rapid growth in both courts and players, that racquetball attracts young and old, men and women, that it provides an exceptionally good workout, that it is very easy to learn to play at least adequately, and that it exerts a tremendous fascination for its devotees.

I also read *National Racquetball* and *Tennis*, which contains frequent references to racquetball, but I find that all of these sources devote little if any attention to the one-wall game, which can be played outdoors, or indoors, and for which facilities are frequently available, with little or no expensive construction needed.

All that is needed is a vertical wall which is reasonable smooth (a brick wall can frequently be useful) and a horizontal floor which also has a smooth surface, perhaps concrete or macadam. The approved dimensions for the wall are 20 feet wide and 16 feet high. The court laid out on the floor should be 20 feet wide and 34 feet long with a short line extending across the court 16 feet from the wall and parallel to it. There should be at least 6 feet of clear space around the court to permit access to balls which bounce outside the boundaries of the court but which are still playable.

Different court dimensions can be used according to the location and a very rewarding game can still result.

Circumstances may require or permit the use of both front corners to form a three-wall court or the game can be played with only front corner or with one front corner and one rear corner as is the case in jai alai. Each of these provides a good game but it is probably advisable to conform to the approved dimensions if possible.

The one-wall game can be played outdoors just about all winter if the court is dry and the players are suitably garbed. It provides an excellent workout, making you run after balls which the walls of the four-wall court return to you, and it puts a premium on accuracy because each return must be struck so that it hits the front wall and rebounds to strike the floor within the confines of the court. Two, three or four players can play at a time as is true of the four-wall game.

I am well up in years and have had my second total hip operation but find racquetball challenging and rewarding. I used to play both one-wall and four-wall handball, both of which I now find too strenuous, but racquetball gives me a chance to use similar strategies without sore hands or the

sore joints and muscles which handball inflicts upon me.

I heartily recommend this game to anyone regardless of age or sex who is looking for an active, fascinating, competitive sport for from two to four participants. Facilities for sports like this should be made available in schools, parks and recreation areas by city, county and state authorities for the Life Time Sports Program and all others interested in active recreation.

Carl E. Heilman
Department of Education
Harrisburg, PA

Dear Editor:

I am writing this letter in order to express my appreciation to the Las Vegas Racquetball Club, Las Vegas, Nevada. Having been a member for one year and having played in several well organized tournaments I would like to pass on to other state representatives some "food for thought."

Our state representative, Mr. Dan Seaton, has done a tremendous job designing our racquetball program from the ground floor up.

In every successful club organization you need the necessary "climate and clientele" which Las Vegas has in abundance. But the very successful programs also have one more ingredient which makes the racquetball program head and shoulders above the other clubs. That ingredient is a veteran racquetball player/coach who while being the state representative is also a professional leader on and off the court. Dan Seaton, is one of those men.

He consistently organizes great tournaments and promotes clinics for the young and old. But the heart of our successful club lies in the fact that he continually supports the average club player, male or female. He coaches, he inspires, he promotes, he gives his time to the "aspiring young player." Other state representatives could learn a lot from Dan Seaton.



HELP PREVENT EYE INJURY!

Not only can you buy the finest handball and racquetball gloves and the finest racquets from Champion, but you can get the very best eye protection for these exciting sports from Champion, too.

Champion's MK Eyeguard is made from strong, lightweight aluminum, covered with soft, natural rubber and designed to mold around the eyes for maximum visibility.

Champion's MK Eyeguard reminds you to keep your eye on the ball, where it belongs, and play with confidence you have never felt before.

We don't expect you to strut when you get on the court, but you will feel "confidently" different.

Available at Sporting Goods Stores, Athletic Clubs and your YMCA.

Champion
GLOVE MFG. CO.
2200 E. OVID DES MOINES, IOWA 50313

Thanks to Dan Seaton and the Las Vegas Racquetball Club, it's been a great year!

David F. MacGhee
Las Vegas, NV

PAYMENT FOR ARTICLES

Payment For Articles

Do you know a better way to teach a particular phase of racquetball? Have you experienced something first hand within our sport that you would want to share with the entire nation? Taken any good pictures of racquetball lately? Have any health tips that could help somebody's game?

If you possess or are capable of writing any of the above, *National Racquetball* will be happy to accept contributions from our readers. Payment will be made, on publication at the following rates:

\$200 for Instructional Articles. Contributions must be specific, well documented with drawings or photographs, on a particular phase of our sport and how to improve it. Potential contributors should read any of Ken Wong's instructional series (November, 1975, January, March, 1976) as a good example. Minimum length: 2,000 words.

\$200 for First Person Articles. Contributions must be actual, true, original unpublished story about something that happened to you or you witnessed within racquetball. It can be humorous, dramatic or just plain interesting. Potential contributors should read David Northcutt's *A Game With Charlie Brumfield* (May, 1976) as a good example. Minimum length: 1,000 words.

\$200 for Health Articles. Contributions must be factual, documented and related to how to improve or maintain your health in or with racquetball. Articles dealing with diet, conditioning, safety, cardio-vascular improvement, or psychological areas are particularly desirable. Dr. P.E. Allsen's *Racquetball Increases Cardiovascular Fitness* (March, 1976) is a good example. Minimum length: 750 words.

\$50 for pictures, cartoons or drawings. The material may be dramatic, humorous, or singularly interesting. It must be original and unpublished. Regular tournament photos, unless containing an unusually high degree of originality will not be considered. All photos must be black-and-white glossy, and any cartoons or drawings must be camera ready.

The contributor's name and address and the date the contribution is sent should be on all items. Compositions must be type-written, double spaced, and are subject to revision, alteration, correction or rejection by the editor. **CONTRIBUTIONS CANNOT BE ACKNOWLEDGED OR RETURNED.**

Please address contributions to The Editor *National Racquetball*, 4101 Dempster Street, Skokie, Illinois 60076 •



Pro-tec eyeguard is like wearing nothing at all.

Pro-tec eyeguard is made of clear polycarbonate high impact plastic and it is virtually indestructible.

An adjustable elastic strap and a double set of pressure sensitive padding is supplied with each eyeguard to accommodate all variations in facial anatomy. It often needs no padding for maximum comfort and safety.

Ask for **Pro-tec eyeguards** and you'll get practically nothing at all.

**Pro-tec™
eyeguard**

532 INDUSTRY DRIVE
TUKWILA, WASHINGTON 98188
206-243-4227



Gil South, Greenspring Racket Club

New Bata Poly Match Five. Now you've got a shoe of your own.

Soft, fully padded inner lining and cushioned insole.

Comfort, padded heel lining and collar.

Official Shoe of the U.S. Raquetball Association.

Unbreakable nylon laces.

Lightweight Polyair® sole takes a load off your feet.

100% nylon upper for extra long wear.



Makers of the lightest toughest sport shoes.

Bata Shoe Co. Belcamp, Md. 21017

PLAYER RANKINGS

Prize Money And Official Player Ranking

Official Women's Professional Ranking (as of January 1, 1977)

1. Peggy Steding, Odessa, Texas
2. Shannon Wright, Dallas
3. Janell Marriott, Salt Lake City
4. Kathy Williams, Hazel Park, Mich.
5. Sue Carow, Glenview, Illinois
6. Jean Sauser, Northbrook, Illinois
7. Jennifer Harding, Portland, Oregon
8. Sarah Green, Memphis
9. Jan Campbell, San Diego
10. Camille McCarthy, Indianapolis
11. Bette Weed, San Diego
12. Lyn McKie, Dallas

Official N.R.C. Men's Player Ranking (as of January 1, 1977)

1. Marty Hogan
St. Louis
2. Charlie Brumfield
San Diego
3. Steve Strandemo
San Diego
4. Jerry Hilecher
St. Louis
5. Davey Bledsoe
San Diego
6. Richard Wagner
San Diego
7. Mike Zeitman
Memphis
8. Steve Keeley
San Diego
9. Ben Koltun
St. Louis
10. Bill Schmidtke
Minneapolis
11. Steve Serot
San Diego
12. Jeff Bowman
San Diego
13. Craig McCoy
Riverside, Cal.
14. John Lynch
Champaign, Ill.
15. Ken Wong
St. Louis
16. Jay Jones
Los Angeles

1976-77 N.R.C. Women's Prize Money Earnings (as of January 1, 1977)

Rank	Player	Prize Money
1.	Peggy Steding, Odessa, Texas	\$2,800
2.	Shannon Wright, Dallas	1,400
3.	Janell Marriott, Salt Lake City	1,200
4.	Kathy Williams, Hazel Park, Mich.	800
5. (tie)	Jennifer Harding, Portland, Ore.	300
	Sue Carow, Glenview, Ill.	300
7. (tie)	Jean Sauser, Northbrook, Ill.	200
	Sarah Green, Memphis	200
	Bette Weed, San Diego	200
10. (tie)	Camille McCarthy, Indianapolis	100
	Jan Campbell, San Diego	100
	Lyn McKie, Dallas	100

1976-77 N.R.C. Men's Prize Money Earnings (as of January 1, 1977)

Rank	Player	Prize Money
1.	Marty Hogan, St. Louis	\$7,000
2.	Jerry Hilecher, St. Louis	2,825
3.	Steve Strandemo, San Diego	2,600
4.	Charlie Brumfield, San Diego	2,325
5.	Davey Bledsoe, San Diego	2,175
6.	Richard Wagner, San Diego	1,450
7.	Mike Zeitman, Memphis	1,175
8.	Ben Koltun, St. Louis	650
9. (tie)	Steve Serot, San Diego	400
	John Lynch, Champaign, Ill.	400
11.	Bill Schmidtke, Minneapolis	375
12. (tie)	Steve Keeley, San Diego	300
	Ken Wong, St. Louis	300
	Steve Mondry, San Diego	300
15.	Wayne Bowes, Edmonton, Alta.	275
16.	Jay Jones, Los Angeles	250

NATIONAL RACQUETBALL CLINIC PRESENTS 1976-77 ATLAS RACQUETBALL CAMP



**A HEALTHFUL
PLACE TO BE
IN SAN DIEGO**

Located in exciting Mission Valley in San Diego's newest and most exclusive health club facility, the Atlas Health Club. The club in conjunction with National Racquetball Clinic, Inc. offers 4 days and 4 nights/20 hours of instruction by 3 of the nation's top professionals. The instructors staff consists of: Charlie Brumfield, Steve Keeley, Steve Serot, Rich Wagner, Marty Hogan, and Davey Bledsoe.

These professionals believe in both the practical and theoretical approach to teaching. Court time consists of applying classroom knowledge and concepts to the game. The Atlas Health Club Racquetball Camp is designed to utilize the best teaching and most successful techniques developed by the professionals.

Package includes: room accommodations at Atlas Hotel's Mission Valley Inn, cocktails and banquet; Zoofari and Sea World passes; equipment package (t-shirt, bag, racquet, balls, "The Complete Book of Racquetball"); 20 hours of instruction; pros subject to change.

Designed for today's man or woman who is both aware of the benefits and deeply interested in physical relaxation and well-being.

Centralized, easily accessible Mission Valley Hotel Circle location is ideal for business and professional people—those who appreciate a work-day work-out . . . a revitalizing hour on one of the tennis or racquetball/handball courts . . . a few invigorating laps around the jogging track . . . a skin-cleansing session in the steam room . . . a muscle relaxing jacuzzi bath.

Evening and weekenders will find the location equally suitable . . . in the heart of vibrant Mission Valley with shopping centers, theatres, clubs, and restaurants nearby.

Design and operation reflects the same high level of quality and attention to detail that has been a standard throughout the 20-year growth of the successful Atlas chain of hotel and restaurants.

Facilities include: six lighted tennis courts (one exhibition court); separate saunas for men and women; steam room; therapy pool; separate fully equipped exercise rooms for men and women; twenty-five meter, three-lane lap-pool; jogging track; club lounge; color t.v., snack shop for light meals, beer, soft drinks, pro shop; barber shop; separate massage rooms for men and women; game room; volleyball court; and video-tape system.

PLAN I

Double Room Occupancy
Both Persons Participate

\$200.00/person

PLAN II

Double Room Occupancy
One Person Participates

\$250.00/participant

\$ 50.00/guest

PLAN III

Single Room Occupancy
Single Participant

\$280.00/person

ATLAS HEALTH CLUB RACQUETBALL CAMP APPLICATION

FILL OUT AND MAIL WITH \$100 DEPOSIT

APPLICATIONS AND HOTEL RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO START OF CLINIC

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

CHECK PLAN DESIRED

- ☐ Plan I
☐ Plan II
☐ Plan III

DATE DESIRED:

- ☐ Feb. 11-14
☐ April 5-8
☐ July 5-8

YOUR DEPOSIT OF \$100 MUST ACCOMPANY THIS APPLICATION . . .

Make Checks Payable To:

Mail To: Atlas Health Club 901 Hotel Circle San Diego, CA 92138 298-9321

RACQUETBALL: The *Best* Sport for Reducing and Weight Control

by Dr. Marcus B. Sorenson

Dr. Sorenson is director of the National Institute of Fitness, a vacation and weight reducing operation with headquarters in Orem, Utah

When asked to give his opinion as to what is the greatest health hazard facing our nation, the typical citizen would say heart disease or cancer. While these two dread diseases may indeed cause more than their shares of deaths and disability they are far from being our greatest health problem. Overweight, or obesity as it is medically termed, is our one great detriment to health and is often a pre-disposing factor in heart disease and many other very serious ailments. According to the American Medical Association, high blood pressure is twice as common among the obese, and hardening of the arteries is three times as common. It is no wonder then, that sudden death from heart disease is three times greater among the obese. Eighty percent of all diabetics are obese before developing diabetes. The list goes on to include greater risk from accidents, stroke, kidney disease, hernia, intestinal obstruction, joint disease, and many more. According to Dr. Maxwell Stillman² even 10% overweight (such as an individual who's ideal weight is 150 pounds and weighs 165 rather than 150 pounds) can lessen life expectancy by seven years, and as the pounds continue to increase, life expectancy drops proportionally.

By definition a man is obese when 20% or more of his total bodyweight is composed of fatty tissue. A woman is obese when 25% or more of her bodyweight is composed of fatty tissue. To be in excellent condition a man's bodyweight should be no more than 8% fatty tissue; for a women no more than 12%. For those who would like to know their actual body fat percentages, a local college physical education department should have the necessary

equipment to measure it very quickly. Most individuals, however, know when they are carrying extra pounds.

The cause of overweight is simple: A person ingests more calories than he uses for normal body functions and activity. The extra calories are stored as fat. There are three ways to rid the body of excess fat. (1) Eat fewer calories; (2) Use more calories for activity; (3) A combination of eating less and being more active.

To some the above may seem an oversimplification of a very difficult problem. Admittedly there are other ramifications such as will power, finding time to exercise, glandular disorders etc., but in spite of all these diet and exercise are the keys to weight control. And exercise, by the way, is far more important than diet.

Dr. Jean Mayer¹ of Harvard has shown conclusively that moderate exercise is a depressant to appetite, and that those who exercise regularly eat considerably less than their inactive counterparts. This is diametrically opposed to the common misconception that exercise is of little value in weight control since it causes the ingestion of extra food. This is simply not true with the overweight person, although it is a common excuse to avoid exercising.

It can be seen from the previous paragraph that exercise is much more important than diet, since exercise actually causes a natural reduction of food intake. Vigorous exercise such as racquetball also uses tremendous amounts of calories, thereby burning stored fat for energy.

Overweight does not happen overnight. It creeps up on a person at the rate of only a few pounds per year in most cases and is usually the result of decreased activity. If a person

decreases his activity level by 100 calories per day while eating as before, he will gain 10 pounds in one year. Unfortunately, a decrease in activity is usually accompanied by an increased food intake, which means that a 20 pound gain may result. A one mile walk uses about 100 calories. Such a walk daily would have prevented the 10 or 20 pound gain.

The following chart will acquaint the reader with the importance of daily calorie use in yearly weight loss.

Daily calories expended in excess of calories taken in	Weight loss per year
100	10 pounds
200	20 pounds
300	30 pounds
400	40 pounds
500	50 pounds
1000	100 pounds

After viewing the chart many ask "What happens after a person loses all the weight he needs to lose and continues to exercise?" "Won't he ultimately disappear?" The answer of course is no. When all of the excess body fat is used, *then and only then* will the exercise become a stimulant to appetite. A balance between calories expended and calories ingested will be achieved and the new weight can be maintained.

Many activities are available for burning calories. For an activity to be of lasting value in weight control, however, it must also have four other attributes:

1. It must be fun. People seldom participate in an activity they don't enjoy, even if it means maintaining their health.
2. It must produce enjoyment enough for consistent, daily participation. Hit

and miss activities are of little value in weight control.

3. It must require a very low level of skill in the beginning to prevent discouragement and provide immediate satisfaction.
4. It must not become boring. Calisthenics, jogging and weight training are seldom effective because the participant soon loses interest.

As director of a very successful weight reducing/vacation program, this author has found that racquetball is the only sport which has all of the listed attributes. It requires almost no skill at a beginners level, even when the individual is very heavy. (This is not to knock racquetball, since it requires extreme skill at highly competitive levels.) Participants usually enjoy it from their first day of participation and are willing and anxious to participate regularly. No one becomes bored either; they are having too much fun. Racquetball is far superior to any other sport we have tried in our program of weight loss.

Chart 2 shows what can be done in one year in terms of weight loss through racquetball participation. Seven days per week is the suggested program.

**Weight loss possible per year on a seven day per week program; 1 hour Racquetball per day.
(Does not include timeouts, time between service, etc.)**

Bodyweight	140	150	160	170	180	190	200	210	220	230	240
Pounds lost per year	56	59	63	66	70	73	77	80	83	87	91

Remember, the chart shows what *will occur* if calories taken in are kept the same or decreased. A natural increase in caloric consumption will occur when the ideal weight is reached, thus preventing any further loss of weight.

If you have a friend or acquaintance who needs to lose weight, introduce him to racquetball. You will be helping to save his life just as surely as if you had pulled him from the path of a speeding truck. ●

²Stillman, Maxwell, *The Doctor's Quick Weight Loss Diet*. Dell Publishing Co. Inc., 1971

¹Mayer, Jean, *Science and Medicine of Exercise and Sports*. Harper and Row, 1960

Seldom used Shots

Editor's Note — The following article and three subsequent articles are excerpted from Steve Keeley's recent publication, *The Complete Book Of Racquetball*. The book, endorsed by the U.S. Racquetball Association, is published by D.B.I. Books, Inc., 540 Frontage Rd., Northfield, Illinois 60093. *The Complete Book of Racquetball* sells for \$7.95 and in our opinion is the finest instructional manual on racquetball published to date. This segment is from chapter nine: Other shots.

The fundamental shots of racquetball are the basic sustenance, the bread-and-butter ploys, utilized 90 percent of the time in frolicking within the confines of a cement sweatbox. And strange but true, the more adeptly one employs these essentials the less freely he sweats and strains. It is mildly confusing, but one thing is for sure — true racquetball adequacy is not merely acquired by digesting and spewing out the basics. It is that extra 10 percent of infrequently employed shots which distinguishes the court technicians from the run-of-the-millers.

Though not exactly commonplace, these "other shots" nonetheless surface every time a racquetball game is played. Involved in this 10 percent category are the fly, half-volley, overhead and dump shot. As each of these is pursued in the text, a brief practice schedule will be provided. The ball-into-backwall shot will also be touched upon in this chapter.

Fly

The fly shot is perplexingly paradoxical in that while it is true your opponent has little time to set up for the volley, it is also a fact that you have little time yourself to clout the volley in the first place. Time is surely gained but at the expense of accuracy, and time is surely lost but in the quest of center court maintenance.

By definition, the fly is any ball which is taken in mid-air before it has a chance to bounce on the floor. This is synonymous with "volley" or "cutting the ball off." (Do not confuse this use of the term as a verb with the noun "volley," denoting a rally or exchange of shots during the course of play.) Because there is no floor bounce of the ball, there is less time to set up and issue the stroke. This means that killing the ball on the fly is one of the most difficult executions in racquetball. This is a disadvantage, though not prohibitive. The advantage of volleying the ball is that one can often catch his rival off guard lolling in back court. And by cutting the ball off — for example intercepting a cross-court drive and pounding it into an available corner — you keep tight reins on center court position. All in all, this author contends the fly is paramount in the general control of racquetball play.

What shot to whack off of a volley? Any basic shot is possible and acceptable, depending upon the presentation of the ball. As a basic guideline, an *offensive play* should usually be made when

cutting the ball out of the air. This indicates either a kill or drive. Of course, it is absurd to just randomly hit the ball out of the air; try for a specific shot.

When to hit the ball on the fly is a much more subjective query, and the various professionals react to a potential volley in different ways. By way of illustration, Steve Serot invariably prefers fly killing a ball, whereas Charlie Brumfield waits for a bounce and rebound off the back wall. This "when" issue is a complex question of strategy which is left to a more advanced text. In general, however, you should take the ball out of the air if, after its bounce, you expect it to "die" with little rebound off the back wall. On a more strongly hit shot (e.g. a down-the-line drive) which will carry easily to the rear wall, the player may choose either to cut the ball down in mid-flight or to allow its passage untouched for a back wall set-up. A broad rule of thumb is *not* to volley shots which are above your head. A prime time to rush right up and cut off the sphere is on the service return of a lob or garbage serve. In volleying a garbage serve, the usual return shot is a devastating, surprise cross-court drive which sends the server spinning on his tennis treads before his undergarments have time to twist with the rest of him.

The mechanics, or stroke execution, of the volley is open to wide-ranging variation — more so than most other shots made within the four-walled realm. Some players contact the ball at waist height, while others wait patiently for it to drop to knee level or lower. Many experienced individuals espouse



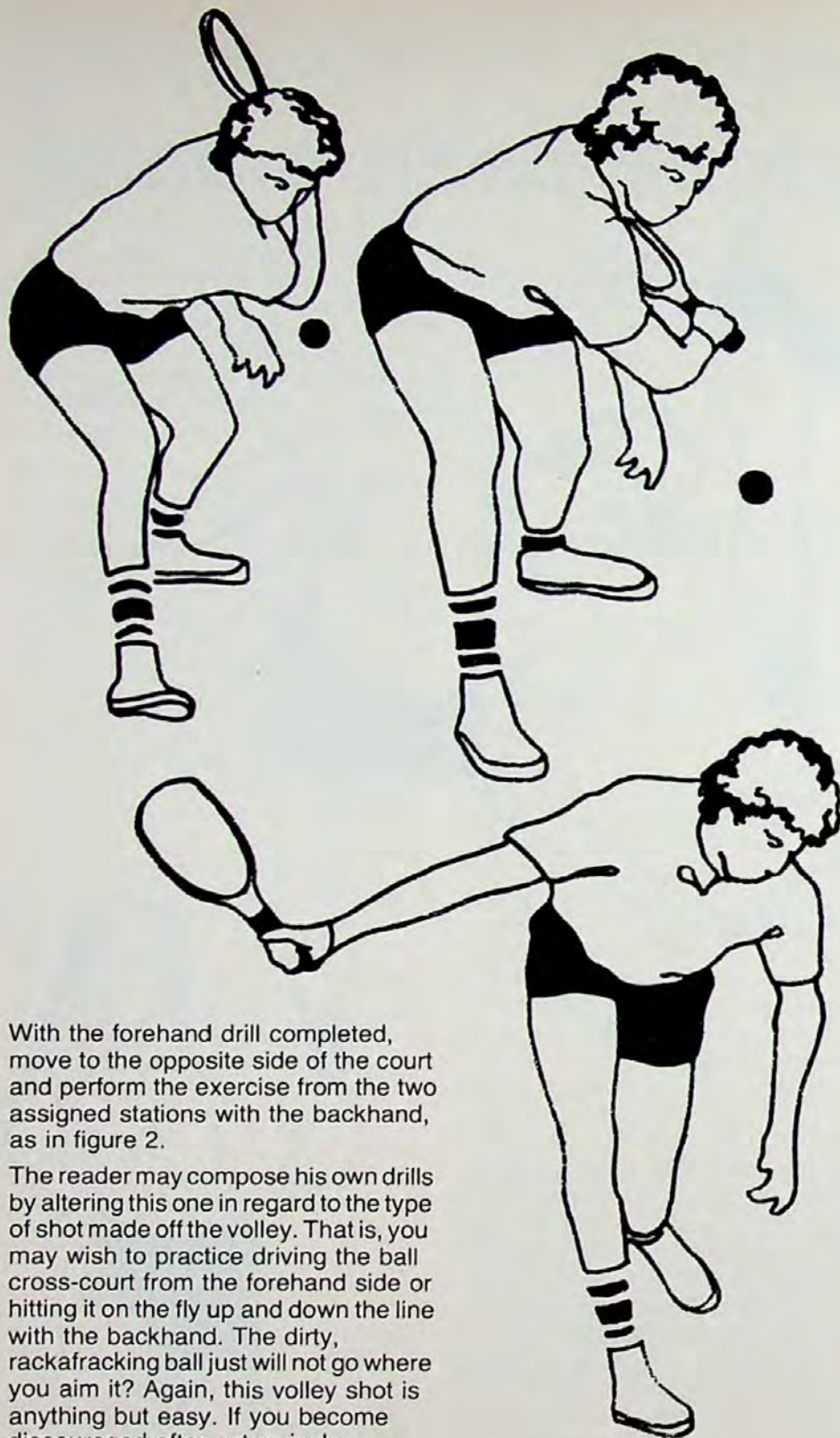
Fig. 1—Volleying a shot involves charging the ball . . . hitting it on the fly . . . and finishing as per a normal stroke.

the use of a stiff wrist when stroking this particular shot, contrary to the normal flaccid wrist technique recommended by many others for full power. This author suggests that the reader use his *typical forehand or backhand stroke*, with personal adaptations based upon his volley experience. Contact the ball from *knee to waist height*, where ever it feels most comfortable. These individual adaptations will arise mainly from practice — solo workouts. The following drill is admittedly an advanced exercise by which the court fledgling will experience considerable problems. In fact, usually the volley is the final shot to be skillfully developed by the maturing player. Examine figures 9-1 and 9-2 and note in particular the demonstrators' similar and contrasting tendencies in taking the ball on the fly.

Exercise: Set-up and volley. From position one for the forehand, as indicated in figure 1, give yourself a soft

set-up off the front wall. Be prepared to mobilize your footsies and do a little anterior or posterior locomotion. The ball should rebound back far enough so that it does not bounce, but rather is contacted in mid-air. Attempt to place the ball low and into the right hand corner for a roll off. Repeat at least 20 times and then perform the same stroke from position two, farther back in the court.

Hints: Do *not* push or tap the ball into the corner. Hit it with firm conviction, utilizing your normal swing. Since the set-up off the front wall is highly unlikely to come directly to the most opportune point of racquet contact, move your feet to gain proper positioning. You must literally be on your toes at all times in order to successfully execute the volley.



With the forehand drill completed, move to the opposite side of the court and perform the exercise from the two assigned stations with the backhand, as in figure 2.

The reader may compose his own drills by altering this one in regard to the type of shot made off the volley. That is, you may wish to practice driving the ball cross-court from the forehand side or hitting it on the fly up and down the line with the backhand. The dirty, rackafracking ball just will not go where you aim it? Again, this volley shot is anything but easy. If you become discouraged after extensively practicing with terminal results of too-high kills and too-low drives, console yourself in the revelation that every player has at one time or other temporarily stalled at this same frustrating barricade.

Frequent mistakes made when volleying are: attempting to fly hit at shots over your head when you should let them go to the back wall, and volleying without aiming for a specific shot.

Fig. 2—The backhand volley shot.

The Half-Volley

If the volley is one of the most nagging shots in racquetball to master, then its half-sister, the half-volley, presents the epitome of perplexity. The half-volley is simply a volley with an added troublesome short-hop. The reader has no doubt witnessed a tennis player start to rush the net from the court base-line, only to hesitate half-way through his move. By the time the ball comes zooming back over the net at our misplaced subject, he may be found groveling and/or praying for any kind of return. He has fallen into a two-sided dilemma, unable to reach ahead far enough to catch the ball before it hits the ground and yet much too committed by forward momentum to reverse direction a step or two in order to strike the ball after it takes a normal bounce. The skillful tennis player reacts to this situation by taking the ball on the *short-hop*, or half-volley. In other words, he makes the best of a poor maneuver by contacting the ball just after it skips off the ground.

The same reflex reaction situation occurs less frequently in racquetball, but when it does a successful half-volley roll off return makes for a picturesque mix of poise, grace and hand-to-eye coordination. With such punctilious prerequisites for execution, if the reader happens to profess any propensity toward spasticity he is hereby advised to skip the ensuing explanation.

The best counsel to be offered on striking the half-volley is to swing at the ball just as *though you were hitting the ball on the volley*. That is, basically ignore the short hop and perform your normal stroke right through the ball. If you start pondering the timing, the quick bounce and so on, you will only become unglued and your fluid swing will suffer. This is a potential case of "linkus of the thinkus," a temporary mental lapse related to the "paralysis via analysis" syndrome mentioned in other articles.

A "spasticity test" by which a racquetball instructor may essentially evaluate the pupil's hand-to-eye coordination has traditionally been to instruct the student to try to hit a half-volley shot. The pupil's response to this command has traditionally been to gaze upon his racquet teacher with a pug dog expression, as though saying "go eat some dirt." A passing grade is awarded if the student half-volleyer's

stroke does not bear resemblance to a palsied victim attempting to scratch his back. Very few rubber pushers pass this stern test.

As you swing you should do so as though ignoring the quick bounce on the floor and hitting as though it were a volley shot. Racquet to ball contact should be about *ankle high*, and this author favors a smooth, continuous follow-through (through the ball) rather than a stiff-wristed "blocking" style of stroke.

As far as practicing, the majority of professional court combatants never solo drill on the half-volley. Better to devote time and energy to a less ignominious exercise. Concentrate your practice on the *full* volley, as expounded upon earlier, because this play is difficult enough as is and arises much more frequently than the half-volley.



Fig. 3—The forehand drop shot starts with a "lunge" . . . continues with a "push" or dump stroke . . . and don't worry a lot about the follow-through.

Fig. 4—close-up of the drop shot.

Drop Shot

By way of inauspicious introduction, this author has strived to develop control of the drop shot for years and has yet to successfully execute a single one in tournament play. I inevitably get duds instead of dumps. The only ranked players in the history of racquetball to fruitfully include the drop, or dump shot, within their stroke inventory are Bud Muehleisen, Bill Schmidtke and Charles Brumfield.

The drop shot is a half-hearted half-volley. In other words, it is an offensive "push" of the ball via a gentle guiding racquet motion. It is executed exclusively by the *forehand* in order to cover an opponent's kill shot attempt which has almost rolled off the front wall (but is barely retrievable). As figure 3 demonstrates, the player stands in readiness near the front short line with his body and racquet geared toward quickly covering an anticipated kill shot. The rival's ball rolls off the front wall inches high and caroms back low and rapidly. One must react reflexively by instantly dropping his racquet low and at the oncoming ball. The wrist is cocked back in an extended position, as in closeup figure 4. As the sphere scoots at him, the dumper must take one giant-sized step forward with his left foot and catch the ball on the *short-hop*.

The racquet motion for the drop shot is more of an away-guide, or reverse caress, in the same fashion as a youngster pushing away a plate full of spinach. The wrist retains the *stiff cock* (does not break) throughout the motion and a slight topspin rolling motion of the racquet *pushes* the ball low into the front wall. This rolling racquet bit may be an underhand, low sidearm or in between, subject to personal preference. Brumfield and Schmidtke utilize the underhand, while Muehleisen tends to sidearm scoop the ball when taking a dump in the front corner.

It must be emphasized that this stroke is a soft, almost dainty, tap which if done correctly will "drop" the ball into either front corner with little rebound. The dump is a *kill* shot of sorts. It is to be guided into either corner and may strike the front or side wall insipidly.

The nonchalant dump often springboards the gallery to their feet in fervent adulation for an ostensibly beautiful play. Actually, this is but a false display of wizardry and the person-in-the-know realizes it is not a percentage play for most. A speedy, heads-up player will neutralize the dumper's game style through sheer hustle. The dump is most applicable against a lead-footed fellow who lingers constantly in back court, or against the similar individual who moves with the locomotive characteristics of a pregnant snail.

As alluded to in this section's opening comments, this author does not favor the drop shot due to his personal ineptness at it and because of the requirements for its proper execution: massively muscled legs in order to take the necessary daddy-sized step forward to cover the too-high kill, and divine caress for the controlled tap-kill of the ball into the corner. As often as not, the reader will discover *his* dump shot results in either a pushing of the ball into the floor for a skip or a lofting upwards for a 3-foot high pumpkin set-up. As with the half-volley, the reader is advised to allocate his practice time to more reliable facets of the game than the drop shot.

Fig. 5—The overhead is preferred by most for overhead drives and kills.



Overheads

Overheads here are construed to mean one of two types of shot: The overhead *kill* and the overhead *drive*. Both can be hit cross-court or up and down the line and both will be expanded upon below. As you browse the following, refer if you wish to the picture sequences for the overhead ceiling balls (Chapter 7) and in doing so note their similarities to the photographs provided here.

The overheads are a series of overhand tennis slam-type shots not to be practiced quite as piously as the basic building block shots presented in previous chapters. Master the fundamentals and then concentrate on the superfluous. Among the beginning and intermediate ranks of player ability, the overhead is a fun shot to slam and which habitually forces weak returns due to the high velocity of the ball driven at the opponent. Upon being issued such a blast, a *smart* player will deftly step aside. If he judges the overhead slam will carry to the rear wall, he will allow it to do so and then smash the back wall set-up for a roll off.

The professionals are smart players. Therefore, among these preeminent, the overhead is not usually a high percentage shot and is infrequently employed.

Others besides the pros may find the roundhouse overhead slam to be a potent and a reliable weapon on the court. However, the *pros* most often use it when faced by a duffer with the third gear speed of a tree sloth amputee, or they may flaunt it in flamboyant showboating, or use it in rare cases of pure desperation. Only once in a while will one witness a pro let fly a savage overhead kill or drive (when he has ample opportunity for a higher percentage shot, such as an overhead ceiling ball) against another top pro. The only elite players in racquetball to consistently and somewhat successfully utilize the overhead attack are Davey Bledsoe and Brumfield. Steve Strandemo, Bill Schmidkte, Steve Serot and this author are definitely not copious overhead exchangers.

Overheads are to be smote with the *forehand stroke* (utilizing the corresponding forehand grip) *only*, except for those yoga devotees with a perversion toward unhinged stretchability. The forehand *ceiling ball* hit from the shoulder or higher could be correctly termed an overhead, but it has been classified here as a defensive shot and was taken up in the ceiling ball portion of my book. That leaves the overhead kill and overhead drive to contend with. Both are struck in a similar fashion to a pitcher delivering a baseball (as with the forehand ceiling shot). A baseball pitcher throws fully overhand or three-quarter overhand, and the racquetball overheader also has this option. See figure 5.

Overhead kills. Without delving into complex geometrical detail, it is advisable to aim most overhead kill shots *cross-court*. Suffice it to say there is a greater margin for error behind this strategy, as opposed to placing the kills up and down the line. In addition, when going for a cross-court overhead kill the best bet is generally to hit the *side wall* rather than front wall first. This side wall action causes the ball's energy to dissipate and result in a lesser bounce out of the corner. See figures 6 and 7.

On any overhead kill attempt, unless the laws of rebounds come to a standstill, do not expect a perfectly flat roll out because this is a very long range shot taken from about 7 feet off the floor. Shoot cross-court for a large imaginary box, say 3 feet square, which can be envisioned sitting in the front corner. The advantage of the overhead kill is the element of *surprise* sprung upon the unsuspecting slipshodder lagging in back court. As in countering the half-volley, any Henry Hustle with rapid transit tootsies will cover attempted overhead kills angled from above in deep court.

Overhead drives. The overhead drive may be slugged either cross-court or down the line, though *cross-courts* allow for slightly greater tolerance of miscalculation. In either case, aim *low* enough on the front wall that the ball does not pop up high off the floor and,

Fig. 6—Overhead kills from right rear court may go down-the-line or, more frequently, cross-court. In the latter instance, the left side wall is usually hit before the front wall.

Fig. 7—Overhead kills (forehand) from left rear corner. Again, most go cross-court and initially hit the side wall.

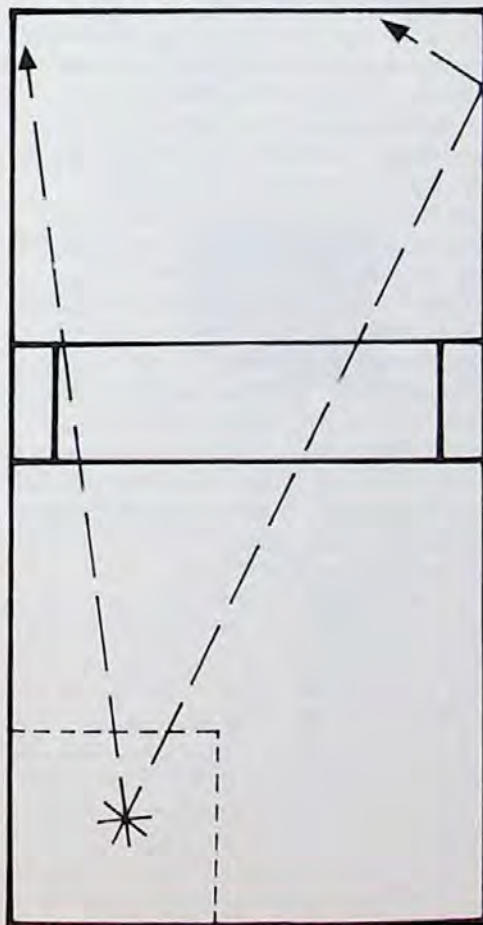
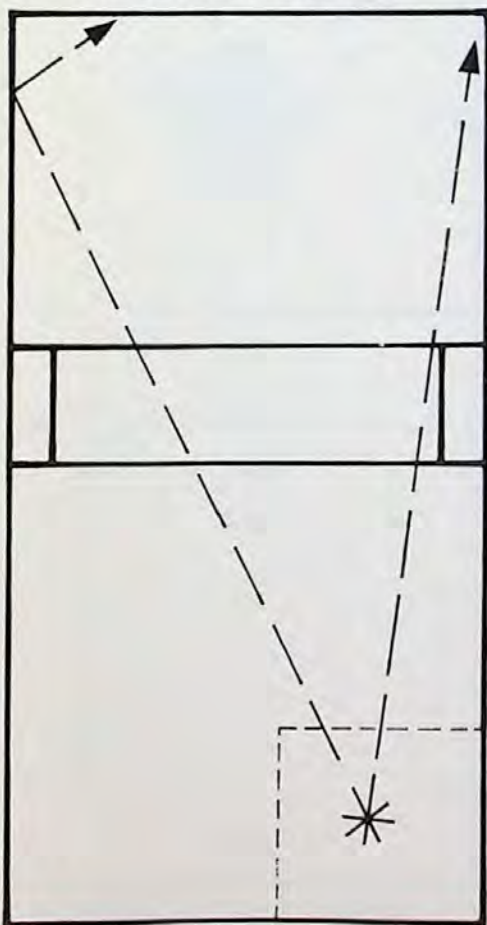


Fig. 8—Overhead drives from the right. Almost always drive cross-court to the backhand.

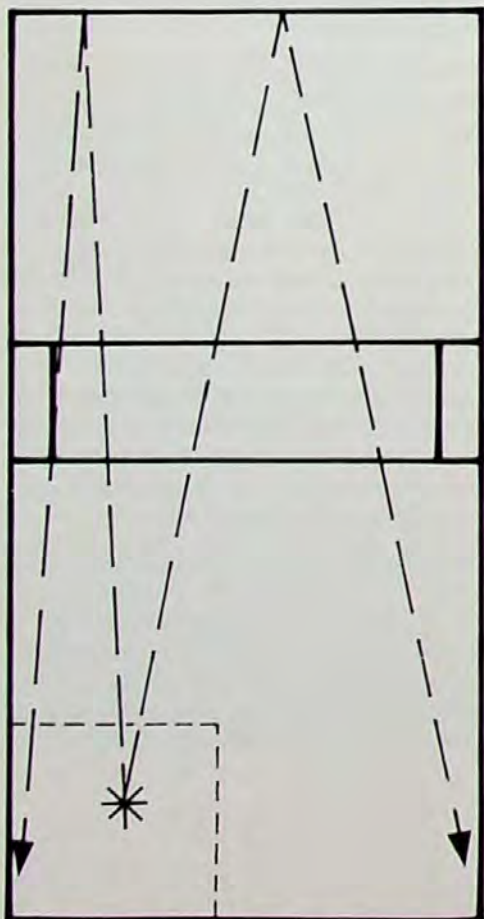
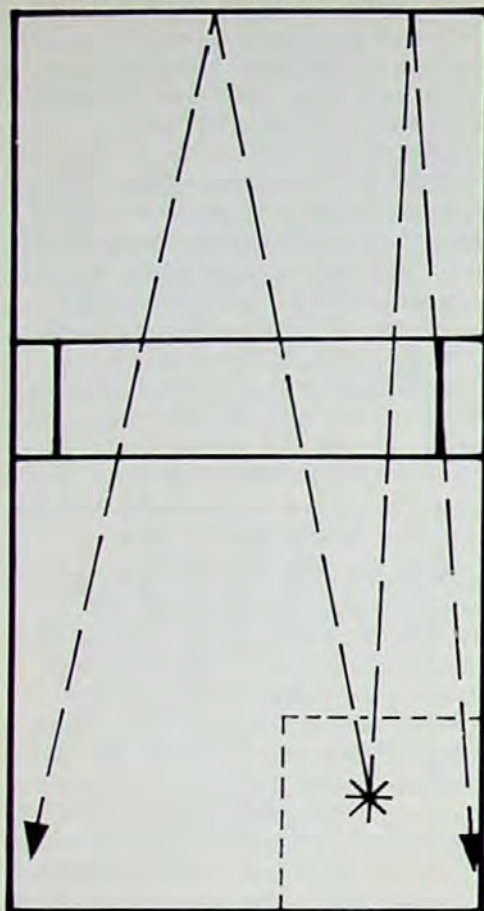


Fig. 9—Overhead drives from the left. Use this and figure 8 for drills.

due to natural topspin, rebound off the back wall for a plum. Players generally err on the too-high rather than too-low sighting on the front wall. Therefore it may be helpful to aim overhead drives at a bullseye area about 1 foot off the floor on the front court plaster. An inherent rise given to most players' overhead drives will cause the racquetball to hit about 3 feet up from the floor on the front wall, which in reality is the approximate proper height of contact. (The modifiers "about" and "approximately" are employed freely here since the overhead covers such a large distance of court area.)

Refer to figures 8 and 9 for the correct placement of overhead drives.

Practice the overheads? Before you unleash such an attack in a game situation, you had better. The best way to practice the *kill* is to give yourself a ceiling ball that returns to at least shoulder height in deep court. Instead of returning the pneumatic sphere to the ceiling, as orthodoxy and logic might dictate, drill the ball cross-court into the opposite corner for a kill. Repeat the desired number of times, performing from either side of the court and killing cross-court, but always with the forehand stroke.

To work out in solo on the overhead *drive*, equip yourself with ball and racquet and go through the same motions as with the above kill shot exercise — only this time hit flat drives off the ceiling set-ups. From the backhand and forehand deep court (again always employing the forehand stroke), direct these drives either cross-court or up and down the alleys. Remember to aim about a foot high on the front wall (hoping for actual 3-foot high contact), at least until you attain a feel for a more personalized target area. Consider your drive a successful one if the ball does not come off the back wall very hard, or pop off the side wall any more anterior than near the three-quarter court mark.

By noting Fig. 10, you can see that overheads (except the ceiling balls) are low percentage. Furthermore, the kill is the least controllable of the three overheads (kill, drive and ceiling), the drive is next in line in degree of difficulty and the ceiling ball is the easiest to control. Hence if you are ever able to step back and take the ball knee high then do so, instead of going with any overhead. If this short retreat is not feasible (e.g. the back wall may hamper one's reversal), then go to the

ceiling. Employ an occasional overhead drive as an unexpected change-of-pace weapon, and abandon the overhead kill to more talented personages such as the Mule and the Brum or to the lesser talented hot doggers.

And in conclusion . . . the *backhand* overhead? Discount it before the next heartbeat sends racquetball-shaped hemocytes coursing throughout your blood system. Yes, the backhand overhead stroke from deep backhand back court for a cross-court reverse pinch roll off in the opposite right front corner is a distinct possibility. And yes, it is often employed as an attention (and point) getter by this author in tournament competition. However, do as I say and not as I do. This backhand overhead shot ranks practically zilch on the successful percentage scale, though it may register higher by a more ostentatious reading, Stick to the forehand overheads.

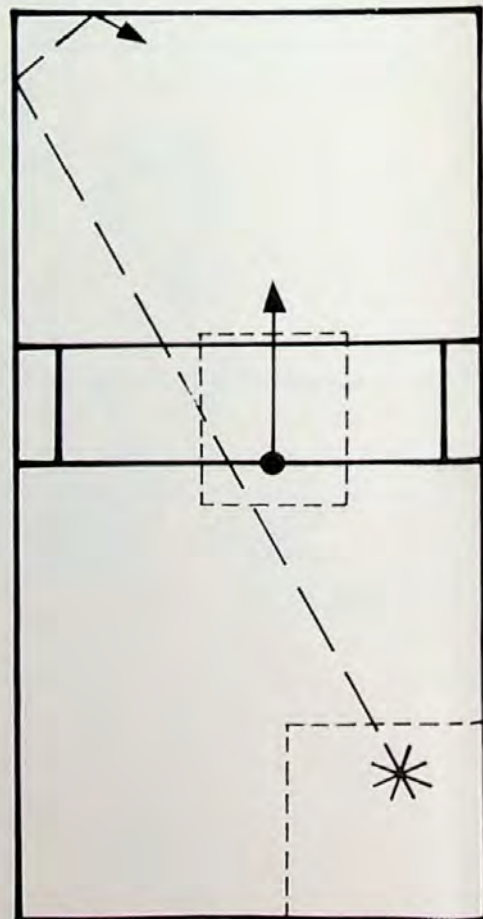


Fig. 10—Relative court positions of offensive and defensive players portray why the overhead kill is considered a low percentage shot.

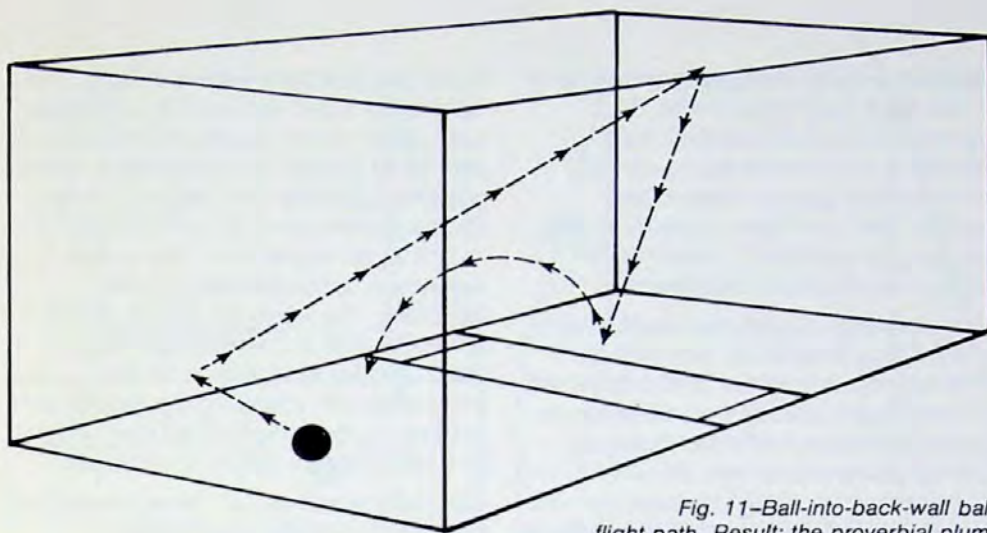


Fig. 11—Ball-into-back-wall ball flight path. Result: the proverbial plum.

Ball-Into-Back-Wall Ball

And it is on to an even less frequently utilized ruse, and fortunately so, the ball-into-back-wall ball.

Ball-into-back-wall ball?

A racquetball which a player blasts in a reverse direction than normal, that is directly into the *back wall*, is hereby appropriately designated the B.I.B.W. ball. The flight course of such a shot is diagramed in figure 11, and if for nothing else than the reader's personal edification, its execution is revealed in detail in figures 12 and 13. Looked them over? Immediately *reject* the B.I.B.W. ball in all but emergency situations; use it only when no other shot is possible.

This forementioned emergency situation usually occurs when a ball is accurately laced past a player and is not destined to carry all the way to the back wall for a rebound. The passed player's only recourse is a ball-into-back-wall ball. Assume the reader is that unfortunate passed player who is stationed in center court when, during the course of a rally, a ball floats out of reach past his backhand. It does not appear as though the stupid sphere will rebound off the back wall; you groan inwardly. You have little choice but to immediately turn in your



Fig. 12—The B.I.B.W. Ball on the return of serve.



Fig. 13—Backhand B.I.B.W. ball.

treads, chase down the fleeing orb, and once you catch up slam it forcefully into the back wall approximately five feet of the way up from the floor. The sphere should be struck into the rear court plaster with a slightly upward motion, after which the player should move both his racquet and himself out of the way of the instantaneous ricochet. The save on an otherwise passed shot has been made, for your ball will eventually reach the front wall.

Your hurried B.I.B.W. ball will sail high within the upper court strata after rebounding off the rear wall plaster, and will carry clear to the front wall without hitting the floor. The ball hits the front wall, takes a high, lazy bounce, and precipitates an easy set-up near the service box area. The receiver of this luscious plum will immediately shift his salivary glands into overdrive and attempt the routine put-away. Looks bad, but this is better than not even trying for the original passed ball in the first place.

The major reason this section on the B.I.B.W. ball is included in this book is to alert the reader to an erroneous practice which may be observed wherever neophytic duffers take racquet into fist. Frequently the greenhorn player lacks confidence and ability in his backhand play off the back wall. He is able to effectually handle the forehand back wall shots, but when it comes to that weaker backhand stroke in the left rear court corner, his is a highly retarded execution. Therefore, our player under critical examination, instead of enduring the perpetual chagrin or terminating his feeble backhand stroke with a tangled heap of dislocated appendages, chooses to fall into the ill-fated custom of spinning on his heels every time the ball speeds past his rotten backhand and

slambanging the thing with a forehand to the back wall (figure 12). This ball-into-back-wall practice soon evolves into an addiction and our misinformed player never does develop his backhand back wall play, though the remaining areas of his game may improve dramatically.

There are two sound pieces of advice to offer this individual. The first is obviously to break out of the B.I.B.W. groove. Begin at least to try to scamper toward the back wall and make an orthodox play on the ball. So what if you fail to make the return through correct back wall play? But, this will not happen if the second piece of advice is taken. Glance back to the drills for backhand back wall play in the November issue of *National Racquetball* and give them a few go-arounds until the ball-into-back-wall ball is merely a bad memory rather than a present malpractice.

That is how to hit the B.I.B.W. ball, when and when not to hit it, where it goes and why not to hit it. Something much more positive can be said about making the return or a shot. As soon as your scrambling rival sends the ball into the back wall on a note of ignorance or desperation, you should be on tippytoes and hustling your carcass toward front court to cover the B.I.B.W. ball. Your travels should almost parallel that of the ball with regard to speed and direction, as you and the sphere converge upon a common meeting point anterior to the service box. Now comes the matter of utmost importance: You must take the ball *on the volley* off the front wall. Do not allow it to strike the floor before contact is made. Furthermore, your fly shot taken

from this position near the front wall should be a *kill*. Actually it is an easily executed "poke" to either corner which hits fairly low on the front wall. Many players facilitate this ploy by aiming their kills into the side wall first, but this is not at all expedient. Once one becomes accomplished in the footwork, the ideal fly return of the B.I.B.W. ball is exceedingly hard to blow. (Refer to figure 1 for its execution.) In volleying the return, you will leave your disgruntled foe hanging in back court in acute muddlement.

Consider what would have transpired had you watched your rival's ball-into-back-wall ball float toward the front court, make contact and then leapfrog high into the air upon striking the floor. (i.e. Had you not taken the ball on the volley as described above.) Sure, you are presented with a routine set-up near the service box, as was admitted earlier, but in allowing the ball its huge floor rebound you have lost at least two precious seconds of "surprise attack" time. During this lapse your competitor will probably have made a catlike recovery from his reverse plunge in deep court and subsequently daddy long-legged his merry way anteriorly into favorable court position. He now has a decent opportunity to cover your next shot. You have blundered, so do not let it happen again . . . the next time you are hit a ball-into-back-wall ball, you had better react aggressively by stampeding up to administer a fly kill.

Notice the relative court positions of the offensive and defensive players in the diagrams. In figure 14 the offensive

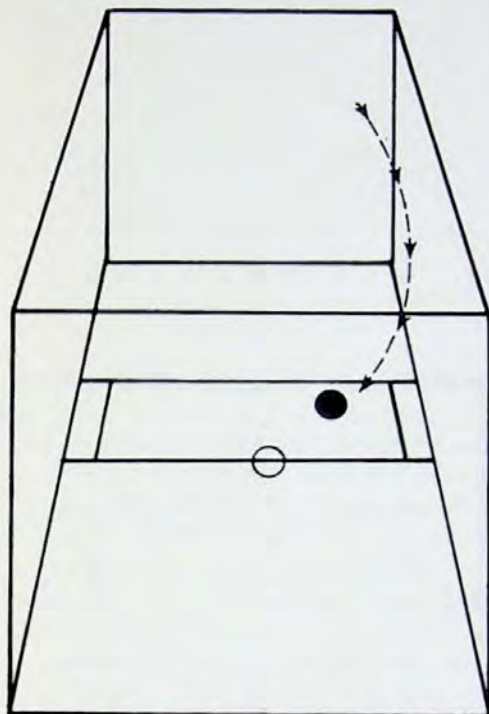


Fig. 14—Relative court positions when offensive player rushes ball to take it on the fly. It is a shorter kill and the defensive man is screened visually and physically.

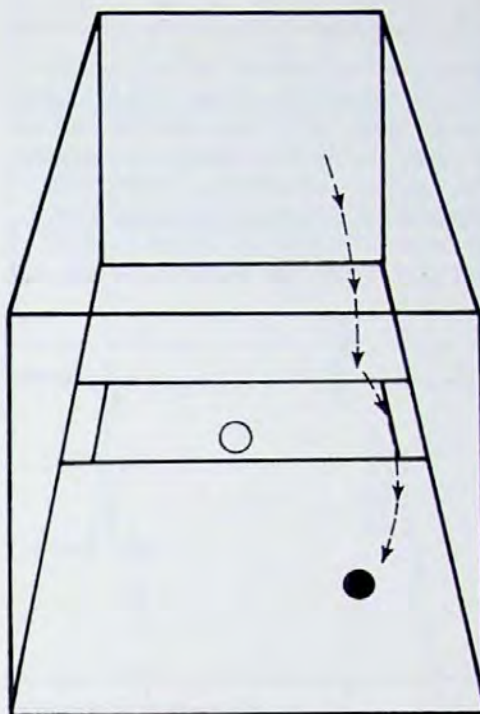


Fig. 15—Compare this to figure 14. Here the offensive player has allowed a potential volley shot to bounce to the floor. Though this is an easier shot with respect to technique, the defensive man has moved up to cover and is not screened out of play.

man has attacked the ball in midair with a volley, and in figure 15 he has wrongly let the ball bounce before swatting. In the latter example it can be seen that the defensive man has regrouped and regained a much superior court station.

The ball-into-back-wall ball need not be practiced; in fact, to do so would only encourage a bad habit.

To practice the fly return off the B.I.B.W. ball, simply work on the drills for the volley, listed earlier in this chapter. As an interesting alternative, with two persons involved, player "A" may hit a ball-into-back-wall ball to player "B," who is initially standing posterior to the second short line. "B" rushes the shot and pokes the ball into the near corner, as "A" attempts to cover the volley. After 10 or so of these actions, the players should switch roles.

The "other shots" — volley, half-volley, drop shot, overhead and B.I.B.W. ball — are frosting on the cake. A degree of recommendation has been given for each, and the reader may or may not choose to incorporate any or all of them into his personal game plan. ●

The Panel-Master Racquetball Court

- Wall Panels and Maple Flooring are Chemically Bonded to Masonry Receiving Surfaces in a Full Bed of Rubber
- Perfect Bounce — Walls and Floors
- Seamless Appearance — Sanded and Finished On-the-Job
- Absolutely Solid Surfaces

- Performance Guaranteed — Outstanding Durability
- Complete with Ceiling Panels and Polyguard Maple Floor
- Competent Full-service Engineering Consultation
- Lowest Life-cycle Cost
- Selected by the Largest Buyers in America



AMERICAN SPORTSURFACING CO., INC.

STRAFFORD OFFICE BUILDING #2 • WAYNE, PENNSYLVANIA 19087 • (215) 687-6356

"Wouldn't you rather call on a professional engineering group to build your courts?"

Basics For Beginners

If you are a beginner at the game of racquetball, or have played for only a short period of time, this article is written for you. It has been the experience of many teaching professionals that new players, men, women or children, who take either group or private lessons at a club, YMCA or other facility start to acquire needed fundamentals of the game right from the beginning. Conversely, players who participate in the sport for a period of months without instruction have a very difficult time in trying to correct bad habits. In short, it makes sense to start learning correct techniques from the onset of play rather than having to readjust poorly learned techniques later.

Go for the ace on your first serve.

Many beginners are content to simply put the ball in play after they win the serve. Observing good players indicates that they "go for it" on the first service attempt; they go for the crack on the sidewall with a hard drive serve or they go for the difficult return. (See Fig. #1) When your serve is accurate, you increase the chance of a weak return and, therefore, may shorten the ensuing volley, actually conserving energy and strength over the course of a long match for when you will really need it. If your first serve is a fault, use a safe serve on your second attempt.

When you are serving the same serve continuously, vary the speed to add to the difficulty of the return. No one can guess the speed of your serve in advance, although they may realize the spot where it will go. Most good servers have a few basic serves which they rely on depending upon who their opponent is. Perfect the basic drive, lob, and "Z" serves (See Fig. #2) before concerning yourself with intricate variations. Accuracy is more important than anything else.

It is a shame to see inexperienced players hustle and work their tails off to gain the serve, and then just put the ball in play once they get it. The serve is the most important shot of the rally, from it comes the style and trend of that rally. Use it to your advantage.

Look at your opponent before serving

Before you serve, glance back to see if your opponent is ready and observe where he has positioned himself for your next serve. Often he will tip you off

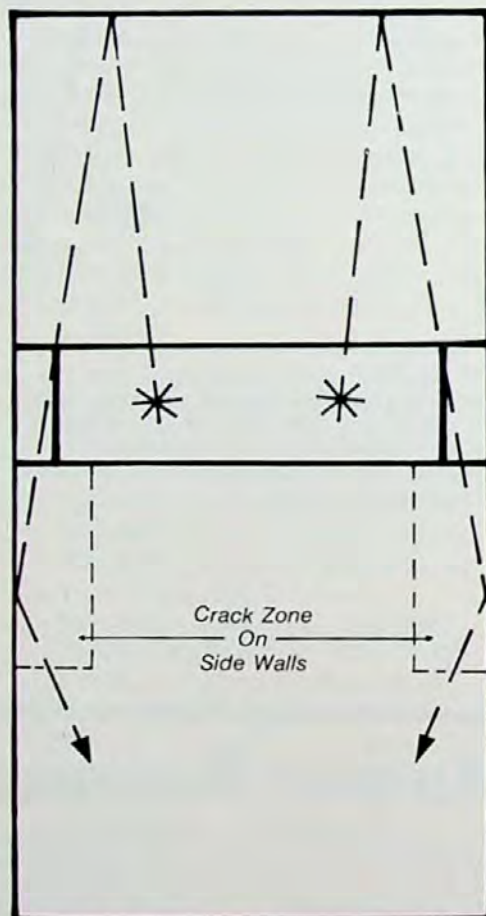


Fig. 1—Go for the crack on the drive serve. Attempt with a low hard stroke.

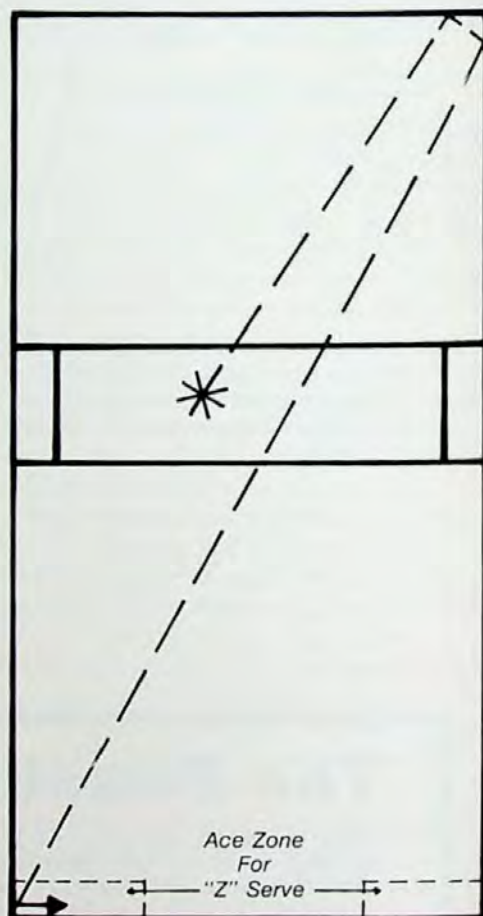
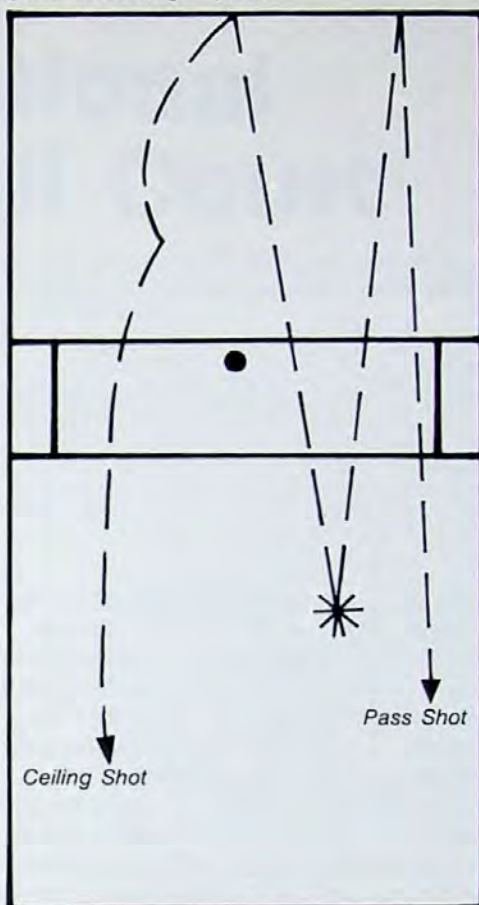


Fig. 2—Go for the ace on the "Z" serve by making the ball rebound parallel to the back wall.

Fig. 3—When your opponent is well in front of you, go for the ceiling or pass.



as to where he expects the next serve to go or can be caught anticipating a serve to the backhand side where most serves are directed. This may be your chance to score with an occasional serve to the forehand side.

The receiver of the serve may be standing deep or shallow in the back court giving you a cue to hit your serve just over the service line or deep into the corners. Your partner may also be getting fatigued and may show it in his facial expression, giving you the impetus to get those last few points to win the game.

Watching your opponent can serve as a means of freezing him into place and reduce the likelihood that he will cut off a lob serve in the air and put you, the server, on the defensive.

Shot selection — the proper choice

As a general rule, if your opponent is in front of you and has relatively good court position, return the ball to the ceiling or go for the pass shot. (See Fig. #3) In the early stages of game development this is sound practice for it decreases the risk of trying to put the ball low on the front wall when your opponent is in position to cover that particular shot.

When your opponent is in poor position deep in the court, return the ball on the front wall. You will decrease the chance of a good return on his part or any return at all. (See Fig. #4)

Concisely stated, if your opponent is in front of you, go to the ceiling; if he is behind you, go for the kill or attempt to place the ball low on the front wall.

Make use of your time outs

Most players do not know how to use time outs while playing a match. If you are playing strictly for conditioning, the need for time outs during a game may not be of any value. However, most players still enjoy winning even if they are only interested in the benefits of fun and relaxation. Simple breaks of 30 seconds can often provide the margin of victory and, of course, you are allowed three per game.

Time outs are usually most effective if you are having difficulty with the pace of the game, loss of concentration, or your playing partner is on a hot streak. In other words, he or she is doing everything right and you can barely hit the front wall. Do not wait until the score is 10-0 against you before calling a time out. Normally, if you fall behind 5-7 points at the start of the game, it's time to regroup before continuing. This same point spread anywhere during the course of the game would always be a safe time to stop the action and gather your thoughts.

It is often difficult to force yourself to take a time out during play simply due to stubbornness. I have seen friends of players on the court watching from the gallery recommend that the player take a time out. As spectators they are not involved in the game, and can be objective about advice like a coach. Therefore, this is usually sound advice, especially if they know your style of play. But usually the player will continue playing, thinking that a comeback will occur shortly and his fortunes will change. They rarely do.

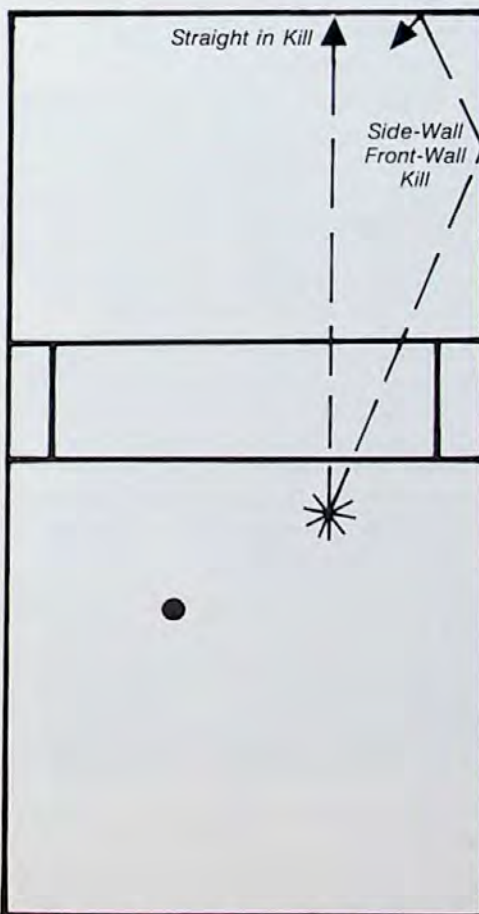


Fig. 4—When your opponent is out of position deep in the court, then it is safe to attempt a kill.

To combat this stubbornness or lack of clear thinking, many players take time outs at prescribed intervals. For example, they automatically call a time out when they reach 10, 15, and 20 points or when their opponent surges ahead by 5 points. This allows a player one less thing to think about during the course of play.

After a particularly long rally, if you are the player who suffered the most for it, fatigue probably has crept in briefly. As a general rule, if you feel that you are unable to effectively continue the next rally, take a time out. This is an especially good practice if you have just regained the serve. Why put the ball in play when you know you will more than likely immediately lose the serve back again?

Remember, good usage of time outs does not just apply to tournament play. They are applicable to casual play during the week, club ladders, club championships, league play, and special events.

Put your thoughts in order during a time out

In addition to catching your breath, there are several things to do during a break in the action. As Tim Gallwey suggests, concentrate on your breathing because your mind is temporarily excused from concentrating on the ball. Others suggest relaxing the mind, thinking positively about hitting good shots, practicing your strokes without striking the ball. Do not let your mind wander aimlessly. Changing a wet glove and toweling off is helpful to make you feel a

little more comfortable or changing into a clean dry shirt from a wet one can provide an added boost. In any case, when play resumes again, be ready to play hard and change the tide of the game if you are behind. A player who is ahead and playing well should not bother taking a time out unless he is very tired — keep the momentum going in your favor. Players each have three time outs per game and most never make the best use of them.

If you are ahead, don't play conservatively

Many players run up a big lead on their opponent only to see it vanish and the other player catch up and steal away the momentum of the game. When you have played well enough to earn a 5-7 point lead, feel free to gamble. This is especially true when your score has passed the 10-15 point range.

This does not mean you should not be patient enough to wait for a good shot. It does mean that the leader should not pass up any offensive opportunity which would allow his opponent to keep the ball in play. End the rally when your chance arises. Don't play too cautiously while ahead.

After playing for a long period of time and gaining experience in strategy, many players develop the ability to sense a letdown in their opponent's effort. They seize this opportunity to put the pressure on and give extra effort, hoping this will cause a weakening of the player who is in the lead. This ability gained through experience makes the player who never relents to a big lead the most dangerous opponent in the game. ●

Outstanding Location Available For Racquetball Court/Club

Zoned and Ready For Immediate Construction

120,000 Sq. Ft. suitable for 20 courts and 140 cars parking. Virgin territory, 500,000 population within 6 mile radius and no existing facilities within 25 miles.

In the heart of Westchester County, New York with one of the highest per capita incomes in the United States, a once in a lifetime opportunity exists.

Land can be net leased to experienced, successful operator or purchased.

**For information —
Edward E. Klein, Owner
914-769-4800
109 Old Farm Road,
Pleasantville, N.Y. 10570**

An Instructional Racquetball Court

Club manager/pro Len Sporman instructs a group of players on his marked instructional court. Lessons have picked up, non-prime time court sales have increased, and players are getting more out of their lessons.

Racquetball is still in its infant stages. This means that most people that join court clubs today have never held a racquet. Of course, management's main concern is to book as much permanent court time as possible; however, before this can be accomplished, we are all aware that we have to offer racquetball lessons, clinics, etc., to get the novice turned-on to the game.

As it is always stated at the National Court Club Association meetings, anyone can open a racquetball facility and immediately sell permanent court time during peak hours. It is also emphasized that the challenge is to book as much time as possible during the non-peak hours. The common procedure for clubs to utilize their courts more during these "off hours" is to have leagues, clinics, racquetball parties and of course offer lessons.

But are you really satisfied with the amount of "dead time" that is being used by your lesson program? One thing that hurts a club's lesson program is that most people take-up the game because they have heard it is easy to play. Of course, this is one of the main reasons for the game's booming popularity.

So why should a person bother spending the time and money for lessons since there is nothing to the game? I am sure that any avid racquetball player would agree that it is an easy game to learn, BUT, the more a person plays, the more he learns that there is more to the game than just hitting the ball to the front wall or always trying to overpower the opponent by driving the ball past him. There are skills to be learned.

What our club has done to promote our



The floor plan shows a rectangular room with the following features:

- Dimensions:**
 - Overall width: 10'
 - Overall depth: 6'
 - Top-left corner: 3' from the left wall and 3' from the top wall.
 - Top-right corner: 3' from the right wall.
 - Bottom-left corner: 1' from the left wall, 1' from the bottom wall, and 1' from the inner wall.
 - Bottom-right corner: 1' from the right wall, 1' from the bottom wall, and 1' from the inner wall.
 - Central vertical axis: 5' from the top wall to a horizontal line, and 10' from that line to the bottom wall.
- Labels:**
 - Z:** Located at the top-left, top-right, and bottom-right corners, and along the bottom wall.
 - A:** Located at the top-right corner, near the 3' dimension line.
 - X:** Located at the top center, near the 5' dimension line.
- Other Features:**
 - A central vertical line with a cross symbol at the top and a circle symbol at the bottom.
 - A horizontal line segment in the center, 5' from the top wall and 10' from the bottom wall.
 - A small square feature at the bottom-left corner.
 - A small square feature at the bottom-right corner.

The other designated marks on the court are: 1) a line three feet from the floor on the front wall (mainly used when teaching pass shots or again just the basic strokes); 2) targets for the four basic serves (see figure 1 for the different dimensions):

- a. 1 for the drive serve
- b. 2 for the "Z" ball serve
- c. X designating fifteen feet high for learning the lob serve
- d. +to indicate ten feet high when teaching the garbage serve

Before you make a rash judgment on taping-up one of your courts, consider

Our instructional court eliminates the word visualize. The student actually has a target designated on the wall to aim for. For example (notice picture), there is a blue one foot box in the front corners (one on the front wall and one

These designated kill shot target areas can also make your lessons more enjoyable. For example, after teaching the forehand grip and the basic forehand stroke, we have our students start out by standing on the right side of the court by the short line, just

the following responses that have occurred at our club since we started using this approach with lessons.

Many of our members who have played for quite awhile have watched a teaching session. After the class, many have approached the instructor and inquired about the marks around the court. The instructional court definitely arouses the curiosity and interest of the average racquetball player. After answering his questions, he definitely walks away realizing that there is more to racquetball than what he thought. Just by learning a couple of different serves, the importance of the ceiling game, the effectiveness of a "Z" ball, etc., can really improve one's game. If he does not sign up for your lessons, I will guarantee he will start reading more literature on racquetball.

One final comment made by a man who had learned on the instructional court caused me to have second thoughts about the court's value. He was having trouble adapting to the blank walls of the regular court. But he overcame this problem by visualizing his old marked targets. This second statement removed any doubts I may have had about the value of my instructional court.

When teaching any skill, we want to have whatever aids are available to help speed-up the learning process. The average novice has a hard enough time trying to remember the basic grips and strokes — especially when the drill calls for him to run over to an area, set up, and then hit the ball. Instead of just going through the motions and aiming for the front wall, try aiming to hit the wall at three feet and eventually try going for the one foot blue box.

One final thought to consider is that many clubs have had moisture problems causing a floor to slightly warp and some clubs experience problems when they expand and no one wants to use the old courts. You may be ashamed to show an old court to a prospective member or you may hate teaching your lessons in the dreary environment of an old court. Utilize this old, warped court by making

it an instructional court. This will make your lessons more enjoyable and worthwhile.

And this takes us full circle to the economical point where we started; that is, trying to get more members to utilize the courts during the non-peak hours. ●

Len Sporman
Omni-41
Health Club Manager
Schererville, Indiana

At last. A book on how to **WIN** at racquetball!



Write for your copy
of How to WIN
at Racquetball today.
And start winning more.

WIN
CAMELOT TOWERS,
Suite 204
1415 E. STATE ST.
ROCKFORD, ILL. 61108

ONLY
\$3.95

If you play to win . . . and not just to play the game . . . here's the book for you. From his own experience on the court, Dr. Victor Spear tells you about the strategies you can use to beat your opponent . . . even if he's a better player! His recipe for success is a skillful blend of planning, psychology, moxie, gamesmanship and physical conditioning. You'll learn about:

New Serves to Win
Turning a Loss Around
Winning Tired
Feet Watching
Dr.'s Conditioning Tips
The Master Psych
The Most Important Shot
in the Game

Beating a Shooter
Beating a Runner
Beating a Better Player
Traps
Hopeless Situation Moves
Tournament Strategy

. . . and More!

WIN
CAMELOT TOWERS, Suite 204
1415 E. STATE ST.
ROCKFORD, ILL. 61108

Of course I want to win! Please send _____ copy(ies)
of How to WIN at Racquetball @ \$3.95 ea., plus 50¢ for
shipping and handling.

Payment enclosed \$ _____
Name (Print) _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____

STATE NEWS

TERRY FANCHER

We are pleased to announce that plans have been finalized for the U.S.R.A. regionals. Eight tournament sites have been designated by our staff as hosts for the largest number of championships ever. Check this issue for complete information as to which region you reside in and where to send for entry blanks.

Our regional tournaments are scheduled to provide a continuation of competition from the many state and local tournaments which are held prior to the end of March. These events are provided to allow interstate competition for all age categories for both men and women.

However, the real purpose is to provide the players a chance to meet new people and make new friends within the sport as well as showcase top competition. We also plan to have a member of our staff or a Seamco representative attend every regional tournament to meet the players and provide assistance with the tournament.

We, of course, realize that the regionals are the nationals for many players, those who will not be able to attend the nationals. To them, it is probably the biggest tournament of the year. We always encourage as many players as possible to attend the nationals since everyone seems to rise to the occasion with fantastic play and yet still have plenty of time for rest and relaxation in the San Diego sun.

For those of you who have yet to play by the new U.S.R.A. rule changes and the 11 point tie-breaker, we trust that the careful thought and experimentation that preceeded the changes will be to your liking. The feedback to our headquarters has almost entirely been positive in nature. Most agree that the tie-breaker provides benefits for scheduling the ever increasing



numbers of tournament entries that are prevalent these days. The "sudden death" third game also provides spectators with the viewing of supreme effort and dramatic action in a short time period. It also saves the winners from possible injury and fatigue over the span of a tournament due to the previous long and exhaustive 21 point third game.

State Program

Our state programs are continuing their growth and participation at a rapid pace. The response to our program has been overwhelming. The support by the U.S.R.A. for tournament promotional materials and free Seamco racquetballs for state sanctioned tournaments is vastly increasing and our systems for delivery have been greatly improved. Requests for these materials and U.S.R.A. referee guidelines appear to be the most popular items. It is our goal to eventually have all of our state affiliates produce and distribute a newsletter to their members in the alternate months that *National Racquetball* is not published, to fill the void and to provide general information and news of upcoming state events in your area. We also plan to provide state chairman results of the pro tour and racquetball news to be printed in the state

newsletters. Not all states have newsletters but we hope eventually they all will.

A common complaint these days is that players are not aware of tournaments being held in their state or region. This can only be remedied by tournament directors notifying their state and national headquarters of upcoming events well in advance of tournament dates so that we can publish them in our magazine and the state chairmen can publish them in their newsletter.

For state sanctioned tournaments, state chairmen should notify me 90 days in advance of the tournament to ensure ball delivery orders and provide us time to mail out materials. We also ask that state chairmen who now publish a newsletter include all of our state chairmen in your mailing list regardless of area. In this way, new ideas and information can be presented.

In summary, it is our goal at the U.S.R.A. to provide as much assistance as possible to our state affiliates so they may have a successful and active state racquetball association. Our sincere thanks goes to the state affiliates both new and old, who have recognized our aim and have done so much already.

For those players who reside in states not yet represented by a U.S.R.A. affiliate, and wish to become active, please don't hesitate to drop me a line at U.S.R.A. headquarters. I will be happy to send you the state affiliate kit to get the ball rolling in your area.

And once again, let me remind all state personnel to continue to send in information and articles for publication in *National Racquetball*. The state section in our magazine is for you to share and relate ideas with other state people across the nation. We need your help if we are to successfully communicate with each other.

5 More States Affiliate With U.S.R.A.

Wyoming, Eastern New York, Indiana, Kansas and Maryland, — welcome aboard the U.S. Racquetball Association! The addition of these five states makes 35 the grand total at press time, of state organizations that have chosen to affiliate with the U.S.R.A.

"I'm sure that 1977 will see each and every one of the 50 states choose to affiliate with us," said Terry Fancher, the U.S.R.A.'s National Coordinator and head of the state organization program. "The package that we present to the states is so attractive, that affiliation can do nothing but help racquetball in each area."

If your state is not represented in the list of affiliates in this issue, and you wish to become involved, please contact Terry Fancher at U.S.R.A. headquarters.

Arkansas

Bob Blake
2201 Braden
Jacksonville 72076
501-982-6209

California

Dr. Chuck Hanna
3303 Ruffin Rd. #G
San Diego 92123
714-278-6342

Connecticut

George & Gerri Rudysz
239 Old Farms Rd., #102C
Avon 06001
203-677-6073

Florida

Frank Johnson
7501 N.W. 66th St
Miami 33166
305-925-8173

Idaho

Gary Wight
305 Balsam Dr.
Idaho Falls 83401
208-523-7517

Illinois

Tom Street, Alan Shetzer
570 East Higgins Rd.
Elk Grove Village 60007
312-439-3030

Indiana

Robert Tildge
P.O. Box 1792
South Bend 46624
219-287-3383

Iowa

Jerry Lucas
526 Eicher
Keokuk 52636
319-524-1651

Kansas

Steve Ray
10839 Woodward
Overland Park 66210
913-642-5220

Kentucky

David Fleischaker
628 Fincastle Bldg.
Louisville 40202
502-585-5369

Louisiana

Sanford Comeaux (acting)
P.O. Box 3644
Lafayette 70502
318-984-5753

Maine

Ken Astor, Kevin York
170 Rt. 1
Falmouth
207-781-4281

Maryland

Joe Williams
208 W. Pennsylvania Ave.
Towson 21204
301-821-0160

Massachusetts

Jim McConchie
Short Hill Rd.
Lincoln 01773
617-259-0468

Michigan

Judy Huhta
26400 W. 12 Mile Rd.
Southfield 48076
313-588-0249

Minnesota

Bob Adams, Sr.
7600 Park Lawn Ave.
Edina 55435
612-835-6515

Mississippi

Dr. C.T. Carley
213 Windsor
Starkville 39759
601-323-4915

Missouri

Ron York
1524 Lexington Ct.
Kansas City 64110
816-861-8624

Nebraska

R. W. Kincade
1025 Lamplighter Lane
Lincoln 68510
402-489-3419

Nevada

Dan Seaton
3727 Centennial Cir.
Las Vegas 89120
702-386-4011

New Jersey

Doug Clark
Linden Hill Apts. 534
Lindenwold 08021
609-627-4926

New Mexico

Gary Mazaroff
Route 9, Box 513
Albuquerque 87105
505-821-0536

New York (Eastern)

Tom Flannery
3A Alpine Dr.
Wappingers Falls 12590
201-845-9040

North &

South Carolina

Sonny Harmon
316 Huffman Hill Rd.
Burlington, NC 27215
919-227-1161

Oklahoma

Clayton Rahlfs
4127 S. Cincinnati
Tulsa 74105
918-749-9081

Oregon

Reed Fitkin
2372 Rockwood Ave.
Eugene 97405
503-687-8384

Pennsylvania

Jim Pruitt
304 Minor St.
Emmaus 18049
215-965-6645

Rhode Island

John Rosato,
Jerry Melandquo
3049 Pawtucket Ave.
East Providence 02918
401-277-2833

Texas

Dewey Strickland
201 Vanderpool
Houston 77024
713-868-3340

Vermont

Bill Burnett
Woodland Shores Tr. Pk.
Winooski 05404
802-863-5627

Virginia

Ed Remen
32 Penny Lane
Sterling 22170
703-430-2552

Washington

Douglas A. Wilson
5817 57 Ave., N.E.
Seattle 98105
206-623-4320 Ext. 31

Wisconsin

Bob Kennan
P.O. Box 203
Wales 53183
414-646-3607

Wyoming

Barbara Williams
YMCA-417 N. Jefferson
Sheridan 82801
307-674-7488

Huhta Takes Over In Michigan

The U.S. Racquetball Association takes pride in announcing a new state chairperson in Michigan, Ms. Judy Huhta, currently managing the Southfield Racquet Center.

Ms. Huhta has formed a committee with regional chairmen Dan Wood in Lansing and Gill Schmitt in Ypsilanti. Huhta replaces Chuck Guinther, who was not able to devote as much time as he wanted to the chores of state chairman due to business commitments.

Any further information regarding Michigan amateur racquetball can be obtained from Judy Huhta, 26400 W. 12 Mile Rd., Southfield, MI 48076; Dan Wood, 2808 S. Deerfield, Lansing, MI 48910; or Gil Schmitt, 2111 Golfside, Ypsilanti, MI 48197.

We Need Your Ideas

The U.S. Racquetball Association would again like to remind all state personnel to send in any articles or ideas that they feel would be of interest to their counterparts across the nation.

Articles on organization, membership drives, running tournaments, promotion, or raising funds would be of great help to local organizations in all parts of the country.

*"I'd like to emphasize that the states section in **National Racquetball** magazine is for the benefit of the state organizations," said Terry Fancher. "We need your help to continue to bring you worthwhile and needed information."*

Send any information to Terry at U.S.R.A. headquarters.

Classy Letterheads in Wisconsin

Bob Keenan, president of the Wisconsin Chapter of the U.S. Racquetball Association, reports that his new U.S.R.A.—Wisconsin letterheads have met with great approval from racquetballers in the Badger State.

The letterheads are an attractive reproduction of the U.S.R.A. letterhead with the name Wisconsin in bold letters just underneath the line which runs underneath the U.S.R.A. name. The stationery is in a light green.

"The main reason I used the U.S.R.A. logo," said Keenan, "was to emphasize that Wisconsin is indeed tied to, and affiliated with the national organization. I feel that our goals are one in the same with the national and by showcasing this fact, via our stationery, we further promote solidarity and unity."

The printing was done by a local instant printing firm at a cost of \$30 for 1000 each of letterheads and envelopes. Camera ready copy was supplied by Keenan to the printer who also printed the names of the State Committee members on the letterheads.

The entire job was done in 48 hours, and Keenan reports the new letterhead will be used for all mailings including the new newsletter planned to begin in January in Wisconsin.

Illinois Chairman Takes Post in Florida

Fred Blaess, five year president of the Illinois Racquetball Association, has resigned his post to take a new position with the Courtrooms Court Club in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

Blaess, who along with the U.S.R.A.'s Chuck Leve, helped organized the Illinois Association in 1971, has been the only president of that body. Tom Street, current Illinois secretary and an active Chicago racquetballer, will serve as acting president until new elections can be held this Spring.

The U.S. Racquetball Association and Illinois Racquetball Association would like to extend their congratulations to Fred on his new post, and with him and his family the greatest success.

Fred's interest and concern for racquetball was unending. It is our hope that he can help build the Florida racquetball program to the heights which he promoted our sport in Illinois.



●STORM MEADOWS ATHLETIC CLUB AT STEAMBOAT

The Steve Keeley Racquetball Ranch At Steamboat's Storm Meadows Athletic Club



Combine your racquetball learning experience with the luxuries of a refreshing mountain vacation.

1977 Summer Sessions

July 31-August 6 • August 7-13 • August 14-20 • August 21-27

Video tape analysis • Individualized instruction •
Court time with the pros • Films • Handicap Tournaments

COSTS

Camp—\$225.00; Room—Rates Start At \$46.00

Please Send Me Your Brochure Containing Complete Summer Racquetball Ranch Details.

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Clip And Mail To: The Steve Keeley Racquetball Ranch
Box 1566 • Steamboat Springs, Colorado 80477
Phone 303-879-3335

(303) 879-1036 Box 1566 Steamboat Springs, Colorado 80477

Slam! Crash! Racquetball!

Fans love the booming rowdy game, whose players dive through the air, bounce off the walls, bang into each other and collapse.

*From New York Times Magazine,
November 28, 1976.*

By Carll Tucker

Tennis doesn't give you enough exercise; squash does, but like the grand dukes and trans-Atlantic liners, it can't last, says national squash champion Victor Niederhoffer. The game for Americans to watch is racquetball. "In 10 years," he says, "it will be bigger than tennis." Indeed, a boom is already under way. Though no one in Brookline, Bronxville or Bryn Mawr may have ever seen racquetball—a rowdy child of big-city gyms—much of the rest of the country seems to have become addicted.

In Chicago, there are 30 new clubs, 10 under construction and 30 more being planned. Developers elsewhere are raising new facilities as fast as they can raise the capital. A new class of professional athletes has suddenly appeared, and professional-amateur tournaments are being held from Texas to Vermont. The game was invented in the 50's. By 1970, there were 100,000 players; by 1974, there were 750,000, and, according to a recent Nielsen survey, there are now 2.7 million eager, sweaty, well-exercised players of racquetball.

To understand what is happening, it is important to know what racquetball is not. First, it is not lawn tennis, court tennis, paddle tennis, table tennis, squash tennis, squash, paddle, paddleball, or racquets. Second, it is not a game that requires the most intricate of developed techniques. It demands less knowledge of strategy, patience or shot-making ability than other racquet sports.

In fact, the game is quite easy to learn—at least to learn to enjoy (as opposed to learning squash, for example, which is flirting with early madness). Two people, or two teams of two, play inside a room 40 feet long, 20 feet wide and 20 feet high, using a short, wide racquet that feels like little more than an extension of the arm. The light, pressurized rubber ball (2½

inches in diameter) bounces high enough that a beginner doesn't have to dive for it, and slowly enough that he or she can get to it. All a player has to do is make the ball hit any part of the front wall before it hits the floor, although it is allowed to hit the other walls or the ceiling on the way. Almost any bozo can hit a slow, high bouncing ball against a blank wall. Long rallies are fun and not uncommon, even among beginners.

The object is to maneuver your opponent out of position, moving the ball from one side of the court to the other, while you occupy the center. More than in other sports, what separates the winner from the loser is speed, stamina, strength and size.

Neiderhoffer, who in addition to being the national squash champion was also a quarterfinalist in the racquetball national championships last year, has already retired from tournament racquetball because of a combination of his age—he is 32—and a lack of players and facilities on a good part of the East Coast. But he remains enthusiastic about the game. "There aren't many other ways in which an older person can get exercise after college. Tennis is 80 percent waiting between points. There's no comparison, in terms of use of the body and enjoyment, between jogging and racquetball: One is exercise; the other, athletics. And squash is too difficult and intricate. Americans want to make the least effort for the most results."

I wanted to try it, being an avid amateur squash, tennis and paddle player. Though hardly Bobby Riggs, I challenged the national professional women's champion—40-year-old Peggy Steding of Odessa, Tex., an unbeatable anomaly in a sport in which 30 is considered old among champions. She let me serve first. I was instructed that I ought either to

serve hard and low along either side wall forcing her to chase the ball, or lob softly to the back wall, pushing her back. I did neither. But after a few tries, I did manage to serve legally, and to retrieve a number of her shots. I even won two consecutive rallies. (As in volleyball or handball, you must have been the server to win the point.) She won 11 to 1. (Was my 1 a courtesy point? They are noted for good manners in Odessa.) Nevertheless, after only 20 minutes on the court, I did not really feel lost or bewildered, as one so often does in a new game. A tournament match is two games out of three—the first two to 21 (you can win by one point); the third, to 11.

The inventor of this relatively easy but fast-moving sport was Joe Sobek, a squash and tennis pro at the Greenwich, Conn., Y.M.C.A., who wondered whether the game called paddleball—played in a handball court with a wooden paddle and a soft rubber ball—would not be more entertaining and better exercise if a zippier, strung racket were used instead. He tried this, and it was. The game grew slowly, at first, in the country's 50,000 handball courts, which were, for the most part, in Y.M.C.A.'s and Y.M.H.A.'s. Then in 1968, a group of players met in Milwaukee and decided to form an association to standardize rules, publish a magazine and promote the sport. Since racquetball was played on the standard handball court, the group asked the president of the U.S. Handball Association, Bob Kendler, a multimillionaire from Lake Forest, Ill., to take on the promotion assignment.

Kendler, the winner of five national doubles handball championships and a man of intimidatingly authoritarian effectiveness, thought racquetball a sissy sport. But, believing in its potential he agreed. First, he persuaded Seamco Sporting Goods Company to design and market an

official ball, guaranteeing that if the company failed to sell 240,000 in the first two years, he would make up the difference with his own money. In return, to help finance the game's promotion, the International Racquetball Association would receive \$1 in royalties on each dozen balls sold.

Although he later resigned from the association after a falling out with its board of directors, he remains the dominant force in the game. He formed what is now the rival and more powerful National Racquetball Club, and began organizing pro tours. Kendler hopes to buy network time to televise the national championships in June, and plans to promote the game abroad, particularly in Ireland, because of its large number of handball courts.

Another 1968 event that worked to the advantage of racquetball was the Federal Government's cutback in aerospace contracts. It left Leach Industries of San Diego, Calif., with a crew of engineers and nothing to produce. They developed several types of plastic and aluminum racquets that were more flexible than their wooden or aluminum predecessors, and they now produce 75 percent of the racquetball racquets sold. They also provide half the prize money and sponsor seven of the 10 top players on Kendler's pro tour.

When racquetball was played at the local Y, it was a game for the exercise nuts and "gym rats." It lacked snob appeal. But with the introduction of public racquetball clubs, its promoters began eyeing the market that made indoor tennis boom from 1969 to 1975. It offers several advantages to the entrepreneur: The court requires one-sixth the space of a tennis court, and costs half as much to build (\$70,000 versus \$150,000). And

compared with tennis sheds, those triumphs of architectural tedium, racquetball courts present relatively few zoning problems.

Yet expansion is not without its difficulties. Allan G. Schwartz, president of Tennis Corporation of America, the country's largest chain of indoor-tennis clubs, and a recent builder of three racquetball clubs, says, *"As it was in bowling, there will be a severe overbuilding in racquetball, very soon—then shakedown and survival of the fittest."*

One problem is that, so far, racquetball has failed to attract women aged 35 to 50—a group another developer calls the "yummy mummies"—who have been the key to the success of indoor tennis. Even though the game has moved out of the local gym, it is still a sweaty, vigorous game, and, so far, still lacks chic.

"There is not the attraction of dressing up in racquetball as in tennis," Schwartz says. *"Socially aspiring women are not comfortable with the noisy, hairy, beer-drinking salesmen they'd be sharing the clubs with."* Furthermore, there is some danger to people who are not properly trained to the game's safety rules.

Racquetball is supported by younger, more active women, who have less money to spend at the clubs than their older tennis counterparts. Still, the promoters believe, some of the older group can be brought into the game.

Schwartz has made studies indicating that 10 to 15 percent of today's tennis players will switch to racquetball, in locations where both are offered. But because of the different social backgrounds of the two sports, it may be a mistake to build the two sorts of facilities side by side.

"One club owner even added separate entrances and locker rooms

for racquetball and tennis players," Schwartz said.

Until 1973, when the first prize-money tournament was held in Houston, racquetball pros did not exist. The game is still not the most lucrative of occupations. But it is beginning to provide a modest wage to a growing number of players. (Seamco and Leach will have put up a total of \$120,000 this year in prize money for the 12 N.R.C. pro tournaments.)

The current and four-time national champion is a noisy, arrogant, sly, good-humored showman named Charlie Brumfield. With trimmed beard and mustache, Charlie preens and gloats and glares and rants at the referee, linesmen and opponents like an operatic Satan. He candidly admits to the intention of frightening everybody, including the crowd, into reacting in his favor.

"I am at all times looking for that opportunity within the rules to infuriate my opponent to the point where he can't play as well as he'd like to."

He belittles all contenders, especially their intellectual abilities, but like Muhammad Ali, Brumfield—at 28—is slowing down and he is getting beaten. In fact, this fall he has yet to win a professional tournament. A nonpracticing lawyer, he talks more these days about how he'll make a living after he retires.

"My ability to communicate will make me more money than these other guys will ever see," he proclaims. "Like Marty's the kind of guy, if he didn't know how to serve and shoot (hit), he'd be selling tacos."

Marty is Marty Hogan, an 18-year-old from St. Louis, Mo. (The Jewish Community Centers Association, of

which he is a member, has produced five of the current top 12 players.) Marty is everybody's bad boy, a tousled pouter, a thrower of tantrums and a gloating winner. More to the point, he hits the ball harder than anyone in the game's brief history.

In this year's finals of the New England professional-amateur tournament held at the Court Club in Burlington, Vt., Brumfield, the top seed, met Hogan, the second seed. Their career record was 3 for Brumfield, 2 for Hogan. Would brains and tactics defeat power?

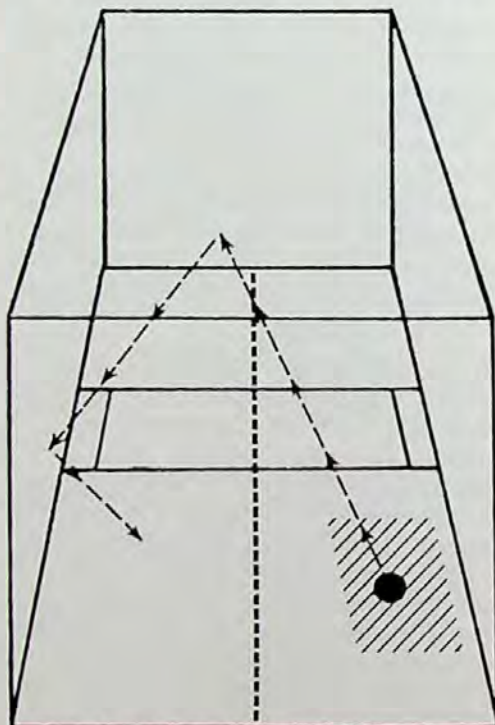
To a spectator, racquetball may be the most exciting of all the racquet sports. The action is faster, even than squash, in which the ball moves rapidly enough but the players nudge each other on and off the "T" position and hardly seem to move at all. In racquetball, there is a constant chasing down of the balls ricocheting off walls; there are

players bumping into each other, diving through the air, slamming against partitions and collapsing on the floor. The walls in exhibition courts are now commonly made of heavy glass, and, since the spectators sit closer to the action than they do in any other sport, they can see the subtlest facial expressions and almost feel the pain when the players crash. And there is continuous dialogue between players and referee—objections, appeals, arguments, shouting. Kendler vows that he is going to rid the sport of this roller-derby rowdiness, yet, as both Brumfield and Hogan instinctively recognize, a certain amount of histrionics dramatizes the contest. Let the spectators screech and hate, as long as they're there.

In the first game of the Brumfield-Hogan encounter, Hogan blew Brumfield off the court. His shots were like lasers streaking close to the floor, then hitting the crack between front wall and side, and rolling hopelessly out without a bounce (the most difficult and desirable shot). In the second game, Brumfield took the lead, 15-8, with diving gets, aces, drop shots and passing shots, but he couldn't hold on.

"When Marty's serving like that, there's nothing you can do," he said, but he's still planning to beat him in the nationals in June. "I've got to be completely obnoxious."

Racquetball is no longer a fad. This year, Seamco has sold six million balls at \$1.50 apiece, and there are now 15,000 new courts in this country. In fact, it is doing so well that it may even sweep into staid old New York, Boston, or even Philadelphia, as it already has in Southern California, Chicago, Minneapolis and St. Paul. ●



Racquetball court and difficult-to-return, wide-angled shot.

More of the Keeleyism Glossary

Author-player Keeley is a frequent contributor to *National Racquetball*. His humor and wit speak for themselves.

Ace—Miss-hit serve.

Anticipation—The art of running to where you opponent is going to hit the ball just before *he* figures out where he is going to hit it.

Ball Mark—A reminder that you should move next time.

Bullseye—A spot on the front wall which you select after you hit it.

Coin Toss—The most predictable part of a novice match.

Doubles—A catastrophic mutation of the real game.

Error—Integral part of a beginners game plan.

Expert—Guy who can complicate the hell out of the backhand grip.

Fishbowl—A glass-walled court in the racquetball vernacular. Synonym: Through the looking plexiglass.

Front wall—Depends on which way you're facing.

Glove—A hand shoe which aids walking on racquet handles.

God's Will—The impossible shot made possible, only in crucial situations.

Good Loser—Player adept at convincing others that he enjoys being beaten.

Handball—Unnatural form of racquetball.

Headband—Keeps errant hair and sweat out of player's eyes, thus preventing many fine shots.

Honesty—Some racquetball players main handicap.

Racquetball (the ball)—An upholstered pocket of air.

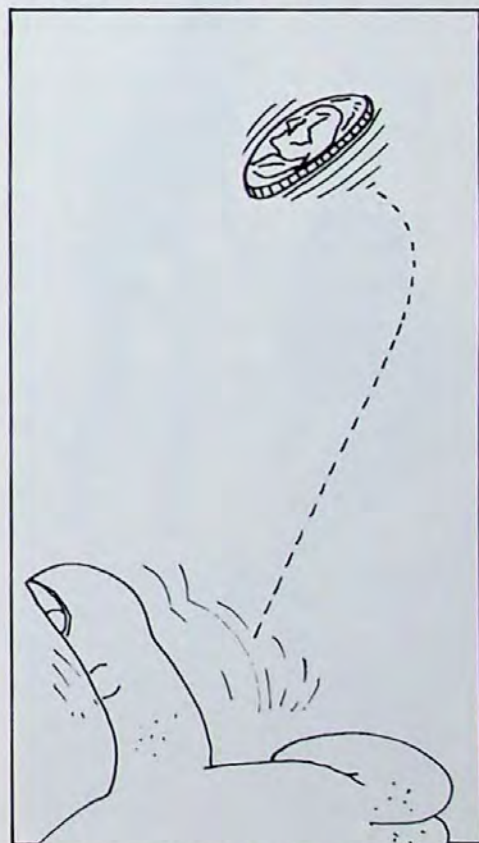
Racquetball (the game)—A sweaty game of chess accomplished mostly on foot.

Racquetball (player)—A tennis player with lungs.

Skip Ball—An underground kill shot.

Time Out—A 30 second furlough from sweat.

Zelma—Only known force which can play god's Will even. ●



The most predictable part of a novice match.

Stewardess League A Big Success

By Ivan Fuldauer

After-nearly a year in a slow growth holding pattern, the airline stewardess league at Mid-Town Court House, Chicago, is ready to go supersonic.

With more than 5,000 stewardesses domiciled throughout the city and suburbs, Turk Glazebrook, Mid-Town's manager, and Chuck Sheftel, the club's head teaching pro who was recently appointed director of racquetball for the five-club Court House group, reasoned last January that there must be a vast, untapped market of girls eager to fill their daytime, non-flying hours with a form of structured competition convenient to their flight schedules.

Two stews, Joni Swenson, United, and American's Peggy McAleer, who frequented the club regularly from the day Mid-Town opened its doors in September, 1975, were running out of opponents of equal ability. When Glazebrook and Sheftel approached them, the girls became enthusiastic about the program's concept. With their help and the aid of the public relations departments of the airlines serving Chicago's O'Hare International Airport, Mid-Town distributed attractive announcement brochures and posters. More than 40 girls—all from Chicago's Near North, the area served by Mid-Town—enrolled in the initial league. The second three-month session, last summer, saw an enrollment jump to 60 girls. The current league, the third, has 80 girls playing. There is a waiting list for the fourth session scheduled to begin in February. Glazebrook anticipates more than 120 participants. Most of the major airlines—American, United, Delta, Continental, Eastern, Northwest—serving Chicago are represented.

As an off-shoot of Mid-Town's league play, many of the girls take their racquetball equipment with them whenever they have flights to Seattle, San Diego, San Francisco, Cleveland, Boston and other cities where the sport is popular and courts readily accessible.

John S. Wineman, Jr., a principal of The Court House Sports Clubs, Inc., says, "the league provides fun and exciting competition for the girls. It's good for Mid-Town and great for our members."

"We'd be interested in cooperating with club owners in other cities where there are large numbers of stewardesses domiciled to start an

inter-city league. It would be an added incentive for our league and a great way to promote the game nationally."

Locally, Glazebrook and Sheftel agree that the program is ideal for Mid-Town because the girls play at non-prime hours, filling an often otherwise difficult period to sell."

"The girls know their flight schedules well enough in advance," Glazebrook says, "to permit them to arrange games a month or more in advance. That's great for us."

"We do lots of extra things for them. We post up-to-date standings, and we give each girl a brightly-colored stewardess league T-shirt when she enrolls."

Sheftel says that "no girl goes out on the court without at least a couple hours of lessons. We feel it's important that newcomers to racquetball know the strokes and strategy of the game. We always run two clinics at the beginning of each session."

The only added cost is \$5.00 per player to cover administrative costs, says Glazebrook.

United's Sheila Overcast, one of the top players in the league now, laughingly claims she originally joined Mid-Town because of "all the good looking guys," finds that racquetball keeps her fit, tones her muscles, particularly during the winter when she doesn't have the opportunity for outdoor sports. A novice less than a year ago, Sheila now plays three or four times a week. She competes in local tournaments. Her opponents consider her one of the best in the stewardess league.

Overcast plays whether she's in



Victoria Brown goes for a backhand kill against Carol Huff in the Mid-Town Court House Stewardess League. —Photo by Ivan Fuldauer

Chicago or laying over in Seattle, say, which she considers a great racquetball town. Interestingly, while her competition in Chicago is female, she plays mostly against men whenever she plays out of town.

Another, Diane Jurgens, also of United, who's just a beginner, has become so enthusiastic about the program that she has encouraged three friends to join Mid-Town, take

lessons, and become regulars in the stewardess league.

"Special interest groups," says Wineman, "have always been a good thing for us during off-hours. We have leagues for bartenders, waitresses, fireman and police officers. We're constantly seeking other groups. Any club can fill the prime time hours. But it takes a lot of imagination to fill the off-hours." ●



Sheila Overcast follows through with a forehand drive against Diane Jurgens in another league match.
—Photo by Ivan Fuldauer

Paramount INTRODUCES THE New

Sports TrainerTM

THE TOTAL GYM
PACKAGE IDEAL FOR
Racquetball Clubs

REASONS WHY SPORTSTRAINER IS BEST FOR YOUR CLUB . . .

LOWEST PRICES . . . now you can offer your members the most advanced health spa type equipment at factory-direct low prices.

MORE EXERCISE/FITNESS BENEFITS . . . to improve your member's game, appearance and overall health.

HIGHEST DOLLAR RETURNS . . . with no costly year after year overhead. Requires no instructors — completely self-programming. Compact for minimum space.

ADDS GLAMOUR . . . EXCITEMENT FOR CONDITIONING . . . Revolutionary design with Duo-FlexTM—the most advanced health spa conditioning system ever!

FREE PLANNING, CONSULTING SERVICES

Only Paramount Manufactures a Complete Line of Exercise Equipment at Factory-Direct Prices!

Paramount[®]
Health Equipment Corp.

3000 So. Santa Fe Avenue
Los Angeles, Calif. 90058

Write or Call Collect
for complete information

(213)583-2424

The Healthiest Office In Town

Racquetball is such a way of life for one Miami man that he built a racquetball court right into his office, with a picture window so others in the plush office can watch the action.

By Jo Werne
Home Furnishings Writer
From: The Miami Herald, Sunday, November 7, 1976



Harry Hahamovitch is an admitted racquetball nut. He plays the game every day. Often twice a day.

So when he was designing his firm's new building he incorporated a racquetball court. A tempered glass window between his office and the court allows him to watch friends whack the ball even if he's tied up on the phone.

He says with justifiable pride: *"There's no other court in the area like it."*

Hahamovitch, 35, is chairman of the board of S and H Construction Corp., industrial builders and developers, at 7827 NW 53rd St., Miami. His partner is Stewart Eisenberg who is not yet a convert to racquetball.

But Hahamovitch has plenty of company on the court.

"Friends drop over at lunch time to play and someone always comes over for a game after work," he said. *"It's relaxing and is a great way to stay in shape."*

"It's great having a court of your own because there's not always a public court available when you want to play. A lot of people spend money on boats, but the money I might have spent on a boat I put into the court."

Hahamovitch, who often works in game clothes, drew the basic plan for his unusual office, then had an architect draw the blueprints. He also chose the blue and brown color

scheme and designed some of the furniture. He worked his way through the University of Miami, where he was an accounting major, by doing interior design, he said.

The building comprised 7,000 square feet and the court measures 20 by 40 by 20 feet. The floor of the court consists of three layers — padding, tongue and groove plywood, and maple hard wood.

"The layers give some bounce to the floor so you don't hurt your shins when jumping," he explained.

Hahamovitch has five tons of cool air pumped into the court 24 hours a day to keep the moisture out of the floor and to make it comfortable for the vigorous players.

Folks who find the sport exhausting can watch a game in luxurious comfort on the other side of the window. Below the window is a sunken conversation pit in royal blue velvet topped with pillows in velvet and silk.

The office walls are presently covered in a neutral grass cloth, but Hahamovitch has ordered custom woven carpet for the walls. The carpet will be dark brown at the ceiling, blending to a fawn beige at the bottom.

The partners each have a large desk flanking the conversation pit. The conference table is also grand: a 10-foot slab of marble which Hahamovitch had shaped like a table top resting on an aluminum and mica base which he made himself.

A lover of comfort as much as he loves racquetball, Hahamovitch was generous with his fellow aficionados when designing his office. He included a swank shower and changing room and keeps a supply of extra shirts, shorts and racquets for anyone dropping in for a game.

His own shower room includes a washer and dryer and a closet containing enough clothes to outfit a tournament of players. He also has a kitchenette and bar in his office.

Hahamovitch, whose mid-30s age permits him to play in the senior division of state racquetball tournaments, credits racquetball for his good health. *"Ten years ago I weighed 216 pounds,"* said the executive, who tops off at six feet. *"Now I weigh 162 pounds."*

Other tycoons Hahamovitch's age might be in the habit of heading for a bar right after work. Hahamovitch thinks his routine is healthier: a game of racquetball from 5 to 7 p.m., a shower, THEN a drink with friends in his office.

By the time he heads for dinner or home, he's rested and has missed the rush hour traffic. (Home, he admits, is a small apartment not nearly as comfortable as his office.)

"Since 1969 I've had a desire to build this," he gestured toward the court where two friends were already into a fast game at 4:30 p.m. *"I enjoy seeing people exercise and having fun. I call the game 'nature's tranquilizer'."* ●

National Racquetball

EXTRA!

General News

Pro-Celebrity Raises Funds in Heart Association Benefit

Over \$1,800 was raised for the Chicago Heart Association through a hard fought racquetball tournament which saw finalists, Heisman Trophy winner Gary Beban, Northbrook, teamed with pro racquetballer, Fred Bluess from Schaumburg Court House, succumb to racquetball pro, Ray Anderson, Northbrook Court House, and WIND-Radio's Dave Baum, Wilmette. It was Baum's kill shot that clinched first place honors for the pro/celebrity team.

This racquetball tournament, hosted by the Mid-Town Court House to benefit the Chicago Heart Association, brought 16 celebrities together with 16 area pros for an afternoon of competition and heart healthy exercise.

John Wineman, co-owner of Mid-Town Court House emphasized the natural tie-in with heart health and exercise. "More men and women are involved in racquetball today than ever before," he said. "They are realizing the need for abandoning the

sedentary life style and use racquetball as a means of getting exercise which can help condition the heart."

A sizable crowd of racquetball enthusiasts turned out to watch the tournament which featured models Terri D'Ancona and Dori Wilson, Playmate Bridgett Rollins,

WMAQ-TV's Bob Smith and Jerry G. Bishop, WBBM-TV's Irene Rodriguez, former Bears Ron Bull and Mike Pyle, WLS-TV's Chris Elizalde, Heisman Trophy winner Gary Beban and WIND-Radio personality Dave Baum.

Area racquetball pros participating in the tournament include: Ray Anderson representing the Northbrook Court House, Sue Carow representing the O'Hare Racquet Club, Phil Klintworth representing the Arlington Heights Court House, Jim Klauber rep-



representing the Cove Courts, Ron Rubenstein representing Illinois Center Racquet Club, Chuck Sheftel representing the Mid-Town Court House, Lee Duda representing the Evanston Court Club, Bob Szczecinski representing the Oak Brook Racquet

Club, John Vanderwel representing the Four Flags Court Club, Scott Hemphill representing the Skokie Court House, Jean Sauser representing the Sky Harbor Court Club, Fred Blaess representing the Schaumburg Court House, Dan Bertolucci

representing the Glass Courts, and Terry Fancher representing the U.S. Racquetball Association.

"It was a terrific afternoon of racquetball," stated tournament coordinator Chuck Sheftel, head pro at Mid-

Town. "I had no idea there would be so many celebrities who were really good players. The level of competition was very high, and we're looking forward to next year's tournament."

World Record Broken For Youth

The old saying, "records are made to be broken" held true to form in Anderson, Indiana on July 27th, 1976.

A sincere young man by the name of Layne Scott set out to beat the existing racquetball record of 40 hours and 19 minutes, and success was his. He passed the old World Record with 45 hours and 14 minutes.

Layne achieved this feat at the Anderson YMCA, and the area outside the courts looked like a production from M.A.S.H. There was a cot, First Aid box, 8 quarts of Gator Ade, coolers of food, extra gym shoes, plenty of socks, lots of powder, and a

group of friends and spectators on hand to cheer and help.

Layne Scott did not break the record for glory or whatever recognition it brought him. How could anyone put their feet and hands through the hurt Layne did, just for recognition? Layne had a purpose in mind!

Layne Scott set out to break the World Record with many young people in mind. And it was these young people that kept Layne going when the going became almost unbearable.

The reason Layne did this was to raise money to send

young people to camp that would not have made it otherwise.

People in Anderson pledged this money, so much for each hour Layne went over the old World Record. This was the money that made it possible for these youngsters to have fun at camp.

Layne not only helped to send a child to camp, but he also helped the game of racquetball in the Anderson, Indiana area. People who watched or read about this feat decided to try the game. Many found it to be a game they enjoy at the YMCA.

I think you will agree that the

effort was as worthwhile as Layne did, for the money earned and to the game of racquetball. If you do agree, donations are still being taken for needy children. Send your check or money order (made out to the Anderson YMCA) to the following address:

Anderson YMCA
12th & Jackson St.
Anderson, IN 46016

Hopefully, this record will make it in the next edition of *Guinness World Book of Records*. They have been notified and were very interested.

Rick Muir

Wright Signs With Leach

Shannon Wright, one of racquetball's top-ranked women professional players, has joined the Leach advisory staff and will represent that company in tournament competition.

Charles Drake, sales director for Leach, the nation's largest manufacturer of racquetball racquets, said that Ms. Wright also will be involved in promoting the sport among women and also on a high-school and collegiate level.

"Shannon is one of racquetball's most talented players who has enjoyed major tournament success in the past and because of her outstanding skills figures to be a strong competitor for many years.

"She is a very pleasant young woman who is dedi-

cated to racquetball and wants to share her enthusiasm with others. Leach believes she will be an outstanding ambassador for the sport, helping the company to administer its educational programs among women throughout the country."

Ms. Wright, 20, usually is ranked no lower than second in tournament competition and occasionally enjoys the top-seed. The Dallas native has won pro stops in Denver, San Antonio, and Chattanooga. She was a finalist in Memphis, Peoria, Sacramento, St. Louis and the nationals last year in San Diego.

An all-sport star in high school, Ms. Wright was a top girls tennis player, winning the Ft. Worth junior cham-

pionship at age 14. She started playing racquetball three years ago at the invitation of a neighbor.

"I enjoy talking with women about racquetball. They relate to the sport immediately," she said. "Racquetball is easier to learn than tennis for a woman. And it's not nearly as frustrating. A woman discovers she can play an interesting racquetball match nearly immediately after she first plays the sport."

"I believe women are the key to the growth of the sport, especially on an amateur level. They have the time to make the local clubs flourish and they can have a definite influence on the development of racquetball as a family recreation.

"I'm also grateful that my association with Leach will give me the opportunity to promote racquetball in the high schools and colleges. I'd like to see the sport be treated just like tennis. That will come when young people realize what the sport can accomplish for them, that by playing racquetball they can do other things pretty good."

Other players on the Leach advisory and playing staff in addition to Ms. Wright include Charlie Brumfield, Marty Hogan, Richard Wagner, Steve Serot, Steve Keeley, Dave Bledsoe, Mike Zeitman, Ron Strom, John Lynch, and Jay Jones.

Youngster Yellen Making It In Michigan

Following a first place win in the Metro-Detroit Doubles tournament with Tom Brownlee last summer at the Southfield Athletic Club; first at the Troy Courts Open in Troy, Michigan in August; and first at the Racquetball Open, Livonia, Michigan in September, 16-year-old Michael Yellen, a junior at Southfield-Lathrup High School, captured the Michigan Super-16 Invitational Tournament at the Southfield A.C. October 29-31.

The Super-16 is an annual tournament pitting the foremost 16 players in Michigan against each other. Nationally ranked Gordon Kelly, Grand Rapids was the two-time defending champ, while Jim Santino, Lansing was two-time runner-up.

Also expected to do well was Gil Schmitt, former third place finisher in Illinois and semi-finalist in the U.S. Racquetball Association's 1976 Central Regional.

In the quarter-finals Yellen bested Schmitt 21-7, 21-7 and in the semi's Yellen defeated Santino 21-14, 21-16.

The youngster then moved to the championship match



where he met 25-year-old Bill Gottlieb, a veteran and well known amateur, who has over a dozen Midwest titles to his credit. Gottlieb had defeated top ranked

Kelly in the semi-finals 21-15, 21-17.

In a decidedly hard fought match, Yellen topped Gottlieb 21-8, 20-21, 11-3. The

Southfield A.C. was so crowded for the finals that the 1 p.m. starting time was moved to 2:30 to allow for crowd control.

Yellen started playing racquetball at the S.A.C. about two years ago when he went to work there after school with his two brothers. Both club pro Brownlee and Dr. Fred Lewerenz, a member of the S.A.C. and pro tour competitor, took Michael under their wings and taught him the basics.

Special coaching in Michigan and in Steamboat Springs by touring pro Steve Stran-demo polished his game.

Young Mike is next going to give the pro tour a shot, having gone as far as he can in his home state. We feel he has a long way to go, but we also feel he's come an awfully long way in a short period of time.

If you have any news about an up-and-coming racquetball youngster, whose play may have caught your eye, we'd like to hear about him or her. Send article and pictures to Editor, *National Racquetball*, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, IL 60076.

Keeley Opens Racquetball Camp

Steve Keeley, veteran racquetball professional and the sport's first successful author of an authentic instructional guide, next summer will conduct the popular summer racquetball camp in Steamboat Springs, Colo.

The four one-week sessions will be held at the Storm Meadows Athletic Club starting July 31 through Aug. 27. Keeley, who ranks second in all-time pro tour winnings, has authored *"The Complete Book of Racquetball,"* a comprehensive guide to

the sport for the novice and intermediate player.

A three-time national paddleball champion, Keeley has been a top-ranked racquetball player ever since he began playing. One of the most likeable players in the sport he's also respected for his all-out competitive style and all-court savvy. His back hand is rated the best in the game and his intense concentration is a model for other pros.

Keeley will be assisted in his camp by such outstanding

players as Marty Hogan, a finalist in the National Racquetball Club's national finals last year; Richard Wagner, rated among the top five players in the country; Dave Bledsoe, veteran pro and a major contender in pro events; and Shannon Wright, a women's finalist in the 1976 nationals.

The program at the clinic includes 15 hours of instruction, video tape analysis, lectures, films, special presentations and individual court time with the participating professionals.

In addition to its outstanding racquetball facilities, the Steve Keeley Steamboat Racquetball Camp offers activities for the entire family, including swimming, tennis, river rafting, horseback riding, fishing and golf.

For further information write Steve Keeley's Racquetball Camp, Storm Meadows Athletic Club, Box 1566, Steamboat Springs, Colorado 80477.

Prevent Eye Injury

One of the most common racquetball injuries—injury to the eye—is probably the easiest to prevent. It is one of the most common because it results directly from the inexperience of the novice player. It is the easiest to prevent because a qualified professional can teach any novice the techniques necessary to avoid injury and to improve one's game.

At our clubs, the first lesson always includes instruction not just about the basic rules and strokes, but also about

the proper and safe way to move on the court. In this first session, safety is paramount so that I instruct my students to direct their head and eyes almost completely at the front wall when moving out of the service box after the serve or moving about the court after hitting a shot. As my students become more acclimated to the court and the flow of the game, I begin to have them follow the ball with their eyes to the back of the court—stressing that the body and head turns

only slightly to follow the ball's flight and suggesting that the racquet functions as a screen through which the ball is seen and as a shield to block an opponent's shot directed near the face and eyes. At no time, however, do I permit a student to stare directly at a ball which is about to be struck by an opponent who is behind him.

All of us in the racquetball industry are excited about the enthusiastic growth of this great sport. We welcome

the influx of the new, but obviously inexperienced player. As racquetball professionals, however, we must accept the responsibility for providing a proper introduction to the safety techniques of the game. By producing players who understand and respect court safety, we will truly make the game more fun and rewarding for all our members.

Lee Duda
Head Pro

Evanston Court Club (Ill.)

Conditioning Expert Joins Newport Sporting House

Chuck Coker



Conditioning Expert

There's a story going around that Chuck Coker jogs five miles in the sand near his Huntington Harbor home... then swims to Catalina and back just to get started each morning.

The Catalina swim may be stretching it a bit, but the jogging isn't. Coker, a leading authority on physical fitness and the recently-named director of the new Sporting House here, believes in conditioning... some even think he invented it.

"Pain, torture, agony, stress, stamina, endurance, forti-

tude all suggest a facet of training and life itself that many people have never experienced," Coker has said. *"However, humans like iron, must be tested by fire to achieve superior quality or performance."*

But it isn't the pain, torture, or even agony he will be emphasizing at the Sporting House... it will be personalized conditioning programs for members to develop the idea that physical fitness is as natural as breathing... and fun to do.

"Daily conditioning not only builds champion athletes, but business and social champions as well. And it really doesn't have to be hard work," Coker said. *"At the Sporting House, we've developed personalized programs for men and women on the go... from the unique medical fitness evaluation... to a variety of conditioning and participation sports programs such as circuit training, swimming, jogging, racquetball or badminton."*

Of course, the Sporting House will also include com-

plete spa facilities for both men and women, saunas, jacuzzis and steam baths, he said. But it won't be just another club or spa. It will also be a place to meet and enjoy the company of friends.

The Newport Beach Sporting House is one of several exclusive clubs currently being completed by The Sporting Houses of America of San Diego. Other Sporting Houses are opening in Denver, Colorado, and Atlanta, Georgia, and more are planned in other key U.S. cities.

Coker, a Stanford University graduate, has an impressive background in the area of physical fitness and conditioning. As a national track coach, he toured with American teams and athletes to many international events. He has even conducted track clinics in Africa for the U.S. State Department. His overall coaching record includes more than 25 Olympic Medal winners, as well as many national and international record holders and champions.

He was the first to establish weight training as a physical education class in California schools, and is one of the leading authorities on weight training and nutrition for life-cycle performance.

Prior to joining the Newport Beach Sporting House, Coker was the President of Universal Athletic Sales in California. During his ten years with Universal, he was directly involved in the research, design, development and marketing of advanced weight training equipment.

"The Sporting house is a new concept in health and physical conditioning," Coker said. *"We're going to set the trends for natural fitness programs for the entire family... from working men and women on the go, to housewives and other family members... there'll be something for everyone at the Sporting House."*

Hogan Tops Lynch In Evergreen Park Exhibition

Top-ranked Marty Hogan defeated 14th ranked John Lynch in a well-attended and enjoyed exhibition match November 28 at the Evergreen Park Bath and Tennis Club.

Hogan, making the trip up from St. Louis, then teamed with Indianapolis' Camille McCarthy to knock off Lynch and Northbrook, Illinois' Jean Sauser in a mixed doubles match.

Hogan's win over Lynch was 21-16, 21-14, while the Hogan-McCarthy tandem stopped the Illinoisians 21-11, 21-7.

In the ladies singles exhibition McCarty and Sauser split two games, Camille capturing the first 21-20, and Jean taking the second 21-9.

A nearly-full house at the south suburban Evergreen Park club roared its approval at many stages of the day. The Evergreen Park facility, managed by pro handballer Vern Roberts, Jr., will be the site of the 1977 U.S.R.A. National Juniors Championships next July. The exhibition court has a full side wall and back wall of glass.

Welcome !!!

HARRY HAHAMOVITCH, who has built a racquetball court in his new office complex, welcomes travelling racquetballers to call him when in town to use his facility.

Harry, who is Chairman of the Board of S & H Construction Corp., the largest Industrial Builder/Developer in the South Florida area, specialized in industrial

facilities which include deluxe office accommodations, as can be evidenced by his own deluxe offices, complete with racquetball court, executive marble shower for after the games and, on the practical side, a warehouse for storage of machinery and tools for construction. Harry can be reached at (305) 592-1325.

Classified

COURT TESTED LIGHTING LAYOUTS



MORRIS KURTZON, INC.
1420 South Talmadge Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60608
Telephone (312) 277-2121

Shockproof and Impact Resistant Fixtures

Club Management Position Desired

Experienced. Pro Background: Total facility (pro shop, courts, pool, food & beverage, athletics, cardiovascular testing & programming. Business: budget & revenues. Contact: Mr. Phil Valaika, 77 Covina, Long Beach, CA 90803. Phone: 213-4382580.

Winning Racquetball by Arthur Shay with Chuck Leve, Henry Regnery Co., 180 North Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60601, \$4.95.

Art Shay, the author, is a superlative photographer, probably the best that has ever captured racquetball action on film. Several of his photographs have served on colorful covers for *National Racquetball* through the years as well as *Sports Illustrated*, *Time*, *Life* and other magazines.

He has extended these considerable talents to now include *Winning Racquetball* as the chief writer, with no loss in the quality of the product. The book is written in collaboration with Chuck Leve and is dedicated to Bob Kendler, who also contributes a thoughtful preface. Discarding the stiff style of most "how to" books makes it possible for the reader to glide over the pages instead of having to decipher them.

The instructional aspects of the book are divided into 10 chapters and an expressive essay at the conclusion featuring professional Marty Hogan at the New England Pro-Am in 1975. The basics are reviewed, of course, but there are some original chapters to entice the reader such as self-improvement, creative shooting, and talking to the pros.

One real strength of this book is the fact that the best players in the game contribute their ideas and they do not always agree. Therefore, the reader is permitted to choose and work out his own concepts of how best to play the game, being spared the boring approach of having one player only giving hard and fast facts on how racquetball is played.

Another aspect of this book which should always be included in a study of racquet-

ball is Chapter Eight, conditioning. Ideas and exercises on training are a must for any racquetball player, not because everyone will make use of them but simply because all players should be aware of the benefits. It is a fact that stretching and conditioning as a preparation for play will reduce the chance of injury and enhance a player's ability to attain peak performance.

Chapter 10 is entitled "a primer on using the rules" by Chuck Leve, who has observed at least an attempt at every possible means by the top players to reverse or alter the momentum of a match through the use of the rules. Leve describes how to make the most of the rules within legal boundaries to enhance a player's chances of winning.

It has been my experience that the average player has never read the rule book from cover to cover, nor does he understand what may or may not be done within the limits of the game. This is important from an offensive as well as a defensive posture because a player should be aware of what his opponent is legally capable of during a match.

The most obvious strengths of this book are two-fold: 1) the fact that this book is not just another instructional book but it stresses winning and excellence at all levels and 2) it contains the best racquetball pictures possible to compliment the written description. Being well written and professionally photographed, this book is a text as well as a work of art!

GUARANTEED UNBEATABLE

World Courts'
**HIGH DENSITY "MICC" PANEL
HIGH QUALITY COURT SYSTEM**

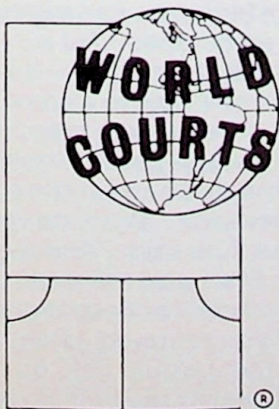
Shop And Compare Anywhere!

UNDER

\$4700

LOW DENSITY PANEL COURTS ARE EVEN LESS! AND BE SURE TO ASK
ABOUT OUR MULTI-COURT RATES! REMEMBER..... THERE ARE NO
HIDDEN CHARGES AT WORLD COURTS..... WE'LL TELL WHAT EVERY-
THING WILL COST RIGHT DOWN TO THE PENNY.....AND IN ADVANCE!

★ RACQUETBALL ★ HANDBALL ★ PADDLEBALL ★ SQUASH



A Total Court Package for Every Need!
For Further Details Call or Write:

WORLD COURTS INC.

554 MAIN STREET, DEPT. NR
S. WEYMOUTH, MASS. 02190
Phone (617) 337-0082



COURT CLUBS • AVON, CONNECTICUT

Connecticut's first exclusive racquetball club, Court House One will open its doors in Avon, Connecticut, during February.

Located six miles N.W. of Hartford, Connecticut, the club houses, 10 regulation racquetball courts, complete health club and exercise facilities, lounge and club house. Designed to bring together the finest playing facility with comfortable surroundings, Court House One also offers expert professional services and instruction for players of all levels.

Located in the mezzanine is the lounge area with glass wall viewing of the courts. Adjacent to the lounge area is the pro shop, fully stocked and carrying the finest lines of racquetball equipment and apparel.

The lower level houses complete locker room facilities for men and women. Each locker room has its own health club featuring private whirlpools, saunas, full lockers, hydro-massage showers and towel service.

The exercise room is complete with a

Universal Gym system and other exercise equipment for total physical fitness.

Other services available to club members are a complete supervised nursery, private party facilities and permanent lockers.

The club is located at 21 Waterville Road, Avon, CT. 06001. For information call George Rudysz, Manager Tel: (203) 677-6073 or 673-3551.



YOUR OLD RACKETBALL SHOES REBORN AGAIN !

FRESH TRACKS resoling by our highly skilled elves will put new life into your tired worn shoes.

Restoration of each shoe includes:

Replace old sole with **FRESH TRACKS** soling for new bounce and comfort.



Repair rips, tears in uppers.

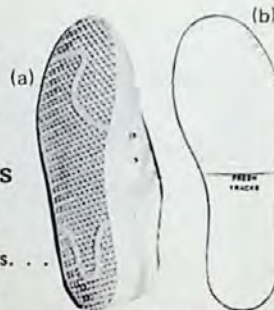
Replace missing eyelets
Add deep cushion insoles and arches, if needed.

Choice of **FRESH TRACKS** soling - (a) Nubbed, 'adidas' type 'grip the road' traction for quick starts and stops. (b) Lightweight 'treton' design. Good traction.

Enclosed are pairs for **FRESH TRACKS** soling at \$11.95 ea. pair (check or money order). Mastercharge/Bank Americard No. and Signature. I want (a) nubbed. or (b) 'treton' soles. Add \$1.25 for postage outside continental U.S.A.

Money Back Guarantee
Shipment One Week

NAME After **FRESH TRACKS** Restoration
ADDRESS
ZIP



FRESH TRACKS 27 West Rayburn Road, Millington, N.J. 07946

OMAHA, NEBRASKA

Racquetball of Omaha announces the opening of its first Racquetball/Handball facility in early February. The 10 court facility located at 67th and Grover in Omaha, is the first of several being built in the Midwest by the general partners of: Rodney Lindwall, Robert Lindwall, Rodger Lindwall, and Mark Hegg.

The \$600,000 complex will be one of the largest Racquetball/Handball facilities in the upper Midwest.

Racquetball of Omaha will feature spectator balconies over all 10 courts. A full glass side wall with seating on two floors will highlight the championship court. Other amenities include steam and sauna rooms, a combination exercise-weight room, and nursery. After play members may relax in the plush T.V. lounge or fix their favorite snack in the fully equipped kitchen. A large fully-stocked pro shop will be available to fulfill all racquetball/handball needs.

Manager/Pro Mark Hegg is putting primary emphasis on getting the entire family active. Programs include leagues for men, women, and juniors. Numerous free clinics are planned in conjunction with in-club tournaments. Club teams in juniors, women, and classed men are being formed to travel to neighboring clubs for a one day tournament exchange program. Response has been good in the formation of a league consisting of employee teams from various companies in the Omaha area. And if you still can't find a game, just call the club. They'll guarantee finding a game.

The first annual Racquetball of Omaha Open to be held in late February promises to bring to Omaha some of the finest racquetball players in the nation. Other local and regional tournaments are planned later in the year.

Charter membership sales have been going very well in regular memberships. Full play memberships are near capacity.

For additional tournament or membership information write: P.O. Box 14456, Omaha, NE. 68124.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Chicago's newest downtown facility has an exciting and refreshing concept in health and dining facilities — overlooking Michigan Avenue. The Michigan Avenue Club offers the maximum in ambience and comfort. Above Michigan Avenue, six racquetball courts, sauna, whirlpool, steam, massage, exercise facilities, meeting rooms, a fine catered luncheon club, a cocktail lounge. All in one place.

The Michigan Avenue Club will offer its membership a unique opportunity for mixing exercise, business, and a fine cuisine as well as a variety of other amenities seldom found in any single facility. Breakfast and luncheon meals are offered for daytime activities. If you enjoy refreshment after a fast game of racquetball or handball, the club offers bar service in the spacious locker room lounge as well as the bar lounge itself. For those interested in structured exercise programs, trained personnel will assist you in developing a fitness plan, or, work out at your own pace on professional exercise equipment.

Another feature for our sports fans is our elegantly appointed informal video-lounge. The Michigan Avenue Club has already developed an impressive tape library of sporting and special events for another look at everything from last week's Bears game or the Summer Olympics to *Gone With The Wind*. For those who must mix business with pleasure, we provide a conference room seating up to 15 for a private luncheon meeting. This area becomes a Game Room when not in use for conferences.

Whether it's for relaxation or recreation, or just a breakaway hour, The Michigan Avenue Club will provide the highest level of elegance with friendly attentive service. We want our club to be your club.

For additional information contact Stephen G. Hearn, director, 444 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611 or phone 312-644-5225.

TEMPE, ARIZONA

Doug Clark and Carl Porter, Jr., the key men in the development and operation of the highly successful Tucson Athletic Club have announced the beginning of construction of the Arizona Athletic Club, in Tempe.

The A.A.C. will have 14 courts, two of which will have glass side and back walls, with center glass between two courts. The club will be located in the highly visible HO-KO-KAM Shopping Center in Tempe.

Among the amenities of the Arizona Athletic Club will be a full exercise area and cardio-vascular program, plush men's and women's locker rooms, six outdoor tennis courts, jogging track, swimming pool, cocktail lounge, and barber shop.

The 40,000 square foot building is under construction by the C.W. Jackson Construction Company. Members of the Arizona A.C. will have reciprocal privileges with the Tucson Athletic Club.

Signed as a partner and to manage the facility is Mort Leve, former Executive Secretary of the U.S. Handball Association and current National Director of the National Court Club Association. Leve, and his son Jim, a graduate of Northern Illinois University, will manage the club.

Dave Graybill, former pro handball player, will handle the handball teaching position. Other positions are still to be filled. The club is scheduled to open in May.

Valley businessmen, Dave Cavan and Paul Ryberg have announced the opening early this spring of one of the nation's most modern and luxurious Racquetball and Handball clubs. The club will be located near downtown Scottsdale, with shopping centers and apartment complexes surrounding the area. This convenience concept is expected to bring more people to the game of racquetball by offering them the easy access to the recreational facility.

Aspen Courts will feature 15 professional quality indoor racquetball/handball courts, pro-shop, locker rooms, saunas, jacuzzi and exercise room. Designed with the recreational as well as the social aspect in mind, Aspen Courts will provide a friendly, relaxed atmosphere for the entire community.

The attraction of the lower level will be the spacious lounge and viewing area. First, the lounge area will provide an ideal meeting spot "before the game" or a good place to relax afterwards. Second, the area can be quickly converted into a spectator stadium with seating for 200, all facing right into 3 full-glass backed tournament courts. Each of these 3 courts will have glass from the floor up allowing unrestricted viewing.

Also on the lower level will be a fully stocked pro shop where you will find the finest racquetball and handball equipment, apparel and accessories. To round out your exercise, a carpeted exercise room, complete with Universal equipment, will be at the members disposal. Mother's will be pleased to know that a nurse's will be available also. Plenty of toys, games and a color T.V. will keep the little ones occupied while mom and dad get out on the courts for a fun workout.

The spacious upper level will have both men and women's carpeted locker rooms. Both will be fully outfitted to meet the members every need. Large size lockers and individual showers are standard equipment along with the sauna for a refreshing and exhilarating experience after the game. A co-ed jacuzzi - overlooking the three glass-backed courts will enable you to soothe those tired muscles while you watch the action below. A carpeted mezzanine between the other 12 courts opens up all of the action for spectator viewing.

Private or group instruction, clinics, tournaments and social events round out the active programs planned for Aspen Courts.

Aspen Courts will offer the people of

the Scottsdale area a place to enjoy America's fastest growing sport and a place to relax in a luxurious friendly atmosphere. With the unique design and effective management, the club will provide it's members the very best in facilities, services and amenities.

A special feature for members of Aspen Courts will be the private parties and special events on Saturday and Sunday nights. Members can plan their own special kind of evening as all facilities will be available for a fun filled evening.

Design of the 22,000 square foot building was done by Robert Fields of Robert Fields and Associates, Designers, of Scottsdale.

Membership rates will be \$45 per year for a family, including all children up to age 18; \$30 for an individual and \$15 for a junior up to the age of 18. An hourly court fee will range from \$2.50 to \$3.00. Memberships are now being accepted and will be filled on a first come first served basis as membership will be limited.

For information on memberships or answers to any questions, contact: Aspen Courts, P.O. Box 2634, Scottsdale, Az. 85252.



OVERLAND PARK, KANSAS

The first racquetball/handball club in the Kansas City area is scheduled to open in January, 1977 as Dale's Courts, 88th and Neiman Road, Overland Park, Kansas.

The private club, with nominal membership fees, will offer eight air-conditioned courts, a lounge area over-looking a glass-walled exhibition court, and baby sitting area.

The club will have clean, carpeted locker rooms with whirlpool baths in both the men's and women's locker rooms. There will be an exercise room with Universal gym, pro shop with all the latest in necessary equipment for both racquetball and handball, and a snack area adjoining the lounge.

Those responsible for Dale's Courts are owner Reg Lyerla, realtor Bert J. Truster, architect Frashier Miles and

the Mon-Mac Construction Company of Kansas City. Steve Ray is the manager.

The club will be open from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Sunday.

For further information about Dale's Courts contact Steve Ray at (913) 642-5220.



We Deliver!

We've got everything everybody needs for racquetball. **Marcraft** Apollo, Mignon and Tempo II racquets. **Seamco** #558 and #559 official racquetball balls. Plus shirts, shorts, shoes, socks, sweaters, jackets. The works.

We've been distributors of quality racquet sports equipment for over 40 years. We're the nation's largest full-line supplier.

Professionals and dealers can get it all from us, with same-day shipping service from our fully-stocked warehouses in Connecticut and Georgia.

Which means you can get it all from them. What you want, when you want it.

We keep things moving. We deliver. For the good of the game.

*Professionals and dealers
are invited to write for
our Fall-Winter catalog.*

MOODY®
SPORTS DIVISION

P.O. Box 13 • Milford, Connecticut 06460 • 203-878-1741
P.O. Box 44047 • Atlanta, Georgia 30336 • 404-696-2321

FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

"GET TOUGH! Don't give it to me; make me work for it! Burn it in there!"

Would you believe this is conversation which can be overheard in an office building? Well, after hours this is the general outburst overheard from the in-house racquetball court of Richard First, one of the primary initiators of The Courtrooms.

Racquetball/Handball/Health Club facility located in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

First has throughout his life participated in all types of sports activities but playing basketball ranked No. 1 of all. However, back in 1965 when his relatively young business was growing by leaps and bounds he found it increasingly difficult to take the time to round up a bunch of players, find a court and play. So, he built a half-court basketball facility adjoining his office. Now whenever time permitted he simply made a few calls to round up players or invited a visiting business man, to play one-on-one.

Over the next few years First was introduced to racquetball and immediately became addicted to the game. With some minor renovations the half-court basketball court was converted into a racquetball court. This

court became a mecca for visiting players from all over the country. Outside of the YMCA this was the only other place one could play racquetball in Southern Florida. Professional or amateur player found Richard First anxiously anticipating giving them a tour of his court. By the way, visitors arriving without proper attire had no problem in as much as the locker room adjoining First's court was well equipped with various sizes of shorts, shirts, and shoes.

With this background it comes with little surprise Richard First was the innovator of the Courtrooms of Fort Lauderdale. With not-so-minor renovations a warehouse at 940 N.W. 7th Terrace was converted into one of the most complete, luxurious health/handball/racquetball clubs in the country.

The facility has eight regulation handball-racquetball courts, with two more under construction, a half-court basketball court, a complete health and exercise room, completed men and women's locker rooms with whirlpools and saunas, pro shop, nursery, and one of the finest lounge areas to be found in any club where one may have a drink, sandwich, play pool, watch TV or just relax.

Since the Grand-Opening, the Courtrooms has been the center of racquetball activity in Southern Florida. The Club has hosted the State Racquetball Tournament, a members only Racquetball Tournament, and a few weeks ago the NRC-USRA Pro-Am with all the top players in racquetball participating. Combined, the club has had more than 500 entries in the three tournaments.

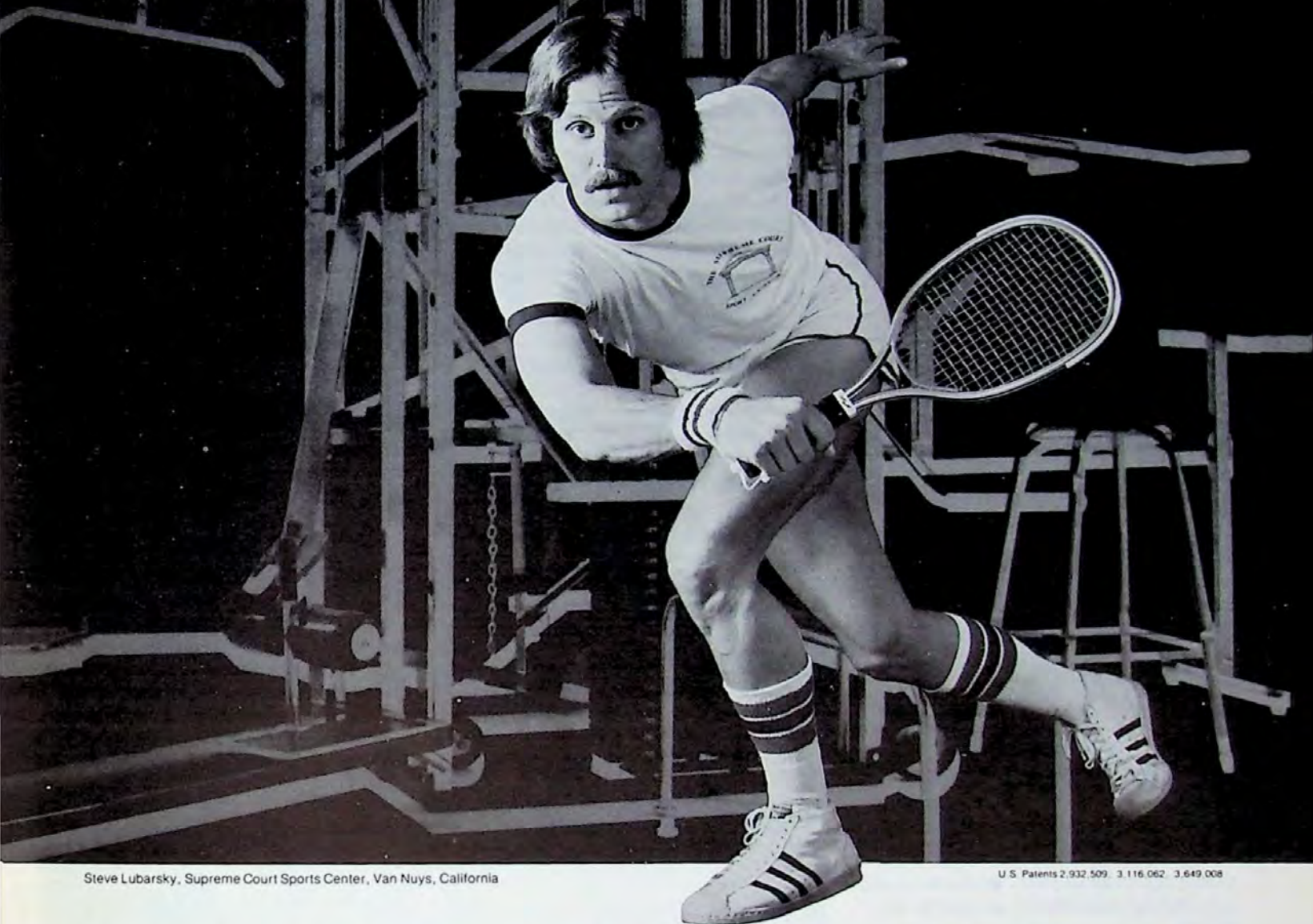
For the handball enthusiasts we will be hosting, and promoting their tournaments too.

The Courtrooms extends to all players (Racquetball or Handball) an invitation to visit us when visiting southern Florida. On your first visit here there will be no guest charges; in fact after your game please have a free glass of wine or beer on us. If you do not have a game please call us, we will be glad to arrange a game for you with one of our members or staff.

If you wish you may call us long distance-collect to reserve courts while you visit southern Florida. The Courtrooms, 940 N.W. Terrace, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33311. 305-764-8700.



Get more out of it.



Steve Lubarsky, Supreme Court Sports Center, Van Nuys, California

U.S. Patents 2,932,509, 3,116,062, 3,649,008

To play in top form you need to be in top condition. And when it comes to physical conditioning, the best racquetball players in the world are no different than champion athletes in other sports who rely on Universal Gym Equipment to achieve the optimum in developing strength, speed and endurance.

The proof of Universal's superiority can be found in the training facilities of thousands of college, university and professional teams. And in hundreds of health clubs, tennis and racquetball clubs as well as companies in business and industry throughout the nation.

We could tell you about endorsements from sports greats like Bill Russell, John McKay, George Allen, Barry Switzer, Larry Csonka, Nolan Ryan, Reggie Jackson and others.

But we'd rather show you how your club can provide as many as sixteen different exercise stations that can be used by sixteen people all at the same time, in only 300 square feet of space! When your club has more to offer, it stands out from all the rest. A Universal physical fitness center includes a conditioning program for every member of the family.

Get more out of racquetball by putting more into it.

Call or write today for a free facilities design and a cost estimate of a Universal fitness center for your club.

Call or write today for a free facilities design and a cost estimate of a Universal fitness center for your club.

Universal
GYM EQUIPMENT

17352 Von Karman Ave.,
Irvine, Ca. 92714 • (714) 751-2820
a subsidiary of FIRST NORTHWEST INDUSTRIES OF AMERICA, INC.



THE WORLD'S LARGEST MANUFACTURER OF PHYSICAL CONDITIONING SYSTEMS

© Universal Gym Equipment 1977

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

California

Santa Ana

Orange County Racquetball championships was a huge success. One-hundred and sixty-five of Orange County's best racquetball players gathered at Santana Courts Racquetball Club to find out which players in Orange County were tops. That proved to be very difficult. *"I have never seen so many games in a tournament end so close. There were more than just one winner in many of the closely contested events."*

In the Open Singles division, Tony Marti and Mike Alderson displayed tremendous rallies and kill shots. However, Tony Marti edged out the victory that ended with a standing ovation; 21-16, 12-21, 11-9.

Mens' B Singles was equally as close as Terry Keene outlasted Howard Wendall 21-18, 6-21, 11-7.

C Division - Gerry Long over Don Louchious 21-20, 21-8.

Mens' Novice - Randy Kuykendall overpowered Rick Lewis 21-7, 21-13.

Womens' C Singles - Laura Martino over Nancy Gick 144 points to 125 points. (round robin)

Womens' Novice - Cindy Moore over Sandy van Duyne 21-9, 21-12.

Mens' Senior singles (35 yrs. and over) - Keith Brubaker over Roger Kidd 144 points to 131 points. (round robin)

Mens' Masters (45 yrs. and over) - Bill Armstrong over Dick Kendall 21-19, 21-19.

B Doubles - Mike Alderson and Bob Elder over Jim Carson and Diane Heins 21-19, 21-13.

C Doubles - Vance Orand and Don Louchious over Pat Perryman and Glenn Gross 21-14, 21-17.

Juniors (17 yrs. and under) - Tom Neeson over Jim Hicks 15-21, 21-4, 11-6.

Los Angeles

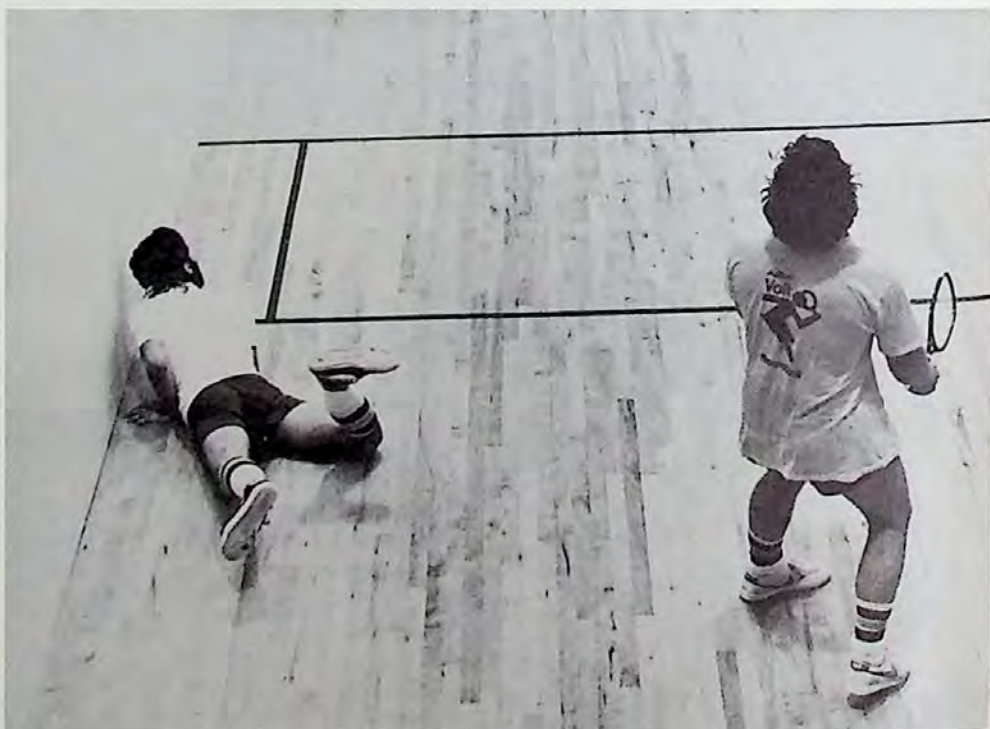
In a match pitting L.A.'s two top open players, Dr. Joel Scheinbaum won the A division finals of The Center Courts Challenge Ladder Tournament by outpsyching Mark Morrow in three games 21-14, 15-21, 11-7. Scheinbaum, in addition to winning the first place trophy, also carried away a Gucci belt. The belt was one of the 42 prizes valued at over \$850 awarded to the players in six divisions. Other prizes included radios, binoculars, camera, warm-up suit, racquets, t-shirts, vintage bottles of wine and port, and a blender. The six-month challenge Ladder Tournament for Center Courts members only began in February 1976 and ran until August 30, 1976. To qualify for the awards, each of the 119 participants was required to play at least six challenges with at least one challenge in each of the last two weeks.

The top six finalists as of August 30th entered a round robin during September. The Center Courts provided free beer, wine and snacks to the spectators while the top two remaining players in each of the six divisions met in the finals on Sunday, October 3rd.

In addition to the Scheinbaum-Morrow match, Rob Boriskin defeated Bernie Cromwell in the B Division and claimed a clock radio in addition to the trophy. Cromwell had to settle for a backgammon set. The C Division held two surprises with Milt Oberman beating Don Barenfeld and capturing the first spot he defended for most of his six months on the Ladder. In the Novice Division, Sandy Weingarten upset Dick Olive who held the top spot on the Novice Ladder during most of the contest. Sandy took home a portable radio and Dick a coffeemaker.

Kelly Radford held her lead in the Women's C Division and beat Leslie Tobin to win a Gucci purse. Leslie consoled herself with a Gucci wallet. Judy Cotterall also carries a Gucci purse, her prize for beating Pam Eyer in the women's Novice division.

After the final matches and the awarding of prizes and trophies, all courts opened as challenge courts owners Mike and Gary finally turned out the lights at 11:00 p.m.



Dr. Joel Scheinbaum watches his shot while Mark Morrow sets up for the return in the finals of the Open Division in the Center Courts Challenge Ladder Tournament.

-photo by Samantha Stephen

Manhattan Beach

The Third Annual Manhattan Athletic Club Racquetball Turkey Shoot held November 18-21, in Manhattan Beach, Cal. once again proved to be one of the most popular and competitive tournaments in California. Over 300 entrants from three states competed in 12 categories headed by a Men's Special Open Singles event which offered prize money to the top three finishers.

The tournament was played on the club's eight courts, two of which were glass championship exhibition courts with grandstands for spectators.

An all-star cast showed up for the money event making the draw look like a regular mid-season tour stop. The field included such names as Charlie Brumfield, Jerry Hilecher, Rich Wagner, Davey Bledsoe, Steve Keeley, Craig McCoy, Jay Jones, Jeff Bowman, and Steve Mondry.

As play got under way on Friday evening, the top 10 seeds all had byes, leaving the other 12 players to battle it out for the remaining six spots. There were no real surprises in the round of 32 and only one in the round of 16 as the number eight seed Jeff Bowman was knocked off by Mark Morrow, the top seed in the A singles division.

So the quarters were set and play began Saturday evening with the top seed Brumfield beating Morrow in two, Bledsoe out played and out argued Jones in two games and Keeley took care of Wagner in two. The last quarter-final match of the evening pitted Hilecher, the number two seed, against McCoy. This turned out to be

the best match as Hilecher had to really battle to defeat the left hander 11-4 in the tie-breaker.

The semi-finals matched The Brum against Bledsoe and Keeley against Hilecher on Sunday morning. The outcomes were never really in doubt although Brumfield and Hilecher both had to flail at times to win in two games.

Now the Finals were set and matched Brumfield, "The 'People's Champion'" against Hilecher, the hard hitting number two seed.

In the first game Hilecher jumped to first a 9-2 then 12-4 lead and it looked like a replay of the Sacramento Pro-Am semi-finals, as Hilecher seemed unbeatable. Then Brumfield started to come back but Hilecher held on to the lead. First game, Hilecher . . . 21-18.

As the second game got under way The Brum cracked a serve for an ace. This was to be a bad omen for Jerry as Charlie rolled off everything. Second game, Brumfield . . . 21-1.

So it all came down to the tie-breaker and it looked like a replay of the first game but in reverse as Brumfield jumped to leads of 4-0, 5-2, and finally 9-3, before Hilecher decided to make his bid for comeback. Jerry came in and got two points making it 9-5. But the Brum was not to be denied as he came in and ran out on Hilecher to win the match.

As for the rest of the events here is a run down on the results:

A - Singles • First - Mark Morrow, Second - Joel Schienbaum, Third - Bill Stevens, Fourth - Gary Lusk.

B - Singles • First - Jim Kendall, Second - Gary Gullette, Third - Dave Bush, Fourth - Ron Mirek.

C - Singles • First - Geronimo Sigala, Second - Narc Hill, Third - Jim Cook, Fourth - Steve Zieg.

Novice Singles • First - Clarence Shields, Second - Bill Mahar, Third - Phil Emanuel, Fourth - Terry Hartman.

Women's Open • First - Donna Noguchi, Second - Judee Hames, Third - Karen Seavello, Fourth - Carolyn Morris.

Women's C Singles • First - Laura Martino, Second - S. Johnson, Third - Sue Strommer, Fourth - N. Baugh.

Master Singles • First - Bill Armstrong, Second - Kal Gladstone, Third - Earle Castle, Fourth - Gene McDonald.

Senior Singles • First - Rick DeSaracho, Second - Ron Botcham, Third - Jerry Dozal, Fourth Phil Ivaldy.

A Doubles • First - M. Morrow - B. Radford, Second - S. Chase - D. Thomas, Third - J. Davidson - M. Waidlich, Fourth - A. Portune - R. Ehren.

B Doubles • First - M. Allen - K. Monroe, Second - J. Dozal - B. Gibson, Third - J. Kendall - T. Marti, Fourth - J. Lilly - J. Miller.

C Doubles • First - J. Corbett - J. Cross, Second - D. Torres - J. Cook, Third - J. Nicola - B. Moore, Fourth - J. Rusnik - S. Philpott.

Skip Beattie

Los Angeles

The Center Courts again hosted the West L.A. Open Tournament. Over 200 entrants from all over the state, as well as Arizona, enjoyed the complimentary smoked beef and ham sandwiches, baskets of fruit, dates and nuts, wheels of cheese, gatorade, wine, beer and a \$10.00 tournament shirt.

THE OPEN DIVISION featured one of the strongest amateur draws in California this year. Bill Dunn, who recently won the first tour stop of the Northern California Professional Players, and Steve Chase, perennial Arizona champ, were seeded number 1 and 2, respectively, over the 27-man field. Mark Morrow from The Center Courts was seeded number 3 by virtue of having won most of the amateur tournaments held in Southern California over the past six months. The few open tournaments in which Mark did falter were won by Joel Scheinbaum, another Center Courts player and the number 4 seed.

All 4 seeds made it to the round of 8, though Scheinbaum had to sneak through the back door. At one point, Arizonan Paul Darnell had Joel down 6-14 in the third game before giving him the game 15-14. In the round of 8, Al Portune, a 6'4" veteran tournament player with a smooth left hand, stopped number 2 seed, Steve Chase, 15-9, 15-13. Number 1 seed, Bill Dunn, proved to be too consistent for Roger Ehren, who bowed out at 15-11, 15-11. Both Center Court players managed to reach the semi-finals, as Mark Morrow took out Phil Ivaldy 15-6, 15-5, while Scheinbaum gave San Diegan Bill Stevens a 2nd lesson in as many months, 15-4, 15-2.

The semi-finals matched Dunn against Scheinbaum and Morrow against Portune. Both promised to be good tight matches — neither were. Scheinbaum cut off every ball that Dunn hit for outright winners or passing shots, completely dominating center court and the pace of the game. Bill appeared quite confused at his patented ceiling game being cut-off and searched in vain through his rather extensive repertoire of shots to find a

Men's Open Finalists Joel Scheinbaum and Mark Morrow



—Photo by: Samantha Stephen



Women's C Finalists Leslie Tobin and Debbie Radford

—Photo by: Samantha Stephen

winning combination. Scores were 15-6, 15-7. After the match, Professor Bill remarked, "This was a classic case of different game styles combining in such a way as to give one player a strong advantage over another." He did concede, however, that "anytime Joel plays that well, he should never be beaten — by anyone."

Morrow, utilizing his hard-paced game and a great anticipation, kept Portune off balance and tentative most of their match. Scores were 15-1, 15-11.

And so the scene was set as the visiting players sat down to watch the two

finalists battle it out on their home court. The odds on favorite to win was Mark, since he held a 3-1 advantage over Joel in tournament play. Mark knew it wouldn't be automatic, however, as Joel had beaten him their last meeting in the Club Tournament. The first game was tightly played with Joel using his drive service and cut-off game very effectively. Mark's defensive game is second to none, and repeatedly he hit "show stoppers" and "crowd pleasers" off shots he could barely get to. Scheinbaum would not relinquish control, however, and won 15-13.

Morrow took control of the second game with kills and offensive drives which kept Scheinbaum completely off balance. Joel never gave up, but Mark continued to play without error and won 15-6. Many thought this signalled a routine win for Mark in the third, but such was not the case. Game 3 saw each player time and again go to his reserves for that extra gut response that is often required to win a match at this level. At 13-11, Joel's favor and serve, Mark called time out. When play resumed, Mark got the serve back as Joel skipped a plum. Joel then skipped a service return and that was all the room Mark needed to take the lead and his fifth win this year over an open field.

THE MEN'S OPEN DOUBLES combined in some form or fashion most of the open singles players. As the flailing concluded Bruce Radford and Paul Rubin, neither of which made it to the round of 8 in singles, emerged on top with a 15-6, 15-13 win over Scheinbaum and Portune. Radford and Rubin reached the finals by beating Dunn and Ron Starkman 15-14, 4-15, 15-12, while Portune and Scheinbaum took Chase and Dwayne Gettman 15-7, 11-15, 15-11.

THE MEN'S B SINGLES DIVISION will see no more of Doug Chandler. Chandler moved up to the Open Division as a result of his win over John Moshides 14-15, 15-10, 15-6. In the semi-finals it was Chandler over Arizonan Chris Georges 15-13, 15-8 and Moshides over Mike Maddocks 14-15, 15-10, 15-13.

THE MEN'S B DOUBLES DIVISION was won by Bill Gibson and Jerry Dozal over Mike Miller and Jody Lilly 15-14, 15-11. In the semi-finals, it was Gibson and Dozal over Rick DeSeracho and Mike Karas 15-3, 15-10, and Miller and Lilly over Jay Eller and Max Wojcik 15-3, 15-11.

THE MEN'S C DIVISION was marked by an abundance of upsets as the two finalists emerging from the 45 man field were not even seeded in the top 8. Overlooked Roberto Domingues moved to the B Division with his win over once unknown Steve Thompson

15-10, 15-9. It was Domingues over Michael Schwartz and Thompson over Doug Brown in the semi-finals.

THE WOMEN'S C DIVISION saw Debbie Radford dominate the field allowing her opponents an average of less than 6 points a game. She posted wins of 15-14, 15-8 over Leslie Tobin in the finals and 15-1, 15-13 over Kippi Bishop in the semi-finals. It was Tobin over Susan Stringfellow in the other semi-finals match.

THE WOMEN'S NOVICE DIVISION

was won by Patti Cook 15-8, 15-1 over Cathie Warman. In the semi-finals, it was Cook over Diane MacIntyre and Warman over Pam Adelman.

THE MEN'S NOVICE DIVISION, or the "Sandbaggers Division" as it is commonly called, was won by Ron Behar 15-4, 11-15, 15-7 over Harold Greenberg. The finalists were each extended to three games in the semi-finals by Craig Comley and John Remeny respectively.

Made of 100% Polyester for a better fit. It's machine washable, and it won't shrink, fade, run, or wrinkle.

4.95 EA.
plus 50¢ handling



☐ Beige
☐ Yellow
☐ Lt. Blue

☐ Small
☐ Medium
☐ Large
☐ X-Large

Please Mark Desired Message, Size, and Color.
Enclose Check or Money Order and Send to:

Olympic Sports Products, Inc.
5885 NW 151st Street
Miami Lakes, Fla. 33014

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

Please Allow 4 Weeks for Delivery

Playing almost flawless racquetball, top-seeded Charlie Brumfield bested Jay Jones 21-19, 21-12 to capture top money at the Oct. 22-24 Pro Invitational Tournament held at the California Way Health and Racquetball Club in Pasadena.

Biggest surprise of the tournament was Jones, who knocked off

Jones then earned his shot at Brumfield by edging past Richard Wagner in the semi-final by scores of 11-21, 21-16 and 11-10 in the tie-breaker. Third spot in the tourney went to Wagner, who beat Davey

The Pro Invitational Tournament highlighted Grand Opening Weekend for California Way, a \$1.0 million Club combining 10 racquetball courts, a completely equipped health spa and extensive recreational facilities. Courts and all facilities are open to both men and women members every day from 7 A.M. until midnight. For membership information, call 795-5906.



Pre-tournament meeting at California Way includes (left to right) Wayne Hughes, CW president; Davey Bledsoe; Steve Serot; Jay Jones, Charlie Brumfield; Marty Hogan; Charlie Drake; Ben Koltun and Denny Hoyle, CW vice president and general manager.

Arizona

The Southern Arizona Regionals, held at the Tucson Athletic Club October 29 thru November 1, was a tournament of upsets. The number one seed, Lloyd Smith, in the open bracket, was eliminated in the round of eight. The number two seed, Dennis Olson, was eliminated in the round of 16. The number three seed, Jim Ditsworth, barely made it through the semi's and the final to win the tournament. The level of skill in the top 10 or so players here is getting very close with tough competition.

The women's bracket ended as predicted with number one seed Ruth Wojcik and number two seed Nan Mackstaller in the final match. Nan won the championship in two games. There were 14 entries in the women's bracket. Ruth allowed Nan to get her momentum up and not even time outs could break it. Ruth just couldn't find anything that would work for her.

The Seniors bracket was combined due to lack of entries with one golden masters and three masters for a total of eight entries. Number one seed Woody Woodman made it to the finals with Daryl Krugman, number four seed who eliminated Bill Daly, number two seed, in the semi finals. Woody took the championship in the tie breaker with a grinding match. Due to both players styles, neither Woody or Daryl got their 'games' going, so they were never separated by more than 3 points except in the tie breaker with the ending of 11-6.

Texas

Beaumont Central YMCA Fall Tournament

Men's A (Quarter-finals): Pearson def. Petty 21-16, 21-3; Stukey def. Munro 13-21, 21-20, 21-14; Osborn def. Cole 21-18, 21-15, 21-7; Snowden, Bye.

(Semi-finals): Pearson def. Stukey 21-7, 21-3; Snowden def. Osborn 21-11, 21-17.

(Championship): Snowden def. Pearson 21-19, 21-18.

Men's Doubles (Semi-finals): Snowden-Munro def. Osborn-Wood 21-10, 19-21, 21-10; Stukey-Lee def. Cole-Pearson 21-18, 13-21, 21-15.

(Championship): Snowden-Munro def. Stukey-Lee 21-19, 21-14.

Men's B Singles (Quarter-finals): Jack def.

Hamilton 21-4, 21-11; Lee def. Pratt 13-21, 21-7, 21-16; Wood def. Peppo 21-8, 21-11.

(Semi-finals): Lee def. Jack 21-20, 12-21, 21-18; Wood, Bye.

(Championship): Wood def. Lee 21-16, 21-19.

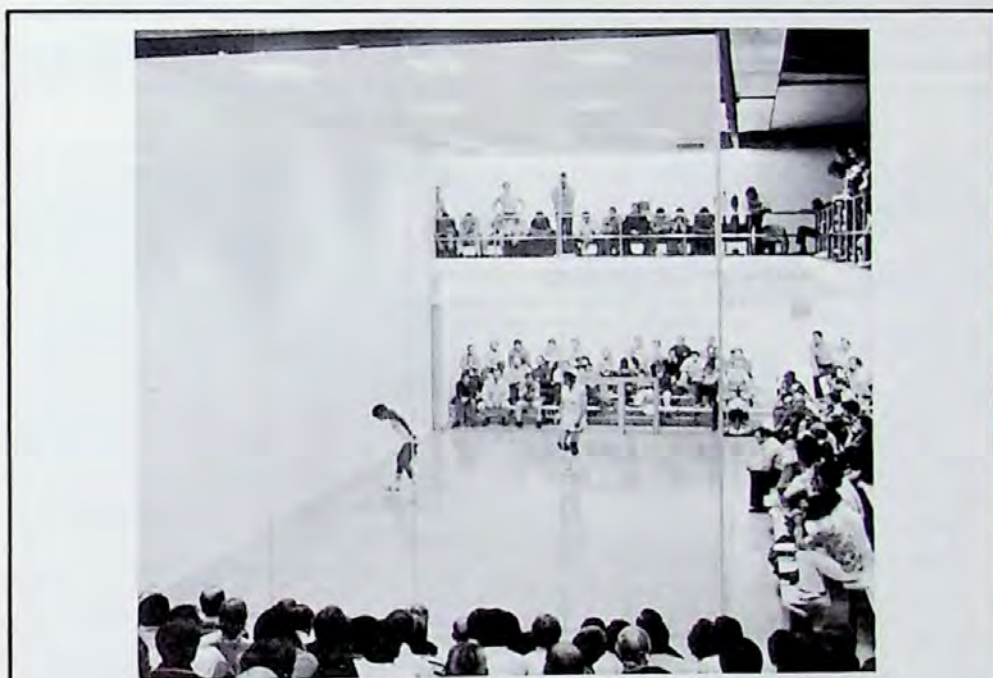
Novice Singles (Quarter-finals): Raney def. Wilson 21-3, 21-5; Smith def. R. Young; J. Young def. Fain; Brush def. Breaux 21-17, 21-19.

(Semi-finals): Kaney def. R. Young 21-17, 21-6; Brush def. J. Young 21-13, 21-15.

(Championship): Raney def. Brush 21-20, 12-21, 21-16.

Novice Doubles (Semi-finals): R. Young-Raney def. J. Young-Brush 21-17, 21-14; Hamilton-Peppo, Bye.

(Championship): Hamilton-Peppo def. R. Young-Raney 19-21, 21-14, 21-15.



NORTHWEST SUBURBAN YMCA, DES PLAINES, ILL.

ABOLITE
Lighting

**5 GOOD REASONS TO CHOOSE
ABOLITE'S HANDBALL/RACQUETBALL
LIGHTING SYSTEM:**

1. Lowest initial and operating cost
2. Far fewer fixtures required
3. Fixtures designed to fit absolutely flush in any type ceiling
4. Longest lamp life
5. Dust tight design for excellent maintenance

Call or Write—ABOLITE LIGHTING, INC.

WEST LAFAYETTE, OHIO 43845 Tel: 614-545-6374

New Mexico

Rio Pecos

Men's Open (Quarter-finals): Irish def. Booth 21-14, 21-12; Jurva def. Basban 21-0, 21-5; Roberts def. Kingsley 21-11, 21-17; Hill def. Wagner 21-10, 21-1.

(Semi-finals): Jurva def. Irish 21-11, 21-9; Hill def. Roberts 21-10, 21-20.

(Championship): Jurva def. Hill 16-21, 21-6, 21-17.

Nevada

Las Vegas Seniors

Well folks, if you're the Walter Mitty type like me, old Chuck Hanna, then you dream of a special type tournament where the right kind of records are broken and set: records for number of laughs, smiles, new friendships made, and most all where acts of sportsmanship and court decorum reign supreme. Can you imagine a tourney where referees were never used or needed? Well, it all happened, good friends, in that dream town of fun and frolic, Las Vegas, Oct. 14-17. The occasion was the first annual *Senior All Star North-South* doubles tournament. Here is the story of all stories.

Sixteen of the finest U.S. Senior players (35-45 — "prime of life") were selected to compete for either the North or South, to dispel conflicting reports over the years as to which part of our great country produces the over all best players. The Northerners always felt that their simple way of life, ancestral hardness, and lack of distractions, with being able to play racquetball all year long, especially to keep warm in winter, just kind of naturally gave them great advantages over their poor Southern brothers. The South players, indignant, asserted that the sun and natural Vitamin D, producing their great tans and healthy exteriors, plus the many other sports that are played more commonly in the warmer spots in Southern USA, naturally gave them added eye-hand coordination superiority; thus providing them with the big advantage over the backward Northern brothers. So the stage was set.

The TROPICANA HOTEL, with its five beautiful courts and where the 1975 Nationals were held, was selected as the site-and warmly seconded by all the wives and girlfriends.

The format of play was scheduled as a blind draw type which precluded any match or player manipulation so that each player played with a different teammate each match. This complicated type draw was managed ever so adeptly by Dr. Bud Muehleisen

and was greatly hailed by all the players. Player selection was left to the two team captains, Mark Wayne of the North and yours truly of the South. Highway 40 nearly bisects the US into halves and was used as guideline for boundaries.

The North squad was as follows:

- (1) Charlie Jackson - surprise of the tourney - lefty, played superbly entire event. Great shooter.
- (2) Al Rossi - crafty, veteran doubles player; probably best front court reactions and shots in game.
- (3) Mike Mullins - Mr. Steady-had fewer errors than anyone else in tourney; always dependable in all ways.
- (4) Bob McNamara - great stamina and natural athletic skills. Never tires. Never beats himself.
- (5) Pat Columbo - Super stud of east team; fast with great reflexes. Excellent doubles player.
- (6) Myron Roderick - No weaknesses and can play either side of court. Excellent with kill shots up front.
- (7) Joel Scheinbaum - selected because of all around speed, shots, and desire to win. Never quits.
- (8) Mark Wayne - hardest hitter in seniors-can blow ball by any player. Epitome of great sportsmanship.

The South squad was represented by the following jocks:

- (1) Dr. Bud Muehleisen - holder of all titles-greatest touch and control yet of any player today.
- (2) Tom Carlyon - Plays a great guitar (Ha)-super backhand. Strong all around player and athlete.
- (3) Jim Austin - Greatest backhand of any senior in game; explosive; co-holder of 2 National Doubles titles at present.
- (4) Buddy Meeker - Mr. Hustle. Lefty. Drives all over court. Never quits and will play all day.
- (5) Keith Luhnrow - Great power. Natural athlete with all around game also. Mr. America body.
- (6) Bruce Russell - Extremely fast court speed and great reflexes. Great body and great desire. Tough!
- (7) Jim Trent - No weaknesses. Hot shooting streaks are something to see. Unusually strong backhand.

(8) Dr. Chuck (Me) Hanna - Great MC - add a little firewater and game gets better (at bar) Ha!

Anyway gang, that's the resume as it were. All these gifted athletes in a tremendously spirited setting. Why spirited? Because the rules of this great event stated that the losing team had to pay homage to the winners by hosting - and paying (oh, that can hurt where it hurts most!) - for the concluding night banquet (open bar with steaks and wine no less! So, each team played furiously for their country and their wallets. Ha!

All that was needed next was to get the actual show into production. Yours truly was lucky enough to get the USRA to sanction this natural show card, annual event, and SEAMCO donated the balls and the USRA, score cards et al. Then the real GOODIES started. Of unbelievable help was Mr. Charlie Drake of LEACH INDUSTRIES who, among other aids and suggestions, provided each player with the classiest "Hang-Ten" powder blue T-shirt of all time. It had the beautiful, full back ALL STAR LOGO on the back plus each players name emblazoned on the front. These were the greatest tournament shirts ever presented anywhere! Things really kept moving along in a movie script fashion as TRED-2 tennis shoe manufacturers provided each player with a superb court shoe especially designed for racquetball. This was arranged by Mike Mullins of the North team. Could you believe that *Munsingwear* of Minneapolis felt that their favorite boy Bob McNamara - from where else - and his tourney friends should all have two of their newest bright colored perforated shirts-that all players loved right off. Two Apiece! Hard to imagine, right? Then a local company here in San Diego decided to help immortalize a legend regarding Pat Columbo of the North team. THE SCREEN MACHINE-SILK SCREEN COMPANY made the greatest personal jockey shorts of all time-complete with a rooster, cape, and "S" emblazoned on his chest with a title (unprintable) over his head-and which can't be printed out in this truly sports magazine. Suffice it to say, this

was the surprise of the gifts. Ask any Senior - probably still smiling - about the details of this story. Could anything else top the gifts list? You haven't seen anything! I was able to purchase the ALL TIME racquetball type bag from Mr. Drake - a bag not on sale yet anywhere - and all players got this big red beauty, with their own name - plus the ALL STAR LOGO silk screened on the bag. What a treat!

Well, add tickets to the worlds greatest entertainers free to all players — add the beer and soft drinks available after court competition daily (from 1-6) — add Mr. Jack Hurd, Las Vegas numero uno racquetball booster from the HOTEL SAHARA who set up the final night banquet in the SPACE CENTER at his hotel and add the greatest wives, dates and true good time ribbing and kidding the final night - and you can see why this was one of racquetball's finest moments. Never a bad word or frown. You had to see it to believe it, as they say.

Now, I know you're all wondering at the end here, who really won this titanic confrontation. I'd like to say it was the greatest ending of all time - that the final match went 11-10 in the tie breaker that finally won it all-but alas I can't. Old Walter Mitty here - and his Southern belles (who played like girls at times-Ha!) were clearly and fairly trounced, beaten, assaulted, mangled, and lastly, made believers in the NORTH. No wonder the Union won. These guys ancestors must have believed in Abe as they really played superbly. We had no excuses as we reached down into our socks and paid homage to these champs on our last night. The Northerners said it was the greatest meal they ever had in their lives. As for old Captain Chuckie, it was money-and time-well spent. The company, laughter, fellowship were at an all time high that night - and I thanked the good Lord that night, cuz he sure seemed to favor us old senior racquetballers. Take care - and remember, over 30 ain't all bad ? Ha!

Chuck Hanna
Tourney Chairman

Las Vegas

Men's A (Quarter-finals): Adams def. Seaton 14-21, 21-19, 11-5; Sparger def. Cola 21-15, 14-21, 11-8; Harnett def. Light 21-12, 21-8; Barak def. Prescott 17-21, 21-10, 11-4.

(Semi-finals): Adams def. Sparger 21-16, 16-21, 11-5; Harnett def. Borak 21-15, 21-8.

(Championship): Harnett def. Adams 21-17, 21-11.

Men's B (Quarter-finals): Westbrook def. Martinez 12-21, 21-7, 11-5; Rivkin def. Wetherell 21-15, 21-18; MacGhee def. Holmes 21-14, 20-21, 11-5; Norquist def. Schwartz 21-16, 21-13.

(Semi-finals): Westbrook def. Rivkin 21-5, 21-4; MacGhee def. Norquist 21-14, 21-18.

(Championship): Westbrook def. MacGhee 21-16, 21-7.

Women's B (Quarter-finals): Golda def. Armour 21-14, 6-21, 11-3; Cavallaro def. Cola 21-6, 21-10; Tower def. Wyre 21-9, 7-21, 11-1; Price def. Doxey 21-7, 21-17.

(Semi-finals): Cavallaro def. Golda; Price def. Tower 21-8, 21-0.

(Championship): Cavallaro def. Price 21-18, 5-21, 11-10.

Women's A (Round-Robin): First, Jackie Gauvra; Second, Sandy Tory; Third, Ann Stanton.

Men's Novice (Quarter-finals): Robinson def. Popwell 21-1, 21-13; Hughes def. Martin 21-4, 21-7; Amundson def. Proto 21-6, 21-7; Cadwell def. Marshall 21-10, 21-11.

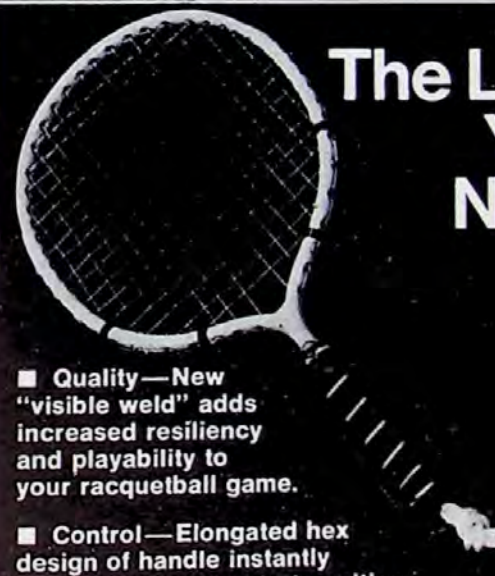
(Semi-finals): Hughes def. Robinson 21-12, 21-8; Cadwell def. Amundson 18-21, 21-14, 11-8.

(Championship): Hughes def. Cadwell 21-14, 20-21, 11-7.

Men's C (Quarter-finals): Feil def. Beatty 21-12, 21-18; Graham def. Blitsch 21-8, 21-14; Slusher def. Jones 21-20, 20-21, 11-2; Hamilton def. Casev 21-8, 21-13.

(Semi-finals): Feil def. Graham 21-17, 21-4; Slusher def. Hamilton 21-17, 21-8.

(Championship): Slusher def. Feil 21-5, 21-9.



The Last Racquet You Will Ever Need To Buy!

from the
world's most
experienced
manufacturer
of steel
racquets

Dayton

- **Quality—New** "visible weld" adds increased resiliency and playability to your racquetball game.
- **Control—Elongated hex** design of handle instantly signals correct racquet position by feel alone.
- **Durability—Designed with rugged** construction in mind. Brass eyelets in tempered tubular steel frame and nylon or coreless steel strings.
- **Craftsmanship—All Dayton steel** strings are guaranteed for the full life of the racquet—assuring long life and low maintenance cost.

Dayton Racquet Co., Inc.
302 S. Albright St.
Arcanum, Ohio 45304
(513) 692-8556

Iowa

Des Moines

On October 22-24, the Des Moines Central YMCA sponsored the First Annual Des Moines Open Racquetball Tournament. This event was attended by many top racquetballers from a six-state area throughout the great Midwest. Players represented Iowa, South Dakota, Minnesota, Illinois, Nebraska and Missouri.

Mark Hegg, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, proved to be the class of the field as he swept to the Open Singles title without losing a game. Hegg defeated Dick Bishop, Keokuk, Iowa, in the finals 21-4, 21-10 after eliminating Helmut Braun, Des Moines in the semi-finals 21-9, 21-4. Bishop defeated Charles Drewes, Ames, Iowa, 21-16, 21-12 in his semi-final match before bowing to Hegg in the finals. Drewes won the 3rd place trophy over Braun in three games. Bill Cook, Ames took the Open Singles consolation title with a 21-6, 21-3, win over Chuck Pappas, Mankato, Minnesota. Twenty-eight players participated in the Open Singles division.

The B Singles division was won by Mike Ransom of Rochester, Mn., over Don Hayes, Davenport, Iowa, 21-16, 21-17. In the semi-finals, Ransom had beaten Doug Zickuhr, Dubuque 21-12, 21-15, and Hayes had defeated Kent Jerome, Des Moines 21-8, 21-13. For 3rd place, Zickuhr defeated Jerome 21-17, 13-21, 21-4. The B consolation trophy went to Maurice Hawkins, Keokuk, Iowa, 21-12, 21-3 over John Hegg, Sioux Falls. 32 players enter the B Singles division.

The Open Doubles division was highlighted by several outstanding matches. Bernie Nielson, Marshalltown, Iowa, and Bob Sheldon, Waterloo, Iowa, bested Bob Moreland

and John Rude, Sioux Falls, in the hotly contested finals. Rude sustained an arm injury during the finals turning a close match into a runaway. Nielson and Sheldon defeated Helmut Braun, Des Moines and Bill Cook, Ames in the semi-finals. Bo Champagne and Roger Glick, Kansas City were tough competition for Moreland and Rude in their semifinal match before bowing 21-19, 21-8. In a close 3rd place match, Braun and Cook defeated Champagne and Glick 21-20, 21-19 for the trophy.

The highlight of the tournament for many of the local spectators was the play of Charlie Morse of Des Moines. Charlie had been suffering from an ear infection all week so he decided to play only doubles. However, Charlie's doubles partner, Mike Leuck of Des Moines, injured his leg in their first round match. It looked like Charlie was faced with a weekend of watching. But, after a bye and a forfeit, this Des Moines duo found themselves slated for the Open Doubles consolation final.

"What the heck, let's give it a try." With Charlie playing like a man possessed and Mike providing some important serving and court coverage, the team defeated Maurice Hawkins and H. Wayne Nelson, Keokuk, Iowa, 21-19, 21-13 and walked away with some handsome trophies.

The Des Moines Open should now be an annual event on the Midwest racquetball calendar. The fine 8-court facility at the Des Moines Central YMCA provided an excellent location for a tournament of this size. All of the players and the tournament committee provided the cooperation necessary for the tournament to proceed smoothly on schedule. Next year should be even better!

Wisconsin

Badger State Open

Minneapolis entries won both the open singles and open doubles titles in the fourth annual Badger State Open Racquetball Tournament at the Eau Claire, Wisc. YMCA.

Tom Gonser won the singles title, defeating Eau Claire's Bill Harper, 10-21, 21-12, 15-7 in the final.

Pat Page and Mike Weum won four matches for the doubles crown. They defeated Gonser and Craig Corah in the finals, 21-8, 9-21, 15-5.

Harper and Galen Johnson won twice to gain the doubles semi-finals then were eliminated by Gonser and Corah, 15-21, 21-9, 21-15.

Andy Blomsness of Winona and Tom Lang of Eau Claire lost in the consolation doubles final to Steve Juno of Superior and Tony Upkes of St. Cloud, Minn., 21-20, 21-20.

Gonser won five times to finish ahead of the 32-player singles field. He was seeded second to Harper. He beat eventual consolation champion Steve Butler of Olympic Fields, Ill., in the opening round, 21-17, 21-14.

Gonser beat Corah in the semifinals. In the other semifinal, Harper defeated Barry Gerr of Crystal, Minn., 21-15, 6-21, 15-11.

In doubles semi-finals, Weum-Page downed Gary Peterson (St. Paul) and Greg Johnson (Des Moines), 21-13, 21-18 while Gonser-Corah beat Harper-Johnson.

Butler won four times to gain the consolation title. He beat Doug Hastad of Moorhead, Minn. 21-3, 21-12.

Minnesota

Milwaukee

Ken Baron, who plays out of the Jewish Community Center, upset the highly regarded Dan Trost for the Milwaukee Open racquetball title held at the JCC in November. The scores were 21-13, 21-14.

Joe Bechard of the Racquet Club, beat veteran Joe Carini, Milw. Ath. Club 21-17, 21-15 for the senior division, and Jim White, MAC, captured the Masters division by defeating Dick Kalal, 21-9, 21-8. Steve Peck beat Charles Parker, 21-9, 21-7 for the junior crown.

In the city class B event, Al Solomon, JCC, beat Steve Peck, JCC-MAC, 21-17, 21-15. In the women's tournament, Pat Schmidt, Racquet Club, won the city open title defeating Sandy Coffman, Racquet Club, 21-3, 21-5; and Nancy Lawrence, JCC, beat Marge Hoffman, North Shore Club, 21-6, 21-17.

In doubles, Dan Trost and Larry Altman retained their open title by beating Art Guenther and Dan Vasholz, 21-14, 21-15. Jon Neville and Ken Baron placed third, beating Roger Siegrist and Dan MacQuarrie 21-16, 21-11.

In seniors doubles, Jim White and Dick Kalal beat Joe Vetter and Joe Bechard, 21-14, 21-15 while Robert Akulian and Henry Krause edged out Richard Wiesniewski and Sid Rose, 21-18, 21-17.

Larry Lederman

Janesville

The 1976 Janesville YMCA Open finals featured Jerry Hoff (Wausau, Wisconsin) versus Clyde Senters, Chicago, with Hoff winning the championship 21-6, 21-14.

Hoff was sharp in all aspects of the game. His return of serve and pass shots were well executed. He played a good, patient match waiting for kill shots which he pinched in with both forehand and backhand strokes. A deep lob serve which was well placed kept Senters off balance throughout the championship match.

Senters had a good tournament up to this point. He moves extremely well for being 6'2", 280 lbs. Prior to the finals he was shooting fantastically.

Third-place action found Galen Johnson, Green Bay, defeating Ken Frank, Madison 21-11, 6-21, 11-9. In earlier semi-final matches Senters defeated Johnson 5-21, 21-20, 11-7 and Hoff defeated Frank 21-8, 21-10.

Tom Murray served as tournament director and Helen Murray served as hospitality chairman. The players gave fine compliments on tournament organization using U.S.R.A. rules, and the excellent hospitality.

Men's Open (Quarter-finals): Hoff def. Hults 21-7, 21-12; Frank def. Jim Wirkus 21-10, 19-21, 11-3; Senters def. Hall 21-9, 21-20; Johnson def. Withrow 21-20, 21-8.

(Semi-finals): Hoff def. Frank 21-8, 21-10; Senters def. Johnson 5-21, 21-20, 11-7.

(Championship): Hoff def. Senters 21-6, 21-14.

Mankato, Minnesota hosted its third annual racquetball tournament Nov. 17, 18 & 19th. Jim Schafer did a superb job of keeping the tournament going. Although there was good action on the court, many of the matches were won in the locker room where the "verbal psych" probed the opponents weakness with humor and racquetball lingo.

Some of the best locker room players were Malin Greenberg, Bill, or is it Bob Hall, Bernie Nielson and Gordy Bakken. They have their own styles and all were at Mankato.

Gordy starts out with the "I'm only a country boy" routine and proceeds to lull you to sleep with what he doesn't know. But on the court he ends up in first in the masters.

Bernie, uses the "tough guy" approach. The two guys may go down, but Bernie will get up. On the court Bernie is a mean man's dream — but he loves his racquetball and plays it

DISTRIBUTORS
TO THE TRADE

WRITE FOR CATALOG

LEACH RACQUETS
SEAMCO RACQUETBALLS
SPALDING HANDBALLS

CHAMPION SPORT GLOVES
FOR
RACQUETBALL
HANDBALL

IN STOCK

SPORTS AWARDS CO.
4351 MILWAUKEE AVE.
CHICAGO, ILL. 60641 282-8060

Kentucky

Louisville

superbly. His verbal intimidation, his physical presents are easily worth two points in any match.

Bill and Malin are just fun . . . Court Jester approach. Their ability to make you laugh is worth five points when they get on the court. How could such nice fun loving guys play such devastating racquetball. Malin's best action in Mankato was in the Jacuzzi until he met "all night" Bill Hall in the Senior Finals. It was a great match but Malin's soft touch and ball control were too much for the hard driving shooting game of Hall. Malin won in the tie breaker. When they meet again it should be a barn burner.

"Sweet" Steve Singer had the open singles championship in his pocket until he got out on the court. Dan Ferris, a 16-year-old future giant killer from St. Cloud lost in a tie breaker to Steve as he made four errors to Steve's one and forgot to use his right side passing shot which had worked so well in the first game. Steve then went on to lose to Paul Ikier. Paul went on to win the open over two time National champion Bill Schmidtke.

The best matches of the doubles tournament were Steve Singer and Hank Weiss of Minneapolis wiping out Paul Ikier and Bill Hall of Mpls. in the semi's; and Mike Gorman and J. Ebbert the converted tennis buff from Rochester in the finals.

Steve and Hank hit kill after kill — Hank is left handed and he owned the left corner — any combination you want. Front wall — side wall; side wall — front wall; corner — high/low or pass.

The Wordtec Racquetball Open at the Louisville Tennis Club in Louisville, Kentucky entertained 110 entrants from six states October 29-31. There were five divisions of play in this highly exciting tourney.

Men's Open (Quarter-finals): Chuck Cooper, Louisville def. Bob Dabney, Louisville 17-21, 21-5, 11-6; Bill Evans, Louisville def. Alan Hyman, Louisville 16-21, 21-12, 11-4; Tom Shivel, Ashland def. Mike Sipes, Cincinnati 21-20, 21-19; Lenny Wilson, Louisville def. Mark Hiudt, Cincinnati 16-21, 21-13, 11-6.

(Semi-finals): Cooper def. Evans 21-5, 21-15; Wilson def. Shivel 21-7, 5-21, 11-9.

(Championship): Cooper def. Wilson 21-16, 21-6.

Men's B (Quarter-finals): Bop Pollock, Springfield, OH def. Alan Shetzer, Chicago 21-8, 21-3; Bill Emmett, Lexington def. Greg Dowdy, Ashland 21-12, 21-12; Tex Lee Boggs, Frankfort def. Larry Hedgspeth, Louisville 21-11, 21-2; Al Mazz, Chicago def. Dean Sorg, Frankfort 5-21, 21-17, 11-7.

(Semi-finals): Emmett def. Pollock 21-5, 21-15; Mazz def. Boggs 4-21, 21-17, 11-9.

(Championship): Emmett def. Mazz 21-2, 21-6.

Women's Open (Quarter-finals): Bev Franks, Chicago def. Diane Sanders, Louisville 21-10, 21-8; Bobbi Brennan, Frankfort def. Joyce Wilson, Louisville 21-1, 21-7; Kay Evans, Louisville def. Eileen Ernst, Frankfort; Gerri Stoffregen, Cincinnati def. Jo-Anna Davis, Anderson, IN 21-1, 21-4.

(Semi-finals): Franks def. Brennan 21-1, 21-4; Stoffregen def. Evans 21-7, 21-6.

(Championship): Stoffregen def. Franks.

Seniors (Quarter-finals): Lenny Wilson, Louisville def. Riley Venza, Murray 21-14, 17-21, 11-7; Tom Street, Chicago def. George Drasin, Louisville, injury default; Paul Franks, Chicago def. Don Detjen, Ashland 21-9, 21-16; Chick Solomon, Indianapolis def. Al Mazz, Chicago 19-21, 21-19, 11-3.

(Semi-finals): Wilson def. Street 21-16, 21-13; Solomon def. Franks 21-14, 21-17.

(Championship): Wilson def. Solomon 21-9, 21-8.

Masters (Quarter-finals): Don Detjen, Ashland def. Cal Luther, Murray 21-6, 21-11; Norm Sykes, Louisville def. Irv Goldstein, Louisville 21-5, 13-21, 11-7; Grayson Hanks, Louisville def. Karl Schmidt, Indianapolis 20-21, 21-18, 11-4; Lew Whipple, Louisville def. Bill Woosley, Louisville 21-2, 21-2.

(Semi-finals): Detjen def. Sykes 21-7, 21-9; Whipple def. Hanks 21-18, 21-13.

(Championship): Detjen def. Whipple 21-14, 21-14.

Eastern Kentucky University Open

Men's Open (Quarter-finals): Wilson def. Emmett 21-2, 21-5; Simmons def. Torg 21-13, 21-7; Campbell def. Lykins 21-20, 21-7; Jones def. Russess 21-18, 9-21, 11-9.

(Semi-finals): Wilson def. Simmons 21-12, 21-5; Jones def. Campbell 21-13, 10-21, 11-3.

(Championship): Wilson def. Jones 21-7, 21-11.

Men's (Quarter-finals): Kirkland def. Boggs 15-21, 21-16, 11-7; Layne def. Drew 21-8, 21-8; Manley def. Fleming 21-16, 21-8; Marcum def. Rose 21-8, 21-9.

(Semi-finals): Layne def. Kirkland 21-8, 18-21, 11-6; Marcum def. Manley 21-4, 21-3.

(Championship): Layne def. Marcum 21-16, 21-17.

Women's Open (Quarter-finals): Burke def. Perkins 21-16, 21-12; Hamblin def. Gifford 21-16, 15-21, 11-7; Rentz def. Barlow 21-8, 21-2; Ernst def. Hampton 21-8, 21-1.

(Semi-finals): Burke def. Hamblin; Rentz def. Ernst 21-11, 21-8.

(Championship): Rentz def. Burke 21-10, 21-9.

Men's Seniors (Round-Robin): 1. Wilson, W-4, L-0; 2. Jones, W-3, L-1; 3. Boggs, W-2, L-2; 4. Fleming, W-1, L-3; 5. Tate, W-0, L-4.

Men's Open Doubles (Semi-finals): Torg-Russell def. Campbell-Campbell 21-13, 21-6; Sabbatine-Ames def. Atkins-Jublek 21-4, 17-21, 11-1.

(Championship): Amos-Sabbatine def. Torg-Russell 21-6, 21-11.

Men's B Doubles (Quarter-finals): McIntire-Layne def. Manley-Harris 21-17, 21-18; Ochs-Ciolik def. Sciubba Scott 21-2, 21-7; Rose-Baskette def. Holtzapfel-Skinner, Forfeit; Kirkland-Diodonet 21-3, 21-5.

(Semi-finals): McIntire-Layne def. Ochs-Ciolik 21-20, 18-21, 11-6; Kirkland-Diodonet def. Rose-Baskette 20-21, 21-20, 11-5.

(Championship): Kirkland-Diodonet def. McIntire-Layne 21-15, 21-20.

Women's Open Doubles (Quarter-finals): Sherrill-Perkins def. Silvani-Edwards 6-21, 21-15, 11-7; Gifford-Hamblin def. Illenberg-Caldwell 21-7, 21-1; Brennan-Barlow def. Krisbock-Boyer 21-1, 21-1; Ernst-Rentz def. Gorkett-Kilduff 21-5, 21-6.

(Semi-finals): Gifford-Hamblin def. Sherrill-Perkins 21-5, 21-13; Ernst-Rentz def. Brennan-Barlow 21-18, 20-21, 11-1.

(Championship): Ernst-Rentz def. Gifford-Hamblin 21-16, 21-9.

Connecticut

Southern Connecticut B Singles

Jack Fruin, of Naugatuck, CT was victorious in the first annual Southern Connecticut B Singles Tournament held at the new Canaan, CT YMCA during the September 24th weekend.

Thirty-two players vied for this title from Connecticut and New York.

Fruin defeated Archie Rupp, Greenwich, CT in a hard fought battle 21-19, 19-21, 11-9. Fruin reached the semi-finals by eliminating Jerry Terracino, Ridgefield, CT and Peter Royston, Bridgeport, CT.

In the semi-final matches Jack Fruin defeated Gordie Gardiner, New Canaan, CT 21-15, 21-17 while Archie Rupp defeated Jeff Coyle, Glastonbury, CT 21-16, 21-16.

The Connecticut Racquetball Association would like to thank the New Canaan YMCA, and their staff, for their gracious hospitality in hosting this event.

Navy

LCDR Glenn R. Allen, representing the Commander Naval Surface Forces Atlantic staff, Norfolk, Va., captured the singles and doubles titles in the first annual Navy East Coast Racquetball Championships completed during October 1976 at the Little Creek Naval Amphibious Base, Norfolk, Va.

In the singles competition, LCDR Allen went undefeated in the week long double elimination tournament, edging out Lt. Junior Grade Gordon Perry, representing the Naval Station Mayport, Fla., in a hard fought, two hour final match, 21-11, 16-21 and 21-20. The Doubles title was won by LCDR Allen and ABCS Tom Madison, from Naval Air Station, Bermuda over runners up Lt. Mike Ekdall and Lt. O.P. Clement representing the Sixth Naval District.

Racquetball, considered by many to be the fastest growing sport in the country, is very popular in the U.S. Navy, as evidenced by the over 30 base and district champions from Naval facilities up and down the east coast who participated in this first ever, Navy sponsored and sanctioned East Coast Championship.

G. R. Allen, LCDR, USN



Jack Fruin (l.) waits to return serve in his win against Archie Rupp (r.), in the championship match of the Connecticut B singles tournament.

All Military

From 12 to 14 November 1976, the Second Annual East Coast Military Racquetball Championships attracted over 100 racquetball enthusiasts to the Little Creek, Naval Amphibious Base Gymnasium, Norfolk, Virginia for three days of intense competition. During the weekend tournament, over 300 matches were played in what has easily become the largest and most popular tournament conducted for United States Armed Forces. This year, all participants were either active duty, retired or reserve military personnel or authorized military dependents (family members).

In the prestigious mens open division, unseeded and unranked Air Force Sargent Don Little, Dover Air Force Base, Delaware was crowned the top East Coast Racquetball player, as he defeated the #2 seed, and former West Coast Military Champ, Lt. Carl Crown, U.S. Coast Guard Reserve, Yorktown, Va., in an exciting three game match, 21-10, 20-21, 21-6. Enroute to the finals, Little defeated the top seed and 1975 East Coast Champ, Danny Giordano, an Air Force Sargent from Hanscomb Air Force Base, Mass. 11-21, 21-10, 21-13 in one semi-final match. In the other semi-final, Carl Crown defeated 6th seeded LCDR Glenn Allen, U.S. Navy, Norfolk, Va. 21-9, 8-21, 21-11. Third place in the open was won by Danny Giordano over Glenn Allen by forfeit.

A new Womens Military Champion was crowned in '76, as Sue Cumminger a Navy wife from Norfolk, Va. defeated Geneva Allen (also a Navy wife, playing in her first tournament) 21-11, 21-13. Enroute to the Womens finals, Mrs. Allen defeated Navy dependent Rosemary Boyd, Norfolk, Va. 21-16, 21-14 while Mrs. Cumminger defeated Vicki Luque, an Army wife from Ft. Bragg, N.C. in a close three game match. Third place was captured by Mrs. Luque who won by forfeit over Miss Boyd.

In mens Seniors action (35 and over), Air Force Reservist, and top seed, Charles Sullivan, College Park, Md. defeated Major Pete Crummey, U.S. Army, Ft. Devens, Mass. 21-12, 20-21, 21-19. LCDR Glenn Allen captured third place in the Seniors Division with a 21-15, 21-6 victory over LCDR Joe Mulkerrin, U.S. Navy, Norfolk, Va. In semifinals action, Sullivan defeated Mulkerrin 21-10, 21-7 and Crummey defeated Allen 21-6, 13-21, 21-19.

A mens masters division was also featured for older racquetball players (age 45 and over). In this division, unseeded John Webster a retired Air Force veteran from Myrtle Beach, S.C., defeated the #2 seed, Red Martin, U.S. Army retired, Ft. Eustis, Va. 21-9, 21-11. In semi-final action, Webster defeated the top seed, Lt. Col. Chuck Lake, U.S. Army, Norfolk, Va. in an exciting three game match. Martin defeated Air Force Sargent Ted Story, McGuire Air Force Base, N.J. in the other semi-final match. Third place was won by Lt. Col. Lake, who easily defeated Sgt. Story 15-1, 15-8.

To encourage maximum participation in the fast-growing sport of racquetball, a mens B division was conducted which attracted over 64 participants. After many close matches and some exceptionally fast court action, Captain John Panneton, USMC Norfolk, Va. was awarded the first place trophy as he defeated Army man Rudy Zammarippa, Ft. Meade, Md. 21-3, 20-21, 21-18. In the semifinals, Panneton defeated navyman Joe Larkin, Norfolk, Va. 21-3, 21-19 while Zammarippa defeated Capt. George Sumers, U.S. Army, Ft. Stewart, Ga. 21-20, 13-21, 21-20. Sumers defeated Larkin for the mens B third place award.

The second annual Military East Coast Racquetball Championships were planned and directed by LCDR Glenn Allen, U.S. Navy Racquetball Commissioner. Tournament results will be utilized to determine seeding in the planned all military championships at West Point, New York (the Army Academy) in June 1977. A special note of thanks is in order for Mr. Del Purden, athletic director; Mr. McGinity, special services director and Captain Olson, commanding officer of the Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek, Va. Without their generous assistance and complete cooperation, this tournament would not have taken place.

As a result of this tournament, the top military racquetball players on the east coast are ranked in the following order for 1976 and 1977:

MEN

1. Don Little, Air Force, Dover Delaware
2. Carl Crown, Coast Guard Reserve, Yorktown, Va.
3. Dannie Giordano, Air Force, Hanscomb, Mass.
4. Glenn Allen, Navy, Norfolk, Va.
5. Buzz Parker, Army, Ft. Monroe, Va.
6. Kevin Dorr, Army, Ft. Belvoir, Va.
7. Pete Crummey, Army, Ft. Devens, Mass.
8. Charles Sullivan, Air Force Reserve, College Park, Md.

WOMEN

1. Sue Cumminger, Norfolk, Va.
 2. Geneva Allen, Norfolk, Va.
 3. Vicki Luque, Ft. Bragg, N.C.
 4. Rosemary Boyd, Norfolk, Va.
-

**The Book that Will
Help You Kill**

THE COMPLETE BOOK OF RACQUETBALL

by Steve Keeley

Sign up 10 new members for
the U.S.R.A. and receive this superior
instructional book,
absolutely
free!



free!!

Discover every phase of the world of racquetball in 288 action-packed pages by tournament champ and instructor Steve Keeley. Using more than 300 action-freezing photos and game play diagrams, author Keeley provides comprehensive instruction to help you hit every shot, master offensive and defensive strategy and polish your performance with practice drills and exercises.

The Complete Book of Racquetball is organized into sections for beginners and intermediates with each of 13 chapters preceded by an outline of important points to master. This comprehensive volume is the first and only guide to racquetball to be endorsed by The U.S. Racquetball Assn. and National Racquetball Club.

You can't miss with *The Complete Book of Racquetball*. Chapters on equipment, forehand, backhand, passing shots, offense, defense, back wall play, serves, serve returns and much more make this THE book to aid your game.

A \$7.95 book store or mail order value, *The Complete Book of Racquetball* is FREE to you by signing up 10 new U.S.R.A. members. Membership includes a subscription to *National Racquetball* magazine plus tournament eligibility and a free rule book. All for \$3 per year — by far sport's biggest bargain. And all memberships received this year will include all of 1977. Just jot down the names, addresses, city, state and zips of your new members and send them with your check or money order to U.S.R.A., 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, IL 60076. As soon as we receive your memberships, we'll put a copy of Steve Keeley's *The Complete Book of Racquetball* in the mail to you.

Do your friends a favor — help them join the U.S.R.A. Do yourself a favor by receiving a copy of this outstanding book. It's the best thing on racquetball ever written.



USRA

**UNITED STATES
RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION**

4101 DEMPSTER STREET
SKOKIE, ILLINOIS 60076

UPCOMING EVENTS

1977 U.S.R.A.-N.R.C. Calendar of Events

Note Pro Tour Changes

January

21-23 Starkville, Miss., Willie Daniel Athletic Club, *Mississippi State Championships*. Events (all singles): Men's Open, Men's Seniors. **Write:** Dr. Frank Bonner, Mississippi Racquetball Assn., Box 906, Starkville, MS 39759.

28-30 West Allis, Wisc., The Racquetball Club, *Wisconsin State Singles Championships*. Events (all singles): Men's Open, Men's B, Men's Seniors, Men's Masters, Men's Golden Masters, Juniors, Women's Open, Women's B. **Phone:** Bob Keenan, 414-784-1580.

February

10-13 Houston, Tex., Houston Downtown Y.M.C.A., *Seamco-Leach Pro Tour and Continental Leisure Sports National Y.M.C.A. Racquetball Championships*. Events (see entry form in this issue). **Phone:** Joe Leach 713-659-8501 x45.

11-13 Lansing, Mich., Lansing Y.M.C.A., *Capital City Classic*. Events (all singles): Men's Open, Women's Open, Men's Novice, consolation. **Write:** Dennis Wood, 2808 S. Deerfield, Lansing, MI 48910.

18-20 Ypsilanti, Mich., Court Players Club, *Michigan State Singles Championships*. Events (all singles): Men's A, Men's B, Women's A, Women's B. **Write or call:** Gil Schmitt, 2111 Golfside, Ypsilanti, MI 48197, 313-434-2111.

18-21 Phoenix, Ariz., Phoenix Athletic Club, *Arizona State Singles Tournament*. Events (all singles): Men's Open, Women's Open, Men's B, Women's B, Seniors, Masters, Golden Masters, Juniors. **Write:** Woody Woodman, 7634 E. 38th St., Tucson, AZ 85730.

March

4-6 Cincinnati, Ohio, The Court Yard, *The Court Yards Semi-Pro Racquetball Open*. Events: Undetermined. \$1,000 in prize money. **Write:** James Espy, 3917 Virginia Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45227.

All players and fans of the Seamco-Leach Pro Racquetball Tour should note the changes in the pro tour schedule as published in this issue.

The Newport Beach Sporting House, Newport Beach, California, which was to have hosted an event in January, will replace the Peoria, Illinois tournament, May 14-17.

The Glass Court Court Club, Lombard, Illinois, which was to have hosted an event in November, has been re-scheduled April 30-May 3.

The National Racquetball Club regrets any inconvenience these schedule problems may have caused you. Construction delays are not always anticipated.

1977 Leach-Seamco Pro Tour

Date	Facility	City
January 13-16, 1977	Tropicana Hotel	Las Vegas, Nevada
February 10-13, 1977	Downtown Y.M.C.A.	Houston, Texas
March 3-6, 1977	Denver Sporting House	Denver, Colorado
March 24-27, 1977	Univ. of Tennessee	Chattanooga, Tennessee
April 16-19, 1977	Racquettime Center	Southfield, Michigan
April 30-May 3, 1977	The Glass Court	Lombard, Illinois
May 14-17, 1977	Newport Sporting House	Newport Beach, California
June 4-11, 1977	Atlas Health Club	San Diego, California

LEACH-SEAMCO PRO TOUR & NATIONAL YMCA RACQUETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS HOUSTON, TEXAS FEBRUARY 10-13, 1977

Site: Houston Downtown YMCA, 1600 Louisiana, Houston, TX 77002

Facilities: 13 regulation, indoor four-wall courts

Dates: February 10-13, 1977

Entry fee: \$25 in all professional events; \$15 in first amateur event; \$10 second amateur event.

Entry Deadline: Thursday, January 27, 1977

Sanction: By U.S. Racquetball Association and National Racquetball Club.

Official Ball: In all amateur events: Seamco 558 (black); In all professional events: Seamco 559 (green).

Awards: \$6,000 in prize money in Men's Pro Singles; \$2,000 in prize money in Women's Pro Singles; Trophies for first three places in each amateur event; Trophy for first place in amateur consolation events; Awards for best dressed male & female participants (on court appearance).

Mail Entries To: Joe Leach, 1600 Louisiana, Houston, TX 77002.

Make Checks Payable To: Houston Downtown YMCA. Check must accompany entry.

Eligibility: ANYBODY MAY PLAY.

Further Information: Contact Y Physical Director Joe Leach 713-659-8501 x45 (day) or Tournament Director Dewey Strickland 713-467-1558 (evening).

Winner of Amateur match must referee the next match.

Please Enter Me In:

☐ Men's Pro	☐ Women's Pro	☐ Men's Amateur Singles
☐ Men's B Singles	☐ Men's C Singles	☐ Men's Senior Singles
☐ Men's Master Singles	☐ Men's Golden Master Singles	☐ Boys Junior Singles
☐ Men's Amateur Doubles	☐ Men's B Doubles	☐ Men's Senior Doubles
☐ Men's Master Doubles	☐ Men's Golden Master Doubles	☐ Women's Amateur Singles
☐ Women's B Singles	☐ Women's C Singles	☐ Women's Amateur Doubles

Shirt Size: ☐ Small ☐ Medium ☐ Large ☐ X-Large

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (Bus.) _____ Phone (Res.) _____

Tournament Headquarters: Holiday Inn Downtown, 801 Calhoun, Houston, TX 77002. Phone: 713-224-4442. Tournament rate: \$16 single, \$22 double. MAKE YOUR OWN RESERVATIONS.

Houston, Denver Next In Line On Pro Tour

The Seamco-Leach Pro Racquetball Tour, sanctioned by the National Racquetball Club moves on in February and March to two superb racquetball cities.

February 10-13 finds the tour in Houston, Texas, the very first pro racquetball host, the Houston Downtown Y.M.C.A. But this time around things are far different in Houston.

The Y has had a major expansion, bringing their total number of courts to 15, including one outstanding exhibition court. Another major development for Houston is the U.S.R.A. co-sponsoring of the National Y.M.C.A. tournament, the amateur part of the pro-am to be hosted at the same time.

"We're looking forward to an outstanding event," said Dewey Strickland, president of the U.S.R.A. Texas affiliate and one of the men responsible for the first pro stop in September of 1974. *"We're geared up for 300-350 entries and we're going to put on a show the players will remember for a long time."*

The Houston Y has been a strong racquetball promoter for some time, and Joe Leach and all his aides have become well known for running great tournaments.

Remember those dates, — February 10-13 for Houston.

There will be two pro-am stops in March, the first in Denver March 5-8 at the brand new Denver Sporting House, another new club with a glass front wall.

Rick Schliebe, manager of the Denver Sporting House is another veteran tournament promoter, and he has a beauty lined up for his date.

"This year's pro tour stop will be organized and planned for the benefit of a very worthy cause, the March of Dimes," said Schliebe. *"All proceeds will go to the March of Dimes and the National March of Dimes Poster Child will be on hand for the final match."*

There will also be a celebrity-amateur tournament two weeks in advance of the tournament and local television coverage has been virtually assured.

Another bonanza in Denver is an additional \$2,000 in prize money that the Denver Sporting House is donating to make the tournament total purse \$10,000.

"We are doing everything first class," said Schliebe. *"We don't want a single person to leave here unhappy, — and that includes the losers."*

Chattanooga, Tennessee, the second stop in March, — 24-27, will be detailed in the March issue of *National Racquetball*.

March of Dimes National Poster Child Robbie Zastavny, 6, of Moorestown, N.J., loves the outdoors. Although paralyzed from the waist down, Robbie walks with the aid of leg braces and crutches. A sports fan, he enjoys football and baseball, and is mastering miniature golf. Robbie, born with an open spine, represents the more than 200,000 American babies affected every year by birth defects. To hasten the day when all children can be free from any life-threatening condition at birth, the March of Dimes supports research, medical service, public health education, and community service programs. Robbie will be on hand at the Seamco-Leach pro tour stop in Denver, March 3-6.



**SEAMCO-LEACH PRO TOUR
FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE MARCH OF DIMES
ENGLEWOOD, COLORADO
MARCH 3-6, 1977**

Site: Denver Sporting House, 5151 South Syracuse, Englewood, Colorado 80110. Phone: 303-779-0700.

Facilities: 15 regulation, indoor, four-walled courts, with an exhibition court featuring a glass front wall.

Dates: March 3-6, 1977.

Entry Deadline: Tuesday, February 15, 1977. Entries received late cannot be guaranteed a souvenir shirt.

Entry fee: \$25

Sanction: By National Racquetball Club (N.R.C.).

Official Ball: Seamco 559 (green).

Awards: \$7,500 in prize money in Men's Singles; \$2,500 in prize money in Ladies Singles.

Mail Entries To: Rick Schliebe, Denver Sporting House, 5151 South Syracuse, Englewood, CO 80110.

Make Check Payable To: Denver Sporting House

Please enter me in: ☐ Men's Pro-Am Singles

☐ Women's Pro-Am Singles

Shirt Size: ☐ Small ☐ Medium ☐ Large ☐ X-Large

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (Bus.) _____ Phone (Res.) _____

Tournament Headquarters; Rodeway Inn, phone 303-771-6911.

UPCOMING EVENTS

National Juniors

July 27-31, 1977, — remember that date! It's the long-awaited National Juniors Championship Tournament, the second annual U.S.R.A. sanctioned event.

The site is the Evergreen Park Bath and Tennis Club, in south suburban Chicago. Evergreen Park has eight racquetball courts, one with a glass side wall and glass back wall, to make the playing and spectating more exciting than ever.

But so much more will be going on at the Juniors.

For openers, the U.S.R.A. will again help out as many players as possible with a travel allowance. The first 200 entrants will receive 10¢ per mile for every mile he or she travels over 500 miles. The maximum allowance is \$100 for any one participant.

"The thing that makes the National Juniors such a great event," said the U.S.R.A.'s National Director Chuck Leve, "is that it gives as many kids as possible a chance to get to the tournament. We don't want money to be an obstacle for any youngster who wants to play."

In addition to the travel help, all players will be fed three meals a day, and all hotel lodging costs (except individual charges) will be paid for.

"Once we get them here," said Leve, "we know we have to feed them. Last year we were only able to give them breakfast and dinner, but this time, they'll get their lunches as well."

Another big bonanza of the tournament will be a trip for all players to the world-famous Marriott's Great America Theme Park, about an hour's drive from the Evergreen Park Club.

"I think the kids will like Great America more than they liked Walt Disney World last time," said Leve. "Great America has more rides and games than DisneyWorld and the lines are a lot shorter. They'll have a ball."

The Evergreen Park club is managed by pro handballer Vern Roberts, Jr.,

himself a veteran of handball's National Junior program. He and his staff are looking forward to doing everything possible to ensure the good time for all.

"I first met Joe Ardito (U.S.R.A. National Commissioner) at the Juniors," said Vern. "Joe told me recently what a fine tourney it was last year, but I promised Joe that this one will top that one by far."

Players will also receive the attractive Hang-ten souvenir shirts that have been used so successfully this season on the Seamco-Leach professional tour.

The most important thing for prospective players to do is make their travel arrangements early. The entry form in this issue includes a space for them to alert the U.S.R.A. as to their plans.

"This is most important," said Leve. "The great majority of the players will be flying into O'Hare International Airport, and that can be a traumatic experience for a young person who's never done it before. We want each entrant to let us know how and where he's arriving so we can meet his plane."

The logistics of the tournament will be co-ordinated between the U.S.R.A. National headquarters, the Evergreen Park Club and the Illinois Racquetball Association, U.S.R.A. affiliate.

"We're expecting over 300 players," said Leve. "And all players will be able to watch all matches for free."

Age categories are as follows; Boys 17-and-under, 15-and-under, and 13-and-under; Girls 17-and-under, and 14-and-under.

The entry fee is \$12 per player. All entries should be sent to U.S.R.A. National Juniors, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, IL 60076.



national juniors

OFFICIAL ENTRY

U.S.R.A. National Juniors National Championships

Site: Evergreen Park Bath & Tennis Club, 2700 W. 91st St., Evergreen Park, IL 60642. Phone: 312-425-7200.

Dates: July 27-31, 1977.

Entry Fee: \$12 per player.

Entry Deadline: July 1, 1977. No entries can be accepted late or without entry fee.

Sanction: By U.S. Racquetball Association

Official Ball: Seamco 558 (black).

Rules: U.S.R.A. rules and regulations apply.

Trophies: To first four places in each event.

Mail Entries To: U.S.R.A. National Juniors, 4101 Dempster St., Skokie, IL 60076. Make checks payable to: U.S.R.A.

Please enter me in: ☐ Boys 17-and-under ☐ Boys 15-and-under ☐ Boys 13-and-under

☐ Girls 17-and-under ☐ Girls 14-and-under

Shirt Size: ☐ XS ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ Area Code _____

I will be arriving by: ☐ Air ☐ Train ☐ Bus

My flight/train/bus number is: _____

My time of arrival is: _____

My place of arrival is: _____

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 U.S. Racquetball Association, Illinois Racquetball Association, or Evergreen Park Bath & Tennis Club, their respective agents, or any facility used for this tournament, for any and all injuries which may be suffered by my son or daughter in connection with my son's or daughter's competition in said tournament.

SIGNATURE (Parent) _____



United States Racquetball Association



Regions

UPCOMING EVENTS

Clemson U. Makes All Eight U.S.R.A. Regionals Set

With a pat on the back to racquetballer extraordinaire, Mr. Charlie White, the eighth U.S.R.A. Regional Tournament is now set at Clemson University March 17-20, 1977.

With the inclusion of Clemson as the Southeast host, plans are now proceeding on schedule to put on the eight best Regional Tournaments ever held.

The winners of the Men's Open and Women's Open titles in all Regional Tournaments will receive a round trip air fare from the U.S.R.A. to the National Championships in San Diego, June 4-11, 1977.

The choice of Clemson for the Southeast was verified just prior to Thanksgiving when the U.S.R.A. National Coordinator Terry Fancher met with White and Clemson officials to work out the details.

All Regionals with the exception of the Southeast will be March 31-April 3, 1977.

The Regionals are open to amateurs only. According to U.S.R.A. amateur/pro rules, those players who have received \$500 or more in the past 12 calendar months are not eligible.

"We recognize that the Regionals are really the Nationals for a great number of players," said Fancher. "And it's for this reason that we want the Regionals to be the best run of our tournaments each year. We're planning on having a representative at each one, if possible."

Players needing entry forms should write or call the following tournament directors for their Regional:

Northeast

Kevin York, Down East Court Club, 170 U.S. Route #1, Falmouth, Maine 04105. Phone: 207-781-4281.

Mideast

Fred Zitzer, Supreme Court, 5580 Monroe, Sylvania, OH 43560. Phone: 419-885-4643.

Southeast

Charlie White, RPA Clemson University, Clemson, SC 29631. Phone: 803-656-2477.

Central

Bob Keenan, P. O. Box 203, Wales, WI 53183. Phone: 414-784-1580 (Site: The Racquetball Club, West Allis, WI).

South Central

Ray Stern, Stern's Health Club, 5919 Forest Lane, Dallas, Texas 75230. Phone: 214-233-0123.

Southwest

Dan Seaton, 3727 Centennial Circle, Las Vegas, NV 89121. Phone: 702-451-5952. (Site: University of Nevada, Las Vegas).

Midwest

Dick Kincade, Court Sports, 222 N. 44th St., Lincoln, NE 68503. Phone: 402-467-4616.

Northwest

Bob Fuller, Cornell Court Club, 13939 N.W. Cornell Rd., Portland, OR 97229. Phone: 503-645-3535.

Players should note the Regional boundaries on the map in this issue. All players should play in the Regional assigned to their area, however, if another site is more convenient, players may play in an adjoining regional, with U.S.R.A. permission.

Any questions regarding Regional policy should be directed to Terry Fancher at U.S.R.A. headquarters.

USRA-NRC

ahc

1977 LEACH-SEAMCO PRO-AM RACQUETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

PLAYERS ARE LIMITED TO 2 EVENTS MAXIMUM.

LOCATION: ATLAS HEALTH CLUB, San Diego, Ca.
DATE: June 4-11, 1977
SANCTION: By the National Racquetball Club (N.R.C.)
 U.S. Racquetball Assn. (U.S.R.A.)
OFFICIAL BALL: SEAMCO 558 (black) in all amateur events
 SEAMCO 559 (green) in all professional events.
RULES: U.S.R.A.-N.R.C. rules and regulations
 apply if two events entered, players may
 have back to back matches. Eleven point
 tie breaker rule in effect.
TROPHIES: Trophies: To first 4 places in each amateur event.

ENTRY FEE:

\$25 per person for first event. If player
 enters second event, that event is \$15.
 Men or women's pro singles \$50.00.

ENTRY DEADLINE:

In our possession by 6 pm May 25, 1977.
 Prescribed fee must accompany entry
 form. Entries received after the deadline
 or unsigned, or without fee will not be
 accepted.

STARTING TIME:

Please call (714) 298-1616 June 1st after
 12 Noon.

PRIZE MONEY:

\$12,000 Men's Pro Singles; minimum
 \$3,000 Women's Pro Singles. minimum

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM AND/OR ATLAS HOTEL ROOM RESERVATION**ENTRY DEADLINE. . . BY 6 P.M. MAY 25, 1977**

NAME	AGE	CLUB
ADDRESS	CITY	ZIP
NAME OF DOUBLES PARTNER	AGE	CLUB

Please enter me in:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| ☐ Amateur Open Singles | ☐ Golden Master Singles (55 & over) | ☐ Men's Master Doubles (45 & over) |
| ☐ Pro Men's Singles | ☐ Women's Amateur Singles | ☐ Golden Master Doubles (55 & over) |
| ☐ Senior Singles (35 & over) | ☐ Amateur Open Doubles | ☐ Women's Amateur Doubles |
| ☐ Master Singles (45 & over) | ☐ Men's Senior Doubles (35 & over) | ☐ Women's Pro Singles |

Each of the following Atlas Hotels have set aside a block of 100 rooms for participants and guests during the tournament

Mission Valley Inn Room Rates (per day)

Single \$19.00
 Double \$24.00

Town & Country Hotel Room Rates (per day)

Garden	Highrise
Single \$23.00	\$26.00
Double \$28.00	\$31.00

Add \$4.00 for each additional person in the same room.

A 6% city room tax will be added as applicable to the above net rates

Please reserve, and confirm by return mail, () room(s) at The Mission Valley Inn _____, Town & Country Hotel _____

Enclosed one nights deposit _____ Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____

If you cancel reservations at least 15 days prior to start of the tournament your deposit will be refunded.

WAIVER: 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 Atlas Health Club, the U.S. Racquetball Assn. or National Racquetball Club, their respective agents, or any facility used for this tournament, for any and all injuries which may be suffered by me in connection with my competition in said tournament.

Signature _____ Ph. _____ Partner's Signature _____ Ph. _____

Please make room reservation or entry check (money order) payable to: **Atlas Health Club.**

Mail Entry Form and/or Room Reservation to: Atlas Health Club, 901 Hotel Circle San Diego, CA 92138

TWO OF THE TOP SEEDED IN SAN DIEGO

WHETHER YOU'RE A PLAYER OR SPECTATOR AT THE LEACH-SEAMCO PRO-AM RACQUETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS YOU'LL ENJOY SAN DIEGO'S MISSION VALLEY AND THE ATLAS HOTELS.

MISSION VALLEY INN

The Mission Valley Inn is literally within a passing shot of the Atlas Health Club, home of the 1977 Leach-Seamco Pro-Am Racquetball Championships. With three swimming pools (four if you count the 25-yard lap pool at the Health Club), therapy pool, plenty of patio space and lawn, the Mission Valley Inn is the ideal place for outdoor living and physical recreation enthusiasts.

Spread about its 10-acres, the Inn has 210 deluxe air-conditioned rooms and suites and is known for its casual luxury.

The colorful and exciting Red Candle Steak House is famous for the finest charcoal broiled steaks in town. The adjoining show lounge is a center for fun and top name entertainment. There is a 24-hour coffee shop and just next door is the Bottle Shop with a complete selection of beverages and delicatessen items.

The Hotel Circle location makes it easy for visitors to get around to the many popular San Diego attractions. But tours to many points around the county and to Tijuana can easily be arranged.

TOWN AND COUNTRY HOTEL

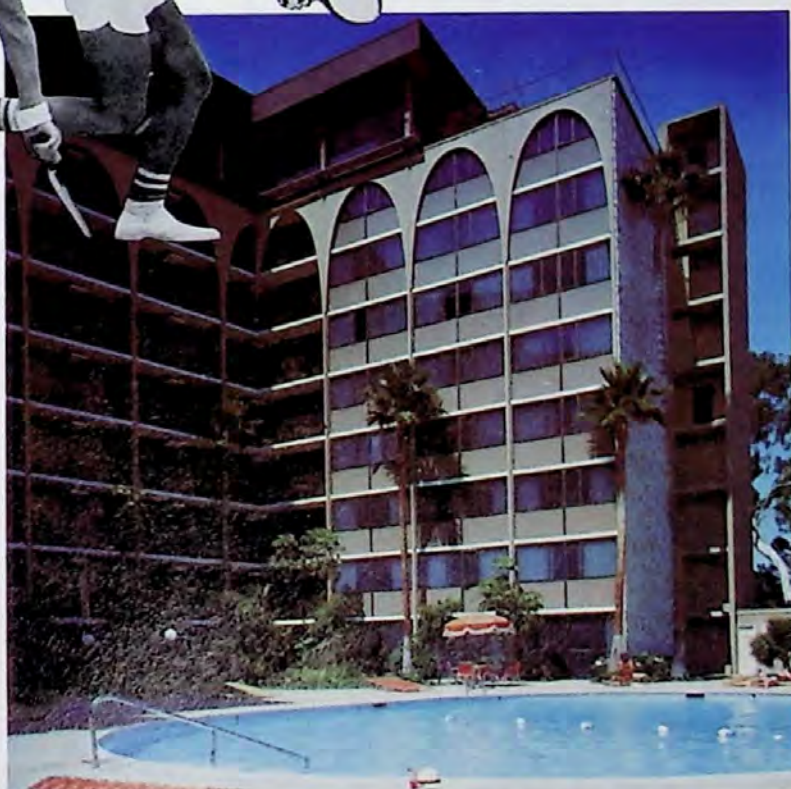
The Town and Country has all the amenities of a fine uptown hotel with the easy living charm of the country . . . and its within an easy walk of the Atlas Health Club. The Town and Country has 1,000 air-conditioned rooms in two highrises and many one and two-story garden style buildings.

Dining and entertainment are yours just about anyway you like them. Le Pavillon, San Diego's newest and most elegant restaurant and lounge, features French-Continental cuisine and sits atop the East Highrise offering an excellent view of Mission Valley. Additionally, there is the Gourmet Room Restaurant and Gold Coast Lounge and two coffee shops, the Lanai and the 24-hour Coffee House. . . plus Crystal T's Emporium; an elegant but funky restaurant/disco.

And more. . . beauty, barber and gift shops, airline ticket and car rental services, four swimming pools, sauna, whirlpool and a shuffleboard court.

ATLAS **ah** HOTELS

WHERE THE DIFFERENCE IS THE SERVICE



Nationals Again Slated For San Diego

The Atlas Health Club, San Diego, California will again host the U.S.R.A.-N.R.C. National Racquetball Championships, June 4-11, 1977.

Twelve brackets of play for men and women, both professional and amateur will highlight the National Tournament week. Additionally, a players banquet, hospitality and closed circuit television will again make the Nationals the zenith of the 1976-77 season.

Who will win the coveted men's professional singles title and the alluring \$4,000 first place prize? Who will be able to survive the grueling pace of the Men's Amateur Open draw, and will he then move straight into the pros as did last year's champ Ben Koltun?

Will Charlie Brumfield be out of his slump in time to regain his number one position? Can Peggy Steding make it three in a row in the women's professional division? Will upsets abound in the seniors division again this year?

All these questions and more will be answered during the National Tournament, sponsored by Leach Industries and Seamco Sporting Goods.

"We're looking forward to the greatest tournament in the history of racquetball," said Chuck Leve, the U.S.R.A.'s National Director. *"We thought last season was excellent, but we've made some improvements from a year ago that will make 1977's event even more enjoyable."*

Organizationally, nothing could top 1976's version, and the U.S.R.A. will again call upon the top floor managers in the nation to help run the multitude of matches that the Nationals call for.

In case you missed last year's Nationals, the Atlas Health Club is one of the most amenity-rich clubs in the world. The 1.7 million dollar facility sports whirlpools, saunas, lavish exercise areas, an outdoor swimming pool, jogging track and even outdoor tennis courts.

And the location couldn't be better, — a scant 50 yards from the Mission Valley Inn, a beautiful Atlas Hotel, the tournament headquarters. Mission Valley Inn, with its excellent dining facilities, three outdoor swimming pools, outdoor jacuzzi, and strategic location on San Diego's world-famous Hotel Circle, make the tournament headquarters, the place to be in San Diego.

The Atlas Health Club also has two beautiful glass back walled courts for all key matches. Tickets are now on sale and players or fans interested should contact the Atlas Health Club (see entry form for address and phone).

"The ticket situation will be handled much differently than last year," said Jerry Sandstrom, executive vice president of the Atlas Hotel Corporation, and the man responsible for all the local organization.

"We will be selling tickets at a more reasonable price on a per round basis this time," said Sandstrom. *"We will still offer reserved seating for the entire tournament, but it won't be the only choice."*

One thing Sandstrom did maintain would be the same as a year ago is the tight security around the championship

court. But with the new ticket policy, there will be full stands ensured from the quarters on.

"Since so many more people will be able to afford seeing a few matches," he said, *"we expect to fill up the stands virtually every night."*

The competitive highlight will be the professional divisions, into which Leach and Seamco have put \$15,000 in prize money.

"This is the one for all the marbles," said Charlie Drake, Leach's racquetball division manager. *"Everybody will be going all out for the National title."*

Attractive display booths for national manufacturers will also be an integral part of the tournament, for the browsing convenience of players and fans.

All this, plus the crowning of the national champions in 10 amateur events as well as the pros, makes the National Championships truly the most outstanding event of the year.

"It's the highlight, no doubt of that," said Leve. *"The Nationals is truly where it's at."*

We look forward to seeing you all, in San Diego, June 4-11, 1977.

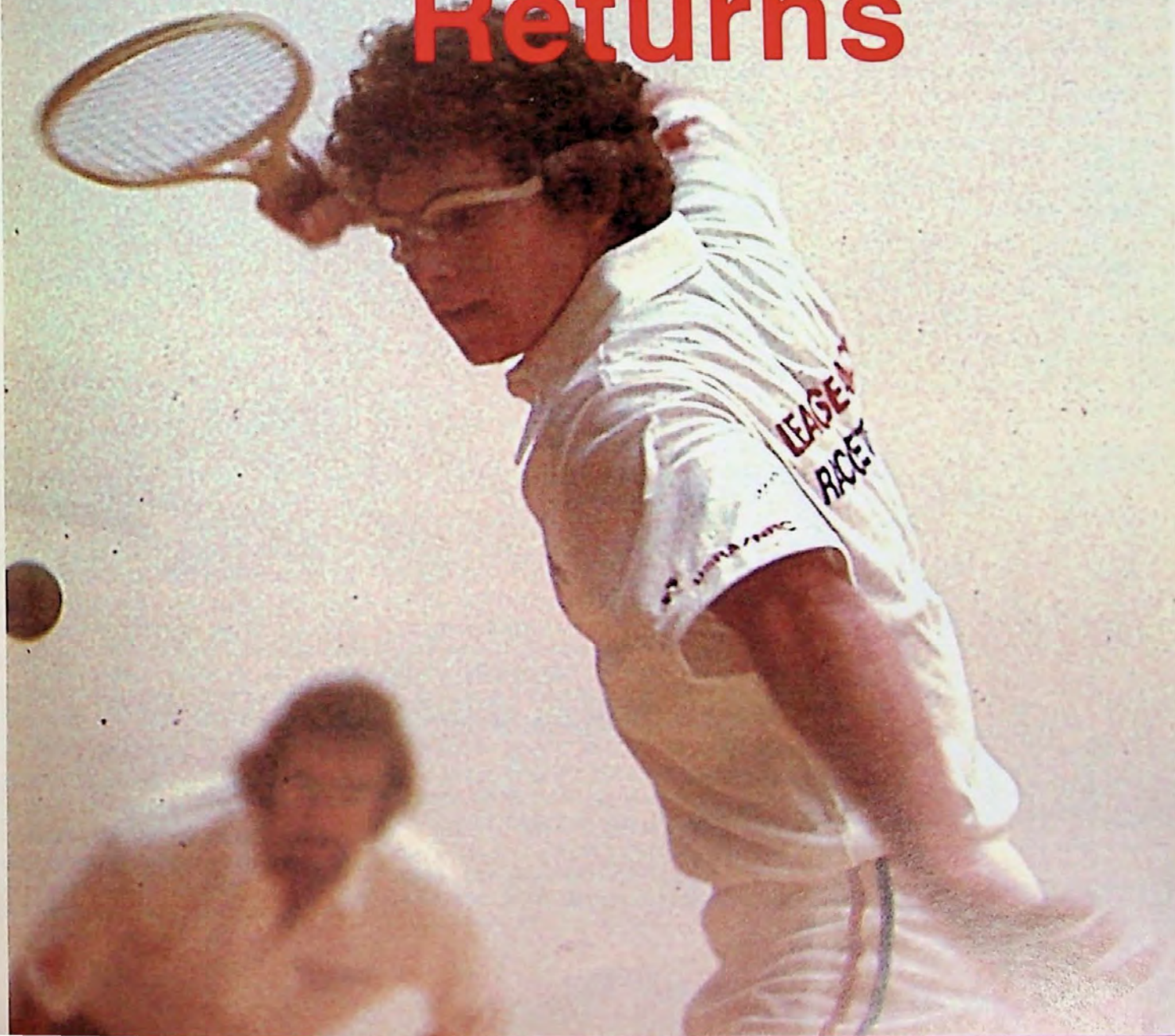
1977-78 Pro Bids Now Being Accepted

The N.R.C. has announced that bids are now being accepted from potential hosts for the pro tour of 1977-78. Any interested club should contact Chuck Leve at N.R.C. Headquarters. A host bid package will then be sent to you.

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Tournament victor Marty Hogan winds up for his vicious serve in the finals against Brumfield. Note the wrist cock, concentration and eye contact.
—Photo by Ray Thompson

The Conqueror Returns



SEAMCO
LEACH

N.R.C. PRO TOUR

3

Burlington

It was in this town, on this court, in this month a year ago that Marty Hogan stunned the racquetball world with his first professional victory. And although he defeated Steve Keeley for the title that year, and Steve Serot in the semi-finals, the biggest win of the tournament was his victory over national champ Charlie Brumfield in the quarter-finals.

Since that tournament things have continued to be bright for the 18-year-old Hogan, who now stands atop the heap in the current professional rankings. But many, many players and fans still refused to believe that he was, indeed, the dethroner of Brumfield.

At the 1976 New England Pro-Am, this October past on the Seamco-Leach Pro Tour, Marty Hogan did it again to Brumfield, this time in the finals and this time more convincingly than ever.

Hogan, who had one tough match in the entire tournament, was at his best in the championship round, where he bested the Brum 21-8, 21-18. He convinced everybody this Sunday afternoon.

"Hogan could be unbeatable on this court," said Brumfield after the match. Charlie was referring to the full glass side wall at The Court Club, which he feels gives the hard hitters an advantage.

Whatever the reasons, this was Hogan's match and tournament. He was confident, loose, and poised. He showed power, control, and devastating serves. He was the dominant force.

Game one was all Hogan, and can be best summed up as no contest. From the onset Brumfield seemed slow, to the point of lackadaisical, and Hogan, far to the extreme, was psyched to his peak. Charlie seemed to be saving himself, but for what, nobody could guess.

Hogan built a huge lead, 9-1 and 12-2 and then coasted into the five minute rest period between the first two games.

The crowd's murmur between games was audible to most.

"What's the matter with Brumfield? He's not even trying. He looks like he's giving up."

The matter with Brumfield was the same problem that has plagued him all season long, — an inability to "get up" for his matches. Perhaps complacency has finally hit the champ, perhaps it's a physical woe. Whatever it is, — Brumfield's game is far below his high standards of a year ago.

He came back in the second game, making it a true contest and thrilling the fans with the kind of racquetball action they had hoped to see.

In fact, Brumfield appeared to be in control of the second game, playing well, hitting his share of the cracks on serves, and moving Hogan around. But never did Hogan lose his intensity and at 14-6 he began an amazing run for the lead.

As the lead dwindled, Brumfield began playing more conservatively, waiting for Hogan mistakes. They never came. Instead, Hogan seemed to sense the Brumfield let-down and he began hitting the shots he missed earlier. Hogan caught the champ at 16-all, ran to 19-16 and held on for a 21-18 victory.

"It's amazing," said another pro. *"When Hogan gets going, there's no way to stop him."*

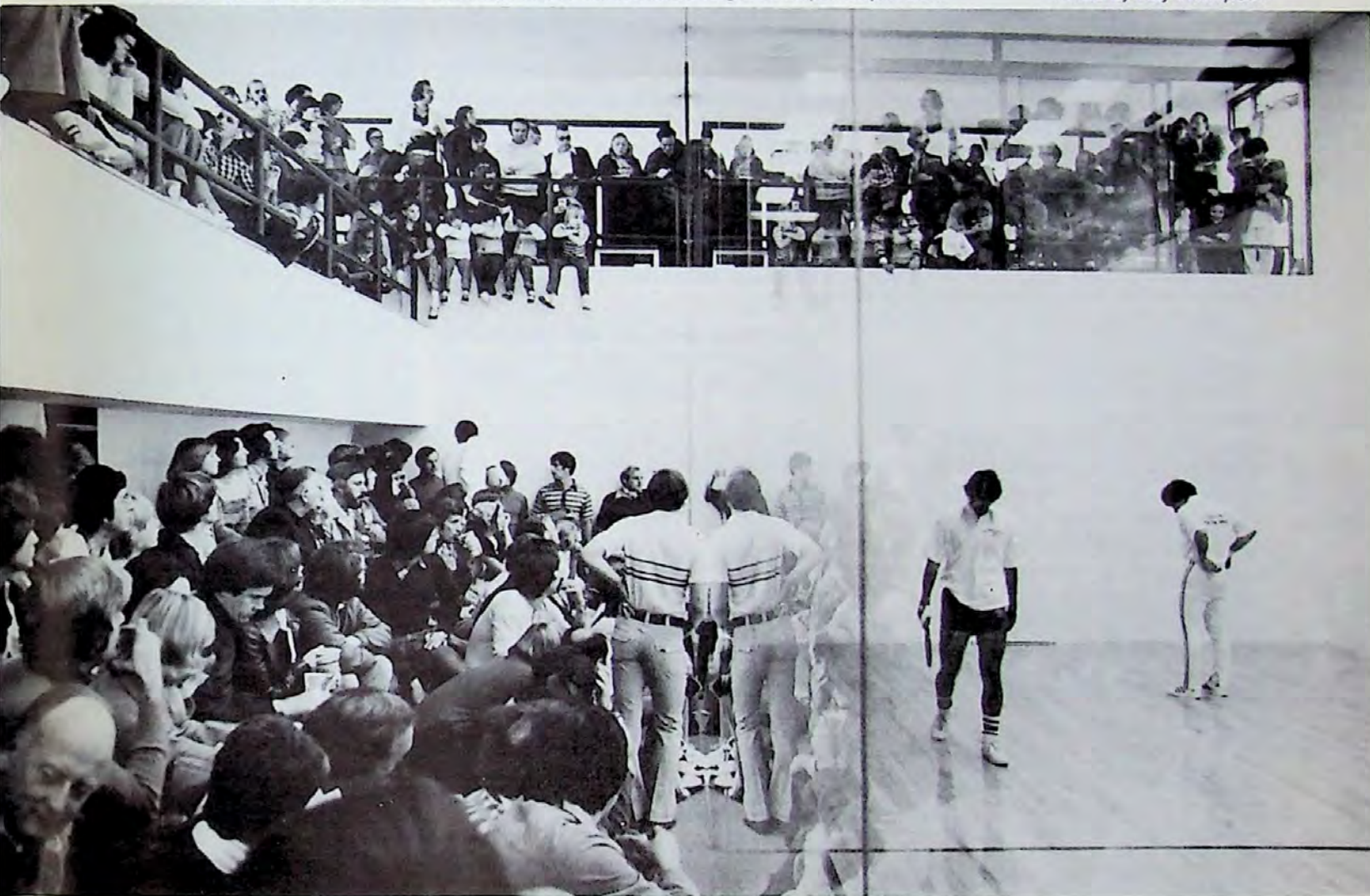
The best match of the tournament for sheer excitement and closeness was



Seamco's National Sales Manager Bob Coate (l.) and U.S.R.A.'s Joe Ardito talk over mutual ideas during a lull in the New England Pro Tour stop.
—Photo by Ray Thompson

A good shot of the full gallery as they stretch between games of the Brumfield-Hogan championship match.

—Photo by Ray Thompson



Hogan's win over Steve Strandemo in the second semi-finals match Saturday evening.

Playing easily his best match of the season, Strandemo was outstanding in his every move. He handled the booming Hogan serve better than had ever been seen before, not letting the blistering drives phase him a bit.

"Strandemo's got his thumb stuck on serve return," quipped Brumfield during the match. "Everything Hogan gives him, he returns to the ceiling."

Taking the Hogan effectiveness on the serve away from him made this a real battle. Strandemo gutted the game out, and even when down 17-20, he came back, forcing the encounter to 20-20, but it was here that one of his few mistakes cost him dearly, as a skipped set-up at 20-20 gave Hogan the game.

But the relentless Strandemo held up in the second game. Neither player was killing particularly well, and Strandemo scurried around the court, covering it like a man possessed, as Hogan consistently left his shots up.

They traded points throughout the game, when at 20-20, another Strandemo mistake, appeared to end the match. A mis-hit forehand traveled too fast to the back wall as Hogan set up for the inevitable forehand kill in the right corner. But the ball never got to him as it caught the crack in the glass back wall juncture and rebounded freakily past the amazed Hogan, —21-20 for Strandemo and into the tie-breaker.

But Strandemo's game was up. Giving away over 10 years was too much for the fatigued San Diegan, who really



Brumfield goes through his "blind man" routine just prior to his semi-final match against Wagner. Charlie was no blind man in this one.

-Photo by Ray Thompson

could have won this one. Hogan still was not serving effectively, hitting many more short serves than is his custom. Strandy tried to take advantage but couldn't as Hogan built an 8-3 lead, and settled for an 11-4 tie-breaker win.

The upper bracket semi-final pitted Richard Wagner against Brumfield, as the two friends and on-the-road roommates battled each other.

Game one had the markings of a terrific contest, as Wagner continued his fine serving and court coverage and Brumfield retaliated with fine front court retrieving. At 13-all however, the tempo changed as Wagner began missing his shots and Brumfield continued to apply pressure. Charlie's re-kills and passing attack became devastating and Wagner couldn't dent the scoreboard again for a 21-13 Brumfield win.

Game two tallied the identical score, but it was achieved in a far different manner. This game was all Brumfield, who maintained the control and pace to his liking. Wagner got down and never recovered as Brumfield took him in a "routiner" again, 21-13.

Friday's quarter-finals produced only one outstanding match, Brumfield's three game win over Mike Zeitman, who played like a champ at times this weekend and had his problems at others.

As it turned out, the first game of this fine battle was the best single game Zeitman has probably ever played. His racquet directed kill after kill into the corners, both forehand and backhand. He moved Brumfield all over the court, he was overpowering. That's the only explanation for his 21-6 first game win.

The second game was not so easy. In fact, this time it was Brumfield who started to pull away after a tight early game. From seven-all Brumfield put together a couple of big innings and before Zeitman knew what hit him, the game was in Charlie's pocket 21-9.

The tie-breaker was amazing. Brumfield entered the court like the Brumfield of old, complete with the Brumfield "rage." He was so "up" he was shaking, literally, but it didn't affect his shots, as he completely dominated the game. At 5-0 Zeitman called a time out. Another one came at 8-0, but by now all was lost, including Mike's concentration. Brumfield continued the aggressiveness that was lacking earlier and ended the match 11-0 to move to the semi's.

Wagner and Jerry Hilecher met in the next quarter-final match and Wagner continued his strong showings, with

especially effective drive serves to the backhand side. Hilecher, frankly, was out-hustled and perhaps overconfident as Wagner retrieved in his usual total coverage manner.

The scores were 21-13, 21-11, with the outcome never seriously in doubt.

Strandemo hosted 18-year-old Ben Koltun, who was making his first trip to the quarter-finals this season, after topping Keeley in his round of 16 match. This was the second consecutive meeting of Strandy and Koltun, but this time the veteran Strandemo had everything under control.



Jerry Hilecher gets set to lower the boom on a forehand drive against Wagner in their quarter-final match. Unfortunately for Hilecher, there weren't enough booms in his arsenal this day.

-Photo by Ray Thompson

Steve Strandemo flies through the air as he retrieves a Hogan shot in their semi-final battle. This was one of Strandemo's finest efforts.

—Photo by Peter Schiller



Unlike their meeting a month earlier, when the match went three games, Steve really went to town on the youngster. Koltun never got into either game, as Strandemo showed the poise and percentage racquetball that is his trademark.

Here the scores were 21-13, 21-8 and they pretty much tell the story.

Hogan and Davey Bledsoe were the fourth quarter-final match-up, and for the second time in as many meetings this season, Hogan was too much for the hard playing, but overpowered Bledsoe.

The scores came out 21-7, 21-13 and were a true indication of the match.

"I didn't do anything today," said Bledsoe, "but I learned a lot. Next time it will be far different."

The words were prophetic, as the results of the Ft. Lauderdale stop proved.

Brumfield here readies to retrieve a Mike Zeitman shot in their quarter-final encounter. Zeitman was able to put one and a-half super games together, but Brum took the match.

—Photo by Peter Schiller



The round of 16 held some beautifully played matches, with some real surprises. Foremost, of course, was Koltun's upset of Keeley 21-9, 10-21, 11-8. Keeley, having the worst year of his career, just couldn't keep the aggressive and dedicated Koltun at bay.

Zeitman had a real tussle before doing in Bill Schmidtke, the former national champ. It was a close match throughout, as usual when these two players meet. Their styles conflict, which always makes for interesting matches. This one went to Zeitman 21-16, 18-21, 11-7.

Bledsoe drew the rapidly-improving Serot, who, like Keeley is not having the kind of year everybody expected of him. But Serot, whose game hit rock-bottom a few months ago, is definitely on the way back. However, Bledsoe was up to the task and held off the driving lefty 13-21, 21-18, 11-7.



Peggy Steding zeroes in on another kill shot in her championship match win against Janell Marriott. Steding, as usual, was occupying center court position.

—Photo by Peter Schiller

In the ladies professional division it again was Peggy Steding, holding off all comers for her third consecutive tour win. Her championship round opponent was Janell Marriott, who had been a whisker away the last time out and looked to make a real run at the champ here.

The first game gave no indication of that, however, as Steding kept Marriott off-balance throughout with a combination of good, hard serves, fly kills and superb maintaining of center court position.

From the outset, the combination of fly shots and crisp passes down both lines kept Janell guessing, and the outcome indicated that factor, 21-7.

The second game was a complete turnaround. Marriott seemed to find the groove she was looking for in game one, and utilized excellent serves to consistently come up with weak returns and the resulting outcome of points.

Steding re-grouped at mid-game and put on a late rush, attempting to overcome a big Marriott lead, but there wasn't enough there as Janell held on for a 21-15 victory that forced the tie-breaker.

And the 11-pointer was all Steding. She was like the running back who smells the goal line and once she got the ball inside the 20, she was gone. A 7-0 advantage was hers before Marriott could break a sweat, despite two strategic time outs by Marriott, who was desperately trying to turn the tide. But as everybody knows, the tide isn't turnable and Peggy captured the match quickly, 11-1, to once again claim the \$800 first place prize.

The semi-finals went the usual route, as the other top two ladies continued to dominate the field. Steding's opponent was Kathy Williams, who got off to her characteristic slow start, which allowed Steding to build a cushion of points that was never overcome.

Riding a flurry of Williams errors in addition to her own fine play, Steding dominated the game, 21-10.

Game two was equally one-sided as again, Williams never was able to get untracked. Steding, sensing victory, only got stronger. Williams was unable to mount any offensive thrust at all, even less than the first game. The result was her defensive play versus Steding's offensive game and that inevitably spells trouble for any foe of the champ.

Kathy was having trouble during the entire match in solving the full glass side wall of the Court Club's exhibition court. But for whatever reason, the game and match went to Mrs. Steding 21-7.

In the bottom bracket, Marriott had her hands full against Shannon Wright, who was to make a name for herself a month later. This time, however, it was Marriott who held the edge, utilizing a strong offensive game plan.

Wright, who to this point of the season, relied primarily on defensive ceiling balls and passes, couldn't counter the back wall kills and powerful fly shooting of Marriott.

It seems that whenever defense runs into offense on the ladies tour, it is offense that invariably wins. Such was the case in the Wright-Marriott semi-final match, and was most likely the ingredient which forced Shannon to alter her game style in time for Ft. Lauderdale.

The first game went to Marriott 21-18, and game two was a virtual carbon copy of that. Without the strong offense to build a big run of points, Wright was always just those few numbers away from Janell.

To her credit, Marriott did not waver once in her game plan and the second game score was 21-16 for the match.

The quarter-finals had two outstanding matches, both of which possibly hold some view of the future, as the ladies division continues to improve.

National amateur champ Sarah Green proved to be a most difficult opponent for Marriott, despite the strange scores of the match 7-21, 21-0, 11-7. That's not a mis-print, folks, Marriott didn't miss a shot in the second game and after it reached the insurmountable position, Green let it go.

But the strong third game proved that Sarah Green will soon be a force to reckon with.

Williams was having her problems as well in her match with Jean Sauser, but the tempo was in Williams' favor after she dropped game one 21-19.

The second game was close throughout, but Kathy's power overcame Jean's court coverage for 21-17 win. The tie-breaker was all Williams 11-3.

The two other quarter-final matches were routine as Steding downed Camille McCarthy 21-1, 21-4, while Wright disposed of Sue Carow 21-12, 21-3.

NOTES OF THE TOURNAMENT . . .

98 entrants competed in the amateur open division of the event, and a good cast of players battled it out. The champ proved to be Steve Mondry, who traveled all the way from San Diego to capture the crown. Mondry stopped Champaign, Illinois' Charlie Rish in the finals 21-16, 18-21, 11-9 . . . Rish defeated Toronto's Manny Gregorio in his semi 21-8, 12-21, 11-9 while Mondry beat veteran Mike Luciw 21-14, 12-21, 11-10 . . . The amateur division was well contested and close throughout . . . Rish enjoyed his win over Charlie Garfinkel in the quarters, as every quarter, semi, and championship match went to the tie-breaker . . . Our thanks as usual to the wonderful job the Court Club did as host. Club manager/pro John Kruger, ably assisted by Bob Comolli, runs as good a tournament as there is in the east . . . Owners Cliff Johnson and Charlie Hubbard showed their usual generosity, warmth and co-operation as they annually do . . . The women's amateur division was won by Dena Rassenti, now in Montreal 21-6, 21-13 over Judy Huhta, the U.S.R.A.'s Michigan state chairperson. Rassenti stopped Brooklyn's Francine Davis in the semi's 13 and 16, while Huhta beat Montreal's Lisa Marcus 20 and 10 . . . Garfinkel captured the seniors division easily, defeating Avon, Massachusetts' Leo Fonseca in the finals 21-2, 21-11. Gar stopped Hal Greig in the semi's 11 and 8, while Fonseca topped Herm Neumeier 10-21, 21-20, 11-5 . . .

Disappointments in the pro division included John Lynch's poor showing against Wagner, Randy Stafford's upset loss to Terry Fancher in the 32's, Luciw who was topped by Gordon Kelly, Charlie Drake, who barely lost to Ken Wong, and Mondry who was edged by Mike Romano . . . Nice to see Drake and Seamco's Bob Coate on hand to watch the festivities . . . they were met with over-flowing crowds each evening as one owner estimated the gallery of 450-plus on Saturday night . . . tourney was visited by Thomas Salmon, unsuccessful candidate for governor, one night, who is an active racquetballer. ●

New York Times reporter Carll Tucker hits a "forehand" against Steding in a practice game to truly determine if anybody can play racquetball. Result: ANYBODY can.

-Photo by Ray Thompson



Men Professional (First Round):

Kevin Corrigan def. Vince Dostie 21-12, 21-1; Terry Fancher def. Manny Gregorio 21-10, 18-21, 11-8; Ray Capitanelli def. Skip Beattie 21-10, 21-8; Dan Bertolucci def. Tom Callahan 21-18, 16-21, 11-7; Steve Dubord def. Dave Yurgaitis (default); Jim Dollinger def. Brian Valin 21-7, 21-12; Mike Romano def. Steve Wilcox 21-4, 21-1; Bill Burnett def. Jim Pruitt 21-18, 20-21, 11-2; Jerry Zuckerman def. Laverne Dickinson 21-3, 21-10; Steve Sulli def. Fred L'Esperance 21-9, 21-5; John Spencer def. Bruce Lewis 21-10, 21-13; Charlie Rish def. Paul Lazure 21-4, 21-9; Ed Remen def. Cliff Dawson 21-9, 21-12; Phil Crabbe def. Kevin Becker 20-21, 21-12, 11-2.

(Second Round):

Charlie Brumfield def. Corrigan 21-3, 21-8; Fancher def. Randy Stafford 21-7, 21-17; Mike Zeitman def. Capitanelli 17-21, 21-3, 11-5; Bill Schmidtke def. Bertolucci 21-4, 21-6; Richard Wagner def. Dubord 21-4, 21-4; John Lynch def. Dollinger 21-10, 21-3; Romano def. Steve Mondry 13-21, 21-20, 11-10; Jerry Hilecher def. Burnett 21-11, 21-12; Steve Strandemo def. Zuckerman 21-10, 21-10; Ken Wong def. Charlie Drake 21-10, 13-21, 11-9; Ben Koltun def. Sulli 21-17, 21-16; Steve Keeley def. Spencer 21-8, 21-8; Dave Bledsoe def. Rish 21-13, 21-6; Steve Serot def. Remen 21-3, 21-5; Gordon Kelly def. Mike Luciw 21-8, 13-21, 11-8; Marty Hogan def. Crabbe 21-5, 21-9.

(Third Round): Brumfield def. Fancher 21-12, 21-9; Zeitman def. Schmidtke 21-16, 18-21, 11-7; Wagner def. Lynch 21-9, 21-8; Hilecher def. Romano 21-6, 21-7; Strandemo def. Wong 21-8, 21-16; Koltun def. Keeley 21-9, 10-21, 11-8; Bledsoe def. Serot 13-21, 21-18, 11-7; Hogan def. Kelly 21-13, 21-9.

(Quarter-finals): Brumfield def. Zeitman 6-21, 21-9, 11-0; Wagner def. Hilecher 21-13, 21-11; Strandemo def. Koltun 21-13, 21-8; Hogan def. Bledsoe 21-7, 21-13.

(Semi-finals): Brumfield def. Wagner 21-13, 21-13; Hogan def. Strandemo 21-20, 20-21, 11-4.

(Championship): Hogan def. Brumfield 21-8, 21-18.



*Tourney Director John Kruger (r.) checks out the draw sheets with his fine assistant Bob Comolli (l.).
-Photo by Ray Thompson*

Women Professional (First Round): Peggy Steding, Shannon Wright, Janell Marriott, byes; Camille McCarthy def. Dena Rassenti 20-21, 21-19, 11-0; Jean Sauser def. Mary Dee 21-4, 21-5; Kathy Williams def. Francine Davis 21-8, 21-6; Sarah Green def. Kathy Wilson 21-1, 21-1; Sue Carow def. Lisa Marcus 21-5, 21-5.

(Quarter-finals): Steding def. McCarthy 21-1, 21-4; Williams def. Sauser 19-21, 21-17, 11-3; Marriott def. Green 7-21, 21-0, 11-7; Wright def. Carow 21-12, 21-3.

(Semi-finals): Steding def. Williams 21-10, 21-7; Marriott def. Wright 21-18, 21-16.

(Championship): Steding def. Marriott 21-7, 15-21, 11-1.



Ardito (up. rt.) and Terry Fancher (top) conduct a meeting with state chairmen from the Northeast during the New England Pro-Am.

-Photo by Ray Thompson

TOURNAMENT RESULTS

LEACH
SEAMCO®

N.R.C. PRO TOUR

4

**Ft.
Lauderdale**

**“We
All
Face
This**

**Day
Sooner Or Later”**

Hogan gets set to powder a back wall set up against surprise finalist Davey Bledsoe in Ft. Lauderdale. Beginners should note how Bledsoe, although in front court, still watches the ball.

At 9:55 p.m. Friday, December 3, 1976 in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida a new era began in racquetball. It is the era of Marty Hogan, number one.

An hour and one-half earlier, defending national champ Charlie Brumfield went down to defeat in his quarter-final match against Richard Wagner. As Hogan rolled out match point against Mike Zeitman in his quarter-final he then became the top ranked player in the world through the N.R.C.'s complicated point system.

Hogan went on to capture the championship at the Ft. Lauderdale Courtrooms stop on the Seamco-Leach Pro Tour, making the win his third straight \$2,000 pay-off.

The final victim for the 18-year-old Hogan was Davey Bledsoe, who showed more spark and played better than ever before. Yet Hogan's ability to turn it on and off spelled the end for Bledsoe in a thrilling finale 12-21, 21-18, 11-4.

In the ladies division, 20-year-old Shannon Wright upset reigning national champ Peggy Steding to capture the \$800 first place prize 21-18, 21-19, giving Steding her first loss of the 1976-77 season.

But the drama of Ft. Lauderdale was the transition of power at the top of the men's professional heap. Wagner's defeat of Brumfield left the former champ hopelessly dejected and depressed, — facing the realities that four different opponents have now defeated him in four consecutive tournaments.

"I guess we all have to face this day sooner or later," said Brumfield, as he glanced around the gym area covered with wall posters of great athletic figures. *"I just have not been able to out-execute the younger players."*

The scores of the match were 21-14, 21-16 with both games highlighted by

Brumfield's lack of attack. Wagner, showing the poise and shotmaking usually reserved for older players, relentlessly took advantage of his opportunities. He made points out of set-ups, and earned set-ups out of superior control. It was, frankly, no contest.

What was interpreted as another indication of the transition of power within the pro ranks, was the fact that Hogan, although winning the tournament, did not play up to his usual excellence. He consistently did not get his first serve in, he left many shots up, and except for his red-hot play in his win over Zeitman, was inconsistent all week.

"All you have to do is try!" Hogan yelled at himself on the court all week. *"If you want to win, you will."*

In the finals, Bledsoe continued his outstanding play, shooting an amazing percentage of forehand right corner kills, and retrieving virtually every shot. He raced to a big lead (8-1 and 10-2) and when Hogan rallied to 12-15, Davey held him off and ran out in one inning.

In the second Bledsoe did everything he could to withstand the Hogan pressure. He used his three legal time outs; he constantly kept himself "up" by verbal banterings of encouragement; he continued to play offensive racquetball. But Hogan was too tough.

The game was a series of Bledsoe comebacks, from 1-8 to 8-9; from 11-17 to 15-19; from 15-20 to 18-20. His game and guts were on the line, but at 20-18 Hogan wound up and blasted a crack serve just behind the short line for an ace and game point.

The tie-breaker was all Hogan. He took a 4-1 advantage and mushroomed it to

7-2, then 10-2 as Bledsoe time outs did nothing but slightly delay the inevitable, — 11-4.

"Davey played the best match of his career," said one pro veteran, *"and he still couldn't beat Hogan, I don't know who can."*

That the time for Hogan's era is here is an undeniable racquetball fact. Holiday Inn rooms each evening, amid card games, backgammon and general conversation all centered on the hard-hitting St. Louisian. Experienced players were helping each other describe and analyze Hogan's swing, in order to hopefully extract the secret to its success.

"No, he does it this way," said one. *"No he cocks his wrist like this,"* said another. And they went, back and forth, back and forth. And through it all there sat Hogan, casually playing gin rummy with Ben Koltun. And no one wanted to analyze Charlie Brumfield's swing.

Perhaps some of them should have been describing the game of Steve Strandemo, who despite a near-loss to Koltun in the quarters, took Hogan to three games for the second straight tournament. Playing control and percentage racquetball to the height of its definition, Strandemo relentlessly executed his patient game.

His near-screen serve found cracks and weak returns enough to gain 10-3, 12-6 and 16-7 leads before Hogan cranked it up. And then he began his feared run toward 21, shaking off an earlier technical foul and missed shots. The atmosphere was tense as the score moved forward, 12-16, 14-18, 17-18 and then 18-20. It was a Strandemo ace for point 20 that seemed to seal the win which he got on the next rally.

The second game was identical to the first, with one major difference, — Hogan caught Strandemo this time, without ever looking back.

Marty was down 14-5, without the serve, and Strandemo seemed in complete command. He wasn't. Hogan scored twice in the ninth inning, and held Strandemo. He tallied four times in the 10th, and held Strandemo. He added five more in the 11th inning and within eight minutes he had scored 11 points and taken the lead. The final was 21-16 in an offensive flurry hard to imagine.

The tie-breaker was tight early as both players traded points to 5-5 until Hogan rushed for three quickies in the sixth inning, which never were compensated for, the final score being 11-6.

In the upper bracket Wagner, who had topped both Brumfield and Steve Serot on Friday, found he had little left when faced with a red-hot Bledsoe in the semi-finals.

A good early first game found Wagner getting stuck on point 8 as Bledsoe, in a fierce flurry of shooting, rolled to a 16-8 advantage. Wagner was able to feebly mount a comeback to 11-17, and 14-19, but Davey held on to win 21-14.

Game two was nothing. Nothing, that is, except near perfection on Bledsoe's part. In three innings he went from 1-1 to 11-1, increased the lead to 17-3 and that was that. A few late game points made the score somewhat respectable for Wagner 21-7.

"I tried everything I could to change his momentum," said the 20-year-old San Diegan. "I served drives, lobs, to his forehand, to his backhand; I tried intentional long serves, ceiling, around-the-walls, absolutely everything. And they were all answered by kill shots."

Ben Koltun (l.) watches as Steve Keeley follows through on an overhead ceiling ball. Koltun's upset of veteran Keeley allowed him to reach the quarters.



The two unreported quarter-final matches found Bledsoe squeaking past Jerry Hilecher, the only player to defeat Hogan this season. Scores were 21-9, 20-21, 11-9, in a most exciting match.

The last quarter found 18-year-old Koltun making his second trip to the eights, by again stopping veteran Steve Keeley in the round of 16, this time easily 21-11, 21-14. And for the third time this season, Koltun came up against Strandemo.

The match should have been won by Koltun. It went three 21-20, 13-21, 11-3 for Strandemo, but Ben served five times for game point in the first game, three times getting a routine set-up, and three times missing the shot, once hitting the ball about three feet.

"I think I buckled under the pressure," said Koltun. Strandemo just smiled. He's seen many buckle in the same circumstances.

No account of Ft. Lauderdale would be complete without relating the play of Mike Yellen, the tourney's youngest pro competitor at age 16. Yellen, a native of Detroit, was in his baptismal pro event and as they say, did very nicely, thank you.

After an easy round of 64 win, he ran up against Bill Schmidtke, more than double his age and twice amateur national champ. It was a nail-biter, but the youngster, showing poise that astounded onlookers, defeated the former champ 21-14, 19-21, 11-10.

Into the round of 16 he went, a rookie gladiator among the seasoned lions. This time Mike Zeitman was the foe and again the veteran player played for his life. Zeitman captured the match, in three but Yellen captured the eye of many a pro. The scores were 21-13, 16-21, 11-2.

"It seems like every tournament brings a newer, younger, excellent player," said Schmidtke, "I don't know when it will end."

It won't, Bill.

One other round of 16'er deserves mention, — Steve Serot's loss to Wagner. Serot has had a woeful year thus far, however, his play has been improving each time out. He has yet to break into the quarter-finals, but sparks of the "old" Serot were evident as he went down to a close 13-21, 21-20, 11-4 loss to Wagner. It appears that Serot is but a hair away from regaining the form that had him ranked number two for three years. And at age 21, the future is still ahead.

Kathy Williams goes for a backhand to the ceiling in her semi-final loss to Steding. Williams was able to make the match go three, but there her dream ended.

Your Neck Gets Stiff If You Look Over Your Shoulder

Has Peggy Steding's time finally come? It's too early to tell, and the current ladies professional champ has been too resourceful for too many years to let one loss bother her. But the fact remains that she seemed a little slower, and less overpowering in Ft. Lauderdale than in other tour stops this season.

On the other hand, Shannon Wright, who has been hot on Steding's trail for three years, showed that she has the ability to play the 40-year-old Texan even and then some. Showing off a new arsenal of offensive weapons, Wright captured the championship match 21-18, 21-19.

Thus in a stunning sequence of events, neither Steding nor Brumfield, the two top players going in, came out winners.

The entire match was a fierce struggle, with neither lady giving up one inch of territory won. Wright was able to build up a substantial first game lead, but Steding stalked back to 19-20, and there were actually few who thought at this juncture that anything except a Steding win would be the outcome.

Nobody asked Shannon, however, and she calmly regained the serve, took a mid-court set-up, and buried the Seamco 559 into the right corner for the game.

The second game was a bitter struggle, with the ladies actually exchanging words on the court after a slight collision that caused Steding to hit the hardwood. Never before could court observers remember such a situation, which amplifies the intensity of the match.

Again it was a close game, again it was a Steding comeback, and again she fell just short. This time it was 21-19 in a loss that brought uncommon tears to the eyes of the defeated.

In the semi-finals, gallant Kathy Williams, suffered through her third



Ladies winner Shannon Wright winds up for a kill into the right corner against Janell Marriott in their semi-final match. It was Wright's first N.R.C. win in over a year.

straight draw of Steding, this time giving Peggy a real run for her money (literally).

Game one was probably Kathy's best effort of the season, as she combined effective serves and good, long range shooting to keep Steding on the defensive. In a steamroller, Williams downed the champ 21-12.

Talk about steamrollers, — Steding was a real machine, bringing out her power weapons in the second game as she never let Williams get started. Kathy gave it a gutty effort but fell way short, 21-7.

"I think she worked too hard in a losing effort," said one of the Seamco representatives, Williams' sponsor. *"I'm afraid she'll tire in the tie-breaker."*

She did.

The 11 pointer was point-for-point to 5-all and then amazingly Steding reached back for what must have been her fifth wind, and ran the final six points for an 11-5 victory. Williams did, indeed, tire.

The bottom bracket semi-final found Wright and Janell Marriott, another arch-rivalry in a real tussle. Wright, recently signed by Leach Industries, has obviously taken advantage of the great wealth of court knowledge held by the players of that firm. Showing drive serves that resulted in aces, around-the-wall balls that got weak returns and overhead drives to the backhand, Shannon kept Janell off balance and at bay for a 21-19 first game win, holding off a late Marriott rally.

The second game was all Wright, as Marriott completely lost her range, making both forced and unforced errors. Wright continued to apply pressure and a 21-9 game two was the result.

The only close match of the quarter-finals was Williams win over Sue Carow 21-11, 13-21, 11-4. Williams has always been a nemesis for Carow, but Sue played well this time around, making her first real threat to reach the semi's this season.

In the other matches of the round Steding stopped Lyn McKie 21-4, 21-3; Wright topped Jean Sauser by the surprisingly lopsided scores of 21-4, 21-5; and Marriott downed up-and-coming Sarah Green 21-9, 21-16.

NOTES OF THE TOURNAMENT . . .

Nice to see two clubs now up in the Greater Miami area (both Ft. Lauderdale), with plans for three more on the boards. Most likely many more to come, as racquetball insiders are predicting South Florida to rise to the top five racquetball markets within a few years . . . Our thanks to Frank Johnson, Jim Lane, Nancy Hornack, Ken Hendricks, Don Kiels and the entire Florida Racquetball Association for their help and guidance . . . Management of the Courtrooms fine facility couldn't have been more gracious, — Dick First, Fred Blaess, Bruno Cerchiai and Ed Torkelson . . . The Ft. Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce did all they could except provide the world-famous weather that participants hoped for, — all we got were clouds and rain for five days . . . N.R.C.'s Chuck Leve snuck away Saturday morning to re-visit his alma

mater University of Miami and spend a few hours with his former baseball coach there Ron Fraser, who is now taking up racquetball . . . Seamco's top people attended and enjoyed the festivities, president Al Mackie, national sales manager Bob Coate, and regional men Art Orloski and Ed Decker . . . a group of players were entertained one day by Bob Cook who treated them to a tour of the famous intra-coastal waterway aboard his yacht . . . San Diego's Steve Mondry won his third consecutive amateur division on the Seamco-Leach tour, this time defeating Pete Wright in the finals 21-20, 11-21, 11-9. Mondry topped Mike Fatolitis, Florida State Champ in the semi's while Wright eliminated Charlie Rish . . . Martha Byrd breezed to the ladies amateur title without losing a game, stopping Nancy Hamrick in the finals 21-8, 21-5. ●



Seamco's President Al Mackie awards the \$2,000 first place check to Hogan (r.) and \$1,000 second place check to Bledsoe (l.).

Men's Pro Results (First Round): Charlie Rish def. Fred Penichet 21-10, 21-6; Ray Capitanelli def. Steve Squire 21-12, 21-12; Mike Fatolitis def. Cliff Dawson 21-15, 20-21, 11-9; Gil Schmitt def. Tom Zetrouer 21-10, 21-6; Tom McKie def. Mike Mojer 21-18, 15-21, 11-0; Skip Beattie def. Eugene Scott 21-6, 21-8; Steve Sulli def. Greg McDonald 21-19, 21-13; Jerry Zuckerman def. Terry Fluharty 21-1, 21-1; Pete Wright def. Mark Matthews 21-5, 21-10; Bill Burnett def. Fred Lewerenz, Sr. 18-21, 21-5, 11-8; Mike Yellen def. Gary Zetrouer 21-14, 21-15; Randy Stafford def. Bob Gottlieb 21-7, 21-6.

(Second Round): Charlie Brumfield def. Rick Stevens 21-11, 21-2; Steve Mondry def. Rish 21-12, 21-6; Steve Serot def. Capitanelli 21-2, 21-11; Richard Wagner def. Fatolitis 21-6, 21-8; Davey Bledsoe def. Schmitt 21-5, 21-6; Ken Wong def. McKie 21-11, 21-14; John Lynch def. Beattie 21-16, 21-3; Jerry Hilecher def. Sulli 21-6, 21-6; Steve Strandemo def. Ken Hendricks 21-6, 21-10; Terry Fancher def. Zuckerman 21-9, 11-21, 11-1; Ben Koltun def. Wright 21-20, 21-18; Steve Keeley def. Jim Lane 21-9, 20-21, 11-2; Mike Zeitman def. Burnett 21-2, 21-2; Yellen def. Bill Schmidtke 21-14, 19-21, 11-10; Stafford def. Gordon Kelly (default); Marty Hogan def. Frank Johnson 21-8, 21-18.

(Third Round): Brumfield def. Mondry 21-12, 21-10; Wagner def. Serot 13-21, 21-20, 11-4; Bledsoe def. Wong 21-5, 21-16; Hilecher def. Lynch 21-11, 21-7; Strandemo def. Fancher 21-1, 21-12; Koltun def. Keeley 21-11, 21-14; Zeitman def. Yellen 21-13, 16-21, 11-2; Hogan def. Stafford 21-12, 21-10.

(Quarter-finals): Wagner def. Brumfield 21-14, 21-16; Bledsoe def. Hilecher 21-9, 20-21, 11-9; Strandemo def. Koltun 21-20, 13-21, 11-3; Hogan def. Zeitman 21-12, 21-14.

(Semi-finals): Bledsoe def. Wagner 21-14, 21-7; Hogan def. Strandemo 18-21, 21-16, 11-6.

(Championship): Hogan def. Bledsoe 12-21, 21-18, 11-4.

Women's Pro Results (First Round): Lyn McKie def. Nancy Hamrick 21-16, 21-11; Sue Carow def. Donisa Zetrouer 21-1, 21-2; Kathy Williams def. Nancy Hornack 21-1, 21-8; Shannon Wright def. Barbara Faulkenberry 21-11, 21-2; Jean Sauser def. Francine Davis 21-5, 21-14; Sarah Green def. Martha Byrd 17-21, 21-17, 11-6; Janell Marriott def. Janis Segal 21-11, 21-3.

(Quarter-finals): Peggy Steding def. McKie 21-4, 21-3; Williams def. Carow 21-11, 13-21, 11-4; Wright def. Sauser 21-4, 21-5; Marriott def. Green 21-9, 21-16.

(Semi-finals): Steding def. Williams 12-21, 21-7, 11-5; Wright def. Marriott 21-19, 21-9.

(Championship): Wright def. Steding 21-18, 21-19.



Chicago's Chuck Schlesinger's piece of art depicts the strain and drama of tough racquetball. Anyone interested in Chuck's work can contact him at 5441 N. Magnet, Chicago, IL 60630.

NEW NRC OFFICIAL GLOVE!



The Champion
Model 610 Is
Endorsed By The Professionals!

Champion

GLOVE MFG. CO.
2200 E. OVID DES MOINES, IOWA 50313

The Model 610 racquetball glove by Champion features a "wrap around" wrist with adjustable Velcro fastener for perfect comfort. A thin selected doeskin palm gives you a confident feel. Eastman's Kodel terrycloth back and Helanca stretch finger inserts are included for extra comfort and style. So choose the glove of the professionals . . . the Champion Model 610 Racquetball glove.

LEACH

ALL NEW ALUMINUM SWINGER



Leach introduces a low-cost, flexible metal racquet. A new extrusion design allows us to produce an aluminum racquet with many of the same features found in higher priced tournament racquets.

For color brochure and further information on any of our products, please contact:
LEACH Industries, 5567 Kearny Villa Road, San Diego, California 92123 (714) 279-1000