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Internationals Take the Cake!

By DeWitt Shy

President, International Racquetball Association

Those of you who didn't make it to the Internationals in San Diego really missed a great time and even greater racquetball competition. There's nothing like the Internationals... the biggest tournament of them all brings out the best in the players.

The sixth annual IRA International Championships attracted 206 contestants in the six singles divisions—72 in Open Singles—plus eight women's doubles teams. And the competition was so strong that only one of the top-seeded singles players, Peggy Steding, went home with a championship trophy.

But before I get too carried away reminiscing about tournament play, let's take care of some first things, first. The LeBaron Hotel was a good choice as tournament headquarters... plenty big... half a dozen places to eat... three places for entertainment, etc.

As for the tournament arrangements, Dr. Bud Muehleisen did a super job. The hospitality was absolutely great... every time you went down the hospitality line, you felt like you were looking at the finalists of the Miss America contest. The food was excellent, but the service was better. Bud's cute wife, Cindy, really outdid herself.

The court facility, Brown's Racquetball-Handball Club, just opened up about three days before our tournament. Ten courts, one of them glass wall (one side), and we kept them full, too, with 288 matches in four days. Also worthy of note was the 6x6 whirlpool, three feet deep and 107 degrees.

Things started popping in a hurry, with Trey Sayes from Salt Lake City upsetting sixth-seeded Mike Zeitman of Louisville in the round of 32. Trey promptly was brought out of the clouds by Wayne Bowes, the first Canadian ever to reach the International quarterfinals.

The most disappointed player at the tournament, however, had to be Steve Strandemo, who—after winning the first...
SUMMER 1974 VOLUME 3 NUMBER 4

PAGE 7 The International Singles
- Ace of 'em All: Bill Schmidtke
- Queen of Singles: Peggy Steding
- King of Juniors: Jerry Zuckerman
- King of Seniors: Bud Muehleisen
- King of Masters: Bill Sellars
- King of Golden Masters: Ike Gurner
- Queens of Doubles: Steding & Gorski

PAGE 21 Four New Directors
- Ivan Bruner, Bill Dunn, Hal Price and Peggy Steding are elected to IRA Board of Directors.

PAGE 36 The Garfinkel Backhand
- One of the best backhand players in the game tells how to practice and play the stroke.

PAGE 38 Inside Racquetball
- This month's instructional article covers the full range of defensive shots, by the book.

PAGE 30 The First Tournament
- The National Paddle Racquets Tournament of 1968 served as a "springboard" to today's success.

IRA Board of Directors

RACQUETBALL Volume 3, Number 4, Summer 1974

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SOMETHING NEW
- Individual tournament results are collected in a new section, "The Scoreboard," starting on Page 50. We'll print all results submitted, if typewritten in the same format as those printed in this issue. The preferred style is that of the Playboy tournament on Page 51.
game from Bill Schmidtke, 21-19—developed a painful leg cramp in the middle of the second game. He probably should have defaulted, but he played it out, losing 21-19, 21-10.

Schmidtke's play was the highlight of the tournament. His semifinal match with Brumfield had everyone on the edge of his seat (and had people standing six deep upstairs, too). Bill shot everything he could get his racquet on and his percentage of kills was too much for Brumfield. So Brum's bid for three straight championships went down the drain, 21-10, 29-21, 21-18.

The battle of Steves was a cliff-hanger, too, with Serot squeaking by Keeley in three games, 20-21, 21-17, 21-4.

The semis were so terrific it was impossible for the finals between Schmidtke and Serot to be any better. However, it was another terrific match with Schmidtke doing what he does best—killing—and Serot making impossible retrieves one after another. Schmidtke won in three, 21-16, 21-8, 21-13.

In fact, Schmidtke played six matches in the tournament and the last four of them went three games. But Bill has always been a clutch player and now he has a brand new championship to go with the one he won in 1971.

The Senior Singles saw Dr. Bill King of Memphis play a near-perfect match to beat the No. 1 seed, Charlie Garfinkel, in two, 20 and 19, only to get drummed by Muehleisen in the semis, 10 and 15. Bud went on to win the title by beating Mark Wayne in the finals, 18 and 11.

Peggy Steding was just too much for the other gals, giving up less than eight points per game during the tournament. She beat Jan Campbell in the semis, 10 and 13, and Jan Pasternak in the finals, 8 and 6. Then she teamed up again with Ann Gorski and they took women's doubles again, 15 and 16 over Campbell and Kathy Williams.

The Masters was a dogfight with Richard Walker beating No. 1 seed John Halverson in the semifinals, 18 and 16, then losing in the finals to his Dallas doubles partner, Dr. Bill Sellars, 8-21, 21-8, 21-10. Sellars was second to Muehleisen last year, when the Masters was 40-over.

The Golden Masters was as tough a division as any, with likeable Ike Gumer from Louisville beating "youngster" Alex Guerry of Chattanooga, 17-21, 21-12, 21-6. Ike is 60 and had five years' experience on young Alex.

The Juniors were a terrific group and we're all so glad we put this 18-under division into the Internationals. Jerry Zuckerman from St. Louis outlasted top seed Steve Trent from San Diego, 17-21, 21-3, 21-18. But Jerry will graduate from the division next year and Steve will be back for another try.

Executive Director Myron Roderick did an excellent job of guiding the whole operation—particularly the membership meeting on Saturday morning where some 125 were on hand.

Myron had plaques for the outgoing Board members: Larry Lederman from Milwaukee, our traveling am-
bassador for so many years; Gerry Lapierre of Cleveland; Bob McInerney of Coronado, Calif., who was a very strong voice in making the IRA what it is today; and our Canadian Director, Bob Challenger, who had resigned. Our thanks to Larry, Gerry and both Bobs for your time and effort and your good judgment in very trying times.

New Board members are Hal Price from Phoenix, Ivan Bruner from Madison, Wis., Bill Dunn from Union City, Calif., and—elected from the floor—our first woman Director, Peggy Steding from Odessa, Texas. Taking over the Canadian position is affable John Chambers of West Vancouver. We are delighted to have you all on the Board and we appreciate all of you expressing the desire to give the IRA your full support.

Everyone at the tournament was pleased with the schedule and the way it was run. The man most responsible was Myron's man-Friday from the wrestling federation, Bob Dellinger, whom most of us met for the first time. When I asked Board member Smith Schippers, who probably has run more racquetball tournaments than anyone, how things were going, he said, "Bob had everything set up to perfection. All matches in all seven divisions were charted with times and (after the first day) with specific courts. After the first day, we actually ran ahead of schedule most of the time." Good work, Bob.

Also helping Bob, beside workhorse Smitty, was pretty JoAnn Roderick, wife of—but no resemblance to—Myron Roderick. Much help, too, from the volunteer referees (288 matches, remember) and from Phil Ivaldy who worked hard getting refs lined up.

Inducted to the Racquetball Hall of Fame, which Myron set up with the Citizens Savings Hall in Los Angeles, were two most deserving men: Joe Sobek, who started the game of racquetball and who flew all the way out from Greenwich, Conn., and gave a most interesting and stirring talk about the beginnings of the sport; and Dr. Bud Muehleisen, who has been in racquetball since its inception and who was our first International champion in 1969 and has contributed more to the game than anyone I know.

Thanks, Joe, for coming out to our meeting and congratulations to both of you!

The male athlete and female athlete of the year (1973) were really easy choices, Charlie Brumfield and Peggy Steding ... no contest. Congratulations!

I personally was honored with the Man of the Year award. After prompting the other “awardees” they should make brief comments, when I received mine, I choked ... I couldn’t get it to the front wall... I couldn’t say a word.

So let me say it here. There is nothing—no award or compliment I’ve ever received—that means as much to me as this. My thanks to the members and to the Board. My goal now is to be back on the court in 1978—God willing.

All in all, it was the greatest tournament we’ve ever had and I’m looking forward to the International Doubles in October at Minneapolis.

Brand-new Brown's Racquetball-Handball Club was the site of the 1974 International Championships.

RACQUETBALL
Bill Schmidtke: “Great clutch player, tough under pressure, best three-gamer in the sport.” You’ve seen it all before, dozens of times.

Now you know why.

You can say it all again, and add: “International Singles Champion, 1974.”

Bill Schmidtke, the 32-year-old veteran from Minneapolis, shot down the best racquetball players in the world during a spectacular weekend in San Diego to win the Open Singles crown in the sixth annual IRA Internationals.

Again. He won in 1971, too, but that was B.C.—Before Charlie Brownfield took command of the scene for a two-year reign.

“This one means more to me,” Schmidtke said, “because I beat the best players. I didn’t have an easy draw. I didn’t have an easy draw in ’71 either, but Brownfield was beaten in an early round and some people thought it was a fluke that I won without having to play him.”

This one was no fluke.

Despite his past credentials, Schmidtke was almost an “outsider” among the top challengers to Brownfield, who hoped to be the first three-time champion ever.

He wasn’t from San Diego. He wasn’t even named Steve. He was seeded fourth. He had to play six tough matches, not a pushover in the bunch. The last four matches went overtime.

But he won all of them.

“I went into the tournament believing I could win it,” Schmidtke said. “But I was loose, really relaxed, no pressure at all.”

Schmidtke’s victory parade started with two-game decisions over Californians Phil Ivaldy, 8 and 19, and Ron Starkman, 16 and 15. Then he let the first game against Dave Charlson of San Diego get away, 20-21, 21-17, 21-12, and the overtime series was under way.

In the quarterfinals it was Steve Strandemo, 19-21, 21-19, 21-10. When Strandemo pulled up lame at the close of the second game, it was all over.

Then the big one, Brownfield. A fast start for Schmidtke and the first game was his, 21-10. But when Bill served three match points at 20-all only to lose the second game, heads nodded wisely.

“Charlie will get him now,” they said. But Charlie didn’t. 21-18.

Now it was the 18-year-old whiz kid from San Diego by way of St. Louis, left-hander Steve Serot. All week long, the headlines had been Serot’s. By nightfall, the newspapers would have to learn to spell Schmidtke.

Three games, of course, 21-16, 8-21, 21-13.

When did Schmidtke actually feel he would win it all?

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**The Top Eight...**

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<th>Charlie Brownfield</th>
<th>Brumfield</th>
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<td>Bill Thurman</td>
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<td>Wayne Bowes</td>
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<td>Third Place: Keeley def. Brumfield, 15-21, 21-9, 21-11</td>
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**Steve Serot**

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**SUMMER 1974**
“Probably after I beat Brumfield, I was confident I could beat Serot, even though I lost to him at Houston the only time I played him.”

Strategy? Bill kept it simple and unchanging.

“Basically, I tried to get a real good drive serve in, get a weak return shot from whoever I was playing. That seemed to be the most effective. Then shoot the ball whenever I got the shot.”

“Right, shoot or drive. The basic things were to get a good serve and then shoot or drive. Pass, establish control and drive.”

Against Charlson, Bill had a 20-17 lead in the first game, then let it get away. “He got hot and shot some I didn’t expect. I made some mistakes. Then he was ahead of me through most of the second game, but I started shooting real good and from then on it was all downhill.”

The Strandemo match took a sudden turn after Steve won the first game at 19 and was playing the second one close. “I was ahead of him, I don’t remember the exact score, 17-15 or 17-16, and he pulled a muscle in his leg. I don’t know just what happened. But I took that one, 21-19, and he just wasn’t able to play after that. I sort of let up, but he was hurting.

Then came the “spectacular” with Brumfield. Well, almost. With the crowd six to 10 deep around the glass, all some people could do was listen to the score. Right off the bat, 5-0, 9-0, 11-0. Boy, Charlie’s really pouring it on! Oh, Schmidike’s ahead? Oh.

“I was getting a good serve, then. He was giving me a weak return. I was killing the ball well and serving good and driving fast shots and passing well. It was a pretty good control game and it was keeping him off balance.”

It went to 20-5 and Schmidike closed it out, 21-10.

The second game see-sawed to 17-all, 18-all, 19-all and finally 20-all. Three times Schmidike served match point. Three times it was side out. Finally Brumfield hit a winner. Now what?

“Really, I didn’t have any particular reaction. The only thing I wanted to do there was, if I was going to lose the game, at least I was going to make him earn it. It did take a lot out of him. He was awfully tired at the end of the second game, probably more than I was. We both wanted it, but he needed it more than I did.

“I wanted to make him work. Even if I
In the lower half of the bracket, Serot sailed past four opponents and into the semifinals without losing a game. In fact, his opponents were in double figures only twice as he dispatched John Greff of Canada, 21-9, 21-8; Davey Bledsoe of Tennessee, 13 and 5; Bob Lund of Oregon, 8 and 6; and then St. Louis rival Jerry Hilecher, 21-7, 21-12, in the quarterfinals.

That left it up to Keeley to stop the parade, and for a while it looked as though he would. Keeley, too, had been impressive in the earlier rounds with four straight two-game victories, capped by a 21-8, 21-18 quarterfinal decision over the onrushing Canadian, Wayne Bowes.

The muscular Keeley, pacing himself, always does, ripped off nine straight points, hitting them with a 21-7, 21-12 victory over his opponent from twice as he dispatched John Groff of Canada, 21-9, 21-8; Davey Bledsoe of Tennessee, 13 and 5; Bob Lund of Oregon, 8 and 6; and then St. Louis rival Jerry Hilecher, 21-7, 21-12, in the quarterfinals.

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Keeley shows the strain of a tough match.

Wayne Bowes moves to cover a Keeley drive.

Brumfield relaxes on a weight-lifting bench.

Brumfield and Thurman in a rough-and-tumble.

Luther Bernstein receives consolation trophy.

Dave Charlson gets ready to drive one home.
Bill Schmidtke gets the big prize from IRA President DeWitt Shy while Steve Serot settles for second. Steve Keeley, below left, was third. Below right, Serot dives for one more against Jerry Hilecher.

is score-five-in-a-row, but Keeley was walking around a lot in the first game, fiddling with his racquet and taking a lot of time."

So the third place match turned out to be a replay of the 1973 finals, Brumfield vs. Keeley. Many people had expected such a rematch, but for all the marbles again. This time, the incentive wasn't there, two great players but definitely a third place match. Still, it went three before Keeley pulled it out, 15-21, 21-9, 21-11.

The 72-man Open Singles bracket was established with 16 seeded players and another flight of 16 drawing for positions 17 through 32. The rest of the places were filled by a blind draw.


Only two others of the top 32 were beaten in this round: Bob Martin of San Diego by Roland Treat of Stillwater, Okla., 12 and 12; and John Hennen of Chattanooga by Al Fortune of Pasadena, 15-21, 21-18, 21-8. Hennen went to the finals of consolations before losing again.

But two of the top eight seeds were eliminated in the round of 32.

First to go was No. 8 Paul Lawrence of San Diego, who lost a glass-court skirmish to Jay Jones of Manhattan Beach, 21-18, 14-21, 21-10.

Then came what probably ranked as the big upset of the Open bracket. Young Trey Sayes, who has just moved to the west coast from Salt Lake City, ushered out sixth-ranked Mike Zeitman of Louisville, 21-12, 17-21, 21-17.

Canadian champion Bowes, on his way to becoming the first Canadian ever to reach the quarterfinals, handled young Craig McCoy with surprising ease, 8 and 13.

Other second round matches of note saw Paul Ikier of Minneapolis dispose of San Diego's Charlie Drake, 19 and 9; Charlson turn back Intercollegiate champion Randy Stafford of Tennessee, 20-21, 21-4, 21-16; and Bob Lund take out Santino in a 21-19, 18-21, 21-17 marathon.

All the Cinderella chariots turned back to pumpkins in the round of 16, however.

Brumfield downed Ikier, 4 and 16; No. 9 Bill Thurman stopped Jones, 9 and 14; Strandemo ousted Dan Alder, 13 and 12; Hilecher handled Bill Dunn, 19 and 7; Keeley trimmed Gordon Kelly, 4 and 12; Bowes took care of Sayes, 14 and 13.

So the quarterfinals had only one player who hadn't been seeded among the top nine—Bowes.

Brumfield and Thurman took the glass court for the feature of the quarters and it was a rough-and-tumble affair with so much physical contact that both players drew frequent reprimands from the referee, Zeitman. Brumfield prevailed in the three-gamer, 21-12, 12-21, 21-11.

Schmidtke's clash with Strandemo followed, only to come to an early end with Steve going lame. Serot and Keeley won in the lower half, as expected, to set up their semifinal duel.

Volatile little Luther Bernstein of Dallas was the class of the consolation bracket, sweeping to the trophy with five victories.

Bernstein had put up a tremendous fight against Charlie Drake in the first round before bowing, 10-21, 21-17, 21-7.

He came back with a pair of easy 31-pointers, then took Don Crawford of Canada and Dale Sutton of San Diego in two-gamers, allowing less than 10 points per game average.

Hennen came up through the lower half and had an extra match on his way to the finals. His toughest test was from Mike Romano of Massachusetts in the semifinals, 16 and 12.

Bernstein started out the consolation finals like a whirlwind, banging home almost everything he touched and scooting in front 17-5. He closed out the first game at 11, then settled down to win a long second, 21-18, for the honors.
Open—Top Half

1-Chris Brumfield, San Diego
21-0 21-3
Tom McKie, Richardson, Texas
21-6 21-9

16-Chris Drake, San Diego
10-21 21-17 21-7
Paul Ikier, Minneapolis
15-21 21-10 21-9

8-Paul Lawrence, San Diego
21-10 21-10
Jay Jones, Manhattan Beach, Cal.
21-5 21-14

9-Bill Thurman, Hayward, Cal.
21-11 21-5
Pete Wright, Fort Worth
20-21 21-5 21-13

**Preliminary Round
Paul Lazure, San Diego, def. Duane Gettman, Torba Linda, Cal., 21-12, 21-15
Stan Wright, San Diego, def. Dan Crawford, Tustin, Cal., 21-10, 21-4

A-Bill Schmidtke, Minneapolis
21-8 21-19
Phil Ivaldy, Century City, Cal.
21-16 21-15

13-Randy Stafford, Knoxville, Tenn.
21-4 21-11
Mike Chaet, Los Angeles
21-8 21-10

5-Steve Strandemo, St. Cloud, Minn.
21-7 21-3
Bob McAllister, Long Beach, Cal.
21-8 21-3

12-Dan Alder, Ocean Beach, Cal.
21-8 21-14
Roger Souders, San Diego
21-12 21-14

**Preliminary Round
Roger Ehren, Long Beach, Cal., def. Tom Wong, Los Angeles, 21-11, 17-21, 21-17
Joe Gibbs, Manchester, Mo., def. John Rundles, Albuquerque, 18-21, 21-13, 21-12
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<td>Jerry Hilecher, St. Louis</td>
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<td>John Hennen, Chattanooga, Tenn.</td>
<td>Fortune</td>
<td>15-21 21-18 21-8</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Al Fortune, Pasadena, Cal.</strong></td>
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<td>Fortune</td>
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**Preliminary Round**

Gary Mazaroff, Albuquerque, def. Bill Crafton, San Diego, 21-6, 21-9
Al Fortune, Pasadena, Cal., def. Joe Ogilvie, San Diego, 21-19, 21-9

| 3  | Steve Keeley, San Diego | Keeley | 21-6 21-7 |
|    | Rick Bryson, Huntington Beach, Cal. |      | Keeley | 21-5 21-10 |
|    | Steve Smith, Memphis | Smith | 20-21 18-17 21-17 |
|    | Michael Romano, Fitchburg, Mass. |      | Smith | 21-5 21-17 |
|    | Scott McComas, Los Angeles |      | Kelly | 21-13 7-21 21-14 |
|    | Mark Deutsch, Phoenix | Deutsch | 21-5 21-17 |
|    | **George Geronisin, Tustin, Cal.** |      | Deutsch | 21-8 21-16 |
| 6  | Mike Zeitman, Louisville | Zeitman | 21-19 21-13 |
|    | Dave Messer, San Diego |      | Zeitman | 21-12 17-21 21-17 |
|    | Trey Sayes, Salt Lake City | Sayes | 21-7 21-11 |
|    | Mark Susson, Balboa, Cal. |      | Sayes | 21-13 |
| 11 | Craig McCoy, Riverside, Cal. | McCoy | 21-0 21-10 |
|    | Pat Moran, San Diego |      | McCoy | 21-8 21-13 |
|    | Wayne Bowes, Lethbridge, Alta. | Bowes | 20-21 21-10 21-8 |
|    | **Chuck Campanella, San Diego** |      | Bowes | 21-8 21-13 |

**Preliminary Round**

George Geronisin, Tustin, Cal., def. Clyde Shearer, San Diego, 21-17, 21-19
Chuck Campanella, San Diego, def. Virgil Williams, Los Angeles, 21-19, 21-18
Victim’s Viewpoint

He Ought To Be Easy But Isn’t

By Dave Charlson

The first time I saw Bill Schmidtke play was during the Invitationals Singles in San Diego in 1971. At that time he was probably 15 pounds overweight and didn’t look much like a National Champion. After watching him play, and at the time thinking that I was a pretty good player, I figured to myself that I could beat him—no sweat.

During the next International Championships held in Memphis in 1972, I finally got my chance to play Schmidtke. But it turned out that this was the real Bill Schmidtke who showed up, instead of the facsimile I saw in San Diego. After losing 15 or so pounds, he looked fit and was ready to play. Claiming “foul,” I tried to get the draw changed—but to no avail.

Still, I figured I could give him a good game but unfortunately our match was assigned to the glass spectator court at Memphis State. During the warmup period, as the spectators began filing in on both sides of the glass enclosed arena in anticipation of a slaughter, I began to feel the big green apple welling in my throat. At 11-0 in the first game, all the spectators began filling in on both sides of the glass enclosure.

Now that I had gotten over my nervousness, I figured I had him. When the score reached 16-2 in favor of Schmidtke, I was trying to figure out why I was still nervous. Luckily, he gave me a couple of courtesy points so I could somewhat respectfully crawl off the court only having been beaten 21-10.

All this set the stage for our rematch at the 1974 Internationals in San Diego. We met in the round of 16. Joking with Bill before the game, I told him I was going to enforce the color rule and make him have to change his uniform to a white or pastel color. He told me I could do that but it would be the difference between me scoring a couple of points or getting the donut.

Game one naturally began with Bill wearing whatever he wanted to. I was nip and tuck for a while, but eventually I gained the lead, 18-16. Four forehands later I found myself down 20-18. Regaining the serve, I proceeded to tie the game at 20-20. Then, wonder of wonders, I hit a backhand kill to win the game!

That started my downfall. I figured if I could hit one backhand kill I could hit another and another, so I came out shooting backhands in the second game. With Bill playing tougher and my backhand shots picking up splinters as they rolled in rather than out, all chances of me winning in two straight games went down the drain, 21-17.

Game three started great for me. I had Bill 8-4 with the serve, when my ceiling balls began to rain stucco down on top of me. With his backhand starting to get hot and his forehand getting even hotter, he proceeded to blow me off the court 21-12.

When one hears the participants say that Bill is one of the best three-game players around, believe me they know what they are talking about. Either that, or he’s the worst two-game player around.

New Rankings Based on Internationals

The following IRA individual rankings have been prepared by the seedings committee on the basis of the International Singles Championships and will be modified in the future to reflect complete tournament results for the year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPEN SINGLES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1—Bill Schmidtke, Minneapolis</td>
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<tr>
<td>2—Steve Serot, San Diego</td>
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<td>3—Steve Keeley, San Diego</td>
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<td>4—Charles Brumfield, San Diego</td>
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<td>5—Steve Strandemo, San Diego</td>
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<td>6—Bill Thurman, Redwood City</td>
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<td>7—Jerry Hilecher, St. Louis</td>
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<td>8—Wayne Bowes, Lethbridge, Alta.</td>
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<td>HM—Paul Lawrence, Roger Souders, Randy Stafford, Pete Wright, Mike Zeitman.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SENIOR SINGLES</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1—Bud Muehleisen, 2—Mark Wayne, 3—Bill King, 4—Howard Ringwood, 5—Charlie GarfinkeI, 6—Myron Roderick, 7—Derryck Clay, 8—Ken Porco.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9—George Morr, 10—Bruce Russell, 11—Jim Trent, 12—Bob McNamara, 13—Lou Concha, 14—Gerard Lapierre, 15—Peter James, 16—Don Griffin.</td>
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<tr>
<th>MASTERS SINGLES</th>
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<tr>
<th>GOLDEN MASTERS SINGLES</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1—Ike Gumer, 2—Alex Guerry, 3—Jackson Bowling, 4—Stan Berney, 5—Ray Crowley, 6—Jack Duncan, 7—Cal Murphy, 8—Ben Wirkus.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>JUNIOR SINGLES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1—Jerry Zuckerman, 2—Steve Trent, 3—Marty Hogan, 4—Kevin Meyer, 5—Richard Wagner, 6—Hank Marcus, 7—James Doyle, 8—Dean Nichopoulos, HM—Harold Sensor.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>WOMEN’S SINGLES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1—Peggy Steding, 2—Jan Pasternak, 3—Jan Campbell, 4—Kathy Williams, 5—Jennifer Harding, 6—Suzanne Carow, 7—Jean Sauser, 8—Kimberly Miller.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>WOMEN’S DOUBLES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1—Steding Gorski, 2—Williams-Campbell, 3—Miller-Pasternak, 4—Weed-Marriott, 5—Harding-Laonde, 6—Pond-Siau, 7—Guerry-Fryar, 8—McGowan-Keenan.</td>
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</table>
"I believe these gals are getting younger every year," said Peggy Steding. "Don't you believe it," chimed in the youngsters in question, Jan Pasternak and Jan Campbell. "It's Peggy who's getting younger."

Maybe that's a testimonial for racquetball—all of them are getting younger. But a decade or so difference in age had no effect on the scores as "SuperTex" from Odessa blasted her way to a second consecutive Women's Singles championship.

Pasternak, a two-time champion herself (1971-72), made it close for a while in the finals. But only for a while. The score was 8-8 when Peggy won the serve. Suddenly it was 18-8. Pasternak served once. Side out. Peggy served. 21-8. Then 21-6 and it was all over.

In eight games, Peggy had allowed her opponents 63 points, just under eight points a game.

After a first round bye, Peggy faced Betty Johnson of Ocean Beach, Calif. It was 21-5, 21-9. Then came Suzanne Carow of Glenview, Ill., 21-10, 21-2.

Campbell in the semifinals looked like a real challenge. "She's a good one," said Peggy, "might be too much for me." Jan did reach double figures twice, but it was 21-10, 21-13.

Without doubt, Peggy Steding is an amazing player. Last year, no one had heard of her and she exploded into the IRA Championships like a bomb, leaving shock waves in all directions.

This year, everyone had heard of her. She was No. 1 seed—the only No. 1 seed in the tournament who won a championship. But hearing about her and playing her are different stories.

"There's no way you can get ready to play Peggy," said one of the 27 women in the field. "You hope you draw her early enough to get into consolations or late enough to play for third... or better still, not at all."

Lounging at courtside, she's friendly to all concerned, modest about her own skills, particularly one to encourage junior players. She's ready to referee and help keep things running smoothly.

Warming up and between points, she is totally relaxed. But once the ball bounces, look out. Her concentration buzzes like an electric current. Her serves come snaking off the side wall, spinning crazily and sometimes impossible to handle. She looks ready to kill every single shot and often it seems as though she does kill every shot.

One of the top Open players watched her destroy an opponent and walked away shaking his head. "Just another routine crush."

Peggy has been playing racquetball only 3½ years. She taught herself how to play and has learned everything on her own. The 1973 Internationals marked the first time she ever had gone off to a racquetball tournament, but since then she has won the IRA singles and doubles twice and the Canadian singles once.
### Women's Racketball Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Player 1</th>
<th>Score 1</th>
<th>Score 2</th>
<th>Player 2</th>
<th>Score 1</th>
<th>Score 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Peggy Steding, Odessa, Texas</td>
<td>21-5</td>
<td>21-9</td>
<td>Peggy Steding</td>
<td>21-11</td>
<td>21-11</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ruth Knudsen, Bountiful, Utah</td>
<td>21-12</td>
<td>21-6</td>
<td>Betty Johnson, Ocean Beach, Cal.</td>
<td>19-21</td>
<td>21-6</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Janell Marriott, Salt Lake City</td>
<td>21-20</td>
<td>15-21</td>
<td>Susanne Carow, Glenview, Ill.</td>
<td>21-8</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Janet Lawrence, San Diego</td>
<td>21-20</td>
<td>15-21</td>
<td>Barbara McGowan, San Diego</td>
<td>21-8</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Jan Campbell, San Diego</td>
<td>21-10</td>
<td>21-13</td>
<td>Betty Johnson, Ocean Beach, Cal.</td>
<td>21-11</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lois Dowd, Winnetka, Ill.</td>
<td>21-4</td>
<td>21-3</td>
<td>Donna Noguchi, Huntington Beach</td>
<td>Forfeit</td>
<td></td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Evie Morguelan, Louisville</td>
<td>15-21</td>
<td>21-15</td>
<td>Linda Siau, Riverside, Cal.</td>
<td>21-10</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Jan Pasternak, Tempe, Ariz.</td>
<td>21-2</td>
<td>21-8</td>
<td>Sue LaLonde, Vancouver, Wash.</td>
<td>21-10</td>
<td>21-10</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Micki Pearson, San Diego</td>
<td>Forfeit</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Bette Weed, El Cajon, Cal.</td>
<td>Forfeit</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Susan Montes, Honolulu</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jennifer Harding, Portland, Ore.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Kathy Williams, Hazel Park, Mich.</td>
<td>21-12</td>
<td>21-11</td>
<td>Lucy Fryar, Chattanooga, Tenn.</td>
<td>21-8</td>
<td>21-16</td>
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<td>Bye</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Kimberly Miller, San Diego</td>
<td>21-15</td>
<td>9-21</td>
<td>Shannon Sweeney, Fort Worth</td>
<td>21-11</td>
<td>21-11</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Carmenza Pond, Riverside, Cal.</td>
<td>21-15</td>
<td>9-21</td>
<td>Jean Sauser, Morton Grove, Ill.</td>
<td>21-11</td>
<td>21-11</td>
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**Third Place:** Campbell def. Williams, 21-10, 21-5
RACQUETBALL
COMPLETE LINE OF RACQUETS
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GENERAL SPORTCRAFT CO., LTD. BERGENFIELD, N.J. 07621

SUMMER 1974
Dear Racquetball Friends:

I would like to report to the members who were not present at the International Championships in San Diego. It was the finest tournament that I have attended since I have been associated with Racquetball. I believe the play in all divisions was exceptional and the semifinals and the finals in the Open were the most fantastic racquetball playing I have ever seen.

I want to congratulate everybody who played in the Championships.

I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank Dr. Bud Muehleisen, who was the tournament director, and so many people who helped to put on such a successful tournament. People don't realize how important it is and how many people it takes to put on a top-notch tournament of this size. I would also like to thank Brown's Racquetball Club for their great hospitality in letting us use their facility for the Championships.

I can tell you our future of racquetball is going to get better and better and one reason for this is the fine play that we had in the Junior Division in San Diego.

Our membership meeting was a very productive and active meeting with 108 members present and we had very lively discussions and I felt the meeting was very open to everybody.

I would like to congratulate our two Hall of Fame Inductees, Bud Muehleisen and Joe Sobek. Both of them gave very impressive speeches concerning what racquetball had meant to them.

I believe the future of racquetball is in the hands of each one of you members as well as in the hands of the state chairmen, regional commissioners, Board of Directors and, of course, the Executive Director. As long as we work together for the betterment of racquetball we are going to see great strides in our organization.

I hope every one of you is having a very pleasant summer and I am looking forward to seeing all of you around the racquetball circuit.

Sincerely yours,

Myron Roderick
Executive Director
The Future Is Now...

Let's Hear It For the Kids!

Jerry Zuckerman

Jerry Zuckerman, a tall, lean shooter from St. Louis, rallied from a first-game loss and outstroked Steve Trent of San Diego to become the first International 18-under Junior Singles.

"Those kids are amazing," said Dr. Bill King of Memphis, the national junior commissioner who refereed the final match. "Their ability is great and their sportsmanship is superb. A performance like this gives you real faith in the future of racquetball."

Throughout the tournament, the 16 youngsters from nine states put on a terrific display of slam-bang play and all-out hustle.

"Boy, oh boy," said one observer, "those kids shoot anything that moves!"

The first game of the finals was typical, the 15-year-old Trent pulling away at the finish for a 21-17 victory.

Trent was seeded No. 1, Zuckerman No. 2, and each had advanced to the finals with a trio of two-game sweeps.

But in the second game, the 18-year-old Zuckerman put it all together. He could do no wrong. His kills rolled out, his ceiling balls hugged the wall and his serves dropped in the corners. It was 21-3 and a whole new ball game.

The third game was all you'd expect of a championship match, and when the smoke cleared it was Zuckerman by a 21-18 score.

Marty Hogan of St. Louis, beaten by Zuckerman in the semis, came back to take third place with a 21-17, 21-13 victory over Kevin Meyer of Houston.

Hogan and Meyer had been involved in all of the three-gamers in championship play. Meyer ousted Dean Nichopoulos of Memphis, the No. 4 seed, in the first round, 21-15 in the third, and then trimmed Hank Marcus of Portland, 21-11 in the third. The Texas youngster finally was sidelined by Trent, 12 and 5, in the semifinals.

Hogan came from far back in the second and third games to upset third-ranked Richie Wagner of Paterson, N.J., 18-21, 21-17, 21-19, in the quarters, then fell to his St. Louis rival, Zuckerman, 14 and 9.

Nichopoulos took consolation honors, 21-5, 21-6, over Carl Loveday Jr. of El Cajon.

Brian Swartz of Vancouver, B.C., got a good look at the Loveday brothers in the consolations. Swartz defeated Robert in three games, then lost to Carl, 21-18 in the third game.

The play of the juniors was a highlight of the tournament. From left, with trophies, Jerry Zuckerman, Steve Trent, Marty Hogan and Kevin Meyer.
1–Steve Trent, San Diego............. Trent...........[21-5 21-9]
   Jeff Reynolds, El Cajon, Cal............
8–Mark Buckley, Orland Park, Ill........Sensor...........[21-9 21-3]
   Harold Sensor, Riverside, Cal...........
4–Dean Nichopoulos, Memphis......... Meyer...........[21-10 9-21]
   Kevin Meyer, Houston..................[21-15]
5–Hank Marcus, Portland, Ore........ Marcus...........[21-14 21-12]
   Don Salvador, Cleveland..............
2–Jerry Zuckerman, St. Louis........... Zuckerman........[21-5 21-11]
   Robert Loveday, El Cajon, Cal..........[21-6 21-16]
7–James Doyle, San Diego.............. Doyle...........[21-6 21-16]
   Brian Swartz, Vancouver, B.C...........
   Carl Loveday Jr., El Cajon, Cal.........
6–Marty Hogan, St. Louis.............. Hogan...........[21-16 21-7]
   Mark Sandler, Houston.................

Third Place: Hogan def. Meyer, 21-17, 21-13

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RACQUETBALL
Four new IRA Directors were elected, several awards were presented for outstanding service to racquetball and a comprehensive rule on uniforms was adopted during the annual general membership meeting June 8 in San Diego.

Peggy Steding of Odessa, Texas, Ivan Bruner of Madison, Wis., Dr. Hal Price of Phoenix and Bill Dunn of Union City, Calif., were elected to the Board of Directors for three-year terms.

Plaques were presented by DeWitt Shy, IRA president, to outgoing directors Gerry Lapierre, Bob McInerney, Larry Lederman and Bob Challenger. Shy expressed his appreciation and that of the Board and the membership for their service to the sport and each responded that they would continue to help promote and further the IRA.

Shy then became the recipient of a major award when he was presented a plaque as Man of the Year for 1973.

"DeWitt has been a very outstanding leader for us during the time of change," said Executive Director Myron Roderick, "and without him it would have been impossible to make the change as smooth and as successful as it has been."

Peggy Steding, who won the women's singles and doubles titles in 1973, was presented the Woman Athlete of the Year award and Charlie Brumfield, International Singles and Doubles champion a year ago, was presented a plaque as Male Athlete of the Year.

HALFORD R. PRICE
Phoenix, Ariz.

PEGGY STE丁ING
Odessa, Texas
Mrs. George H. Steding, with one son, 14. Housewife and year-around tennis instructor. Two-time IRA International Women's Singles and Doubles champion. Taught herself to play racquetball 3½ years ago. Also accomplished star in tennis, softball, basketball.

IVAN BRUNER
Madison, Wis.
49, single, two sons. Operates Ivan Bruner Construction Co., which builds houses, multiple-family units and commercial buildings, also Ivan Bruner Investments dealing with management and ownership of apartments. Started with paddleball 12 years ago, switched to racquetball in 1970. Also enjoys basketball, softball and jogging. "Carried" Bill Schmidtke to Wisconsin doubles title in 1970.

WILLIAM R. DUNN
Union City, Calif.

The IRA then had the honor to induct the first two members of the newly established Citizens Savings Hall of Fame for Racquetball, the former Helms Hall of Fame. Dr. Bud Muehleisen of San Diego, the first International Singles champion in 1969 and winner of many various national championships since, was inducted as a contestant.

It was a great pleasure for the Directors and members to meet Joe Sobek, who flew all the way in from Greenwich, Conn., to be inducted into the Hall of Fame as a contributor. It was through the efforts of Joe Sobek that the sport of racquetball was established, and every racquetball enthusiast owes him a great deal of gratitude.

Both men made impressive speeches in expressing their appreciation for their selection to the Hall of Fame.

The Executive Director presented the financial report for 1973, as follows:
The Board of Directors report on T-shirts and uniforms was presented to the membership by Charlie Brumfield and considerable discussion followed concerning what the IRA should regulate or not regulate. There was some feeling among the members that we should open up the rule to where we could put anything on the front or back of the uniform as long as it was not obscene.

The Board made a recommendation with the feeling it should try to keep the sport of racquetball neat and orderly in dress as well as in conduct of the game.

After lengthy discussion, a motion was made by Scott Deeds of California and seconded by V. Z. Lawton of Oklahoma. The rule was voted by a large margin and will be followed in all IRA-sanctioned tournaments. The rule reads:

"The basic body of the uniform must be of a light or bright color so as not to blend in with the black ball when it passes close to the body of the player. The uniform trim and shoes may be of any color. The front of the pants and shirt may contain a decal not measuring over five inches in any dimension. The decal may contain a club insignia or commercial advertising of any kind.

Names Only on the Back

"The back of the uniform must be completely unadorned except that a player’s name may be placed in one horizontal line across a shirt in letters not over three inches high. Doubles teams should wear similar color to ease problems of referee identification. Warmup suits not worn in actual play may be of any color and may have any insignia anywhere."

Ken Porco presented the report of the nominating committee for elections to the Board of Directors. Each year, three or four directors will be elected because all Directors and officers rotate off the Board after three-year terms.

There were four vacancies on the Board for this election, replacements for Lapierre, McInerney and Lederman—whose terms expired—and for Roderick—who resigned from the Board to become Executive Director.

Bob Challenger had resigned as Canadian Director because of travel problems, but the Canadian Racquetball Association selects its own representative and had named John W. Chambers of West Vancouver, B. C., to serve the remainder of Challenger’s term. Chambers was introduced and welcomed to the Board.

Rules for the annual election call for a nominating committee of five Directors selected by the President to research the prospects and submit a candidate for each open position. The membership then may make as many additional nominations from the floor as it chooses.

Each member then may vote for four candidates. To win the election, a nominee must have a majority of votes cast. If four do not receive a majority, the two highest ranking candidates are voted on again until one has a majority.

The four nominees submitted by the committee were Ivan Bruner, Dr. Hal Price, Bill Dunn and Dr. Vince Cutshall of South Dakota.

Nominated from the floor were Mike Zeitman, Jim Trent, Bette Weed, Joe Zelson, Steve Serot, Jerry Hilecher, Peggy Steding and Steve Strandemo.

In the first round of voting, the results were: Dunn 58, Bruner 64, Price 56, Cutshall 38, Steding 38, Zeitman 35, Weed 30, Strandemo 25, Trent 19, Zelson 18, Serot 17, Hilecher 9—with Dunn, Bruner and Price elected by majority. A second vote was held between Cutshall and Steding, with Mrs. Steding being elected by a majority.

Closing remarks to the meeting were presented by Dr. Bud Muehleisen, who discussed the remaining sessions of the International Singles Championships and thanked all the people who helped him and his committees make this one of the finest IRA tournaments ever held.

The meeting was adjourned after one hour, 45 minutes.

Racquetball
Bud Muehleisen is the first racquetball player to win IRA International Singles championships in three different age groups.

"Yeah," grumbled one of his latest victims, "and if you wait a couple of years he'll make it in four."

All in all, it was quite a week for the stylish southpaw, who swept to the championship of the brand new 35-over Senior Singles without the loss of a game. He allowed his five opponents an average of 9.5 points per contest.

Muehleisen entered the 46-man field as the No. 4 choice, but the seedings fell apart on Friday afternoon and he wound up facing seventh-ranked Mark Wayne in the finals. Wayne put up a good struggle in the first game, but the 21-18, 21-11 outcome left no real doubt.

The part-time San Diego dentist really became a full-time racquetball man during the month climax by the tournament.

First, he was tournament director in full charge of all the many details involved in production of the meet. Also, as an IRA Director, he spent seven hours Tuesday in the annual Board meeting.

The principal honor came Saturday morning when he was inducted, along with Joe Sobek, as one of two charter members of the Racquetball Hall of Fame. The selection recognized Bud as the first IRA Open Singles champion (1969) and the only two-time 40-over Masters Singles champion (1972-73).

Despite the distractions, Dr. Bud displayed great consistency in his play throughout the tournament.

His chief weapon was pin-point accuracy with nearly every shot. As a case in point, look at his 21-10, 21-15 victory over Bill King of Memphis in the semifinals. Five straight times Dr. Bud hit his unusual overhead smash—a throwback to tennis days and a shot you don't see all that often in racquetball. Five straight times he drilled it off the front wall within an inch or two of the floor, leaving King handcuffed.

"There's not much you can do except say 'Nice shot, Bud' and hope he misses the next one," King declared. "And when he keeps it up, there isn't anything you can do."

King, the No. 8 seed, provided one of the big victories of the entire tournament when he turned back top-ranked Charlie Garfinkel of Buffalo, N.Y., in the quarterfinals, 21-20, 21-19. You can't get a whole lot closer in two games, and each was a see-saw struggle right down to the wire.

The seedings also fell apart in the lower half of the bracket, with No. 6 Howie Ringwood of Salt Lake City advancing to the semis, where he became a three-game victim of Wayne, 21-13, 12-21, 21-13.

Thursday's early rounds gave no real hint of things to come. Gerry Lapierre of
Cleveland provided most of the highlights with a pair of three-game victories which sent him to the round of 16 against Muehleisen. That ended 21-4, 21-7.

First favorite to fall Friday, in the round of 16, was second-seeded Ken Porco of Louisville, the Senior Invitation champion. Severely hobbled by an injury, Porco couldn’t keep up with husky Lou Concha of San Francisco and bowed out, 21-20, 21-18.

Deryck Clay, the No. 5 seed from Portola Valley, had a tough three-Image with Bruce Russell of San Diego, but the biggest scare was survived by Ringwood, 21-20, in the third over classy Canadian George Morfitt of West Vancouver.

Wayne, who had started with a 21-13, 21-14 conquest of East Canada champion Murdock Cranford of Halifax, advanced past Jim Trent of San Diego, 21-11, 21-12. Seven of the top eight—Porco excluded—advanced to the quarterfinals.

Myron Roderick, who had been going in all directions to meet his duties as IRA Executive Director, never could get his game together against Ringwood in the quarterfinals, and the No. 3 seed from Stillwater, Okla., went down quickly, 12 and 12.

The same court promptly produced the next major upset, King over Garfinkel. Meanwhile, Muehleisen was disposing of Clay, 21-6, 21-14, and Wayne was sending Concha to the sidelines, 8 and 11.

That set up the semifinals, King vs. Muehleisen and Wayne vs. Ringwood. After his loss to Wayne in the semis, Ringwood was called home by a family emergency and had to default his third place match to King.

Dr. Peter James of Bellingham, Wash., won the consolation title over Don Griffin of Phoenix, 11-21, 21-10, 21-10. In his first outing, James was one of Lapierre’s three-game victors. Then he had to skin past Jerry Northwood of Newport Beach, 31-30 in the first round of consolations. Griffin, who was dropped into consolations by Tom Carlyon of La Mesa, also had a stinger in his first consolation match, 31-29 over Ted Thee of Escandon.

Bill King watches as Charlie Garfinkel sights in on a backhand.

**Consolations Scoreboard**

**OPEN SINGLES**

Preliminary: Hennen def. Oplivle, 31-16.


Semifinals: Bernstein def. Sutton, 21-12, 21-6; Hennen def. Romano, 21-16, 21-12.


**SENIOR SINGLES**


First Round: Mooney forfeit from Chambers; Wellborn forfeit from Travers; James def. Armstrong, 31-8; Weckerly def. Lippe, 31-13; Peterson forfeit from Kaplan; Griffen def. Thee, 31-29; Avila def. Ohieman, 31-18; Keeler def. Conn, 31-22.


Semifinals: James def. Mooney, 21-12, 21-17; Griffen def. Avila, 21-16, 21-11.


**MASTERS SINGLES**


**WOMEN’S SINGLES**

First Round: McGowan forfeit from Lawrence; Morguelan def. DeWolf, 31-17; Weed def. Ornstein, 31-15; Pond forfeit from Sweeney.


**JUNIOR SINGLES**

First Round: Buckley def. Reynolds, 21-12, 21-7; Nichopoulos forfeit from Salvador; Swartz def. R. Loveday, 16-21, 21-14, 21-4; C. Loveday def. Sandler, 21-13, 21-19.


**GOLDEN MASTERS SINGLES**


Semifinals: Green def. Lederman, 21-12, 21-13; Spaulding forfeit from Brann.

Finals: Green def. Spaulding, 21-12, 21-5.

**WOMEN’S DOUBLES**


**RACQUETBALL**

King drives on Dr. Bud.
1-Charlie Garfinkel, Buffalo, NY .......... 21-12 21-3
John Hoonay, Colorado Springs ............ McInerney .......... 4-21 21-9
Bob McInerney, Coronado, Cal. ........... King .......... 21-20 21-19
8-William King, Memphis .................. King .......... 21-5 21-12
**Logan Tate, Lethbridge, Alta. .......... McNamara .......... 21-11 21-10
Bob McNamara, Minneapolis ............... McNamara .......... 21-15 21-5
**Ron Salvadore, Cleveland ............... Muehleisen .......... 21-10 21-15
4-Bud Muehleisen, La Mesa, Cal. .......... Muehleisen .......... 21-2 21-8
**Bill Armstrong, Palos Verdes .......... Lapiere 21-4 21-7
Peter James, Bellingham, Wash. .......... Lapiere 21-11 21-12
**Gerry Lapiere, Cleveland ............... Clay .......... 21-6 21-14
5-Deryck Clay, Portola Valley, Cal. ...... Clay .......... 21-11 21-4
Bruce Russell, San Diego ................. Russell .......... 21-10 21-11
**Allen Weckerly, San Diego .......... Conch a .......... 21-19 21-18
Preliminary Round
Botchan def. John Chambers, West Vancouver, B.C., 21-14, 21-11
Tate def. Art Travers, Newport Beach, Cal., 21-9, 21-13
Salvador def. Tom Wellborn, La Mesa, Cal., 21-15, 21-3
Armstrong won by forfeit from Dan Little, Chicago
Kunze def. Ernest Lippe, San Diego, 21-7, 11-21, 21-15
Weckerly won by forfeit from Shelly Clair, Chicago

2-Ken Porco, Louisville ................. Porco .......... 21-10 21-8
**Joe Bannan, El Cajon, Cal. ........... Conch a .......... 21-20 21-18
Bob Peterson, Boise, Idaho .............. Conch a .......... 21-17 16-21
Lou Conch a, San Francisco .............. 21-18
7-Mark Wayne, Fremont, Cal. ............ Wayne .......... 21-8 21-11
**Murdock Cranston, Halifax, N.S. ...... Wayne .......... 21-11 21-12
James Trent, San Diego ................. Trent .......... 21-20 21-18
**Tom Carlyon, La Mesa, Cal. .......... Trent .......... 21-20 21-18
3-Myrion Roderick, Stillwater, Okla. .... Roderick .......... 21-12 21-4
**Obed Oas, Omaha .................. Roderick .......... 21-4 21-11
Ron Haesting, Phoenix ................. Smith .......... 21-13 21-16
**Tevie Smith, Richmond, B.C. .. Forfeit
6-Howard Ringwood, Salt Lake City ...... Ringwood .......... 21-12 21-20
**P. F. Colombo, Scarsdale, NY ....... Ringwood .......... 21-12 21-12
George Morflitt, W.Vancouver, B.C. .. Ringwood .......... 21-9 21-17
**V. Z. Lawton, Norman, Okla. ....... Ringwood .......... 21-9 21-17
Preliminary Round
Bannan def. Barry Kaplan, Phoenix, 16-21, 21-12, 21-15
Cranston def. Ted Thoe, Escondido, Cal., 21-9, 21-17
Carson def. Ronald Griffin, Phoenix, 21-10, 21-8
Oas def. Chuck Chilesman, Los Angeles, 21-17, 21-11
Smith def. Jerry Avila, San Clemente, Cal., 21-16, 21-17
Colombo def. Ronald Keeler, San Diego, 21-9, 21-1
Lawton def. Bryan Conn, El Cajon, Cal., 21-12, 21-6

Third Place:
King default
From Ringwood
The eyes of Texas were on the Masters Singles as long-time Dallas doubles partners Richard Walker and Dr. Bill Sellars hooked up in the 45-over finals. "At home, I've beaten him 20 out of the last 27 times," Walker pointed out before the title match.

Also, Walker had knocked off top-seeded John Halverson of San Diego, the Masters Invitation champion, in the semifinals for his fourth straight two-game victory. And Sellars had had to go "forever" to get past Gene Grapes of Irwin, Pa., in a grueling Saturday night semi.

So, you'd have to go with Walker, right? Particularly after he wins the first game of the finals, 21-8, right? Wrong. Sellars wins, 8-21, 21-a, 21-10. Maybe it was the California climate, or something.

For a close-up view of the championship match, see the accompanying article by an anonymous observer who prefers to be known only as "Old South." He jets the players tell it like it was—or like they thought it was.

The early rounds in the field of 35 entries produced nothing in the way of surprises. The top seven seeds advanced to the quarterfinals and only No. 6 Al Rossi of San Francisco had to go over-time, 16-21, 21-15, 21-10, over Hal Price of Phoenix.

Eighth-ranked Rick Warner of Salt Lake City hooked up in a long battle with Bill Schultz of Milwaukee, the first national paddle racquets champion and placed in the No. 9 spot in the bracket. Schultz pulled it out 21-17, 17-21, 21-20 and that close a match between two players of relatively equal rank hardly could be called an upset.

Halverson took Schultz, 13 and 6, in the quarters and Walker downed No. 5 Carl Loveday of El Cajon, 16 and 4. Sellars defeated No. 7 Jim White of Milwaukee, 15 and 8, and Grapes disposed of Rossi, 7 and 17. So, the seedings held, 1-4 and 2-3.

Saturday afternoon, the picture changed. Down on court seven, Walker faced Halverson, who had beaten him in the Invitation two months earlier, 31-18. Word filtered back that an upset was in the making as the red-haired Texan swept to a 17-5 lead in the first game.

"I was using a hard, low serve," Walker said, "and it was going just where I wanted it. I couldn't keep hitting it all the time, but it gave me the early lead." Halverson made a game comeback, but fell short, 21-18, 21-16.

Sellars and Grapes, seeded second and third, figured for a long, tough match. Sellars had won 31-29 in the Invitation and this one was best-of-three.

Well, they did finish before midnight, but it took 2½ hours and they were the only players in the club for the last hour. "Let 'em play forever," Walker said, enjoying it immensely.

Finally, it was Sellars, 21-20, 14-21, 21-16. The marathon took its toll on Grapes. "I wanted that one," he said. "Now I have to play Halverson tomorrow." Halverson took third place, 21-10, 21-8.

And, of course, Sellars couldn't possibly be at full speed for the finals. Could he?

Phil Swartz of Vancouver outlasted George Nichopoulos of Memphis for the consolation championship, 21-19, 19-21, 21-15. Each was cheered on by his son, who had played well in the junior divisions.

By "Old South"

The Scene: It's five minutes before the Masters Singles finals, Sunday afternoon. On Saturday, Dr. Bill Sellars had a 2½-hour, three-game semifinal with Gene Grapes. Richard Walker did not show disappointment at this development. Our observer corners Walker at the water fountain.

South: "Well, how do you see your match with Sellars?"

Walker: "I'm playing well. If you notice, none of my matches has gone three games and the average number of points my opponent has gotten is less than 11 a game. Sellars is tired from yesterday's unfortunate slugfest and I doubt if he can physically make a game of it. I see it about 21-10."

At the other end of the hall, our expert checks in with Sellars.

South: "How do you feel?"

Sellars: "OK, I guess. It will probably take me three games to beat him and I'll be tired as hell when it's over."

First game goes to Walker, 21-6. Referee calls two minutes.

South: (To Walker) "How did it go?"

Walker: "Well, he's awful tired and I
**Preliminary Round**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>John Halverson, San Diego</th>
<th>Halverson</th>
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<td>Harold Milgrim, Los Angeles</td>
<td>Halverson</td>
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<td>Smith Schippers, Memphis</td>
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<td>21-10 21-20</td>
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<td>Jerry Kobernick, San Diego</td>
<td>Halverson</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Rick Warner, Salt Lake City</td>
<td>Warner</td>
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<td>John Fleitz, Rolling Hills, Cal.</td>
<td>Halverson</td>
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<td>Bill Schultz, Milwaukee</td>
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<td>George Nichopoulos, Memphis</td>
<td>Schultz</td>
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<td>Richard Walker, Dallas</td>
<td>Walker</td>
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<td>Cameron Deeds, Long Beach, Cal.</td>
<td>Walker</td>
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<td>George Holland, La Mesa, Cal.</td>
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<td>Bill Carroll, Fountain Valley, Cal</td>
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<td>Carl Loveday, El Cajon, Cal.</td>
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<td><strong>Robert Newton, San Diego</strong></td>
<td>Loveday</td>
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<td>G. E. Farrell, Salina, Kan.</td>
<td>Hilecher</td>
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<td>Dan Hilecher, St. Louis</td>
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**Preliminary Round**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>2</th>
<th>Bill Sellars, Dallas</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Brud Turner, Cleveland</strong></td>
<td>Sellars</td>
<td>21-1 21-10</td>
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<td>Al Chamberlain, Escondido, Cal.</td>
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<td>21-13 17-21</td>
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<td>Don Van Fossen, St. Louis</td>
<td>Chamberlain</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Jim White, Milwaukee</td>
<td>White</td>
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<td>Philip Swartz, Vancouver, B.C.</td>
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<td>Gene MacDonald, San Diego</td>
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<td>Ray Pearl, Cleveland</td>
<td>MacDonald</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Gene Grapes, Irwin, Pa.</td>
<td>Grapes</td>
<td>21-4 21-9</td>
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<td><strong>Richard Rech, Milwaukee</strong></td>
<td>Grapes</td>
<td>21-9 21-14</td>
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<td>Ivan Bruner, Madison, Wis.</td>
<td>Bruner</td>
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<td>Bob Barlow, San Diego</td>
<td>Bruner</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Alfred Rossi, San Francisco</td>
<td>Rossi</td>
<td>21-10 21-6</td>
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<td>Ben Press, San Diego</td>
<td>Rossi</td>
<td>21-17 21-17</td>
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<td>Hal Price, Phoenix</td>
<td>Price</td>
<td>16-21 21-15</td>
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<td>David Perelman, Euclid, Ohio</td>
<td>Price</td>
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**Preliminary Round**

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<tr>
<th>Turner won by forfeit from Jim Scott, San Diego</th>
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<tr>
<td>Rech def. Graham Judson, El Cajon, Cal., 21-18, 21-7</td>
<td>Halverson</td>
<td>21-10 21-8</td>
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**Third Place:**

| Halverson | 21-10 21-8 |

SUMMER 1974
Old South...

doubt if it will be much of a game...maybe 5 or 6 instead of 8 this time...strictly routine.

South: (To Sellars) "That game was pretty rough, Bill, how do you feel?"

Sellars: "I've got him now."

South: "You what?"

Sellars: "I've got him...I've got his number."

September Meeting Eyed

State Chairmen Map Convention Plans

Representatives from 15 states attended a breakfast meeting for state chairmen June 9 in San Diego.

Executive Director Myron Roderick pointed out the primary purpose of this discussion was to help establish an agenda to be used at a national conference of IRA state chairmen in September.

One of the principal discussions centered on whether to have one general nationwide convention at a central site such as Chicago, or to try to have about four regional conferences where the same topics would be discussed and travel would be reduced for many state chairmen.

Pros and cons were presented for both situations and it was not determined at a central site such as Chicago, or to try to have about four regional conferences where the same topics would be discussed and travel would be reduced for many state chairmen.

Pros and cons were presented for both situations and it was not determined at this time which type of meeting would be planned.

Additional discussions centered on the following topics:

- Better communication throughout each state and better communication between the states and the national office. Newsletters for both levels were discussed.
- How to increase IRA membership and how to provide improved service to the membership.
- Qualifications for an ideal state chairmanship, including time, telephones, office and communications available.
- It was pointed out to the state officials that any communication they would like to send out to members in their states or areas of more than one state can be sent through the national office, which would handle addressing and mailing through the central membership list.
- Tournament guidelines, including how many tournaments and classes of competition would be established.
- Guidelines for writing articles for the magazine should be sent out to all concerned. Typedewritten copy, double-spaced, is preferred but not mandatory. First names and home towns should be included for all players mentioned in an article or on a bracket.
- Similar guidelines for pictures should be established. Except for major IRA Championships, all pictures should be clear, sharp black-and-white prints.
- Another important area of discussion to be dealt with on the state level was referees. Classification of officials, uniforms, patches and other areas should be covered.
- Detailed guidelines on forming over-all state organizations, from the state chairman right on down, will be perhaps the most important item for discussion.

The format of the International Racquetball Association is moving toward the ideal structure as follows:

The IRA is governed by the Board of Directors, working through the Executive Director, and then to the National Commissioner. The National Commissioner, in turn, would work through the regional commissioners and those commissioners through the state chairmen in each region. The state chairman then would coordinate all activities through the state organization to meet the needs of each and every racquetball player in the world.

In adjourning the meeting, Roderick called on all state chairmen across the country to send in any ideas or topics they would like placed on the agenda for discussion at the national convention.

"We want an outstanding state program in each state," Roderick said. "Be sure to let us know how we can help."

Walker drives to Sellars.

Walker...he's still 20 out of 28.
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1968 Tourney Was the Springboard

It Had to Start Somewhere

The International Racquetball Association held its first official international championships in 1969, but the sport had begun to emerge on the national sports scene a year earlier.

You might well say that the National Paddle Racquets Tournament held in 1968 at Milwaukee served as the springboard from which racquetball and the IRA leaped into prominence.

Back in the 1950's there were people playing a game called paddleball, and—under the influence of Joe Sobek—others were taking up a game called paddle racquets. The paddleball players were playing with a solid paddle and the paddle racquets players were using a gut-strung racquet.

Paddleball was more prominent, being played in YMCA's, athletic clubs, colleges and universities throughout the United States. The game of paddle racquets was spreading from its starting point in the New England states.

In the late 1950's and early 1960's, paddleball became extremely popular and several national tournaments were held—true national tournaments including players from all over the country. Paddle racquets players were mainly playing for fun and held a few tournaments in the New England states. But in the 1960's, the latter sport began to spread rapidly, infiltrating the paddleball ranks.

Many of the top racquetball players of today, were nationally ranked stars in paddleball, including Bill Schmidtke, Bud Mueheisen, Bill Schultz, Paul Nelson, Diz Kronenberg, Craig Finger, Jim Lawrence and Dan Wood.

By 1967, the game of paddle racquets began to challenge paddleball as the most popular game in many communities. There was real life being shown among the top-notch paddle racquets players, not only in New England, but now in places like Louisville and other major metropolitan areas.

One day, Larry Lederman, athletic director of the Jewish Community Center of Milwaukee, decided it was time to hold "a big tournament." By now, many were debating which was the better game. So why not get all these top players together and organize one great game, deciding whether to play with the solid paddle or the strung racquet?

Lederman and his directors and athletic community of the JCC decided to tackle this job. They formed a tournament committee of members of their club and athletes in the various court sports—people who over the years put on major tournaments and some national events.

Lederman convinced just about all the top players of paddleball to give up their game for a while and take up this game of paddle racquets for one huge tournament; find out who would be the real national champion; then sit down together and decide on a national committee for the sport.

A list of the top paddleball players in the country was developed and most of them agreed to set aside their paddles to take up racquets for this tournament. Lederman also sent invitations to every YMCA, athletic club, JCC, college or university known to have courts, urging them to send their top players to the tournament.

And what a tournament it was! Huge signs welcoming everyone to this first National Paddle Racquets Tournament.

Bill Schmittke was second, then, to Bill Schultz.

Doubles champions Jim White, left, and Simie Fein.

The news media was there. They had a sale on seats, of which there were many more buyers than seats. Tremendous food, hospitality hours, parties, made it one of the outstanding tournaments in the country. Players came from all over to make it truly a national championship.

Bill Schultz of Madison, Wis., a former national paddleball champion, became the first National Paddle Racquets king after a fine match in the finals with a young fellow named Bill Schmittke. You may have heard of him since.

Jim White and Sammy Fein of Milwaukee were crowned doubles champions.

Meetings were held throughout the tournament and after its close. Every player, along with athletic directors and prominent sports-minded businessmen, took part in discussing the future of this sport. The conclusion was that this was the beginning of a great new sport called paddle racquets and it needed an organizational structure.

Bob Kendler was there and he was impressed with the excitement of the tournament. As he spoke to the group, he declared that this certainly was the beginning of a new organization and that this first national tournament would be followed by another.

A year brought changes. By 1969, the name of the game was racquetball. The organization had gone from national to international. The pink ball used in the first championships had been changed to an accepted black ball. But the seedings committee followed the results of the 1968 tournament in drawing the brackets.

Thus was born the International Racquetball Association, and with it the IRA Championships. But the roots were planted in the National Paddle Racquets tournament of 1968. And to the sponsors of that event, all racquetball owes recognition and a resounding vote of thanks.
"I can handle these 55-year-old kids anytime," said Ike Gurner. "They need to get a little experience."

Then the stubby 60-year-old from Louisville proceeded to prove it by sweeping to the first championship of the 55-over Golden Masters Singles.

Despite being "just a kid" by Gurner’s standards, lean, agile Alex Guerry of Chattanooga put up a good fight in the finals, winning the first game at 17 before going down, 21-12, 21-6.

Gurner recovered from a bad spill, banging his head against the side wall as he went down. Later, he displayed an egg-sized lump on his head but shrugged it off as no problem.

The field of 14 entries represented nine states and Canada, but the finals wound up as a rematch of the Southern Regional, and with the same result.

Gurner advanced by trimming a pair of Californians, Cal Murphy of San Diego, 18 and 8, and Stan Berney of Escondido, 6 and 18.

Guerry had a much tougher road. Seeded fourth, he upset top-ranked Jackson Bowling of Kenmore, N.Y., 7-21, 21-15, 21-17, in a long, drawn-out semifinal struggle.

Bowling and Guerry drew special praise for their performance. The referee of that match marched right up to the official table and declared, "Never, in any tournament anywhere, have I called a match for two finer gentlemen." Now that, folks, is an award in itself.

Guerry had scored two earlier victories over Don Green of Hayward, Calif., 10 and 8 in one of those closer-than-the-score-shows matches, and over Ben Wirkus of Fond du Lac, Wis., 9 and 8.

Bowling took third place over Berney, 4 and 13, and Green came back to win consolation honors with three decisive scores, downing C. A. Spaulding of Manchester, Mo., 12 and 5, in the finals.

He’s Just a ‘Kid’ Himself

Ike Gurner

Alex Guerry

Golden Masters

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8-Larry Lederman, Milwaukee</td>
<td>Ray Crowley, Tulsa</td>
<td>Crowley ..........</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21-15 21-16</td>
<td>21-15 21-16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4-Alex Guerry, Chattanooga, Tenn.</td>
<td>Don Green, Hayward, Cal.</td>
<td>Guerry ..........</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21-10 21-8</td>
<td>21-10 21-9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5-Ben Wirkus, Fond du Lac, Wis.</td>
<td>Edward Lohr, Portland, Ore.</td>
<td>Wirkus ..........</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21-10 21-9</td>
<td>21-10 21-9</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21-16 21-8</td>
<td>21-16 21-8</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7-David Shoss, Dallas</td>
<td>Cal Murphy, San Diego</td>
<td>Murphy ..........</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21-9 21-8</td>
<td>21-9 21-8</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3-Stanley Berney, Escondido, Cal.</td>
<td>Jim Scott, San Diego</td>
<td>Berney ..........</td>
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<tr>
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<td>21-3 21-8</td>
<td>21-3 21-8</td>
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<tr>
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<td>6-Jack Duncan, Vancouver, B.C.</td>
<td>C. A. Spaulding, Manchester, Mo.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21-8 21-11</td>
<td>21-8 21-11</td>
<td></td>
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Third Place: Bowling def. Berney, 21-4, 21-13
Directors Touch on Many Topics...

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

Annual Meeting—June 4, 1974

The meeting of the IRA Board of Directors was called to order by DeWitt Shy, President, at 10 a.m. on June 4, 1974, at the LeBaron Hotel in San Diego, Calif.

First item on the agenda was the Financial Report for 1973, along with the Budget Report for 1974, as follows:

1973 RECEIPTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Royalties</td>
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<td>Advertising</td>
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<td>Sale of publications</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sale of supplies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tournament income</td>
<td>226.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>509.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$110,267.94</td>
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1973 EXPENDITURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional fees</td>
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<td>Rent</td>
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<td>Awards and trophies</td>
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<td>Magazine production</td>
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<td>Postage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership supplies</td>
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<td>Supplies for resale</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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Net Income: $23,450.62
Total: $110,267.94

1974 INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Royalties</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>10,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising</td>
<td>10,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sale of publications</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sale of supplies</td>
<td>5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tournament Income</td>
<td>12,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$133,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1974 EXPENDITURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Magazine</td>
<td>$24,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive director</td>
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<td>Salary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Magazine salary</td>
<td>18,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary salary</td>
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<td>Rent</td>
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<td>Telephone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership supplies</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office supplies</td>
<td>3,000.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies for resale</td>
<td>3,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mailing service</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tournaments</td>
<td>20,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dues and subscriptions</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photography</td>
<td>500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>1,200.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Awards and trophies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duplicating</td>
<td>600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office equipment</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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<td>$106,450.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Income</td>
<td>$26,150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$132,600.00</td>
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</table>

Equipment contracts that have been approved were next on the agenda. Agreements have been signed with Sears, Roebuck and Co., and Northern Sports and Equipment, that are out and being considered are: Voit, World Courts, Powerlock, R2 and Ektelon. Of course, we welcome any manufacturer who is interested in helping to promote the International Racquetball Association.

Guidelines and a committee for approval of equipment were discussed in the meeting. Guidelines should be set up for manufacturers to approve equipment and standards. It was felt that a committee should be appointed to present the facts concerning the item to be approved. The Board felt this should be done through the Executive Director, working with and through the manufacturing people in the market, setting up guidelines to meet our standards.

It was pointed out that anything the Board approves should be of good quality, something the members would have confidence in when they go down to purchase the items. It was also discovered that the Executive Club Insurance would cover the equipment. Without some of the top celebrities in the area, we will have more of the regional setup accepted as presented by the Executive Director. The new regional breakdown is as follows:

Region 3—North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, Wisconsin.
Region 4—Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas.
Region 5—Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Missouri, Ohio.
Region 6—Alabama, Mississippi, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Louisiana, Tennessee, Puerto Rico.
Region 7—Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Washington, D.C., Kentucky, North Carolina.
Region 9—East Canada, no change.
Region 10—West Canada, no change.

Qualification from each region was the next item on the agenda. A motion was made by Charlie Brumfield, seconded by John Chambers of Canada and passed by the Board that the regional setup be accepted as presented by the Executive Director. The new regional breakdown is as follows:

Region 1—California, Utah, Arizona, Nevada, Hawaii.
Region 3—North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, Wisconsin.
Region 4—Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas.
Region 5—Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Missouri, Ohio.
Region 6—Alabama, Mississippi, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Louisiana, Tennessee, Puerto Rico.
Region 7—Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Washington, D.C., Kentucky, North Carolina.
Region 9—East Canada, no change.
Region 10—West Canada, no change.

Qualification from each region was the next item on the agenda. A motion was made by Bob Mcinerney and seconded by Larry Lederman that we would have a certified audit for the year 1974. The motion carried unanimously.

Pro racquetball was discussed but was tabled for more research and decisions to be made by the Board of Directors at a later date. It was pointed out that if the IRA does get into pro racquetball, such a move would have to be justified from the standpoint that the money spent would promote and develop racquetball in all areas. This item was discussed at great length but was tabled. When a decision is made there will be a report to the IRA membership full report to the IRA membership full report to the IRA membership.

The idea of a celebrity tournament was discussed. There has been some research done on this and it was the feeling of the Board that if a celebrity tournament could be held it would help get some TV coverage and publicity that would not be possible without some of the top celebrities involved. Several celebrities were mentioned who play racquetball and might be interested, among them Elvis Presley, Sammy Davis Jr., world champion tennis player Bobby Fischer, etc. The Executive Director was given permission to go ahead and pursue this area.

The site of the International Doubles was changed to Minneapolis, Minn., because it was discovered that the Executive Club in Cleveland has 22-foot ceilings. The dates will be the same, October 11-13, 1974. There will be five classes involved—Junior, Open, Senior, Masters and Golden Masters.

The International Singles Championship for 1975 will be held the first weekend in April with the regionals set for the first weekend in March. Other dates were discussed for the National Invitation tournaments with some dates and sites confirmed, as follows:

1—International Singles, April 3-6, 1975, site open.
2—Regionals, Feb. 28-March 2, 1975, site open.
3—International Doubles, Oct. 11-13, 1974, Minneapolis.
4—Open Invitation Singles, Jan. 10-12, 1975, Louisville.
5—Open Invitation Doubles, dates and site open.
6—Senior Invitation Singles, Dec. 6-7, 1974, site open.
8—Masters Invitation Singles, dates and site open.
9—Golden Masters Invitation Doubles, dates and site open.

It was discussed that the new qualifications were set up this year for the Internationals and a proposed new breakdown of regionals was presented to the Board by the Executive Director, having eight regions in the United States instead of five, plus the two in Canada. A motion was made by Charlie Brumfield, seconded by John Chambers of Canada and passed by the Board that the regional setup be accepted as presented by the Executive Director. The new regional breakdown is as follows:

Region 1—California, Utah, Arizona, Nevada, Hawaii.
Region 3—North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, Wisconsin.
Region 4—Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas.
Region 5—Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Missouri, Ohio.
Region 6—Alabama, Mississippi, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Louisiana, Tennessee, Puerto Rico.
Region 7—Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Washington, D.C., Kentucky, North Carolina.
Region 9—East Canada, no change.
Region 10—West Canada, no change.

Qualification from each region was the next item on the agenda. A motion was made by Bob Mcinerney and seconded by Larry Lederman that we qualify as we did this year in Open Singles only. Since we will have 10 regions instead of seven, if we qualify the same numbers as this year we will have more of the qualifying people there than we had at the present tournament. It was also discussed that in the future the tournament could be large enough that we may have to qualify in other divisions. The motion was passed.

Another recommendation was made by the Executive Director that all regionals be held on the first weekend in March and that you can go to any regional that you could attend.
The reason for this is that some persons live on the border of two states that separates regions and could go maybe a hundred miles to be in one regional which wasn't their region to five hundred miles to their own region. It was felt because of time and expense it would be better to qualify in whatever regional was close. There would be a deadline of probably 10 days before the regional for entries. Also the recommendation was made that you enter only one event. You have to make a choice as to which event you want to qualify in. The motion was made by Bud Muehleisen and seconded by Gerry Lapierre and passed unanimously.

It was recommended that we keep the same pay to the individual winners as we did this year, if the IRA can afford it and it appears that they will be able to. It was felt there need not be a motion for this but accept it as a policy of the past.

Ken Porco was appointed along with Smith Schippers to come up with some guidelines and functions of the regional commissioners.

Hall of Fame requirements were set up and accepted as presented by the Executive Director. They are printed following this report.

The next item discussed was officiating and it was agreed that we need to set up some guidelines to improve our officiating. The Board agreed to expand the rules committee to at least three members, with Bud Muehleisen as chairman. Bob Mcinerney moved that the President be empowered to appoint two members not necessarily from the Board in addition to the chairman and this was seconded by Larry Lederman. The motion carried unanimously. Mention was made that each state could have an officiating clinic and that the IRA check into a video tape that states could have to explain exactly how officiating should be done.

The T-shirt rule was brought up and the feeling of the Board was primarily that the T-shirt rule should be "neat and clean and be an asset to the game of racquetball!" The rule that the Board recommended to the membership is as follows: The basic body of the uniform must be of a light or bright color so as not to blend in with the black ball when it passes close to the body of the player. The Uniform trim may be of any color. The front of the pants and shirt may contain a decal measuring not over five inches in any dimension. The decal may contain a club insignia or commercial advertising of any kind. The back of the uniform must be completely unadorned except that a player's name may be placed across his shirt in letters not over three inches high. Doubles teams should wear similar color to ease problems of referee identification. Warmup suits not worn in actual play may be of any color and may have insignias anywhere.

The next item on the agenda was eye protection and it was felt by the Board that we should recommend that everyone wear eye protection to prevent eye injury. The Board did not feel that we should make it a required item at this time. We do recommend to the membership at all possible we have some type of eye protection when you play.

Club membership was discussed and the Board recommended that the Executive Director set up some type of club certification with a $5 fee for a club to become a member of the IRA.

A report was presented from the National Court Clubs Association held in Steamboat Springs, Colo. The IRA was represented by Ken Porco and Myron Roderick. They reported there were some good things about the convention, but as a whole it was very poorly organized and did not meet the needs of most of the people who attended. It was felt by both members that it had a lot of possibilities to offer people in racquetball and a committee was set up consisting of Ken Porco and Myron Roderick to look into the possibilities of improving this organization or starting one through the IRA.

The next item discussed was the National Sporting Goods Convention that will be held in Houston, Texas, in January and the Board recommended that the IRA have a booth at the convention telling people about the service and membership as well as the organization of the IRA. DeWitt Shy appointed Ken Porco and Myron Roderick a committee of two to give a report on holding an IRA Seminar of Court Construction and Court Management.

Myron Roderick reported that the IRA office has been moved to Suite 9, 2324 W. 7th, Wicklow Professional Center, and he is working full time for the IRA and if at any time he can do anything for the Board or the membership, he is anxious to do it.

Ken Porco was chairman of the nominating committee and the committee recommended to the Board, four people to present to the membership as the new board members to replace the four going off the present board. The names recommended were Bill Dunn, Hal Price, Ivan Bruner and Vince Cutshall. There was a lot of research done by the committee of five members to select five on location of members, age and experience in racquetball.

Membership price was discussed and the Executive Director recommended that the membership price for one year for three dollars and three years for seven dollars, stay as is.

The cost of the magazine was discussed and it costs us about fifty cents a copy now to print 6,500. The paid advertising as well as the free advertising to the approved beneficial manufacturers are coming fairly close to paying for the magazine and the Board recommended to the Executive Director to try and get more advertising if at all possible.

Myron Roderick reported to the board that the membership when he took over as Executive Director was about 3,100 and today we have about 5,400 members. He feels that this can double without any problem if we form strong state organizations to get memberships.

The magazine improvement was discussed and the Board felt that we must always try to report as much news as possible about all tournaments that are taking place, no matter how large or small, but felt that we need to class our magazine up with more color pictures and more instructional articles. This is our area of communication so we can let the members know what is happening throughout the U.S. and Canada in racquetball and we want to do as good a job as we possibly can.

Myron Roderick pointed out to the Board that the first couple of issues had a lack of articles sent in but the last few issues have been great and feels the membership will continue to contribute a great deal of information and pictures to the magazine.

A discussion was held on the national ranking of players in all classes and the Board felt this would be an interesting thing to do and that we would rank the players in all classes pertaining to the results of the International Championships in 1974 and then revived this every two or four months to the results that are taking place during the year. The Board felt this would present interest in a position as well as help the seeding committee on all the national tournaments.

There was no other business.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m. on June 4. Motion was made to adjourn by DeWitt Shy and seconded by Larry Lederman. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Myron Roderick
Executive Director
Selection Procedures
Set For Hall of Fame

THE HONORS COMMITTEE
1. The Honors Committee shall be a standing committee of the International Racquetball Association.
2. The Honors Committee shall comprise ten (10) voting members and a non-voting chairman.
3. The non-voting chairman of The Honors Committee shall be appointed for a three year term.
4. The voting members of The Honors Committee shall be appointed for three years with terms staggered so that some will expire each year. Each member may serve for three years only.
5. Members of The Honors Committee shall not be elected to the Hall of Fame. This does not apply to the non-voting chairman.
6. Membership on the Honors Committee shall include representatives of the following organizations:
   - 3—IRA Board of Directors
   - 3—State Chairman
   - 1—Regional Commissioners
   - 3—At Large
7. Names of members of The Honors Committee shall not be made public. The name of the non-voting chairman may be released.
8. Members of The Honors Committee shall be expected to attend the annual enshrinement ceremonies at the Hall of Fame as often as possible.

COMMITTEE INSTRUCTIONS
1. The duty of each member of The Honors Committee shall be to evaluate carefully the credentials of the candidates as submitted by the chairman. It is not necessary to know the candidate personally, nor to know anything about him in addition to the information submitted for each candidate.
2. Each committee member shall utilize the ballot forms provided with each nomination to register his vote for each candidate presented.
3. The vote on each candidate should be registered and sent to the chairman without delay.
4. Each committee member should register his vote independently of all other committee members.
5. No committee member may divulge his vote to anyone or to any candidate.
6. The names of the nominees presented annually will not be made public. Only the names elected will be released at the discretion of and only by the Executive Director of the International Racquetball Association.
7. The complete final results of the annual voting will be presented by the chairman of the committee to a CPA for verification and the complete certified list will be retained permanently in the files of the International Racquetball Association.
8. All nomination forms and information thereon are confidential and may not be divulged to anyone.
9. All inquiries on filing, nominations and results should be referred to the Executive Director of the International Racquetball Association.

QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATES
1. A candidate may be elected as a:
   a. Contestant—at any time after consistent outstanding contributions to the sport of racquetball.
   b. Contributor—at any time after consistent outstanding contributions to the sport of racquetball.
2. A candidate, having been elected to the above categories, may be nominated and submitted again at a later date in another category.
3. A worthy candidate must be representative of:
   a. unquestioned moral character; and
   b. demonstrated outstanding leadership ability; and
   c. high type of citizenship; and
   d. national or international recognition.
4. Factors of race, religion, creed, politics, geographic location, shall never be considered while evaluating any candidate for election.
5. To be elected, a candidate must receive seventy (70) percent of the affirmative vote of The Honors Committee. For a 10-man committee, 7 affirmative votes are required for election.
6. While The Honors Committee is not required to elect a candidate annually, when no nominee is elected, the names of the four candidates receiving the most votes will be circulated immediately to the committee one more time, listed in order of votes received.
7. A nominee is eligible for a maximum of five elections.

GENERAL REGULATIONS
1. The deadline for presentation of duly processed nomination forms and the completed file will be December 15, annually.
2. Any person may recommend candidates by:
   a. obtaining the official nomination form from the International Racquetball Association; and
   b. completely processing the form with fully documented information required; and
   c. obtaining letters from at least three Racquetball people as character reference and support of the nomination; and
   d. sending the entire file before the above deadline to the International Racquetball Association, Box 1016, Stillwater, Okla. 74074.
3. All original nomination forms and the complete file of supporting materials will be retained in the files of the International Racquetball Association.
Peggy Steding and Ann Gorski won three straight two-game matches and successfully defended their Women's Doubles championship. There were eight doubles teams in the field, including three players who did not compete in singles.

The second straight doubles crown for Peggy and Ann allowed the Odessa, Texas, sensation to repeat her 1973 "double play" and become the only player ever to sweep IRA singles and doubles twice.

The women's bracket was the only doubles competition at the San Diego tournament.

Peggy and Ann disposed of Kathy Williams of Hazel Park, Mich., and Jan Campbell of San Diego in the finals, 21-15, 21-16. Gorski entered from San Diego this year after playing out of Milwaukee in '73.

Earlier, Steding-Gorski had allowed less than 10 points a game in defeating Barbara McGowan and Penny Keenam of San Diego in the first round and Bette Weed of El Cajon and Janell Marriott of Salt Lake City in the semifinals.

Peggy Steding and Ann Gorski repeated as IRA women's doubles champs by defeating Jan Campbell (left, below) and Kathy Williams.

Ann Helps Peggy
Double in Doubles

1-Peggy Steding-Ann Gorski ...... Steding-Gorski ...... Barbara McGowan-Penny Keenam 21-9 21-7
4-Bette Weed-Janell Marriott ...... Weed-Marriott ...... Jennifer Harding-Sue LaLonde 21-19 21-10
2-Kimberly Miller-Jan Pasternak .. Miller-Pasternak .. Millie Guerry-Lucy Fryar 21-6 21-5
3-Kathy Williams-Jan Campbell ..... Williams-Campbell ... Carmenza Pond-Linda Siau 21-8 21-1

Third Place: Miller-Pasternak def. Weed-Marriott, 21-11, 20-21, 21-10

Williams and Campbell reached the finals with a three-game, comeback victory over Kimberly Miller of San Diego and Jan Pasternak of Tempe, Ariz., 13-21, 21-11, 21-5.

Miller and Pasternak won third place, 21-11, 20-21, 21-10, over Weed and Marriott.

Jennifer Harding of Portland and Sue LaLonde of Vancouver, Wash., won the consolation championship over Carmenza Pond and Linda Siau of Riverside, 21-17, 21-7.

If Pond and Siau didn't have much left in the consolation finals, it may have been because they were involved in the longest match of the entire tournament Saturday afternoon. They needed three full hours to defeat the Tennessee duo of Lucy Fryar and Millie Guerry, 21-17, 17-21, 21-15.
By Charlie Garfinkel
Photos by Paul Brodnicki
How many beginners and average players would rather hit a forehand than a backhand? I would venture to say nine out of 10. There are three main reasons for a poor backhand:
1—Improper grip
2—Poor stroke technique
3—Not watching the ball
Actually, the incorrect backswing for the beginner is the correct backswing for the advanced player. We'll get to that later.

First, let us show you the proper grip. We have three full view shots of the grip.
In Picture 1, we show you how the hand rests on the racquet. Pictures 2 and 3 show more closely how your hand should be on the racquet. The grips are the same, except in Picture 2 the thumb is up the back of the racquet, while in Picture 3 it is wrapped around the grip.
The reason for the thumb up the back is that some players feel this gives them more support. Also, the slightly spread fingers give more flexibility when hitting the ball.

Notice the arrow in Picture 3. The big knuckle of the thumb is directly on top of the right bevel in the picture. You should use this as a guideline for the backhand grip. When you turn your racquet over, it should look like Picture 1.

How do you find the proper grip size? The thumb and fourth finger should be fairly close as in Picture 3. As a general rule, there shouldn't be more than a half-inch between the two fingers. However, use the racquet with the grip size that feels most comfortable to you.

Now... back to the stroke itself. Most manuals and books show the backhand beginning as in Picture 4. Notice how high up the racquet is. I feel that this is one of the main reasons the beginner or average player has so much difficulty with the backhand.

As you can see in Picture 5, the racquet is turned almost sideways at the point of contact. This does not give you a solid swing. You also want to get down as low as possible when taking the backhand drive. In Picture 6, you can see that it is a poor follow-through. This actually causes you to be off balance momentarily.

Why do the top players use this swing then? They can control the swing and feel that they can get more power from starting higher. Also, their point of contact is as it appears in Picture 8, with the proper follow-through as shown in Picture 9.

This may be true for the advanced player, but not for the beginner or average player.

Now I will show you in Pictures 7, 8 and 9 how the easier backhand can be hit.

Notice that I have the racquet just slightly tilted in Picture 7 as I start my
swing. I'm also standing sideways (this is important). As I make my point of contact, my knees are bent, my eyes are on the ball and the racquet is slightly in front of me. In Picture 9, please notice the follow-through.

You must finish over your right shoulder (if right-handed) to get a good, clean stroke with the proper feel and power.

How do you practice the stroke? Throw the ball off the side wall near the short line. Practice hitting straight down the line with backhands. As the grip and stroke feel better, keep moving back.

You will have to hit many backhands to get the stroke down, but you will be pleased with the results.

Make sure you hit the ball in front of you and that you follow through over your right shoulder.

I know you'll say it is hard to get a court to practice on. If you really want to improve, you can get a court at 7 a.m. without any problems. I know, as that is when I practice.

How do you practice switching from forehand to backhand? Stand up at the short line and alternate forehand and backhand shots, side-to-side. Do this slowly at first, so you can get used to the grip change. As you get the feel of changing, you can gradually move back in the court.

As you master the backhand further, you can then proceed to the ceiling ball and other shots. This will be discussed at a later date.

Before I review the backhand, I'd like to give you a brief story as to why I feel that this swing is very effective.

Two years ago, I fractured my shoulder, necessitating a pin in it for seven weeks. (My wife was sorry it wasn't my tongue.) I started hitting the same day that the pin was taken out. I had great difficulty with my forehand. (Most people say I had it before I was hurt.) I could hit a backhand, but not as hard as I used to. Therefore lowered the start of my swing. I was amazed at the accuracy and control that I could master.

I have also noticed from watching and talking to players their frustrations with the backhand. I feel that I have helped quite a few players with the backhand using this technique.

In closing, I am going to list the five main things to do when hitting your backhand. They are:

1.—Watch the ball.
2.—Bring the racquet almost straight back.
3.—Stay low, have the racquet slightly in front of you and your knees bent on contact.
4.—Follow through over the right shoulder.
5.—Practice. Practice. Practice.

Southern Illinois U Organizes Club

Southern Illinois University-Carbondale racquetball players recently formed their own University Racquetball Club. During their first month in operation, they boast 66 members—all from the ranks of the SIU students, faculty and staff.

An intraschool tournament schedule has been drawn up through May, 1975. Competition shall take place at four levels (A, B, C, and Women's). Presently club members also are hoping to get the opportunity to compete against other Illinois clubs, as well as organizations in their near four-state area.

The SIU Club has a number of outstanding players among its ranks, including Walt Ellis, Ronald York, Barry Blonde, Barbara Robinson and Robert "Doc" Spackman. The club possesses a number of fine potential racquetball players who have even begun to look toward the 1975 National Intercollegiates at Memphis State.
chapter 5
DEFENSIVE SHOTS

The job of the defensive player is to stop his opponent from scoring. In racquetball, as in other sports, the best way to do this is by learning and mastering the basic shots of the game.

Control of front court is essential for a good defensive racquetball player. You can move forward to cover kill attempts, to either side to get pass shots, and back for balls off the back wall. If your opponent is occupying front court, you want to remove him and make him take his shots from back court.

The basic defensive shots—ceiling ball, lob ball, Z ball, and around-the-wall ball—are used to get your opponent out of front court. If properly executed, defensive shots will prevent your opponent from making his kill shots from front court.

CEILING BALL

The use of the ceiling ball (Diagram 24) has increased considerably with the manufacture of more uniform and more live balls. Some of the top players in racquetball today use it to get themselves out of trouble during a rally.

The forehand ceiling ball is hit most often with the overhand stroke, head-high, and about one foot in front of the player's body. The ball must be hit firmly and high onto the ceiling, about 2-5 feet in front of the front wall. It then will come off the ceiling, angle down to hit the floor back of the short line, and bounce up and back to the back corner of the court.

If the ceiling ball is hit with the backhand stroke, the ball should be hit shoulder-high (not head-high), and the arm should be extended about one foot from the body at the point of contact with the ball.

The ceiling ball must be undercut—hit with the racquet head angled slightly down toward the floor (closed)—or it won't spin correctly. To understand how the ceiling ball spin works, take the ball or any round object and hold it between your thumb and index finger in your right hand. Rotate the ball to the left (counterclockwise). This motion is called bottom spin, and it results when you undercut the ball. Now rotate the ball to the right (clockwise). This motion is called top spin, and it results from the ball's hitting the ceiling and the front wall. Reverse, or top spin, makes the ball travel farther into back court after it hits the floor.

The good ceiling ball must be hit with the proper undercutting motion and the correct amount of power, and it must strike the ceiling 2-5 feet from the front wall. Also, the player should strive to make his ceiling ball a wallpaper ball—a ball that hugs the side wall as it travels down toward the short line and hits the floor.

Most beginning racquetball players hit the ceiling ball too hard. This is a natural mistake because a player wants the ball to travel a long distance—starting from back court and returning to deep court. Yet the ceiling ball shouldn't be hit as hard as possible because there is no direct relationship between the force of the hit and the distance the ball travels to the back wall. Also, hitting the ball as hard as possible is extremely tiring.

If the ball is hit to spin properly, there is no need to blast it.

One of the most outstanding ceiling ball players today is Steve Keeley. Steve often uses the ceiling ball to rescue himself in a tough rally. "The player always should try to hit the ceiling ball 2-5 feet from the front wall," advises Keeley. "If your ball strays too far from this range, you'll have to hit it much harder to make it bounce deep to back court."

A variation of the ceiling ball is the front-wall-first ceiling ball (Diagram 25). The player stands in front court and hits the ball with almost an underhand stroke. The ball should be hit to a point high on the front wall. The momentum of the ball will make it angle upward, hit the ceiling, and rebound to the floor near the short line.

The front-wall-first ceiling ball should be hit from front court only. If hit from back court, the top spin, resulting from the ball's impact with the ceiling, won't allow the ball to carry deep enough into back court, and it will be a very easy setup for your opponent.

A properly executed ceiling ball will make your opponent think to get into deep court for the return. If your opponent does manage to return your ceiling shot, his return most likely will be another ceiling ball. It usually will not be a kill shot.

Since a ceiling ball is easier to stroke than a hard-hit kill shot, you've nothing to lose by trying a ceiling ball when the opportunity presents itself.

Give yourself plenty of practice hours to learn the defensive ceiling ball. Concentrate especially on the amount of power you use to hit the ball. If you hit the ceiling ball too hard, it may come off the back wall instead of dropping into deep court. If you hit the ball too softly or strike the side wall near the short line, the ball will not carry deep enough and may provide your opponent with a mid-court setup.

LOB BALL

The lob (Diagram 26), when properly hit, is a tough shot for most opponents to
Official Entry Blank

Sixth Annual International Doubles Championships

October 11-12-13, 1974
Minneapolis, Minn.

Please enter me in the event checked:

[ ] Open Doubles

[ ] Junior Doubles, 18-Under
    Both contestants must be 18 years old or younger on Oct. 11, 1974.

[ ] Senior Doubles, 35-Over
    Both contestants must be 35 years old or over on Oct. 11, 1974.

[ ] Masters Doubles, 45-Over
    Both contestants must be 45 years old or over on Oct. 11, 1974.

[ ] Golden Masters Doubles, 55-Over
    Both contestants must be 55 years old or over on Oct. 11, 1974.

Partner's Name:

SEND THIS PAGE WITH ENTRY FEE TO
IRA INTERNATIONAL DOUBLES
THE COURT HOUSE
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City________________ State_________ Zip______ IRA Card No.____

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

Date________________ Signature________________

SUMMER 1974
Our Seamco Racquetball is the only one approved by the International Racquetball Association. It has their blessing because it's made of a select, natural rubber compound to provide consistent top performance in tournament play.

What comes with having the top racquetball in the game, of course, is a reputation for excellence that has to be lived up to for all the racquetball equipment we offer.

Like our racquetball racquets. Take our new aluminium Paddle Racquet for example. The only really unique racquet made today, it features an exclusive string support system engineered to prevent string breakage, is minus eyelets, wires and grommets that can come loose or break, has the biggest sweet spot in the game, and offers a one-piece extruded frame.

Of course, if you prefer wood to metal, we have a whole slew of top quality wooden racquetball racquets, too.

For the best in racquetballs and racquets see ours at your pro shop or sporting goods store. To get our newest catalog write: Seamco Sporting Goods, New Haven, Connecticut 06503.

The best reason for you to buy our racquets is our racquetball.
SUMMER 1974

DIAGRAM 25 The ceiling ball (front wall first)

handle. Like the offensive drop shot, the lob has become less popular among many players because of the improved ball, which has made the lob more difficult to control. Players who formerly used the lob extensively are now using ceiling balls. Even champion Charlie Brumfield admits, "I use the lob only if I can't hit anything else."

In the defensive lob shot the player must use his basic forehand or backhand stroke to hit the ball softly and firmly. The ball should be struck at a point just off the foot that is closest to the front wall and at the apex (highest point) of its bounce, just before it begins to drop to the floor. The greater the height at which you hit the lob, the softer you will have to hit the ball to get it to hit high on the front wall. A properly executed lob ball will angle toward the side wall and die in deep back court. If your lob attempts consistently hit the back wall and give your opponent a setup, you are stroking the ball too hard. Use a light, short, and firm stroke, not a long, lazy swing or jab.

Many top racquetball players hit the lob with the face of the racquet slightly open. These players feel that the slightly upward angle of the racquet face helps control the ball by taking a little off—slowing the ball down—and insuring that the ball will drop softly into back court.

When learning the defensive lob shot, many players find it helpful to review the footwork used in the basic forehand and backhand strokes. Just because the lob shot requires that you "baby" your full hitting power slightly, this doesn't mean that you should "baby" your footwork.

Brumfield uses the lob as a change of pace shot. "Most advanced racquetball is played at a slam-bang rate of speed," says Charlie. "If in a fast, tense game you can manage to hit a high, soft lob at your opponent, he may be so surprised that he will rush his shot and hit an ineffective return."

Charlie adds, "I use the lob to force my opponent to make a shot. Hitting a slow lob gives me more time to get in a good position to cover my opponent's return. And, because I'm in an ideal place, the pressure is really on my opponent to hit a good shot and not make any errors."

Z BALL

The Z ball (Diagram 27) is one of the most difficult shots to hit and to return in racquetball. It is one of the newest shots in the game and, if mastered, will give your opponent fits on the court.

You can shoot the Z ball from almost any point on the court (as long as you are standing off-center), hitting the ball with great power and firmness into the opposite corner of the front wall and letting your stroking arm follow through fully across your midsection. The ball should angle sharply to the side wall and rebound deep to the opposite side wall in back court. The last wall that the ball hits reverses its spin so that it rebounds in a direction parallel to the back wall, making it a back wall wallpaper ball. Your opponent will find it extremely difficult to return a Z ball. First, he must get into deep court quickly if he is to have any chance of a return. Even if he gets there in time, he will find it nearly impossible to get his racquet face squarely into the ball for a solid return. If he does make a return, it probably will be a ceiling return and not a kill. Second, your opponent probably will try to hit a Z ball out of the air from a mid-court position before it can reach the last wall. Because a properly hit Z ball travels high in the air as it zooms cross-court, your opponent will be forced to hit the ball out of the air in an awkward overhead manner that may result in a weak return.

In the 1972 International Singles Championship match between Charlie Brumfield and Ron Rubenstein, Brumfield used the Z ball extensively, forcing Rubenstein to deep court, where he was rushed into making weak returns.

"He drove me crazy with those Z balls," said Rubenstein. "There was absolutely nothing I could do with them. The Z ball got me off balance and in deep court, and all I could do was flick the ball to the front wall."

AROUND-THE-WALL

The around-the-wall ball is hit from deep court to the opposite side wall and then to the front wall and should rebound into the deep cross-court corner. The around-the-wall ball should not be hit as hard as the Z ball.

This effective defensive ball will move your opponent out of center court. The around-the-wall ball usually doesn't react as wildly as the Z ball because it hits two, not three, walls. Also, the around-the-wall ball will not travel as high as the Z ball when it bounds cross-court, so your opponent may be able to take the ball out of the air more easily. "Also, adds Brumfield, "The around-the-wall ball is a tough shot to hit deep enough and still keep off the back wall."

A good racquetball player knows both his offensive and defensive shots. Simply being a roadrunner—a player who prolongs a volley by using only defensive shots and who causes his opponent to run a lot—will not make you a top-notch or well-rounded player. You may be a satisfactory player, but you'll never be an outstanding player—one who uses offensive and defensive shots with equal ability.
Gordon Kelly Captures Portland's Rose Festival

Michigan's Gordon Kelly was the class of the tournament as he won the Rose Festival in Portland, Ore., by defeating Bill Fearing of California, 21-2, 21-14.

Kelly's victim in the semifinals was Pete Lubisich of Portland, 21-14, 20-21, 21-13.

A throng of 217 sweaty players consumed almost 200 gallons of punch, pop and beer during the event.

Surprise of the tournament was Jeff Smith of Vancouver, Wash., who defeated Tony Krause of Sunnyvale, Calif., in a gruelling two-hour match, 21-20, 20-21, 21-15, then unleashed a great display of rollout kills to down Portland's Bob Lund, 21-10, 21-15. In the semis, Fearing was too much, 21-13, 13-21, 21-7.

The novice and C divisions contained over 80 entries and were largely responsible for the success of the tournament. John Mason of Seattle narrowly defeated Portland's Mike Haden, 19 and 18, in C, while Tacoma's Rhett Kirk throttled Bellingham's Bill Baker, 10 and 20, in the novice.

Beauty and the Beast were matched in the B finals. Ron Bennink came from behind in both games to defeat Portland's Jennifer Harding, 16 and 18.

The most exciting match of the finals came in senior singles, where Phil Brown defeated fellow Portlander Ed Bause, 19-21, 21-16, 21-18. The match was a continuous see-saw battle and referee Tevie Smith did an excellent job keeping it under control. Both Phil and Ed are great comeback artists, leading to a true cliffhanger.

Special thanks to Paul Thompson of the JCC and Mel Fox of the Multnomah AC for their help in the use of their facilities. Also, a hearty thanks to Harvey Fuson for his 25-hour days in making things go.

Wright Nips Bledsoe For 'Holiday in Dixie'

By Chuck Croft

Pete Wright of Fort Worth defeated Davey Bledsoe of Knoxville, Tenn., 21-20, 21-6, to win the open singles championship of the first annual Holiday in Dixie Open at Shreveport, La., YMCA.

Wright and Richard Walker of Dallas captured open doubles by defeating Tom McKie of Richardson, Tex., and Luther Bernstein of Dallas for the second time in two months, 21-13, 12-21, 21-16.

The tournament drew a total of 41 players from Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Tennessee. All players were placed in the open bracket, with first round losers going to B consolation and second round losers going to A Consolation.

The quarterfinals matched the eight seeded players head-to-head. The only upset of the quarters came when Bernstein, No. 7, came from way down in both the first and third games to upset No. 2 Steve Smith of Memphis, 21-20, 16-21, 21-20.

Wright downed Eric Campbell of Dallas, 10 and 15; Walker stopped Roland Treat of Stillwater, Okla., 20 and 15; and Bledsoe turned back McKie, 18 and 12. Bernstein bowed to Bledsoe in the semifinals, but came back to beat Walker for third place, 15 and 13.

The finals started off as a real barnburner with the lead changing hands several times. But in the second game, Wright's kill shots started to produce a series of rollouts as he sailed to victory.

Tony Kobussen of Little Rock defeated Chuck Croft of Shreveport, 15 and 16, in A Consolation, with Bob Blake of Little Rock third. Mike Connolly of Bossier City AFB, La., defeated C. P. Herrington of Shreveport in B Consolation, 21-19, 5-21, 21-8, with Nelson Fort of Shreveport third.

All players were guests at a Saturday night barbecue where everyone enjoyed food and fellowship. Lucky Luther Bernstein won an Ektelon Rogue racquet given as a door prize. Since Shreveport has just started playing racquetball, it can be proud of its first tournament and is thankful to the fine players attending.

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Steve Keeley successfully defended his open singles championship in the second annual Daffy Open at Tacoma, Wash., then completed his domination of the open class by teaming with Charlie Drake for the doubles crown.

Keeley defeated Bill Thurman, 21-11, 21-15, in the singles finals, but the scores do not reflect the skill, rallies or sportsmanship demonstrated by both players. The viewers showed their appreciation many times during the match.

Third place went to hard-hitting Bob Lund of Portland over Gentleman Bill Dunn of Chabot, 21-16, 21-19. Combined consolation was won by Jeff Smith of Portland over Dick Reinhard of Gig Harbor, 31-30.

Open doubles again saw Keeley and Thurman—with their partners—fighting it out for first place, Keeley and Drake winning it, 21-16, 21-19, over Thurman and Al Rossi. Thurman’s partner, Rossi, was plagued with a severe wrist injury which prevented him from playing at his best.

Dunn and Tony Krause won third place over the “vocal” Lou Concha-Dave Charison duo, 21-14, 11-21, 21-16. Doubles consolation went by forfeit to Tevie Smith and Howie Rankin over Wayne Smyth and Bill Condratow.

Women’s singles saw Peggy Steding do her thing as only she can. No one went more than two games with her and she allowed only 11 points in three matches, nine of them in the finals, 21-2, 21-7 over Jennifer Harding of Beverton, Ore. Jennifer never really got started in this match.

Third place went to Wendy Warner of Bellingham over Diane Clairmont of Vancouver, B. C., 12 and 14. This was one of the best matches of the tournament with both women demonstrating kills, pass and ceiling shots that drew much applause. Connie Hughes of Portland won consolations over Vicki Panzeri, 31-18.

B singles was a tough class of players from game one until the finals, which saw “Steady” Peggy Steding and “The Riper” John Van Riper battling for the No. 1 spot. Peggy, suffering from leg cramps, made a gallant effort after losing game one, 21-17 and winning game two, 21-13, lost game three, 21-5. “The Riper” proved to be the most improved player we had seen since he won “C” class at last year’s first Daffy Open. Third place was another tough battle, pitting the dapper Ian McKenzie of...
Calendar

AUGUST

1-3: "World" Racquetball Championships, Eastern Washington State College, Spokane, Wash. (Open, B, C, women's senior, masters singles; open and senior doubles.)

29-Sept. 2: Third annual Los Angeles Open Labor Day Tournament, Los Angeles Athletic Club. (Open, 35-over masters, 50-over super masters, B, C, women's; women's novice singles; open, masters, super masters, B, C doubles.) Entry fee $15 first event, $10 second event and women's novice. Deadline, noon August 23. Hotel reservations, Los Angeles Hilton. Director-Mike Chaet, Los Angeles Athletic Club, 431 West Seventh St., Los Angeles, Calif. 90014.

SEPTEMBER

5-7: Whittemarsh Pepsi-Cola Racquetball Classic, Whittemarsh Club, Whittemarsh, Md. Director—Tom Whipple, 911 North Hampton Dr., Silver Spring, Md. 20903.


OCTOBER

11-13: IRA International Doubles Championships, The Court House, Minneapolis, Minn. (Doubles only, open, 18-under junior, 35-over senior, 45-over masters, 55-over golden masters.) See entry blank in this magazine for full details.

11-13: Women's Open, Eau Claire YMCA, Eau Claire, Wis. (S&D) Eileen Joslin, Women's Director, Eau Claire YMCA, 700 Graham Ave., Eau Claire, Wis. 54701.

NOVEMBER

7-10: Canadian National Championships, Cote de Liesse Racquet Club, Montreal. Ivan Velan, Cote de Liesse Racquet Club, 8305 Cote de Liesse Rd., Montreal, Que. H4T 1G5. For full information on any Canadian tournament, write CRA, 10325-114 St., No. 22, Edmonton, Alta. T5J 1Z3.

15-17: IRA Masters Invitation Doubles, New Castle, Pa.

DECEMBER

6-7: IRA Senior Invitation Singles, site to be announced.

6-8: Third annual Illini Open, IMPE Building, University of Illinois, Champaign, Ill. (Open, 35-over senior, 45-over masters, women's singles.) Trophies 1-2-3 consolation. Entry fee $12, one event only. Director—Don Webb, 280 Natural Resources, Urbana, Ill. 61801.

10-12: IRA Open Invitation Singles, Louisville Athletic Club, Louisville, Ky.

FEBRUARY

1-3: IRA Senior Invitation Doubles, San Diego, Calif.

29-31: IRA National Invitation Championships, 10 sites to be announced.

MARCH

29-31: IRA Intercollegiates, Memphis State University, Memphis, Tenn.

APRIL

3-6: IRA International Singles Championships, site to be announced.

Bill Thurman was runner-up in both singles and doubles.

McCoy Wins At Manhattan

Craig McCoy and Jay Jones continued their close rivalry in the A singles finals of the Los Angeles-Manhattan Beach tournament, with McCoy winning a hard-hitting, run and shoot triumph, 21-19, 21-17.

The Manhattan Athletic Club drew over 160 entries including Paul Rubin and handball great Paul Haber, but the real star of the event was provided by the six brand new regulation courts unveiled by the club. "Interest is growing everyday in this area," said manager Gio Castronovo. "We were collecting new members in the middle of the tournament."

Fred Stellabotte, president of the facility, eventually would like to hold tournaments every four months.

In the semifinals, McCoy split the first two games with Rubin, who then had to drop out before the third game with a leg injury. Rubin, formerly nationally ranked, recently moved from Cincinnati and will play out of the Manhattan AC.

Unusual in the A doubles was the experiment of putting an A and C player on each team. Jones and Max Wojcejk won over McCoy and Mark Reyes, 8 and 12.

live music provided by Magnum. Tevie Smith deserves many thanks for the thankless job of Chief Referee. Judy and Al Metz for their taxi service, Judy Williams for handling the many things I could not, Don Strong for getting the balls here on time, Wick's Trophies for creating another unique "Daffy Open" trophy, Mr. Roderick for all his help and special thanks to Art Redford, Parks Weaver, Ron and Jeanie Antley and Louise Hamilton. And, last but most important thanks of all, to you, the players for coming to the second Daffy Open.

Vancouver, B. C. against Terry Freidlander of Mercer Island. Amid kill shots galore and long tough rallies, Freidlander won 21-19, 21-17.

C singles drew more competitors than any other class of play. The future of racquetball lies within this class of players. Brian Swartz, at age 14, is one of the best examples of a future "A" class player. He has the poise, knowledge and ability to be one of the great players of tomorrow. The finals ended up a "David vs. Goliath." Swartz at approximately 5 feet tall and weighing about 100 pounds from Vancouver, B. C., found himself up against Dr. Pat Whitehill, about 6'4" and weighing between 210 and 220 from Spokane, a very tough man to hit pass shots by. So young Swartz started hitting kill shots and won two straight games, 21-13, 21-20. Everyone watching acknowledged their performance with applause. Third place went to John Jackson of Edmonton, Alta., over Steve Bell from Troutdale, Ore., 14-21, 21-7, 21-15.

The "old guys" in Masters class also proved to have some talent for racquetball. Dr. Peter James of Belingham, Wash., had little trouble defeating Ed Gause of Portland, Ore., in game one, 21-8. Gause, a late starter, really came back in games two and three to win, 21-2, 21-10. Al Rossi forfeited the third place match to Sid Williams of Tacoma, due to a very bad wrist injury. Masters consolation was won by Jack Ireland of Portland, Ore., over Rhett Kirk of Tacoma, 31-18.

The second Daffy Open might not even have taken place but for the reorganizational ability of Steve Murata. Steve will soon be leaving our ranks to go to dental school in Portland, Ore. The Muratas will be an asset to any community. Steve also received the annual Sportsmanship Award.

We also must thank each entrant for his and her patience, cooperation and help during this tournament. Without your assistance, it would have been impossible.

The WRA banquet was a success with plenty of food and drink for everyone.

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The "old guys" in Masters class also proved to have some talent for racquetball. Dr. Peter James of Belingham, Wash., had little trouble defeating Ed Gause of Portland, Ore., in game one, 21-8. Gause, a late starter, really came back in games two and three to win, 21-2, 21-10. Al Rossi forfeited the third place match to Sid Williams of Tacoma, due to a very bad wrist injury. Masters consolation was won by Jack Ireland of Portland, Ore., over Rhett Kirk of Tacoma, 31-18.

The second Daffy Open might not even have taken place but for the reorganizational ability of Steve Murata. Steve will soon be leaving our ranks to go to dental school in Portland, Ore. The Muratas will be an asset to any community. Steve also received the annual Sportsmanship Award.

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**In Two Games?**

Throwing his normal three-game pattern to the winds, Bill Schmidtke won the Minnesota state championship with four straight two-game victories, the last over doubles partner Ron Strom, 21-16, 21-16, in Rochester. Schmidtke and Strom won the doubles, 13 and 8, over Larry Neilson and Dick Bryan. Strom is from St. Cloud, the other three from Minneapolis.

The tournament was sponsored by the Kahler Hotel and was capped by a Saturday night banquet there attended by more than 100 players and wives. Highlights included magnificent cuisine, free beer and no speeches.

Because of the limited number of courts available, games to 15 were used in early rounds of doubles to help control the schedule. Tournament directors Fred Banfield and Mike Gorman reported the prospect of four more courts in Rochester will help that city's chances of hosting the state meet again.

Other state champions crowned were Bob McNamara of Minneapolis in senior singles, Malin Greenberg and Norman Goldetsky of Minneapolis in senior doubles, and Warren Claridge of Mankato in masters singles.

**Schmidtke takes the trophy from runner-up Ron Strom. Below, seniors Bob Adam and Bob McNamara, flanked by tourney directors Fred Banfield, left, and Mike Gorman.**

**Injury Costly**

The Jewish Community Center of Detroit sponsored the first Annual Masters Invitation Racquetball Tournament. Sixteen players made up the draw, representing various clubs from the surrounding area.

Although players had to be 40 years of age or over to qualify for the Masters Tournament, the age rule was waived in the case of Kathy Williams, a nationally ranked female player from Oakland University as the tourney chairman and director felt it would add an interesting touch to the men's tournament. Unfortunately, Miss Williams was off her game and, added to a recent back injury, was knocked out in the first round by Manny Nosan.

The two top-seeded players in the tournament were Paul Monforton of the Downtown YMCA and Jerry Miller of the Jewish Community Center. The draw worked out perfectly as Monforton was to meet Miller in the finals. However, Monforton pulled up with a severe leg injury after his semifinal match. The finals were postponed one week to give Monforton an opportunity to get the leg in shape to play, but it wouldn't respond and Miller won by default. Fred Wiegand defeated Bill Kennedy in three games to capture third place.

**Team Festival**

A spectacular 16-team invitational racquetball tournament composed of the 32 best players in Wisconsin made up the annual JCC-Carpet Fair Invitational in Milwaukee.


Sponsor for this second annual tournament was Tom Guarniere of Carpet Faire, Inc. who, along with Rocky Felger, managed some novel ideas for a sociable day which included the wives. Players were invited from the entire area of Wisconsin, games were set for 31 points, hospitality flowed throughout the day, and then a "Food orgy" dinner after the tournament for husband and wives (which was free) made the day complete. First and second place awards were stereo-radio combinations, third place and consolation received desk clocks and pen sets.
Ycaza Sweeps

Joe Ycaza, one of the most improved players in the country this year, swept to singles and doubles championships in the first Georgia state tournament at the Park Plateau Athletic Club in Atlanta.

Ycaza defeated Marc Auerbach in the singles finals, 21-7, 20-21, 21-6, then teamed with Frank Johnson for a 21-16, 21-4 doubles victory over Auerbach and Hal Krafchick.

Jim Bishop, an Atlanta tennis pro, took third in singles over Johnson, 21-20, 8-21, 21-18. Jim Bishop and John Bishop were third in doubles, 20 and 14, over Jim Baskin and Gil Meyer.

Baskin of Fort Gordon won the evenly matched B singles division over Jim Hilliard of Athens, 18-21, 21-20, 21-19. John Bishop was third, winning by default from Warren French.

The novice bracket drew the most entries, 23. Jeff Small defeated Bobby Howell, 21-2, 21-19, for first. Jerry Schmidt won third over Scott Patterson, 18 and 12. Gil Meyer took a consolation over Frank Vaccarella.

As shown by the total entries, some from as far away as Macon and Augusta, racquetball is on the upswing in Georgia. Special thanks to Park Plateau for holding the event. Most agreed that the Plateau’s two glass courts are the finest facility in the state.

Louisiana Champ

David Marshall of Baton Rouge won the first Louisiana State Open tournament by defeating Jim Dyer, also of Baton Rouge, 21-9, 21-8, in the finals.

Marshall reached the championship round by beating Zeno Yeates, Dan Mattingly and then Peter Michell, 4-21, 21-18, 21-20 in the semifinals.

The tournament was held at the newly opened Jefferson Court Club in New Orleans and tournament directors Jerry Winsberg and Michell, state chairmen, were assisted by manager Les Calvin and owner Mike Williams in conducting a very successful tourney.

Entries from Lafayette, Baton Rouge, Chalmette, Metairie and Houston, as well as New Orleans, gave the matches a regional flair.

In the doubles, Michell and Winsberg outlasted an experienced team of Lou Bravo and Milton Rebennock, 21-12, 19-21, 21-15.

Ken Berke captured the B championship, 21-6, 21-1, over Bobby Kareem.

The tournament was covered by local television and an exhibition match between city champion Peter Michell and local TV sportscaster Rod Luck was the highlight of the opening ceremonies. Enthusiasm for racquetball was at a high point during the tournament.

Edmonton Elects

Ron Pawlowski is president of the newly organized Edmonton Racquetball Association and a full slate of officers has been elected.

Sandy Shenton is vice president; Marilyn Rankin, secretary; Ian Archibald, treasurer; John Van Riper, U of Alberta representative; Percy Bell, NAIT representative; John Kemp, Central Y and Royal Glenora; and Stu Bastedo, West Y.

Both the Canadian Racquetball Association and the Alberta Racquetball Association were started in Edmonton in past years, but because of the rapid growth of the sport in Canada, officers of those groups could not concentrate solely on Edmonton.

The new city association was organized to promote the sport locally by staging tournaments and clinics and to provide a voice in the design of a major new stadium which may have racquetball facilities, as well as a new Kinsmen racquet sports facility.

Continued on Page 48
Charlie Brumfield gained a strong center-court position in the third game and out-controlled Steve Serot to win the Los Angeles Playboy Club Invitational at the Century West Club.

The scores were 21-18, 14-21, 21-11, and play was of such caliber that 200 spectators gave each player a standing ovation at the end of each game.

Serot didn't go home empty-handed, however. He teamed with Ron Starkman to win the doubles title, 21-9, 16-21, 21-12, over Bud Muehleisen and Steve Keeley.

In the singles finals, Serot pulled out 3-0 and maintained the lead for seven more points. From 10-10, Brumfield began shooting, a backhand rollout followed by two right-hand fly kills. At 20-18, Charlie played a high ceiling shot off the back wall into the left corner for a pinch rollout.

In game two, Steve was hitting more kill shots, especially off the back wall. Brumfield would pass Serot on the left only to have Serot quickly set up for an electrifying backhand kill into the right corner.

Brumfield played a strong center-court position in the third game and kept his pass shots from coming off the back wall. Serot was scrambling and unable to set up for his kills. Showing his game at its best, Brumfield maintained control and selected his kill shots to close it out.

Charlie reached the finals with a 21-16, 21-11 victory over Steve Strandemo, sending Steve on many tours with his control. Serot outshot Keeley, 21-14, in game one only to see Keeley produce some surprising backhand cross-corner kills to win game two, 21-18. Serot began making 40-foot kills to win, 21-14.

Highlights of early rounds saw Roger Souders outlast Len Stream, 21-19 in the third, and lead Brumfield 20-19 in the first before falling, 20 and 4. Souders was shooting from the hip and grooved a string of kills from 12-18. Strandemo kept crashing the glass backwall for spectacular saves and held off Bill Thurman, 21-11, 8-21, 21-20, in the quarters.

Serot and Starkman knocked off Brumfield and Dunn, 21-13, 15-21, 21-6, in the doubles semis with Serot dominating play and Starkman showing his talent at covering the right corner. Starkman's ability to re-kill right corner shots became the difference.

Muehleisen and Keeley also had to go three to get past Souders and Dave Charlson, 19-21, 21-20, 21-14. Souders and Charlson led 19-18 in the second when Charlson was hit in the eye by an attempted Z-shot from Bud. Even then, it took another 15 minutes to pull out the middle game. Bud and Steve took charge in the third on Keeley's kills down the right alley and Muehleisen's overheads and assorted change-of-pace balls.

The finals saw Serot and Starkman play a patient game while Bud and Steve were not hitting their kills. In game two, Muehleisen and Keeley began to run Serot and pass Starkman. But the third game saw Serot run off a string of devastating kills from 9-9.

The tournament drew an outstanding field of players to the beautiful Century West Club and benefited from a fine sponsor, the Los Angeles Playboy Club, which took an active interest and provided personalized T-shirts and super trophies.

The Class A division featured some of the fine young players in the game with Steve Trent winning over Trey Sayes and Jay Jones placing third. A "contenders division" was open to all players who have not placed in a B bracket. Roger Ehren won over Rick Bryson.

Bunny Casey presents doubles trophies to Bud Muehleisen, Steve Keeley and champions Ron Starkman and Steve Serot.

A weekend highlight was an exhibition match by Bette Weed, left, and Jan Campbell.
**One for the Bear**


Neil Dempsey downed John Fabian, 21-14, 21-12, in B singles, with consolations to Ro Riley over Don Rencz. Walter Ceroici won C singles over Peter Klavora, 21-13, 13-21, 21-13, with consolation to Al Gor-dichuk over John Bourne.

Jan Sage captured women’s singles over Ellie Bell, 5-21, 21-20, 21-12, consolation to Marj Swan over Gailene Shearer. Lindsay Robinson downed Tanya Klawara in women’s novice, 21-9, 21-11, consolation to Janice Crockett over Joyce Wallace.

**Maryland’s First**

Maryland’s first state IRA tournament was held at the Towson YMCA in Baltimore with Art St. Martin of the host Y winning the championship over Tom Whipple of University of Maryland.

St. Martin won 21-7, 21-11, in the finals and allowed his opponents only 7.3 points per game throughout the tournament.

Garry Zipper, a youngster from the JCC in Baltimore, defeated Tom Cutler of the university, 21-15, 19-21, 21-7, for third.

A field of 29 entries from all over Maryland competed in this first state tournament. Don Potter, tournament director, conducted a well organized three-day meet, with a committee comprising Dr. Ben Lipira, Dr. Earl Magruder, St. Martin and Jerry Tucker. A buffet dinner was provided Saturday night for all players and guests.

**Arizona Doubles**

Mike Aubrey and Stan Weinstein defeated Don Griffin and Ron Haistings 21-16, 21-10, to win the Arizona State Open Doubles Championships at the Phoenix downtown YMCA. Third place was captured by Barry Kaplan and Les Riell.

The team of Tom O’Toole and Jim Spear edged out Steve Hirko and Don Thomas, 21-20, 20-21, 21-20, to take the Class B title and the duo of Randy Roberts and Paul Ramirez claimed the Class C crown.

Seventy entrants made up the opening field for the three-division competition. The B and C divisions were combined into one tourney, with first and second round losers moving from B division into C division.

**Columbus City**

Gene Erwine of Zanesville defeated Al Shaffer of Marion, 21-20, 21-10, to win the open championship of the second annual Columbus, Ohio, city tournament at the Central YMCA.

Ervine downed Dr. John Norton in the semis, 21-18, 20-21, 21-18, and Shaffer turned back the Columbus YMCA champion, Don Schiefer, 21-20, 21-10.

Bruno Ottavi, Great Lakes regional YMCA representative, downed Art Payne of Columbus in the masters finals, 21-12, 21-5. Ottavi eliminated Jim Schneider of Ashland Chemical, 10 and 8, and Payne sidelined Bill White of Columbus, 21-16, 20-21, 21-11, in the semifinals.

**Wright in Dallas**

Pete Wright held off Richard Walker, 21-15, 21-16, in the A singles finals to win the Dallas Open Metro tournament at the Downtown YMCA.

Wright and Walker then teamed to win A doubles, 19 and 11, over Luther Bernstein and Mike McKee, with Wright dominating the front line and Walker killing off the back wall.

Some of the best matches were in the early rounds. Eric Campbell of Austin pushed Walker to 21-18 in the third game of a two-hour struggle. Bernstein rallied with eight straight points in the third game against Virgil Thurman to win the first round encounter, 3-21, 21-12, 21-18.

Ron Dick of Fort Worth was devastating through the B ranks, using his racquet as a missile-launcher and never giving ground in his football coaching shoes.

**Racquets Four**

The new Racquets Four tennis and racquetball facility was host to the third Indiana Open Doubles tournament, which saw Earl Dixon and John Ohlheiser live up to their top seed with a 21-11, 16-21, 21-14 victory in the finals.

The new athletic complex four miles south of Indianapolis features four regulation courts, eight tennis courts, lounge, swimming pool, workout room, saunas and whirlpool.

Racquets Four manager Rowland Leverenz was pleased with a turnout of 25 teams from all over Indiana. The club provided food, refreshments, trophies and a fine atmosphere for comfort and relaxation.

Dixon and Ohlheiser defeated Jim and John Knauer, the second-ranked team, as the double pair of right and left-handers gave a great show of balance and teamwork. This accounted for Earl's
third state doubles crown to add to six singles titles.

The major upset saw Charles Solomon and Dr. Lloyd Delman knock off third-ranked Mike Smith and Les Brown. Tom Garner and Dean Cameris from Indiana U lost two hard-fought games to the Andermis in the semifinals. In the closing minutes, Cameris suffered a back muscle separation and had to spend five days in the hospital. However, he's back on the courts now at full strength.

The consolation match was most interesting, as the only woman competitor, Camille McCarthy, teamed with Rosenberg of Indianapolis to overcome Bruce Lowe and Stevens in three games.

Great Lakes

Kim and Clark Pittman, representing the Mansfield YMCA, won the Great Lakes Regional Open Doubles at the Toledo Central YMCA, by defeating Fred Leverenz and Tom Carpenter of Detroit, 21-12, 21-15.

Twelve teams were entered in the tournament, representing Cleveland, Adrian, Findley, Mansfield, Detroit and Toledo. The states of Ohio, Michigan and west Virginia make up the Great Lakes Region of the YMCA. Competition is open to all members in the three-state area.

Wisconsin Elects

The Wisconsin State Racquetball Association has organized with the election of officers and plans to establish a statewide program for all clubs, YMCAs and other organizations to establish an annual calendar at the beginning of each season.

Richard Wisniewski is state chairman, with Dan Trost vice chairman and treasurer, Hal Raether the ladies chairman, Bob Keenan the secretary and Joe Mirkus, Gary Breck and Tom Gooner officers at large.

Chase Rolls On

Steve Chase won his second and third Iowa tournaments of the year when he captured the Ames Open with a 21-7, 21-8 victory over Bernie Nielsen, then followed in the Southeast Iowa Invitational at Burlington with a 21-7, 21-9 conquest of Cesar Farell.

In the Cedar Valley Invitational at Charles City, the champion was Bob Sheldon, 21-15, 21-19 over John Detrich.

All the tournaments have been conducted extremely well. Ike Chase of Ames and Craig Cullins and Bill Kelly of Burlington all did fine jobs.

LA Has Plans

The Los Angeles Athletic Club, which will hold its third annual Labor Day tournament August 29-September 2, also is interested in conducting an invitational doubles meet around the first of December.

Any players or teams interested in such an event may write to Phil Ivaldy or Mike Chagrin at the Los Angeles AC, 431 West Seventh Street, Los Angeles, Calif. 90014.

Deadline for the Labor Day tournament is noon, August 23. Events are open singles and doubles, masters singles and doubles, 50-over "super masters" singles and doubles, women's singles, women's novice singles, and Classes B and C singles and doubles. For details and entry blanks, write to the above address.

New Chairman

Tom Whipple, a senior at the University of Maryland, is the new state chairman for Maryland and immediately has set goals to (1) improve IRA membership in the state, (2) organize three major tournaments for the Maryland-Delaware-Virginia area, and (3) to set up the Maryland Racquetball Association as a sound unit of the IRA.

A newsletter is being prepared for present members to distribute information on coming events. One plan is to establish a Maryland state team for interstate competition.

As a player, Whipple has been competing five years and placed fourth in the 1974 Intercollegiates after losing to Pete Wright of Texas Christian in the semifinals.

Florida Teams

Four teams of four players each competed in Clearwater YMCA's first Florida State Team tournament, with the host club coming out on top.

George Rudysz, 1972 International Doubles champion and Clearwater's first nationally ranked player, defeated Hugh Durham, Florida state singles champion from Tallahassee, 21-13, in the feature match and helped Clearwater amass 240 team points.

Matches consisted of one 21-point game. Fort Lauderdale placed second with 218 points. Tallahassee and Orlando completed the field.

Another top match saw promising newcomer Ken Hendricks of Fort Lauderdale down Frank Blackard of Orlando, 21-10. Rudysz and Mike Fotolitis of Clearwater, Bill Branta of Fort Lauderdale and Clive Longden of Tallahassee showed excellent ability in winning the maximum points for their teams.

After the singles round, the players paired up for doubles and Clearwater defeated Fort Lauderdale, 84-67, with winning performances from Rudysz-Fotolitis and Herb Frank-Guy Warner.

Chagrin Wins

The Chagrin Court Club of Woodmere, Ohio, won its second straight Northern Ohio League championship at the Chagrin Club, defeating the Western Division Champions, Brooklyn YMCA, 9-3.

The rotating trophy will remain at the Chagrin Court Club for the next season. Each member of the Chagrin Court Club received an imitation pewter beer mug. Each division winner received a plaque with each team member's name on it and in addition each division champion will receive a T-shirt.

It was an excellent afternoon of racquetball and the Chagrin Court Club with Gerry Lapierre as host, provided a champagne toast for all participants and an excellent buffet.

Several other members of the league assisting in the refereeing of the games were Jack Soile and Marshall Mallie of the Jewish Community Center, Cleveland; and Maury Kastner and Ron Krasnicki of the Chagrin Court Club.

Chagrin won the Eastern Division with a 110-40 record followed by JCC at 107-43, Mansfield YMCA at 79-71 and North Canton YMCA at 52-98. Brooklyn's record was 105-15, followed by Executive Club at 66-66, Central YMCA at 48-72 and Lorain YMCA at 9-138.
Iowa

CEDAR VALLEY INVITATIONAL

AMES OPEN

SOUTHEAST IOWA INVITATIONAL

Minnesota

OPEN SINGLES
Quarterfinals: Schmitzke def. Reiter, 21-7, 21-9; Delaney def. Singer, 21-19, 21-21; Iker def. Gorman, 21-5, 21-12; Strom def. Adam, 21-6, 21-8.
Semiinals: Schmitzke def. Delaney, 21-17, 21-8; Strom def. Iker, 21-14, 21-12.

SENIOR SINGLES
Semiinals: Adam def. Kleinshmidt, 21-10, 21-5; McNamar def. Schaeffer, 21-17, 21-16.
Dallas Open

CLASS A SINGLES

CLASS B SINGLES

MASTERS SINGLES

CLASS A DOUBLES

CLASS B DOUBLES

Playboy

OPEN SINGLES

OPEN DOUBLES

CLASS A SINGLES

CLASS A DOUBLES

CONTENDER SINGLES

CONTENDER DOUBLES

Kentucky

ASHLAND AREA YMCA

Manhattan Beach

CLASS A SINGLES

CLASS A DOUBLES

CLASS B SINGLES

CLASS B DOUBLES

MASTERS SINGLES

CLASS C SINGLES

Rose Festival

OPEN SINGLES

SINGLES
1—Ron Bennink; 2—Jennifer Harding; 3—Randy Somnor; 4—Tevie Smith; C—Jim Pierce; 2C—Dee Miller; 2C—Ed Graves.

NOVICE SINGLES
1—Rohett Kirk; 2—Bill Baker; 3—Bob Reynolds; 4—Jerry Lavy; C—Dennis Carly; 2C—Howard Liebich.

WOMEN’S SINGLES
1—Shirley Edwards; 2—Jennifer Harding; 3—Sonja Sharp; 4—Cindy Marks; C—Joan Mosser; 2C—Betty Vanderpool.

SENIOR SINGLES
1—Phil Brown; 2—Ed Gause; 3—Sid Williams; 4—Sandy Weinstein; C—Dan Buener; 2C—Tom Graham.

MASTERS SINGLES
1—Hal Williams; 2—Ed Lohr; 3—Nello Vanelli; 4—F. C. Hands; C—Herman DeVaul; 2C—Jack Ireland.

DOUBLES
1—Tony Krause-Bob Lund; 2—Sid Williams, Steve Murata; 3—Peter Lubirsch; Hank Marcus; 4—Bill Fearing-Sandy Weinstein; C—Dick Brouwer-Jim Pierce; 2C—Jeff Larson-Norval Nelson.

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Racquetball Booming

Dear Editor:

I have been a member of the International Racquetball Association for over a year now. It's great to see how much the sport has grown over this period of time. More and more people know the game as racquetball, rather than paddleball or paddle racquets.

In my area alone (Buffalo and Rochester, N.Y.), the growth has been encouraging. In Buffalo, we have a competitive league consisting of 11 teams covering metropolitan Buffalo and Niagara Falls. Teams average seven players every week for approximately 10 weeks during the winter, the top three players per team compete against the top three from another team. At the end of the season, the best teams engage in playoffs with the winners receiving trophies. The competition is tough and it is a highly organized league.

I encourage other cities to begin something of this nature because it gives players a chance to compete against each other on a regular basis.

In Rochester, the popularity of the sport has increased tremendously. A recent article in the Democrat and Chronicle says it all for the boom of the sport. (The article by Bob Matthews is headed "Racquetball Booms as an Indoor Sport" and quotes Bob Orozco of the Central YMCA concerning racquetball growth.)

Joe Aguglia

Protect Teeth, Too

Dear Editor:

I read with interest Joe Zelson's article on eye protectors in the May issue of RACQUETBALL. I intend to purchase and try both the "Lunaire" and the "Brow Rest" goggles.

As a dentist who practices in one of the "hot beds" of racquetball, I have been concerned about the increasing number of dental injuries due to misplaced racquet swats. So I am recommending that players start wearing mouth guards, the type worn by football players and boxers, which can prevent extensive dental damage and not interfere in any way with their game.

These devices are obtainable at any sporting goods stores or can be individually fitted by dentists.

Enjoy your magazine and wish you and the IRA great success.

J. Thomas Gentry, DDS

Where Can I Play?

Dear Editor:

The RACQUETBALL magazine is great. What about including a list of the addresses of all racquetball courts and the name of a person to call for each one? This would enable any players when traveling to find a game.

Jon B. Shastid

Editor's Note:

The IRA currently is conducting a survey of court facilities across the country and will publish the results when there is sufficient response to be of value, hopefully in the autumn Handbook. We again plan to publish a list of all IRA members in the Handbook.

Thanks to Sponsors

Dear Editor:

I would like to thank all my sponsors who helped make it possible for me to make it to the Internationals this year. They are Howard Linker, Bud Olson and Mick Gannon, all from Louisville.

Evie Morguelan

League Play Great

Dear Editor:

We are very excited about the racquetball league we have formed in the state of South Carolina. Initially we have four teams in our league, but I am sure when we organize during the winter of 1974 we will have additional teams playing.

At the present time, the Greenville YMCA under the leadership of Charlie White leads the league. Other teams are Florence YMCA, Sumter YMCA and Fort Jackson.

In each meet, four players (ranked in order) meet their corresponding numbers from the opposing team. An individual match consists of two single games, with each player's total points added toward the team total. For example, A-1 plays B-1, 16-21, 21-20. Team A gets 37 points, Team B 41. Add in the other three matches for the final team score.

We would welcome more teams next season.

Gerald Griffin

Flying away to a match in the South Carolina League are Florence YMCA players, from left, Bob Gahagan, Gerry Griffin, Bob Freeman and Bob Danner.
Anyone in Europe?

Dear Editor:
My name is Steve Collins and I'm presently in the Army stationed in Heidelberg, Germany. My job here consists of working in the gym at Campbell Bks. We have one paddlecourt in use now, with another to be constructed.

Recently we had an open singles paddleball tournament with Joe Mullici—who works with me here in the gym—defeating me in the finals, 21-16, 21-18. We have a great interest in paddleball here. There were 31 entries.

As of now, the Army has no varsity sports program like the Air Force in Europe. The Air Force has a league which has been going great guns for the past few years. Is there any way we could have a tournament in Europe for the Americans stationed here?

I really think a tournament over here would be great. If anything could be worked out in any way, I will offer any assistance I can from my little office in Heidelberg.

Steve Collins

Editor's Note:
Anyone interested in getting up such a tournament can write to Steve Collins, 261-76-8976, Co. A (Campbell Gym), APO New York 09102.

Print More Results

Dear Editor:
I have an editorial comment concerning Racquetball. In reading the May issue, I was bothered by the "cuteness" of the headlines and the lack of tournament draw results. By the latter, I mean pairings and scores listed by rounds for the tournament as is done for the Supreme Court Open written up on page 12. This is excellent and a strong contrast to the potpourri found on pages 20-26. I would suggest that you request tournament directors to send this information to you already typed up in the style you would like. You could then include this with the writeup, or more simply, have a results section at the end of the magazine.

Harold F. Williamson

Editor's Note:
You have a point there, Harold, and we're passing it on to the readers, since they're the only reporters we have. We'll publish results of any and all tournaments (edited to reasonable length) and for style, see the Playboy Invitational scoreboard in this issue. But we're quite proud of the "Along the Racquetball Trail" section and would be happy to double or triple the number of short items we print there.

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Stillwater, Oklahoma 74074
**RACQUETBALL...a great game that deserves nothing short of COURT PERFECTION!**

Then—you’ll want the **Frampton “62-P”**
Panel Court Installation

Approved by Clubs, Athletic Organizations and Professional Players the Nation over.

- Shown opposite is a magnified sectional view of panel showing multi-layered fabrication. Wall panel thickness is 1-3/16" – Doors and ceiling 7/16". Panel dimensions are 4’ x 4’ and 4’ x 8’.

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Long before Racquetball gained popularity, D. B. Frampton & Company started its program of Research and development in Recreational Court Construction. During the following years and after many field tests, the FRAMPTON “62-P” PANEL COURT took its initial bow. Because of the enthusiastic acceptance and national approval of this product, we firmly believe it to be the finest available anywhere in the industry.

Individuals in our Recreation Division, working closely with the Research Division of U. S. Gypsum Company, developed the specifications for the FRAMPTON “62-P” Panel—designed for use in Handball, Squash, Racquetball and Paddleball. These panels... incorporate dimensional stability, precision, resistance to warping, abrasion and staining.

To assure definite alignment for all panels, we have developed the plastic spine that is impervious to moisture conditions... another plus feature in construction which we have adopted as standard practice. Whether court construction is planned Direct to Masonry, Furred or Free Standing, no other court installation offers the practicability and many advantages incorporated in our “62-P” design and material.

We offer clients and architects a full range of lighting, air movement, humidity and temperature control data upon request.

- Our insert is now appearing in Sweet’s 1974 Catalog. If you wish more complete information on the “62-P” Panel Court, send for our individual brochure with more facts and figures.

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D. B. FRAMPTON & COMPANY

33 SOUTH JAMES ROAD  •  COLUMBUS, OHIO 43213  •  PHONE 614-239-9944
Take one along when you go courting.

Whatever Seamo Racquetball Racquet you pick, it'll be the finest in its class.

If you like the new and unique, there's the new and unique Seamco Aluminum Racquet with super-size sweet spot, exclusive string support system, and one-piece extruded frame.

If you're more inclined towards the traditional, there's the VIP. The top wooden racquet in our line, it features a rugged 8-ply laminated frame, imported black perforated leather grip, and nylon wrist thong.

See all the Seamco Racquetball Racquets, plus the Seamco Official IRA Racquetball at your favorite sporting goods store or department. Seamco Sporting Goods, New Haven, Connecticut 06503.

INTERNATIONAL RACQUETBALL ASSOCIATION
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