Complete report on the 7th IRA annual membership meeting, and...

INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES

Pages 33 to 67
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FRAMPTON

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The IRA Championships are now behind us, and things are back to normal here at the club. It was a busy, hectic time for all—IRA people and our Westport staff. I think we have finally recuperated, and we look back on it as a most successful tournament.

The atmosphere was exciting and fun; and everything, through our eyes, couldn't have gone more smoothly. The food was excellent, the weather beautiful and the matches most exhilarating. Of course, a wider scope of viewing area would have been desirable, but I think everyone managed to strain their necks and see at least a little bit of the big matches.

Needless to say, we really enjoyed hosting the tournament and thank you for asking us.

Linda Allison,
Assistant manager,
West Port Racquetball Club

As for an article on Racquetball in Hawaii, I will try to prepare one later (and thank you for the list of players in the islands), but this is a bad time of the year for me.

James Keith
Honolulu, Hawaii

As a very proud and prejudiced wife and fan of my husband, Joel Babkes, I would like to correct a mistake in the May-June magazine on page 31. The man kneeling in the lower part of the picture is not E. Stone. It is Joel Babkes.

Since this was his first tournament of this kind (he has been champion at the Pittsburgh YM and WHA for the past three years), I was very disappointed when his name did not appear with the picture.

He loves the game and I love it because of the effect it has on him physically and mentally.

Sarah Babkes,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

From all reports the 7th Annual International Championship tournament at St. Louis was the largest ever held, with over 400 matches being played in four days. The personnel at Castle Oaks and West Port are to be congratulated for handling an affair of this size so smoothly and efficiently. This was a terrific undertaking!

For our part, we want to thank the IRA for having permitted our court-club franchising company to sponsor what is certainly the premier event in the racquetball world.

We are pleased to have played a part in the tournament and wish the association the very best in the coming season.

Kenneth Andrew, president
Racquet Time, incorporated
Stillwater, Oklahoma

The "Keep Up To Date" note in the IRA advertisement headed, "HELP, HELP," needs to be changed now that membership dues are changing. This might be confusing to some.

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Stillwater, Oklahoma
Dear Members:

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who had a part in the very successful 7th Annual International Racquetball Association Tournament. It was one of the best I have attended, and we know it was the largest.

This month we are also welcome to the board of directors three new members. They are outstanding individuals and will be a great asset to the association. It has been through exceptional leadership and a lot of self-sacrifice that we have obtained the kind of organization we now enjoy.

Everyone realizes -- I am sure -- that racquetball's growth is on the verge of exploding. The IRA can be a strong and beneficial force in guiding this growth. Our association is made up of many people...with many ideas. This diversity has worked for the betterment of the sport and the association.

I think each member should understand that in an association of this kind policies and rules are written for the benefit of the majority, and for the betterment of the sport, not for any individual.

There are a number of things that go into formulating policy. First, there is finance. You cannot have an effective association, nor a variety of activities without being adequately financed. The question facing the board is, how can each dollar best be spent for the game, and for all players.

Another thing the board considers is the future growth, development and promotion of the sport. The board must decide what direction growth will take; we must consider what types of promotion are best for the sport; and we must decide what types of exposure we want the sport eventually to have. What I mean by "type" is this: do we want the game to be as handball has been or as tennis has become...or do we want to create an image that is distinctively our own?

After working with the IRA for two years, I am sold on the fact that we are made up of people who are interested in having a clean, gentlemanly, ladylike sport that will provide activity, entertainment, and enjoyment for the masses, and not just for the few.

I want to congratulate all the International Champions. We had an outstanding field, and they all did a tremendous job. All were ladies and gentlemen and they are an asset to the IRA as well as to racquetball, in general.

Sincerely,

Myron Roderick
Executive Director
JULY/AUGUST 1975  VOLUME 4  NUMBER 4

PAGE 6  Three-wall crowns adorn new brows
Other than Brumfield's domination of the singles, upsets were the norm as Diane Heims wrested the singles crown from Bette Weed, and Brumfield-Muehleisen were stopped in doubles.

PAGES 10 through 18  Featured events
From Olympia, welcome  
East coast's super 16  
King's court invitational  
New England's Vittert open

PAGE 19  State tournaments
Utah, Washington state, West Virginia, Montana, Massachusetts, Arizona, Maryland vs. Virginia, and Georgia—reports of action.

PAGE 29  Official IRA Report
Notes from board and membership meetings, plus financial report and rules committee announcements.

PAGE 37  7th IRA Tournament
Garfinkel reports on three days and nights of international championship competition.

PAGE 58  Ingredients for a successful tournament
Len Marks tells who put together the St. Louis event and kept it going.

DEPARTMENTS
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IRA Board of Directors

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Steve Strandemo
IRA Doubles Champion — 1974
CRA Doubles Champion — 1974
The ability to float in mid-air, and pedal backward at the same time wasn't enough...
3-Wall Crowns adorn new brows

By Don Jacobs

Barry Wallace and Bob Wetzel created a bit of racquetball history in the National Three-Wall Championships at Orange Coast College recently by handing perennial champs Charlie Brumfield and Bud Muehleisen their first defeat ever, to capture the open doubles crown.

Wallace and Wetzel trimmed the dynamic duo, 21-14, 21-14, to take the coveted title June 22 in Costa Mesa, Calif.

The defeated pair didn't come away empty handed, however. Brumfield took the open singles trophy by downing Wallace, 21-15, 21-18, and Muehleisen took the seniors title by beating Roger Killam, 21-8, 21-4.

The three-day event was played in "chamber of commerce" weather with plenty of sun-tanned skin, lithesome groupies and wildly cheering fanatics in attendance. Wallace ran another precision tourney, with matches running with clock-like regularity.

The open doubles match was a classic racquetball confrontation. Brumfield and Muehleisen, the wily precision shotmakers, were eventually downed by the acrobatics of Wallace and the surprising retrieving and backhand kills of Wetzel.

After Brumfield complained over the call of the first point of the match, someone in the crowd hollered, "Your glasses are fogged, Charlie."

The open doubles drew the largest gallery Sunday in 85 degree weather. Great play, great fans, great setting.

JULY-AUGUST 1975
Brumfield, never the shrinking violet, turned, bowed, and retorted, "I can play this match with them off, folks." The crowd roared.

Brumfield needed the glasses and more. Wallace and Wetzel ran it to 9-3, then 15-10 and 20-13, using a delicate three-wall lob that kept the veterans off balance. Wetzel then killed two backhands to end the first one, 21-14.

The second one was closer at the start until Wetzel cranked up his backhand and the Costa Mesa pair again ran it to 12-6 with a run of five straight points. It was 18-12 before Brumfield and Muehlleisen made a brief two-point run to close it to 18-14, but Wallace killed a corner shot and Muehlleisen hit a passing shot wide to close it out.

Upset of the tourney came in the Women's Division when 22-year-old Diane Heims trounced defending champion Bette Weed, 21-6, 21-7, for the title. Heims, an extremely poised shotmaker, just took up the game this January, and could reign for a long time to come.

Asked after it was over if she felt she had a chance going in, Mrs. Heims, mother of a two-year-old, said, "I knew I could do it. But I didn't know if I would put it together. I was nervous."

Heims said she wasn't nervous going into the finals, but "I was tired." She said she would defend her title next year, "or at least try."

Brumfield swept to the singles by downing Jerry Long, 21-15, 21-5; Dave Charlson, 21-14, 21-7, and defeating Wallace. Wallace earned the right to face him by beating Scott McComas, 21-10, 21-13; Stan Wright, 21-2, 21-11; and Steve Strandemo, 21-18, 21-9.


In B Singles, Jim Rossman took the title with a 21-13, 21-5 conquest of Darryl Keane.

Rossman and partner Bill Hicks took B doubles by beating Al Sawyer and Jerry Long, 21-20, 12-21, 21-7.


The tourney was played under sunny skies that Costa Mesa had not seen in more than a month. The leaden overcast parted magically as play began, further convincing locals that Wallace was indeed quite an organizer.

The open doubles match, clearly the highlight of the tourney for the huge gallery that waited until 3:30 p.m. for it to begin, was played in a far more "gentlemanly" manner than some of the bitter matches that preceded it. Brumfield, a house guest of Wallace for the tourney, was on his best behavior, and Muehlleisen played his usual stoic-game. The quartet congratulated each other on good shots, griped occasionally at referee Don Delaney and hit an occasional "owie" into the rump of the opposition.

Brumfield and Muehlleisen took their first defeat in good grace, with Dr. Bud telling the winners, "You deserved it. You played well."

Wetzel's only comment afterward: "Sweet. What a sweet way to end the tournament."

The highly-partisan crowd couldn't have agreed more.

TOURNAMENT NOTES—Players and spectators got a glimpse of the new six-court facility being completed at Orange Coast College. It is scheduled to be finished in August, and coupled with the 13 outdoor courts, will give OCC one of the finest areas anywhere.

Steve Strandemo, in a bitter and stormy match with Wallace, came up with perhaps the shot of the tourney when he passed, flipped the racket behind him for a save and then got the kill. It wasn't enough.
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A MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

It gives me great pleasure to welcome racquetball players from around the nation to the State of Washington for the third annual Daffy Open Racquetball Championships at the Town and Country Racquet Club in Gig Harbor.

I am particularly pleased that our citizens will be treated to the excitement of competition between some of the finest racquetball players in the nation. A gathering of such a large number of outstanding competitors will entertain sports fans of all ages.

From personal experience, I can speak to the great value of the game. This action-packed competitive sport not only pleases spectators, but provides an excellent form of physical exercise for competitors. This tournament will undoubtedly encourage even more persons to "try their hands" at this rapidly growing sport.

I can assure you a warm reception in this state. During your stay in Washington, I hope you will have the opportunity to become acquainted with many of our citizens and with the countless scenic attractions that make our state one of breathtaking beauty.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Evans
Governor
From Olympia, Welcome!

By Sid Williams

The Third Daffy Open started with special recognition when the governor of the state, the Honorable Daniel J. Evans issued a formal welcome to the racquetball fraternity (see facing page).

From that point on it was almost impossible for anything to go wrong... and almost nothing did! The host club—Town and Country Health and Tennis Club in Gig Harbor—outdid themselves in making everyone feel at home. We had a great turnout of great players. Gary Hansen of T&C who narrated the television coverage did a marvelous job (and should soon be a replacement for Howard Cosell).

Players came from Hawaii, Montana, Canada, and throughout the northwest section of the nation. Along with appreciation being expressed by the tournament sponsors to the associations and various states, a special word of thanks should go to Judy, Donna and Dick Reinhard; Amos Deaven, Art Redford, Carol DiEnno, Rhett Kirk, John Esties, Heidelberg, and AMF-Volt.

In the Open singles, the title went to Bill Condratow who downed C. D. Byers in the finals in two games at 21-18, 21-15, and neither of them was a breeze. Third place went to G. Altmon who upset Bob Stephens. The singles attracted 20 competitors.

D. Pond toppled Sid Williams in the seniors finals in three games, 21-17, 16-21, 21-20. Third was C. Jackson, and fourth was G. Thornburgh.

In the open doubles first place went to Jackson-Stephens over Condratow-Smyth, 21-15, 21-14. Third place was Pfeifer-Popino; and fourth was Rankin-T. Smith.

In the masters division S. Koanui was first, H. Capozzi was second, D. Savage, third, and J. Main, fourth.

Vicki Panzeri won the women's singles at the Daffy open in her first major tournament since being defeated by Peggy Steding, 21-0, 21-1. Ms. Panzeri scored somewhat of an upset by downing Washington state champion Wendy Werner, Bellingham, Wash., 21-16, 21-17.

Third place went to Gina Baird over Ms. Sharp, and the consolation victory belonged to Ms. Deneui, Olympia.

In the B singles, Mike Mason went three games with second place V. Johnson, 21-19, 8-21, 21-17. Third was R. Kennedy, and the consolation went to M. Call.

In the C singles B. Brookens was first; W. Ceroici, second; J. Stary, third; and M. Nichols won the consolations.

The Vancouver, B.C. Racquetball Association was represented in the Daffy Open by the likes of Ian McKenzie, Tevie ('Terrific) Smith, Bill Condratow, Herb Capozzi, Rick Barber, Diane Clarmond and the Davidson brothers, Doug and Ran; and from even further north came "Mr. Hinder Ball," Howie Rankin and his cohorts.

Start planning to attend the Fourth Daffy Open!
Charlie Brumfield: Undisputed World Champion: Holder of every National and International title both indoor and outdoor: All time money winner on both Pro Tours (IRA & NRC). Youngest member of the Hall of Fame.

"During my 10 years of International Competition, I've used about every type of racquet available. Nothing gets the job done like my Brumstar. Power, durability and flex work together to earn me that critical point when I really need it. The Carbon Star has given me that extra bit of confidence and control to make the field a distant second."—Charlie Brumfield

Nobody plays the game like Brumfield. Whether he's hitting that crucial overhead kill to end the match, or breaking up the gallery with a quip—The Brum is unique. Just like his racquet—the Brumfield Carbon Star. The racquet Brum helped design and test.

The racquet with a thermo-carbon frame for the perfect flex and feel plus a precision head design that reduces rotational torque . . . sharpens impact.

It all adds up to the finest racquet, made for the novice as well as the Pro.

START WINNING
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The Super 16 East Invitational was hosted by the Nitanny Lion Racquetball Club who invited the top sixteen players from the East coast based upon years total tournament results, and availability for the open date.

The tournament format was rather unique with the Super 16 being divided into four separate leagues with round robin play within each league. Each league was seeded based on the player's known strengths, much like any tournament. Play within each league was round robin best of three games to 21. The winners from each league then met on Sunday to play off in a single elimination for the first four positions. The second place winners from each league met and played off for the second four positions and so on until all 16 positions were filled.

continued on page 25
Fortunately, they had the tournament in . . .

The King's Court

By Bob Adam

The 5th Annual King's Court Invitational Tournament May 2-4 at the Edina, Minnesota, facility was a tremendous success. With 145 entries participating in the three-day event, we had eight divisions, most of which filled up long before the designated draw date. Included in this year's divisions was a "B" singles and doubles for anyone who had not previously played in an open tournament.

An added feature for the spectators and players was a pro-celebrity match between Minnesota Vikings' 275 lb. tackle, Bob Lurtsema vs. the "Queen of King's Court", Koni Porter. It was a two-game match with Bob pulling out the second game, 21-20, for a split decision.

The open singles were won by Mark Hegg upsetting one of the area's top pros, Ron Strom, 21-17, 21-18. Paul Ikier took third place. The consolation winner was Steve Singer.

The open doubles had some great teams. The title was captured by Ron Strom and Bob Adam Jr. over Paul Ikier and Joe Wirkus, 15-3, 15-3. Third place was won by Bob Moreland and John Rude. Consolation winner was Steve Singer and Hank Weiss.

The senior singles title was won by Bob Adam over Bob McNamara. Third place went to Ron Haskivitz. The consolation was won by Jerry Cavanaugh.

The senior doubles was won by a good experienced doubles team from Rochester, Minnesota, Dr. Fred Banfield and Dick Carpenter defeating Bob Adam and George Sladkey. Third place was won by Norm Goldetsky and Mike Shapiro. Consolation was won by Tom Keyes and Dave Herstad.

The B singles division was very impressive with many young and up-coming players. In the finals, it was a drooling three-game match having Jim McCarthy top Doug Kelly. Third place went to Tom
Saterdalen. Consolation was taken by Dave Harrer.

The B doubles awards went to King's Court team Jack Moore and Jim Schell over Tom Saterdalen and Dave Harrer. Third place went to Norm Vogstrom and Jim McCarthy. The consolation was won by Rick Jacobson and Fred Rogers.

The women's singles crown was captured by Eve Dillon when she defeated Koni Porter in three games. Third place went to Sue Dostal over Barb Tenneson. The consolation was won by Kay McDonald.

The women's doubles winners were Koni Porter and Kathy Frazer defeating Mary Adam and Jan Moore. Third place was won by Bev May and Nancy Harrer. The consolation win went to Jan Mahoney and Denise Malarkey. The women's overall play in this area was very good!

Merchandise prizes included racquets, shirts, shorts, carrying bags, etc., which were awarded to 4th place runner ups in the consolations, compliments of AMF Voit. Their efforts in planning and running an event this size was quite an undertaking.

See Scoreboard for additional results.

At left, Viking tackle Bob Lutsema challenges Koni—Queen of King's courts — Porter to racquetball joust. This page, reading the pictures clockwise, Bob Adam and Bob McNamara; Mary Adam and Jan Moore, second place in women's doubles; Jim McCarthy and Doug Kelly (lower right); and Ron Stream and Bob Adam, Jr., doubles champions at lower left.
New England's 1st Annual Vittert Open

By Danny Giordano

Charlie, "The Gar," was virtually unstoppable as he marched to victory in both the open and senior titles of the first annual New England Vittert Open. But he (and many others) had to make it through the snow to get there. Reading this in July makes it hard to think of snow, but with the tournament being held April 4-6 in New England, that's the norm.

Not much else was normal. Everything else was special, from the support received from Vittert in sponsoring this event, to the extra work of Pete and Sue Crummey, Doug Chinn, and Linda Moore who kept things running smoothly. And the contestants—they particularly were special:

The turnout—150 players strong—was the largest for any tournament in this area. They worked an eight division schedule at the courts of Northeastern University, Boston, Mass., and provided some of the best racquetball activity seen by the fans in this part of the country.

The open division was highlighted by two come-from-behind victories for Garfinkel in the semis and finals, as well as two upset victories in the early rounds and a third place finish by what we hope is an up-and-coming local player, Danny Giordano.

As the top two seeds, Garfinkel and Mike Luciw, of New Britain, Conn., cruised to the semifinals, Giordano knocked off, first, the number six seed,
Ray Capitanelli, Patterson, N.J., 19-21, 21-7, 21-12, then to prove it was no fluke, devastating number three seed, Willie Wang, Delaware, 21-4, 21-2, to reach the semifinals along with Paul Lazure, Burlington.

Garfinkel got a real scare from Lazure in the opening semi on Sunday. Playing a near-perfect control game, Lazure won the opener, 21-15. The second game went to seven-all, and an upset appeared possible. The Gar stopped this speculation, allowing Lazure but two more points as he put the game on ice with a 21-9 reading.

In the third game Garfinkel maintained his normal poise and settled for a 21-11 win, but not before Lazure showed that he could be a force to be reckoned with in the future.

In the other semi, Mike Luciw continued his fantastic shooting as he burst Giordano’s bubble in a 21-4, 21-9 wipeout.

Sunday afternoon’s final started with a display of shooting that would have done honors to the fourth of July. Luciw and Garfinkel had the standing-room-only crowd in awe.

Garfinkel suddenly found himself behind, 18-7, but fortunately for him—not so for Luciw—he had the serve. Starting with a soft lob serve that Luciw failed to handle, the “Gar” brought the score to 20-20. Though few players would want to be in the court with Luciw at 20-20, it was certainly better than the short end of 18-7. And, the Gar shoved it on over the line to take the game point.

The third game was an anti-climax, with everything going the Garfinkel way, 21-7.

It was Garfinkel and Tow Waltz in the finals of the seniors. There, Waltz, with a super display of hustle and shot-making ran off to a 19-16 lead in the first game. Garfinkel came back to regain the serve and ran off the last five points for a 21-19 win. His 21-10 victory in the final games—as the saying goes—was a lot closer than the score indicates.

In the masters, it was Bill McLaughlin easily into the finals with Danny Rodriguez, who had struggled to post a 31-30, last-second victory over Sam Garafald. McLaughlin outlasted Rodriguez in the finals, 21-5, 16-21, 21-11, as his badly swollen arm just barely held up.

Most attention goes to the open singles, and/or the pro matches, but some of the best action is often in the masters and golden masters. Mary Simkins and Chet Robbins put on a display for the youngsters with two tense games of 21-18, and 21-14, with the edge held by Simkins.

In the women’s division of the Vittert Open, Ann Rothberg set the tempo and claimed the win with an expert 21-1, 21-8 demonstration victory of Gail Cone. In the Junior division Scott Anderson went through a round robin competition undefeated to take the honors over second place Billy Burnett.

In the Class B division Northeastern University’s Tommy Callahan won over the Massachusetts state champion, Don Incutto, in three hard-fought matches, 20-21, 21-17, 21-10.

Warren Pierce, playing out of Bentley College, and in his first tournament, outlasted Bill Rich, 17-21, 21-14, 21-11, to take the C division trophy.

Continued on next page
NEW ENGLAND STANDINGS
FOR 1975
According to the New England-Vittert Tournament

OPEN
1. Charles Garfinkel
2. Mike Luciw
3. Danny Giordano
4. Paul Lazure
5. Tom Murphy
6. Deniz Fonseca
7. Phillip Brozas
8. Willie Wang
9. Steve Bedard
10. Ray Capitanelli

CLASS B
1. Thomas Callahan
2. Don Incuito
3. Robert Hetchfield
4. Mike Haughey
5. John Menicre
6. Richard Baxter
7. Mike Saltzky
8. Fred Fitzpatrick
9. Jerry Freeman
10. Mike Weiner

CLASS C
1. Warren Pierce
2. William Rich
3. Gary Mosca
4. Joe Flower
5. Richard Cooley
6. Paul Hanrickson
7. Paul Westerman
8. John Giguere
9. William Webster
10. Jeff Archambault

Vittert's First Annual
continued from page 18

SENIORS
1. Charles Garfinkel
2. Tom Waltz
3. Bub Folsom
4. Howard Coleman
5. Peter Crummey
6. Jim Larin
7. Charles Beall
8. Joe Fenster
9. Jerry Freeman
10. Robert Narey

MASTERS
1. Bill McLaughlin
2. Danny Rodriguez
3. Sam Garafalo
4. William Stoebe
5. Marvin Simkins
6. George Grayson
7. Charles Robertson
8. John Moynagh

GOLDEN MASTERS
1. Marvin Simkins
2. Chet Robbins
3. Ed Connolly
4. Sid Dorfman
5. Emidiodice
6. George Heds

WOMEN'S OPEN
1. Ann Rothberg
2. Gail Cone
3. Holly Eckenhofder
4. Lena Sigsamundo
5. Eileen Maki
6. Deborah Bender
7. Barb Wheeler
8. Karen DeBella
9. Margaret Webster

JUNIORS
1. Scott Anderson
2. William Burnett
3. Phil Fisher

Sue Crummey presents awards to Bill McLaughlin, first place winner, left, and Dan Rodriguez, second place.

First and second place victors in Women's open, Ann Rothberg, left, and Gail Cone.

Warren Pierce, left, receives first place "C" division award from tournament director Pete Crummey. Second place trophy went to William Rich, right.
The
"Brothers Terrible"

STATE TOURNAMENTS

The Utah Racquetball Association (URA) conducted the 1975 state doubles championships at the Deseret Gymnasium, Salt Lake City, May 8-10. The event attracted 70 entries in three classes.

A major upset occurred in the quarterfinals of the open play. Robert McNabb and Jake Rogers, an unseeded tandem from Hill Airforce Base, stunned the gallery by an incredible victory over the defending champions and top seeded team of Howard Ringwood and Harold Turley.

Ringwood and Turley had virtually an insurmountable lead (20-7) in game one, but their collars tightened and the joints of their elbows stiffened as McNabb and Rogers made a concerted effort to gain the momentum after a rather disastrous beginning. They got it, kept it, and won game one, 21-20; lost the second 14-21, and eked out the third, 21-19. McNabb and Rogers went on to capture third in the open and first in the class B. A great effort.

The open class was won by "The Brothers Terrible," Trey and Morgan Sayes. The "Dynamic Duo" were never seriously challenged in any round as they went on to defeat the team of "Jolly" Jim Mansfield and Stan Weinstein in the finals, 21-7, 21-15. Morgan's play has improved tremendously in the last year. He could develop into one of the finer left handed players in the country.

The open consolation was won by John Larson and Ron Mills.

Class B doubles were won rather easily by the team of McNabb and Rogers of open class fame. They were extended to three games only once—in the finals by Phillip "the Plum" Anderson and John "Sweet Pea" Clift: 11-21, 21-11, 21-7. Third place went to Ron Deaver and Ray Anderson, two students at Utah State University, who defeated Janell Marriott and Pres Evans. Class B consolation trophies were awarded to Pete Pearson and Ruth Knudsen.

The Class C title was won by Pearson and Knudsen over Bernie Hayes and Jim Harrick. Third place went to Ray Morris and Roger Moore (no, not "the" Roger Moore). Morris and Moore are a rather curious doubles team—both stand only 6' 4" and each weighs a rather paltry 220 lbs. Truely, a potentially dangerous twosome if provoked—Beware Brumfield. C consolation went to Merrill Beck and Karl Davis.

The Utah Racquetball Association expressed its appreciation to the Deseret Gymnasium and its manager, Wayne Player, for hosting the tournament. The Deseret Gymnasium with the recent addition of six new courts, jacuzzi, and more locker space to the already existing 9 courts, two swimming pools, indoor track, steam rooms and saunas, is one of the most beautiful facilities in the nation.

For additional scores see Scoreboard.
One in a hundred

WASHINGTON STATE

Bob Stephens came from behind to take the best two out of three games and the title of Washington state's first open singles champion. The uphill battle was an old story for Stephens who in childhood had been stricken with polio, so it came as no surprise to see him beat the odds.

Washington's states first championship matches were co-sponsored by the Olympia Brewery, Tumwater, and the Tumwater Valley Racquetball Club. Appropriately the trophies were beer steins mounted on walnut bases. According to Ed Odegard, who has seen a number of tournament trophies, "they were the best I have ever seen."

More than 100 entrants made the competition at Tumwater's new eight court facility a challenge for the best players in the northwest.

In the open singles finals Bob Stephens had to extend himself to down Doug Moore, Aberdeen. The first game went to Stephens, 21-16, 21-10. The first game of the match was very close with the lead changing hands several times. The game was tied at 16-16 before Ron ran off five unanswered points. Dick took the second game, 21-10. Third place was taken by Dave Taylor, of Morgantown, defeating Steve Fabick, of Morgantown, 21-13, 21-14. Dave Durda, Weirton, won the consolation round.

The B singles title went to John Amann, of Charleston, who defeated Tom Martin, Morgantown, in the finals, 21-20, 21-12. The sixteen players in this division were amazingly equal in skill level which made this division very successful. Marlin Hall, of Charleston, won the consolation bracket.

In women's singles, Donna Cayton, of Morgantown, defeated Sandy Mendenhall, of Morgantown, 21-14, 21-8. The match was closer than the score indicates as Ms. Cayton showed more success at holding service. Paula Ebbe, Morgantown, won the consolation bracket.

Dave Johnson and Dave Taylor, both of Morgantown, combined after taking second and third respectively in A singles to take the state doubles championship. They defeated John Loth and Rich Rurak, both of Morgantown, 21-11, 21-9, in the final match of the tournament.

Plans are being made to hold the tournament in Morgantown next year and to make the tournament an annual event.

See Scoreboard for additional results.

WSU hosts state's first championship

WEST VIRGINIA

The West Virginia State Racquetball Championships were held in Morgantown, April 12, 13 at the WVU Coliseum. A total of fifty-four persons from throughout the state signed up to compete for the four division titles: A singles, B singles, women's singles, and doubles. The tournament was the first of its kind in the state.

Ron Dick, Huntington, won the A singles division, defeating Dave Johnsen, of Morgantown, 21-16, 21-10. The first game of the match was very close with the lead changing hands several times. The game was tied at 16-16 before Ron ran off five unanswered points. Dick took the second game, 21-10. Third place was taken by Dave Taylor, of Morgantown, defeating Steve Fabick, of Morgantown, 21-13, 21-14. Dave Durda, Weirton, won the consolation round.

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See Scoreboard for additional results.

Crnich & Nygaard win big at Great Falls

MONTANA

Jeanette Crnich, Missoula, Montana, defeated 15-year-old Jamie Abbott, Great Falls, 21-9 and 21-19, to take the class "A" championship in the Montana women's racquetball tournament held at Great Falls YMCA.

(The results of the men's championships were published in the May/June issue of Racquetball magazine, page 37.)

Ms. Abbott obtained a degree of revenge, however, in the doubles, when she teamed with Del Keyes, Billings, to capture the doubles championship over Crnich and Jeanine Etchart, 21-17, 9-21, 21-10.

The women's tournament drew 38 entries from seven Montana cities.

CLASS A
Jeanette Crnich defeated Abbott, 21-9, 21-19; in the consolation Jan Dee May, Bozeman, defeated Jeanine Etchart, 21-5, 21-11.

CLASS B

CLASS C
Colleen People defeated Pat Nygaard, 21-14, 21-16. In the consolation Mary Chenovich defeated Sue Gogan, 21-5, 21-8.

SENIORS
Georgia Barstad, Glasgow, defeated Aurora Reyes on a forfeit, and in the consolation Joan Dahl defeated Katherine Alexander, Butte, 21-5, 21-10.

DOUBLES

SPORTSMANSHIP
The Montana sportsmanship award is presented prior to the championship matches, and is determined by the players. Names are dropped into a ballot box during the tournament, and final results counted just before the end of play. The 1975 Montana Women's state tournament award went to Pat Nygaard.
39 teams seek state doubles title

By Sue Crummey

The Massachusetts state doubles tournament February 7-9 at the Fitchburg YMCA had 39 teams participating in the open, "B," seniors, and master's events.

The strong duo of Ed Craific and Bob Kelleher, Springfield YMCA, defeated Leo Woodcone and Steve Bedard of the Fitchfield YMCA in an exciting 3-game match for the open doubles title.

The "B" division was won by two college professors from Springfield, Mass., Jim Anderson and Ken Wall. Bob Hatchfield and Jerry Freeman of the Brockton YMCA took second place with third going to the team of George Kittrell-Lynn White, Fort Devens.

The "B" consolation was won by Daniel Rodriguez and Ken Calvagne of the Boston YMCA.

In the finals of the seniors event, Pete Crummey, Ft. Devens, and Howard Coleman, Worcester, defeated Warren McGuirk and Don Houghton of the Springfield Y.

In the master's Dave McNamara and Bob Goldberg, Fitchburg, took top honors by defeating Harry Caplin and Chester Robbins, Worcester. Third was taken by Harold Gabriel and Joe Sullivan, Fitchburg.

Other open winners were Tom Murphy and Dave Wolanski, taking third; and Houghton-McGuirk fourth. Consolation winners were Crummey and Coleman.


Arizona has new state singles champion

Bill Hildebrand defeated defending champion Mark Deutsch in three rugged games—the final one 21-20—to win the open division title at the Arizona state championship tournament.

The event attracted 91 entries with 50 in the open, 17 in the seniors, eight in the master's division and 16 in the women's division.

The seniors division was won by Ron Haisting and the women's division was won by Nancy Ellis of Mesa, over Dena Russell of Tucson. Hal Price swept the masters with no difficulty.

Arizona state doubles are being scheduled at the new Tucson Athletic Club for early April. Ron Stulik announces a goal of doubling last year's membership, and says the club is well on its way.
Battle of the Richmond 'Y'

MARYLAND vs. VIRGINIA

By Tom Whipple

Perhaps the most outstanding characteristic of the racquetball player is his willingness to prove him or herself as an individual in a competitive event. We have all felt, at one time or another, that incomparable sense of self-fulfillment after performing to the best of our ability against a tough competitor. Indeed, it may be this individuality which dictates the strong bonds of friendship and unity between even the strangers on the court.

On these Eastern shores, where racquetball is hardly a household word, the players of Virginia and Maryland chose to do battle on the courts to see which state could boast the higher skills. The first meeting took place in late winter at Richmond YMCA, the host of the Cornell Open as well as this year's Mid-Atlantic Regionals.

Each state brought its top eight players and seeded them accordingly. Each seed would then play off against the seed of the opposing team, and the match would count as one point for the winning squad. In the first round of singles, number two seed for Maryland met number one seed for Virginia, and so on down the line. Due to time limitations, the second round of singles had only seven matches, with number one players meeting number two players, and so on. There would also be two doubles teams for each state—hence a total of seventeen points. Mathematically, there had to be a winner...

The first round pitted Bill Buckman (Va.) against Tom Whipple (Md.). The match went three games, with the first going to Buckman, 21-18. Whipple came back, however and squeaked out 21-19, 21-12 wins. Rich Dreisen defeated George Long in two, 21-13, 21-15, while Jim Roberson ran Charlie Sullivan to three games, 21-7, 11-21, 21-11. Sullivan is starting to have nightmares about Jim running around his house, picking up everything Sully drops.

Tom Cutler surprised Ted Larsen, 15-21, 21-11, 21-6, in a heated match. Maryland had built up a comfortable 3-1 lead until Virginia's Rick Teordar overpowered Mike Wigglesworth, 21-10, 21-5. Dave Sutter defeated John Joyner, 8-21, 21-12, 21-13, and Time Brenner came back of John Devlin, 16-21, 21-18, 21-11. Rich Dreisen defeated Tom Sczerbicki, 21-8, 21-9, to deadlock the two teams in a 4-4 tie after the first round.

In doubles, Virginia's Buckman-Miller team could not keep the ball down as Whipple-Dreisen ran to a 21-6, 21-9 victory. Roberson and Scordas, however, quickly tied up the score with 21-13, 21-19 victories over Maryland's Devlin-Wigglesworth combo. Score was now five-all.

It looked as if Virginia had the edge in the second round of singles, with Roberson playing Cutler and Larsen thirsting for victory over Sullivan after his first round singles upset. Maryland came out on top, however, with Cutler shocking Roberson, 21-17, 10-21, 21-18, and Sullivan edging Larsen, 21-20, 18-21, 21-18. Virginia was not to be denied, however, as Long stopped Whipple, 12-21, 21-17, 21-7, and Scordas again powered his way to 21-10, 21-8 over John Devlin. Brenner then defeated Wigglesworth, 21-12, 21-19, but Dreisen stopped Sutter, 21-12, 21-5.

Score was now 8 to 8, with one match remaining. John Joyner then upset Tom Sczerbicki, 21-8, 14-21, 21-9, to give Maryland a close 9-8 victory over Virginia and set the stage for a rematch. It is interesting to note at this point that nine of the matches were extended to three games.

Courts Royal, the dominant Racquetball center in the Washington, D.C., area, was a gracious host as Maryland met Virginia for a second time on April 27. Virginia was determined to retrieve their place on the pedestal of racquetball superiority be-
STATE TOURNAMENTS

Stark threatens, but Auerbach takes title

GEORGIA

The Georgia State Racquetball Tournament was held at the Atlanta Jewish Community Center the May 17 weekend, and when it was over there were a number of surprises. Joe Ycaza, the number one player in the state and in the South, pulled a secret move from Atlanta two weeks before the tournament, leaving the open division title up for grabs between Marc Auerbach, Frank Johnson, Bob (Nutsey) Siegel and 13 others from across the state.

Auerbach breezed through the top bracket, defeating 4th seed Barry Rhodes, 21-2, 21-4, to gain a spot in the finals. In the bottom bracket, the expected semifinal matchup between Siegel and Johnson never materialized.

Danny Stark, a 19-year-old out of Savannah, pulled the upsets of the tournament, defeating third seeded Bob Siegel in the quarterfinals, 21-8, 21-14, and second seeded Frank Johnson, 21-17, 21-14, in the semifinals.

In the finals Stark got off to a quick 14-7 lead and it looked as if he would run away with the first game. Auerbach changed the tempo of the game and using control came from behind to take the game, 21-18. It was a case of Stark not having tournament experience and playing under pressure.

The second game saw Auerbach completely dominate the younger Stark. Auerbach raced to a big lead and Stark was never in the game. Stark will be heard from again. He reminded many of Davey Bledsoe three years ago. They have a similar game. Frank Johnson took third place from Barry Rhodes, 17-21, 21-11, 21-9, in a real nice comeback win. Frank was hampered by leg cramps throughout the match.

The senior division title was captured by Ron Scallion of Atlanta. Ron defeated Hal Krafchick in straight games, 21-14, 21-13. Jim Baskin of Ft. Gordon, took third place from 54-year-old Chuck Devine in three tough games. Chuck is going to be a contender in the grand masters next year.

This was the first time the women had their own division. Four women entered the tournament and local favorite Dianne Crowe captured the title by downing Linda Poole in three well played games, 20-21, 21-7, 21-7. Kathy Gray took third place from Emily Lowrey. This is a big step for Georgia Racquetball.

The B singles division drew the most entries with 23, and when it was over John Kiker of Athens defeated longtime friend and practice partner, Jim Hilliard, 21-19, 21-11. Aubrey Easterlin, who has been playing the game for less than a year, took a surprising third place win over Ed Lee.

The novice division drew a large field and was limited to those who had never played in a tournament. Marshall Chamberlain, a newcomer to Atlanta, took the trophy with a 21-19, 20-21, 21-14 win over Olson. Terry Baskin, playing out of Ft. Gordon, took third place over Kamin.

Open doubles saw Bishop and Worster, an unknown team, capture the title with a comeback win over Siegel and Johnson. In the semis Bishop and Worster defeated Auerbach and Krafchick, 5-21, 21-9, 21-20, in a thriller. Siegel and Johnson looked strong in game one, giving up only ten points. But the lefty-righty combination got tough and pulled out the second game, 21-19. The third game was all Bishop and Worster as Johnson cramped up most of the game.

All totaled, 72 people competed in the two day event. The Georgia Racquetball Association would like to thank the Atlanta JCC for hosting the tournament and Hal Krafchick for seeing that everything ran smoothly.

See Scoreboard for additional results.
Dear fellow professional players,

Most of the leading professional players met during the St. Louis IRA Championship tournaments and formed a professional player's organization. We hope to represent all professional racquetball players, and invite the membership of all. We also want those who are thinking of turning pro to be aware of the organization. We feel there is a need for such a group, and are working to meet that need.

In the next issue of Racquetball magazine we will have a full story on the aims of the association, its officers, and the progress we have made since the original St. Louis meeting.

In the meantime, if you want to be added to our mailing list, if you want to know more about the group, or want to be notified of our coming meetings, write to me.

Sincerely,

Mike Zeitman, president
Pro-Racquetball Association

VITTERT V-77 Blue has been selected as the official National Racquetball Championships Ball (Outdoor). Thank you.

You're the authority. The one new racquetball players ask for advice on what they need to get started. The one the 'hot shots' expect to know 'what's new'... 'what's best' in racquetball equipment. Thanks to you, more players are going with Vittert.

VITTERT ALUMINUM RACQUETS
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Dr. Bud Muehleisen—Racquetball Hall of Fame. "The Greatest Racquets ever made."

Peggy Steding—No. 1 woman player in the world. "I wouldn't play with any other racquet."

Jerry Hilecher—73 NCAA Champion "Quality at its best... finest balanced racquets in the game."

Randy Stafford—74 NCAA Champion "Leader in the field."

Contact us at 921 Fee Fee Road, Maryland Heights, Missouri 63043.
Mike Luciw emerged from this melee to take the number one position among the East's "Super 16." He started the climb by toppling Winterton, 21-17, 21-13, 21-12, and continued with wins over Wang and Grapes, and completed the event with a final victory over Leo Marsocci, 21-4, 21-10.

At the beginning of the tournament here is how the leagues were set up:


**LEAGUE "B"** — Craig Guinter, Pennsylvania; John Alfieri, New York; Sam Polletta, New York; Marshall Mallie, Ohio.


**LEAGUE "D"** — Leo Marsocci, New York; Tom Sweeney, New York; Joe Aguglia, Pennsylvania; John Muswicz, Pennsylvania.

This type of grueling schedule over a 24 hour period among players of close talent began to take its toll the first day. Top seeded Charlie Garfinkel was upset by Maryland's finest, Tom Wipple, 21-20, 21-19. The "Gar" whipped through his first two matches before being ambushed by Wipple. Wipple's game was definitely on and Tom played with wild abandon only to see his game begin to crumble during the second day. In League "A," Wipple finished 1st, Garfinkel 2nd, Yurgates 3rd, and St. Onge, 4th.

League "B" saw top seeded Craig Guinter pushed by both Alfieri and Mallie to hold on to three-game wins. In the lower brackets there was mass confusion as everyone other than Guinter ended up in a 3-way tie each with one win and two losses. Second, third, and fourth place was decided by average number of points scored per game with Alfieri finishing second at 17.3 points per game, Mallie third with 16.2 points per game, and Polletta fourth at 14.5 points per game.


League "D", found Marsocci first, Aguglia second, Sweeney third, and Muswicz fourth.

Saturday evening a banquet was held at the Elks Country Club with over 80 attending. In addition to the Super 16 tournament being held, the Nittany Lion Racquetball Club hosted the Pennsylvania Women's State Championships and the club's In-House Spring festival which attracted over 50 entries in singles and doubles.

Play was to resume at 9 a.m. Sunday and most of the players retired early except for Mike Luciw who we have heard was still talking to a waitress at 4 a.m.

Sunday found one bunch of tired players crawling onto the courts. Luciw was all keyed up looking to rectify his loss to Guinter in the Regionals. Mike was, 21-17, 21-16. Asked after the match how the game went, Mike replied, "I wanted to keep him (Guinter) to no more than four in each game and before I knew it he had 15. Damn—you can't let up at all with Craig."

Tom Wipple met Leo Marsocci in the semis and Tom's game was not as crisp as Saturday's. After upsetting Garfinkel, Tom was experiencing some letdown as Marsocci upset Wipple, 21-19, 21-20. In the finals the weekend took its toll on Marsocci as Luciw breezed on to an easy win for first place, 21-4, 21-10.

In the play-off for third, Wipple continued his downward trend, losing to the "Assassin" Guinter, 21-8, 21-14.

The final standings were, in the order listed: Mike Luciw, Leo Marsocci, Craig Guinter, Tom Wipple, Charlie Garfinkel, John Alfieri, Joe Aguglia, Jim Winterton, Dave Yurgates, Marshall Mallie, Tom Sweeney, Willie Wang, John Muswicz, Sam Polletta, Tim Grapes, and Luke St. Onge.

This type of tournament is especially attractive to the participant in that all players play the same amount of matches, win or lose, against all levels of competition. All participants received, in addition to the banquet, a souvenir windbreaker along with a pewter plate engraved with their final placing.

See Scoreboard for additional results.

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**East Super 16 — continued from page 13**

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SPORTCRAFT serves up a comprehensive line of I.R.A. approved equipment. The newly designed #13130 "Explo," lightweight aluminum racquet with protective bumper. The "spaceage" racquet! - #13136, nylon glass frame with rubber grip. Our satin finish aluminum #13127 with bumper. For long, hard, accurate play the answer is SPORTCRAFT'S I.R.A. approved #'s 13265, 13275 and 13274 racquetballs.

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Our quest for assistance in the growth of military racquetball has been truly outstanding. I would like to introduce the new Service Commissioners:

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  Plattsburgh AFB, New York 12007
  Autovon 689,5225 or 5226

**European Area Commissioner—**
- Mr. Jack Rashleigh
  Sports Director
  A & R Branch
  APO N.Y., N.Y. 09055

**Pacific Area Commissioner—**
- James R. Lenhart
  FICPAC P. O. Box 500
  FPO San Francisco, Calif. 96610

We still need Military Commissioners for the Navy, Marines and Coast Guard.

Let's review how the Military Racquetball system works. In the United States, all base representatives (a list will be published next month), report their base activities to their Service Commissioner listed above. In Europe and the Pacific area, all services report to their respective area Commissioner.

We still need base/port IRA representatives, so please let me know, or any of the above listed people, if you are interested in the promotion of military racquetball.

When I took this job, one of my objectives was to have a Service of Inter-service Racquetball Championship. I am still working on this project but progress is slow and I feel we now need support from the field. If you are in the Army/Air Force, please write to the below listed address and express your desire to see and participate in a Service Championship. I see the events as:
- Open, Seniors, Masters and Open Doubles. The Service winner would be allowed entry into the IRA National Championships without going through the Regionals and in a by-case basis, expenses would be paid by the respective services.

The addresses are:

**Army—**
- LTC. Edwards
  Hqs. DA
  Attn: DAAG-RE-S
  Army Sports
  Washington, D.C. 20314

**Air Force—**
- Steve Ducoff
  AFMPE/DPMSOC
  Randolf AFB, Texas

**TOURNAMENT RESULTS**

Sgt. Danny Giordano, the AF New England hot-shot shooter continues to improve at each and every tournament. This year, he has placed in every Singles Tournament in which he participated. He was second in the New England Military Tournament, third in the Mass. State Singles, 3rd in the New England-Vittert Tournament, the Hanscom AFB Singles and Doubles Champion, Bentley College Singles Champion, 3rd in the Maine Open and winner of the 1st Annual Brockton, Mass. YMCA Open Tournament. Not bad for a 11' 2", 125 lb., 3 toed A.F. type who practices three hours a day. He also has another job—sometimes in the Air Force.


**RACQUETBALL TIPS**

Each Newsletter try to pass on some tips or anecdotes to improve your play. If you have a tip, please send it in and if published, you will receive twelve (12) Vittert V-77 blue balls (limited to Military Personnel only).

This month we shall look inside the most prized possession of the racquetball player—his playing bag—and find out what the status seeker is showing up with at court side.

First of all, the size of the bag must be inversely proportional to the size of the player. The only exception is "The Gar". His bag is so large he sleeps in it! Hanging on the outside of the bag by the handles. Must be three of the five items listed below or status is somewhat lost. Three thongs, 1 leather and two nylon; three locks tied to the handles, two of which obviously must lack keys and the third, which opens without a key. Also, two racquet pouches must be attached to the side of the bag; But, designed to carry two racquets each, these pouches carry a minimum of three each. The racquets must not be the same in any way. One IRA patch must be glued to the racquet pouches with one corner coming unglued. Five or six wet racquetball gloves must be attached to the same handle, and of different brands.

Inside the bag, the following are considered mission-essential: One copy of the current rules; last year's IRA handbook with a dog eared cover almost disintegrated; and twelve different racquetballs of all colors, makes and sizes. Also—you should be able to produce without looking, a regulation ball that your opponent can not stand to play with. And, still of major importance in that bag, are six old handball gloves that no longer fit and contain at least two holes; two dollars in small change; five packs of hard candy and gum for energy; ten IRA applications; blank score cards—two used, showing your latest victories over Brunfield, 21-14, and Keeley, 21-20 (a good story to follow); a small black book containing names and numbers of all current racquetball supersstars; an old tournament shirt from a Major Tournament (1st Place fading away); and the usual needed socks, jocks, pants, head bands and wrist bands; and the Presidential Sports Award, soon to go on your best sweat suit. Last, but not least, is a current list of all fashionable racquetball quotes.
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.
SUMMARY OF ACTION TAKEN AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE IRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS, MAY 21, 22 AND 25, 1975

STATE AND REGIONAL CONVENTIONS
The board agreed to host a State and Regional Convention, September 27-28, New Orleans. Last year the regional was held in October at St. Louis. The amount to be paid for delegate’s expenses will be determined by the financial situation at that time.

USCCA
A motion was made by Ken Porco (seconded by Peggy Steding) for the IRA to continue its support of the U.S. Court Clubs Association, and to pay dues of $500 for one year. Motion approved.

NATIONAL SPORTING GOODS SHOW
Ken Porco moved (Charlie Garfinkel seconded) that the executive director be sent to the January National Sporting Goods Show to provide information to exhibitors. The board voted to approve expenses, but not to set up a booth as had been done in past years.

INTERCOLLEGIATE
The board agreed, formally, to develop an intercollegiate program consisting of local, state, regional, and climaxing with a National Championship competition for the year 1975-76, to be financed through sponsors rather than the IRA.

APPROVED EQUIPMENT
A Manufacturing Committee was appointed by president DeWitt Shy, to be chaired by Bill Dunn. His committee was charged with the responsibility for testing and possible IRA approval of racquets, balls, and other equipment. The committee is also to arrive at basic guidelines and standards for equipment having IRA approval.

PLAYER CLASSIFICATION
The board felt the need existed for standards of classification for Novice, A,B,C, and other, players. Smith Schippers moved, and Dr. Sellars seconded the use of Dr. Bud Muelheisen’s guidelines for player classification in various regions, to be published in the magazine twice a year. Motion approved.

BOUNDARIES CHANGED
Ken Porco moved (Dr. Sellars seconded) that Kentucky be moved to region six, and Pennsylvania be moved to region seven. Motion approved.

PROMOTIONAL AGENCY
Tony Furman and Mike Mace of Anthony J. Furman advertising agency, New York, reviewed the work done by the agency and discussed ideas they have for the future promotion of the sport.

MEMBERSHIP DUES—State and National
The board voted to increase the IRA membership dues to $6 (from $3) for one year, and $10 for two years. Of this, $7.50 will go directly back to the state organization to develop state programs; and from the $10 memberships, $2 will go to the state. In making this change, it was noted that member-subscriptions for the magazine are included, and the overall costs of publication average about $1 per issue. The motion for the changes was approved unanimously, and becomes effective September 1, 1975.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST
The executive director related to the board there had been concern from manufacturers regarding conflict of interest by board members. This was discussed at length and DeWitt Shy moved (seconded by Bill Dunn) that anybody serving on the board could have a conflict of interest. Vote: 5 to 5. John Chambers moved the question be tabled until formation of the new board; seconded by Dr. Muehleisen, and approved.

SUPPORT FROM THE INDUSTRY
Charlie Brumfield moved that the president and executive director continue negotiating with all manufacturers for their financial support of the IRA, to enable the association to continue its programs. Seconded by Ivan Bruner; motion approved.

CANADIAN GRANT
Ivan Velan reported on the progress of the Canadian Racquetball Association. The report was impressive, and the CRA has shown great willingness to promote the sport. They have also received substantial encouragement from their government. Velan described a month-long tour by two top U.S. players who will conduct clinics throughout Canada. To assist with the CRA programs, the IRA approved a tentative $2,000 grant subject to budget approval.

RULES CHANGES
Dr. Bud Muehleisen, rules committee chairman during the past year, recommended that suggested new rules, refinements, and deletions be offered the membership on a trial basis. The suggested changes will be published in the July issue of the IRA Racquetball magazine. Members will be asked to test the validity of the changes under actual playing conditions, and to report back to the IRA office on their reactions.

At that time, Muehleisen said, the rules committee can make further study based on such trials and submit any rules changes to the membership for a final vote. Dr. Muehleisen’s recommendation was accepted.
1975 Annual Meeting

T-SHIRTS: A motion to change the T-Shirt rule failed by a vote of 8-2. The gist of the question was that the present rule be stricken, and revised to accept the criteria for color—light and bright—but permitting any design or wording other than obscenities.

PRO-CIRCUIT
The pro-circuit concept was discussed extensively. Ken Porco moved (seconded by Smith Schippers) that the IRA have a pro-circuit if it can sustain itself financially in 1975-76. The motion was approved.

DeWitt Shy appointed the executive director. Ken Porco and Bill Tanner to serve as a committee to work on the pro-circuit.

Charlie Brumfield moved (seconded by Ivan Bruner) for the establishment of the IRA Pro Tour Corporation, a profit-making body that would be entirely separate from the IRA (which is a non-profit association). Motion approved unanimously.

1975 IRA TOURNAMENT
Smith Schippers moved that the 1974 procedure be followed for the 1975 IRA tournaments wherein 61 berths will constitute the Open division. Bill Dunn seconded the motion. Motion approved 8-2. The 1975 tournament will be the same as the 1974. The exact number of qualifiers will be decided upon for each region.

COMMITTEE REORGANIZATION
The board discussed and recognized the need for additional committee responsibilities and participation within the organization. These committees will be appointed by the president and executive director, and will be asked to make their reports to the Board of Directors.

NATIONAL PADDLEBALL ASSOCIATION
A letter from the National Paddleball Association was presented to the board in which an interest was expressed by that organization to work with the IRA in so far as the national publication is concerned. The board agreed to study the situation, and if mutually beneficial, to pursue the discussion.

TWO CLASSES OF WOMEN
Dr. Muehleisen moved that for the 1976 IRA Women's singles championships there be two divisions: 34 and under, and 34 and over. In regionals, any class having eight or more entries could be similarly divided. Seconded by Bill Dunn; motion approved.

FINANCES AND BUDGET
On the note owed by "SML" to the IRA (given to them by Mr. Kendler to help set up a clothing business), the board agreed to accept the terms of repayment offered by SML, with the understanding that failure to meet these terms would result in legal action to obtain collection.

Ivan Bruner moved that the financial report (published elsewhere with the Report to the Membership in this issue) be accepted. Seconded by Hal Price; motion approved.

Smith Schippers moved the budget be accepted, with the inclusion of a recommended salary of $10,000 per year for an assistant to the executive director. Seconded by Ivan Bruner; motion approved unanimously. The assistant's primary charge will be to increase membership and work with State programs, plus other areas beneficial to the association.

Don Strong, of the Seameco Industries, met for two and a half hours with the board discussing the ball-situation, and the drop in IRA royalties (from $12,000 to $4,000). Members felt the exhaustive discussion was worthwhile and informative.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Ken Porco, chairman, presented his committee's recommendations of candidates for the 1975-76 board. The selections were discussed on an individual basis with consideration being given as to such things as geographic location, willingness and ability to serve the association.

Dr. Hal Price moved that the board recommend the following names to the Sunday meeting of the general membership: Gene Grapes, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Leonard Marks, St. Louis, Mo.; and William B. Tanner, Memphis, Tenn. Dr. Muehleisen seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

OFFICERS ELECTED
Following the Sunday general membership meeting and election, the board met on May 25 and elected DeWitt Shy, president; Bill Tanner, vice-president; Smith Schippers, secretary-treasurer; Ivan Bruner, National commissioner; and Charlie Brumfield, National rules chairman.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST
Bill Dunn moved that nobody having a conflict of interest be elected to the Board of Directors. Seconded by Peggy Steding; motion approved unanimously. DeWitt Shy will appoint a committee to write the conditions of a conflict of interest and will submit the report to the membership.

CONSTITUTIONAL REVISIONS
Leonard Marks moved the fiscal year be changed (from ending December 31) to end March 31. Seconded by Wm. B. Tanner; motion approved. The change will provide a clearer financial picture for the April or May board meetings.

Smith Schippers moved that IRA books be audited up to March 31. Seconded by Ivan Bruner; motion approved.

The possibility of personal liability in the event of an accident or injury during an IRA sponsored tournament was discussed.

Charlie Brumfield moved that a committee be appointed to study the existing constitution and by-laws and report back to the board on any needed revisions or amendments. Seconded by Wm. B. Tanner; motion approved.

Smith Schippers was appointed chairman of the study committee.

In submitting this summary of action to the general membership, I would like to add that I have sat on three of the IRA boards, and in that time have seen none with more input, integrity or enthusiasm for the tasks to be accomplished than the Board of 1975 and the future Board of 1976.

Myron Roderick
Executive Director
The Balance Sheet and Financial Report were prepared for the IRA by the firm of Riley and Heath, Certified Public Accountants, as of December 31, 1974.

### BALANCE SHEET

**ASSETS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current:</th>
<th>$35,987</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture, equipment and related reserve:</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture and equipment</td>
<td>$4,284</td>
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<tr>
<td>Less reserve for depreciation</td>
<td>323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes receivable—SML Industries</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$41,948</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH**

| Current Liabilities: |
| --- | --- |
| Taxes and Payroll | 439 |

| Net Worth: |
| --- | --- |
| Net Worth 1-1-74 | 26,356 |
| Increase for period | 15,153 |
|  | $41,509 |
|  | $41,948 |

### INCOME AND EXPENSES — YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1974

**INCOME:**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Memberships</td>
<td>14,984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales—emblems and supplies</td>
<td>5,229</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sales publications</td>
<td>6,927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royalty</td>
<td>153,715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tournament income</td>
<td>3,770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tournament income—pro</td>
<td>3,012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising—magazine</td>
<td>3,577</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>1,007</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>$192,426</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EXPENSES:**

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<th></th>
<th>$</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>20,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees personal service</td>
<td>4,233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dues and subscriptions</td>
<td>700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Retirement</td>
<td>2,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>243</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legal and accounting</td>
<td>4,106</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
<td>2,088</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taxes, payroll</td>
<td>1,387</td>
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<tr>
<td>Award</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duplicating</td>
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<tr>
<td>Magazine production</td>
<td>33,363</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mailing service</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies, membership</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies, resale</td>
<td>10,835</td>
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<td>Tournament expense</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tournament expense, pro</td>
<td>32,587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>4,497</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>1,110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Chairmen</td>
<td>5,104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$177,273</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Net Income** $15,153
There were 185 present for the 8:30 a.m. breakfast. At 9:30 a.m. President DeWitt Shy called the membership meeting to order.

The first order of business was the presentation of awards. The Man of the Year Award went to a woman this year, so the name of the award was changed to Woman of the Year, and was presented to Marilyn Rankin, Edmonton, Canada. She has been very active in the Canadian Racquetball Association both as their secretary and managing their major tournaments.

WOMAN ATHLETE of the Year award was presented to Jan Pasternak for her accomplishments in the sport. She has been National Champion twice and runner up twice.

MAN ATHLETE of the Year award went to 1974 International singles champion, Bill Schmidtke. Schmidtke has been an outstanding racquetball player for many years, having placed second in the first tournament held. At that time the game was called paddle-racquetball. In 1971 and 1974 he was the International champion, and he placed in both 1972 and 1973.

HALL OF FAME inductee was Larry Lederman. In accepting the honor, Lederman gave a little history of the game. It was through his direction and leadership that the IRA was formed. He was a member of the board of directors and National Commissioner for a number of years. He was, and still is, a great asset to the sport.

Following the awards by President Shy, Myron Rod erick presented walnut based service recognition plaques to those directors leaving the board. These went to Dr. Bud Muehleisen, Ken Porco and Dr. Bill Sellars. Roderick noted that all three had provided exceptional leadership for the association. The former directors commented that working for the association had been an honor, and they would look forward to continued participation in promoting the game and the association.

Roderick reported to the membership on the 26 hours of meeting-time spent by the board, and some of the items covered (see director’s report).

The executive director reported that membership in the IRA had increased this past year from 4,700 to almost 7,000 and had increased by approximately 300 in the month just ahead of the annual meeting.

Those present at the membership meeting were told of the newly formed International Racquetball Pro-Corporation, that would have its own officers and operate its own corporation. He said this newly formed organization would stand on its own financially.

State organizations were given lavish praise for the work they have accomplished in obtaining members, providing tournaments and leadership in the sport.

Dr. Muehleisen explained to the members the changes being proposed in the rules (see summary of board meeting activities).

Leonard Marks was singled out for a word of appreciation by DeWitt Shy for the efficiency of the St. Louis tournament, and Marks in turn passed the credit to everyone in the room, and almost everyone in St. Louis.

Those interested in holding an IRA regional or an IRA Invitational tournament will want to contact Ivan Bruner, Roderick announced. Bruner takes over the job formerly handled by Ken Porco, and is the new National Commissioner. Bruner’s address is 2602 Arbor Drive, Madison, Wisconsin 53711.

In bidding for tournaments a complete evaluation of the host facility should be prepared, along with information on lodging, transportation and other accommodations. Bids are needed as soon as possible.

Too, it should be noted that to have tournaments listed in the calendar of coming events, advance notice up to 60 days is needed, depending on publication frequency.

The board had approved two age groups in the women’s singles competition at the international championships for 1976. Peggy Steiding asked the women to indicate whether they would prefer the age-dividing line be 29 or 34. Those present chose 34 by a substantial margin.

The nominating committee submitted to the membership those names selected by them, and approved by the board. Additionally, nominations were accepted from the floor. In all, the following were placed in nomination: William B. Tanner, Memphis; Gene Grapes, Pittsburgh; Leonard Marks, St. Louis; Richard Walker, Dallas; and Robert Troyer, Lake Forest, Illinois.

The three selected by the membership are Tanner, Grapes, and Marks.

In closing, president DeWitt Shy thanked the delegates, competitors, sponsors and suppliers for all of the assistance each had provided to make the 7th Annual IRA Championship tournaments an outstanding success, and urged all of them to attend the convention/tournament for 1976.
Memberships Now $6

The International Racquetball Association Board of Directors voted at their annual meeting to raise the dues of the International Racquetball Association to $6 for one year and $10 for two years. Of the $6, a dollar and a half will go back to the state and of the $10, two dollars will go back to the state where it originated.

The Board felt that since the magazine was costing the Association $6 a year to print and mail to each member, that our dues should be raised to defer this expense. At the same time we realize that great activity and emphasis on racquetball has to come through the state organization and we want to create financial help for the states. This is the reason for the rebate to each state from the membership. This way you won’t have to have state dues as well as International dues.

We have checked with many, many associations and for all who publish a magazine such as ours, dues run from $8 to $15 a year. As you know, the dues have not been raised since the original $3 dues set up in 1969 when we didn’t even have a magazine. We hope this does not present a burden to anyone as far as membership is concerned, but feel it will help develop and promote racquetball a great deal more.

TURNER NAMED NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

MINNESOTA HAS NEW STATE CHAIRMAN

Bill Schmidtke, Minneapolis, has accepted appointment to the post of state chairman for Minnesota.

IRA members have been asked to make this notation in their 1974 Handbook. Schmidtke’s address is 1155 Ford Road, Minneapolis 55426.

The new state chairman was named “Male Athlete of the Year” for 1974 after winning four of his six matches and taking the International championship from Charles Brumfield. This year he was eliminated by Steve Strandemo in the quarterfinals of the Internationals ... and Brumfield again captured the title.
REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP

The following report, while not presented at the annual meeting in May, was authorized by the Board at that time, and has been referred to elsewhere in the published summary of the board and general membership minutes.

REPORT FROM THE RULES COMMITTEE

Charlie Brumfield, Chairman

July 1, 1975

The accompanying rules changes and suggestions are relatively minor. They are intended to simplify the rules and to make them homogeneous.

PART II—COURTS AND EQUIPMENT

2.6 Use of Illegal Equipment or Uniform

Equipment and Uniform should be checked by the referee before the commencement of play. Illegal equipment or uniform may not be used in sanctioned IRA play.

Rationale: The IRA Equipment Committee should check all known equipment and issue warnings to manufacturers who make illegal equipment.

A player should not be allowed to acquiesce in the use of illegal equipment by his opponent anymore than the two of them could agree to play to eleven. The rules are the rules.

PART III—OFFICIATING

3.5 (d) 2

... after warning, any player leaves the court without permission of the referee during the course of a game.

Rationale: To conform to the new time-out rule which allows a player to leave the court automatically for a limited and enforced period of time.

PART IV—PLAY REGULATIONS

4.1 (d)

A serve is commenced when the racquet meets the ball on the service stroke. At that moment the ball is in play.

Rationale: If the rule remains when the ball leaves the server's hand there is no way of telling when play actually resumes, inasmuch as the ball leaving the hand could be on a preparatory bounce, and not the actual service bounce. This is especially true if the antiquated three-bounce rule is eliminated.

4.4 (b)

Screenball: Passes by the server or his partner in such a way that the returner or returners do not have a fair chance to see and return the ball due to visual obstruction.

Rationale: There should not be any automatic hinders inasmuch as the receiver may still have a fair chance to see and return. The present rule would take the set-up away and fail to penalize a poor shot.

4.6 (a)

Eliminate this entire section. It is trifling and not being enforced. Such a situation as excessive bouncing could better be handled under a stalling rule.

4.7 (a)

Five foot rule: The receiver or receivers must stand at least five feet back of the short line, as indicated by the three-inch vertical line on each side wall, and cannot enter into this safety zone until the ball has been served, and passes the back service line. At that point the receiver may enter the safety zone to return serve however, neither his racquet nor his body may infringe on the imaginary plane marked by the back service line. A violation of this plane would result in a point for the server.

4.7 (c)—Eliminate paragraph “c.”

4.9 (c) 3 Hinders:

Replace the word unintentional with the word substantial.

continued on next page
THE REMAINDER OF THESE ARE EXPERIMENTAL IN CHARACTER. WE ASK THE MEMBERSHIP TO TRY THESE RULES IN PRACTICE AND TOURNAMENTS DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS. SUCH TRIALS WILL BE IMMEASURABLY HELPFUL IN REVISING PRESENT RULES.

SCORING—Fifteen points will constitute a full game. A player must win a game by two points; or the first player reaching 21 points automatically wins. (I.e.—15-13 wins. A 14-14 situation goes into a tie-breaker. If one player gets two points ahead anytime from 15 points on, the game is over. Otherwise the first to reach 21 wins. At no time does the game extend beyond 21 points.)

BALL TESTING—Balls for tournament matches should be pretested prior to match time, and should conform to IRA specifications. Both players should agree on the balls selected. In case of disagreement, the head referee should make the final decision. In case a ball change is necessary during a match, an "approved" ball will be brought in and play shall be continuous.

PLAY STOPPAGE—During the course of play, should a player lose control of a racquet, shoe, glasses, etc., or should a foreign object enter the court, or other outside interference occur, play will stop ONLY if the referee judges it will interfere with the normal course of play.

EQUIPMENT CHANGES—Players have the responsibility to have all equipment and accessories at court side so play may remain as continuous as possible through any necessary equipment changes. If equipment change is necessary, it should be accomplished as quickly as possible. Failure to change within a reasonable time results in a point, or side out.

Before an equipment change should be allowed, the referee must substantiate the problem (wet T-shirt, broken racquet, glove wet on the inside of the palm, etc.).

DELAYS—Equipment timeout will not be tolerated as a stall tactic.

CONTINUITY OF PLAY—Play must be continuous. Stall tactics will be allowed: kicking the ball, shuffling slowly after the ball, turning back on the server, or intentionally long serve.

After a reasonable length of time for preparation of service and return, the score will be called and play must proceed. The penalty for intentional stalling is a point or sideout.

HINDER BALL—Re: ball that would obviously not make the front wall. Normally, if in the course of play, a ball strikes an opponent, it constitutes a hinder. However, in the situation where the ball obviously would never have made the front wall, it should constitute either a point or a sideout.

TIMEOUT—1. Regular timeouts be lengthened to one minute.
2. Five minutes between first and second game (shirts and gloves should be changed).
3. Ten minutes between the second and third games (change shirts and gloves).

The preceding does not by any means exhaust the number of rules being studied and considered, but is submitted to the membership at this time for their consideration and actual application. We hope to hear from a number of players on these suggestions and others, that they would like to see improved.

Charlie Brumfield, Chairman
Rules Committee
The International Racquetball Association would like to take this opportunity to thank...

**RACQUETBALL COURT CLUB FRANCHISING**

for sponsoring
the 7th Annual IRA Championship Tournament
in St. Louis, Missouri

It is a great help to the association when a sponsor supports one of our top tournaments.
The IRA's Largest
And Most Successful
CHAMPIONSHIP
TOURNAMENT

The largest and most successful
tournament in the IRA's history is
over. Over three hundred twenty-
players participated in the four day event.

Lenny Marks, Marlowe Phillips,
and Danny Hillecher did a sensa-
tional job. The girls in the hospitality
room were great too.

The tournament will be remembered
for the greatest performance in rac-
quetball history. Namely, Charlie
Brumfield's great win over Steve
Serot. As Charlie said, "I was hitting
my 'bread and butter' shots with a
marginal error."

Victor Niederhoffer's prediction of
winning the tournament, was squelch-
ed by a 21-15, 21-2 slaughter by Steve
Serot. Serot, a true sportsman, said,
"When I knew my yelling bothered
him, I got even louder."

Wayne Bowes' win in the Open
Amateur was a great win for Wayne
and Canada. But, why does he have
to reside in Drawbridge? Oops, I mean
Lethbridge.

Peggy "Super Tex" Steding says,
"Don't worry. I'm not making any

Gar's Views

more dirty films, and I'm getting a
new cape for Chanukah."

Dr. Bud Muehleisen said, "My win
will give me time to read four dental
magazines a week, instead of three."

Jannell Marriott and Jenny Hard-
ing can't wait to see the next issue of
Racquetball Magazine. They want to
make sure that they really won.

John Halverson is getting ready for
next year, by memorizing seven new
proverbs.

Marty Hogan is trying to do two
hundred pushups in a row. Joe Zelson
says he'll give him three milkshakes
and a bagel if he can.

Fred Vetter showed real "heart" in
winning the Golden Masters, and
showed us what great conditioning can
do.

As all of the players said, this was
the best national tourney yet. It was
relaxed, and there was a nice, open
feeling among the players.

We even had another first at our
tournament. We discovered a spy; but
we let him stay.

In closing, outside of a need for
much better refereeing, and a positive
deadline enforcement, we want to
thank St. Louis for a wonderful
tournament. See you next season.

The Gar.

In the next 16 pages Garfinkel
reports on three days and
nights of championship competition
TOURNAMENT PHOTOS BY MIKE ZEITMAN

JULY-AUGUST 1975
After the tournament his license plate read "Serot who?"

In every sport, the experts try to remember all time great performances. The performance in St. Louis of Charles Brumfield against Steve Serot in the IRA's Pro finals, will rank number one in their minds.

Never, I repeat, never, has racquetball been played as Mr. Brumfield did in that match. Brumfield was hotter than the ninety-three degree heat. Even more amazing was the fact he lost the first game.

The final score was 13-21, 21-4, 21-2. You have read correctly. Steve Serot, the nineteen-year-old superstar, scored only six points the last two games. In fact, Serot's license plates on his snazzy sports car read the following before his match: SEROT-1. When the match was over, it read: SEROT?!?!??

As Serot himself said, "I was patient the first game, and I kept the balls down the walls. I didn't want to trade shots with Charlie. I was shooting well, and I kept Charlie moving. Charlie was trying many low percentage shots. Why he did it? I don't know."

Read Charlie's version of the first game, and perhaps Serot's question will be answered. Charlie said, "I was just sitting around for two hours before I played Serot. He was hitting the ball very hard, and I wasn't putting the ball away. I was making 'marginal' errors on my 'bread and butter' shots. My overheads were working like Ali's 'rope a dope,' and I was losing all of the ceiling ball rallies."

Games two and three were incredible. Charlie was so hot, that scorched marks are permanently imbedded in the court.

**Pro Singles**

As Serot said, "In game two, Brumfield served as hard as he could. It was amazing. Everything he hit was unreal. He played like a wild man, as if he was in a trance. He actually was hitting the ball harder than II!!

Serot and everyone else couldn't believe the power in Brumfield's shots. After all, Serot is unanimously recognized as the hardest hitter in the history of racquetball. Do we have to relate what must have been going through his mind?

Serot continued, "Brumfield was incredible. I wasn't tired. I felt good. He just rolled everything out. He kept yelling to himself. He never said anything to me. I tried to stall; and slow him down. Nothing worked."

I then asked Steve the following question. "Steve, I know that you're tired mentally and physically, but did anything unusual happen during your match?"

Steve replied, "At 9-0 in the third game, Myron warned me for cursing to myself. I yelled, 'What was I saying?' Myron replied, 'You have said Jesus Christ at least fifteen times.' At this juncture, Charlie interrupted and said, 'He wasn't swearing, Myron. He was just calling me.' Serot wouldn't give Charlie the satisfaction of smiling, although he admitted to me he thought it was a great line.

As for Charlie, he tried to appear humble. Charlie said, "What can I say? I was just fantastic, and that's all there is to it. I kept my serves off the side walls. I shot thirty out of thirty-one winners down the right side.

"The scores are amazing against a player like Serot. He couldn't read my shots, and I rolled out nearly everything. When I wasn't shooting, I was passing with perfection.

"Today, Serot or anyone else, had no chance. I blew Serot out the door,
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past the airport, and all the way back to San Diego. It is without doubt my all time greatest performance." Enough said.

I, myself, had a premonition of Brum’s readiness for the tournament.

I called Charlie from Buffalo a week prior to the tournament. I wanted Strandemo’s home phone number. For twenty-seven minutes, Charlie told me how great he was playing. I said, "For crying out loud, Charlie, this is costing me money. What is Steve's number?" Charlie replied, 'Oh, I forgot to tell you. It is unlisted.'"

When I did get hold of Steve, he said, "Charlie isn't kidding. He is just playing great racquetball!"

Charlie’s match was the greatest, but there were other classics as well. Perhaps the most interesting and exciting match of the entire tournament, was the match between Mike Zeitman, and Victor Niederhoffer in the round of sixteen.

Victor is the National Squash Champion who had predicted he would win the whole tournament. He is a tremendous retriever, and passes extremely well. Mike is a two-time National Doubles Champion. He is known for his sometimes brilliant, sometimes lacklustre, performances.

I roomed with Mike, and he told me the following before the match. “I’m going to overpower him. I’m going to shoot and run him. I don’t think he is in racquetball shape to play at this level. I’m going to keep him confused, and I’ll keep him off balance.”

These were thoughtful words. However, this is not the way to beat Victor.

I was so confident Victor would win, that I bet Len Stream a dollar. We later doubled it to $2.00. The match itself was a real donnybrook.

Zeitman was the one who was exhausted at the end of the two and a half hour match. Niederhoffer had run his tail off. The scores were 21-16, 17-21, 21-15, for Niederhoffer.

Zeitman felt he got a raw deal on the calls, and Nieder felt they evened out.

Zeitman had no one to blame but himself. He shot poorly, and had a foolish game plan. Niederhoffer played good, steady, racquetball.

Nieder also attracted the crowd’s attention by introducing the following hand signals to the game:

1. Hand over mouth—This meant, "Shut up, Mike!"
2. Hand over ear—This meant, "You’re hurting my eardrum, Mikel!"
3. One finger raised—This meant, "I have to tinkle."
4. Two fingers raised—This meant, "I have to use the pottie."
5. Wave of the hand—This meant, "Gail (his wife), I want you to come down here to talk to the referee for me."

Another interesting sidelight of the match was Nieder appealing to the judges, when there were no judges. (Later there were.)

The reason the match was a donnybrook was due to the fact that when the referees were put in no one seemed to know his role.

What should happen, is that when Zeitman obviously hurt his finger, only two out of three officials professed to seeing blood on Mike’s finger.

Nieder said, "There is a lot of pressure on me. I used up so much energy complaining about pushing that I wasn’t sharp. I know when Mike is on, he can defeat anyone. He was just blasting against me.

"Everyone fights so much in this game. Judging should be as it is in squash. Every racquetball match I’ve played in, results in a dispute."

---

Pro Singles

Perhaps Nieder is telling us something that we should look into.

As for Zeitman, he made about three out of every five shots. This was the same record he had at the Ramada Inn. Although we roomed together, he was only there three out of five nights. He must have been practicing his strokes.

Otherwise, Mike had no comment.

As we said earlier, Strandemo refereed. Zeitman was furious with his calls. I kept score for the match, and as it ended, Strandemo’s exact words were, “See you later, Gar. I’m getting the hell out of here.”

Another super first round match was Craig McCoy’s 20-21, 21-20, 21-12 win over veteran Ron Rubenstein. An interesting sidelight of the match was that McCoy and Ruby were co-ranked at Number Three in all time hair styles. (Picture a mass of endless curls in endless hair.)

Ruby, who has to rank as one of the games smartest players, played great racquetball. Down, 17-20, in the first game, he made a great comeback to win, 21-20. He continued his fine play by going ahead, 20-16, in the second game.

Suddenly, McCoy came to life. He rolled out a backhand off Ruby’s serve, and went on to win, 21-20. He ran up a big lead in the third game, and then coasted in for a 21-12 win. In fact, an all time first occurred in Game Three. Myron Roderick, the referee, dropped the scorecard on the court. It was the first time in racquetball history; that a scorecard got a timeout.

McCoy said afterwards, “My concentration was giving me trouble again. I wasn’t hitting hard enough, and Ruby was playing super. When I was down, 16-20, in the second game, I made up my mind to shoot if I got the shot.” And shot he did.

McCoy continued. “Ruby’s forehand pinch shots bothered me. (McCoy had three marks on his posterior.) He rolled some out that I didn’t think he would. I haven’t seen him play, and I was fortunate to win.”

As for Ruby, he is still a great shooter. “I’m passing more, and I’m pacing myself much more, too. I’m also doing much more running. (This could consist of a twenty yard jog, if I remember Ruby’s past training record.)”

“The court was so hot you really had to concentrate. It’s hard to keep your shots down, and when I got tired, I naturally couldn’t shoot well. McCoy is a tremendous player, and he should go far.”

Ruby gave an excellent account of himself, but at age thirty-six, he will find the going tougher and tougher.

In another round of sixteen match, homestower Jerry Hillecher defeated “Golden Retriever” Davy Bledsoe in a brutal, gruelling, three-hour mara­thon by the scores of 21-12, 16-21, 21-13.

The rallies were incredible, and both players seemed to be on the floor more than they were standing up.
Bicycle riding is great conditioning... but 2,000 miles?

They both shot well, and were very aggressive. Another highlight of the match was the see-through shorts Jerry wore. They revealed a ragged pair of Fruit of the Loom briefs.

After splitting the first two games, the third game was a carbon copy of Jerry's win over Davey in Memphis. Close all the way, Davey made four bad errors at the end of the match to give Jerry the victory.

Davey was very upset when the match was over. He said, "I won't play pro again unless I've got linesmen on the serve and skips. I was screened out on some serves, and I couldn't tell if the ball skipped or not. I can't blame anyone but myself. I made some stupid errors in game three, and I didn't play his backhand enough. I've got to get nastier in this game."

When Charlie Brumfield heard this, he offered to sell him five reels of his old matches for $1,000. Charlie said that Davey would be so nasty after viewing the films he would probably have to wear a long leash from then on.

As for Jerry, he said he used his same basic game plan, "I was going to serve hard, and shoot off the return. When he served, I just tried to be patient, until I got my shot."

Jerry, who weighs one hundred forty-five pounds soaking wet looked even thinner after the match. In fact, he has a summer job as a scarecrow on Steve Strandemo's parent's farm in Minnesota.

As for Strandemo, he soundly trounced Len Stream, 21-1, 21-6. Len was named "Down Stream" after the match.

Strandemo said, I wanted to get in and get out. It's too damn hot to stay in there all day. I shot just great; but this tournament will be decided on conditioning."

As for Stream he asked me, "Gar, did you get the results of our match?" I nodded affirmatively. Stream said, "I've got one word to say." (This is a family magazine, and we therefore have decided not to print the word.)

Stream continued, "Steve made two errors the whole match, so we were even. That is, I made only two shots."

I also met Steve's parents for the first time. I rode to Steve's match with them, and Steve must have mentioned my name previously. When I told them who I was, they started hitting and kicking me, and they tried to push me out the door. (Just kidding! They're wonderful people.)

In another round of sixteen match, National Champion Bill Schmidtke defeated Tom Kutas, 21-9, 21-8. Many people were surprised to see Tom playing in the pro division. He had not played in a tournament in over eight months.

Tom said, "I just started playing about seven weeks ago. I only entered the pro division to see how much I needed to work on my game."

We're not saying how Tom felt about his performance, but I think he made an appointment that afternoon with an out of work psychiatrist who is now employed full time.

Actually, Tom was just rusty. In fact, he was so rusty that when he was taking a shower his skin kept turning a darker and darker brown. He will have to work hard to get his game back, but at twenty-three he should be able to.

As for Schmidtke, he was dubbed "THE GREAT PUMPKIN." This was due to his orange warmup suit. Bill actually looked quite dapper. This was a far cry from his childhood days. As you know, children wear their old clothes for Halloween. Bill was lucky. When he was a child, he didn't have to change his clothes.

As for the match itself, Bill played only as hard as he had too.

Steve Serot defeated Dave Charlson (known as DC), 21-18, 21-14, in another first round match.

As DC, himself, said, "I couldn't possibly have gone three games. I had no more T-shirts. My backhand is not good enough to compete with the top players yet, and I wasn't accustomed to the blistering pace and speed of Serot's shots." Still, Charlson gave a good account of himself.
Before the match, Serot was fumbling with his car keys. When asked, "What are you looking for?" He replied, "I'm looking for the key to victory."

As for Serot's comments on the match, his remarks were interesting in comparison to DC's. Serot said, "Charlson plays a hard, failing game. He was returning the ball with nearly the same pace that I was. He made a lot of good returns."

When asked why he seemed to be having trouble with his forehand, Serot explained, "I'm not having trouble. I'm making good contact, and I'm in good position. The stroke is different on the forehand, and I don't want to change the stroke."

Steve Keeley defeated Terry Zuckerman in a routine match. Keeley, who had bicycled all the way from San Diego to St. Louis, looked very sluggish. Perhaps he was even more tired from picking up a three hundred pound hitchhiker on the Grand Canyon, and taking him the rest of the way to St. Louis.

He had to be leg weary after a trip like that, and it really showed in his next match against McCoy.

In the final first round affair, Charlie Brumfield defeated Bill Dunn (the poor man's Brumfield), 21-7, 21-12.

Bill said afterwards, "It's frustrating playing Charlie, because our games are so similar. Naturally, he does everything a little better than I do. That's why I have to really be on to defeat him. Charlie is playing well, and should win the tournament."

Charlie said, "This is the hottest court I have ever played on. The tournament will be decided on conditioning (air and physical), and I should win easily.

"You have to be patient with a deader ball. I should have no problem as I'm ranked number one in all the top categories."

"I'm lucky. I've got the easiest quarter. I'll probably meet Strandemo in the finals. If he can breathe, Schmidtke has a chance."

Going into the quarterfinals, the Niederhoffer-Serot match was the one everyone was waiting for. How would Nieder do against the United States' Number Two?

Serot jumped off to a nine-three lead, and was given a technical. This was due to his screaming on the court, and his apparent disregard for warnings. He went to 14-7 by controlling the play and shooting.

As is his forte, Niederhoffer came back. He tied it up at 14-14. That was it. Serot went on to win, 21-15, 21-2, with an incredible display of shooting.

Niederhoffer was very disappointed. "I'm tired of all this screaming and bickering on the court. He ruined my concentration. Some of these players are very peculiar on the court."

Nieder said the above remarks, as he was tying his white shoe lace on his left white sneaker, and his blue shoe lace on his right blue sneaker.

Serot said slyly, "I knew my yelling upset him, but I was just trying to psyche myself up. I wanted to force him to drive the ball. I wanted to get my shot off the back wall."

"All of a sudden, everything started to roll out; even off the tip of my racquet. I rarely shot better."

Serot had some nice words about Niederhoffer. "His control is excellent, and he is tremendous in front of the short line. He is definitely in the top sixteen."

I wonder how Nieder feels about being in the top sixteen? After all, didn't he say he would win the whole thing?

Let's see now. I beat Nieder. Nieder beat Zeitman. Hmmmm!! Hmm!! Don't worry, Mike. I'm staying in the Seniors.

Craig McCoy really put it all together as he destroyed Steve Keeley, 21-16, 21-6. Keeley's only comment after the match was, "I was rotten." Not many will disagree.

However, McCoy was sensational. If he can ever put it all together, he will be unbeatable.

 McCoy said, "I talked to Brum and Starkman. They told me to break the spokes on Keeley's bike, so he wouldn't be able to ride back to San Diego. That would get him mad.

"Actually, I waited for my shot, and I was killing well. I also hit the ball harder, and I was hitting a good ceiling ball. I moved well, controlled the play, and I kept Keeley off balance. I was also serving well, and I didn't set him up."

In the Strandemo-Schmidtke match, it was a matter of Steve controlling the play throughout for a 21-13, 21-13 win. Steve said, "I felt good, but I'm always leery of Schmidtke when he is fresh and shooting. I passed a lot in

He's the Muhammed Ali of racquetball

the first game, knowing he'd be tired later. I passed up many shots to keep him running.

"I knew it would put stress on my legs. I took a lot of fluids, and I didn't lose any weight in the match."

Schmidtke, in losing his title, did pick up a new record. Usually, a player asks for a clothing change. In Bill's case, the referee asked Bill to change. There was no marked improvement.

Schmidtke said, "Strandemo played well, and he moved me. I knew I'd have trouble, and my legs were very tired."

Strandemo complimented Schmidtke by saying, "Bill is probably the best outplayed me. In game one, a true champion." He never gives up, and he is very poised in the second game.

In the final quarterfinal match, Charlie Brumfield defeated Jerry Hilecher by the scores of 21-16, 16-21, 21-3.

Jerry said, "I felt good. My adrenalin was really flowing, especially after the second game.

"In the first game, Charlie just outplayed me. In game two, I started making some shots. Charlie became more cautious. I was getting my setups, and I had my confidence. I played super, and I got some breaks.

"In the third, it was all over. Charlie just shot everything. Maybe I was tired from the Bledsoe match. I don't know, but Charlie was great. I don't see how anyone will beat him."

Charlie said, "It was a good win for me, but a pathetic effort. I was really proud of my play in the third game, though."

In an uncharacteristic remark, Charlie said, "Jerry played an incredible match against Bledsoe yesterday. Then, to play me next, it had to be tough."

In the semifinals, Charlie once again dominated Craig McCoy, as he has done in the past.

Charlie said, "After resting from the Hilecher match, I felt super. I made some poor shots, but I rolled out five-hundred balls."

"I moved super this afternoon. I was like a turtle this morning. I was using my 'scattergun flail,' to warm up for the finals. As of right now, I am the winner. If I play like I did this afternoon, I'll blow them out." As we know, "THE BRUM" did his thing.

As for the Strandemo-Serot match, we tried a different approach. We interviewed a person who would probably be the most unbiased, most impartial, and most realistic person to interview. His name is Rudy Serot. He is Steve's father.

Mr. Serot said, "Steve told me he worked out the following strategy. He hit many ceiling balls, and waited for his chance to shoot. His backhand down the line was tremendous.

"Steve's shooting and control were super. It put a lot of pressure on Strandemo. He kept his shots low and hard.

"Both games were carbon copies. Steve has been in a slump lately. (He's only been winning by scores of 21-5, 21-6, instead of 21-4, 21-3.) He's tried to work on different shots.

"His mental attitude is much better. It really has helped his game. It was a real clean match."

Strandemo said, "Mr. Serot said it all."

In the playoff for third, Strandemo didn't miss one shot against McCoy. Amazing? Not really. Strandemo won by default. This was due to a pulled muscle in McCoy's leg.

As for the tournament, it is getting to be a monotonous story. BRUMFIELD WINS AGAIN!! However, Charlie is like Muhammad Ali is to boxing. He's got the big mouth, but, oh, does he ever have the gifts and abilities of a champion. Racquetball needs him. Charlie is truly "THE GREATEST!"

PRO POST-MORTEM

Bill Thurman, conspicuous by his absence, could not play due to work commitments. However, he almost showed, when he heard that Myron was paying $1.00 for each match refereed.

Mike Zeitman's training methods must include night work. Although we roamed together, his bed was unslept in for two nights. Got locked in the club, Mike?

William Fay of Houston did a great job of dispensing Gator Aid and towels on the main glass court. Perhaps, he has finally found his niche.

At 14-2 Trey Sayes asked Wayne Bowes, "What the hell are you doing?"

He was winning the 1975
International Singles Championship

Wayne Bowes, a last minute entry from Lethbridge, Alberta, in Canada, showed the U.S. boys how the game should be played. He celebrated his twenty-fourth birthday six days early.

Wayne, who is also an excellent squash and tennis player, defeated Trey Sayes of Salt Lake City, 16-21, 21-3, 21-8, 21-3, in the finals of the open amateur championships.

With an entry of 110 players, the winner had to be in great shape and also had to play super racquetball. Mr. Bowes did both.

Wayne has a most unusual style. He will shoot many balls out of the air, or will try shots from any height. When he is hot, he is fabulous.

Trey Sayes was asked, "What happened after the first game." Trey said, and we quote, "I have no damn idea.

"In the first game I was moving the ball around. I kept him behind me, and I forced him to hit off the glass. I also had a lot of setups up front.

"In game two, I felt confident going in. Maybe, I was overconfident. He played well, but I still felt I had a good shot at winning in game three.

"In game three, I never got UNTRACKED. Bowes was hitting the most amazing shots I've ever seen. He was hitting reverse backhand pinches, and overhead backhands into the right corners."
Most used expression—"Boy, Did I underestimate him!

Sayes was so frustrated that at about 14-2 for Bowes, he asked, "Wayne, what the hell are you doing?" Wayne replied innocently with a mock expression of surprise on his face, "I don't know myself."

Trey continued, "It was like being swept away by a tidal wave without your bathing suit on. He caught me off guard. It was the most incredible one game exhibition of racquetball I have ever seen."

Trey had an interesting concluding remark, "Even though I lost the last two games, 21-8, 21-3, the scores really don't indicate how decisively I was beaten?" Don't worry, Trey. They indicate! They indicate!

Trey really was a good sport about losing the last two games so badly.

As for the blonde-haired, mustachioed Bowes, he claimed that squash has really helped his game. This could start a whole new vegetarian fad with racquetball players. After all, look at what spinach did for Popeye.

Wayne's win was no fluke. Last year he reached the quarters in the open, besting McCoy, and giving Keeley a good match in the quarters.

Wayne remarked, "In the first game I was ahead, 16-12, when my strings broke. My other racquet had a different size grip. I lost my concentration, and Trey swept me by to win, 21-16.

"In games two and three, I kept telling myself to get hot. I wanted to make as few errors as possible. I just thought racquetball, and wanted to play the percentages. I hit a lot of drop shots, and I didn't kill the ball that hard. I have my own style of play. I'll also streak on a lot of points. (No wonder so many girls were watching.)"

"Squash really helps. I can really keep the balls down the walls. It was a great win for me."

When asked if he'll play on the pro tour, Wayne, who still attends college (some say he is becoming a professional student) replied, "I would have to have a sponsor. Lethbridge is a long way from the States."

Bowes defeated third seeded Jay Jones, 21-16, 20-21, 21-13, in a great semifinals. Jones, who is a Hollywood stunt man, and who has appeared in Star Trek and Bonanza, had this to say, "The first two games were nip and tuck. He just outplayed me in the third."

Jones had some interesting comments. He said, "Racquetball helps me in my profession. It's great for hand-eye co-ordination, and helps me move better." (Jay said this, as he was doing a headstand on a Seamco 558.)

"I try to tell other stuntmen to play. Racquetball also greatly helps me stay in fantastic shape." If you have ever seen the physique on Jay Jones, you will know how serious he is.

Jay continued, "I also enjoy racquetball because there are so many fine gentlemen playing this game."

Jay doesn't like the pro division because he thinks there is too much stress on winning at all costs. In the other semifinals, Trey Sayes was defeating Steve Dunn by the scores of 21-20, 21-13.

"Squash really helps. I can really keep the balls down the walls. It was a great win for me."

Trey's third place win was no fluke. Last year he reached the quarters in the Open, defeating Pete Wright, 21-9, 21-12. Wayne played his same steady game mixed in with his unusual repertoire of shots. He kept Pete behind him all of the time.

In the Open amateur, there were a number of upsets, the top one being Dunn's win over top seeded Strom.

Other fine wins were Bowes' 21-14, 21-10 win over second seed John Hennen, 21-14, 21-10; Paul Lazure's 17-21, 21-15, 21-10 win over sixth seeded Ron (Prince Valiant) Strom, in the tourney's top upset. This occurred in the quarterfinals by the scores of 21-12, 21-13.

Ron, who did extremely well on the pro tour, was heavily favored to win, but for some reason he did not play very well. Unfortunately for Ron, Steve Dunn was super.

Steve said, "I was surprised at the errors Ron was making. I gave him a lot of slow serves to his backhand, and I was hitting ceiling balls deep to his backhand. I would then get my shot.

"I was also rolling everything out. (Strom was heard to remark on one point, "I should have played pro. It's easier.")

Strom's other remark was "I got beaten, and I got beaten badly."

Jay Jones defeated Jim (Minnie Hippie) Santino by the scores of 19-21, 21-12, 21-13. Santino, who stands five foot two and weighs about 115 pounds, looks as if he couldn't squeeze a marshmallow. He also looks like the perpetual underdog.

Steve Keelie once said, "Jim's a great guy, but he missed the caboose that carried the gravy train of life."

But, Jim Santino is a fine racquetball player.

Jay Jones said, "Boy, did I ever underestimate him. I was amazed by his quickness. He was set. I wasn't. He is an excellent player, and hits the ball surprisingly hard.

"I wanted to pace myself, and I was lucky to win. In the last two games, I served as hard as I could. It kept him off balance. He is really tough, and I almost learned a valuable, but regretful lesson."

In another quarterfinals, Trey Sayes defeated Steve Chase, 21-13, 17-21, 21-15. Chase had pulled a big upset in the round of sixteen by defeating fourth seed Randy Stafford, 21-14, 21-17.

As Trey said, "There are more good players than ever. My conditioning just wore Steve down in the third. He is strong and moves well."

In the final quarterfinals, Wayne Bowes easily defeated Pete Wright, 21-9, 21-12. Wayne played his same steady game mixed in with his unusual repertoire of shots. He kept Pete behind him all of the time.

In the Open amateur, there were a number of upsets, the top one being Dunn's win over top seeded Strom.

Other fine wins were Bowes' 21-14, 21-10 win over second seed John Hennen, 21-14, 21-10; Paul Lazure's 17-21, 21-15, 21-10 win over sixth
Each has his own reason for entering internationals

seeded Bob Lund, and Craig Guinter's wins over Mark Hegg and Roland Treat.

We asked some of the players why they decided to play open amateur instead of pro. Here are some replies:

- "I thought Garfinkel would play open, and I wanted to be assured of at least one win."
- "I didn't want to beat Brumfield, because I hate to see a grown man cry."
- "I've seen Serot hit the ball, and I've got a wife, two kids, and a pet pirhana to support. I had to think of them."
- "I'm a rich man. Who needs the money?"
- "They are too tough. I wanted to see how I could do against the best amateurs."
- "I thought I had a good chance."
- "The pros are too tough."
- "I've seen Serot hit the ball, and I've got a wife, two kids, and a pet pirhana to support."
- "I'm a rich man. Who needs the money?"
- "I want to keep him behind you. He hits well on the move, and is deadly when running. My soft shots show to poor advantage against Myron. He has a natural ability to anticipate, and this makes him very hard to play."
- "I have the greatest admiration for Myron. There's no one I'd rather beat; or lose to. I thought I had him at 14-9 in the second game. He's a great competitor."
- "I didn't want to beat Brumfield, because I hate to see a grown man cry."
- "I thought I had him; but he just played better."

The rumors were flying as usual. "He's got a pulled muscle." "His knee is in bad shape."
- "He hasn't played in three weeks..."

But,
He's Number One
In the Senior Singles,

Who are we talking about? Dr. Bud Muehleisen, of course!

Every year, it is the same story. Dr. Bud is hurting, or he hasn't played. Yet, he still does one thing well. He wins!

When asked what type of competitor Dr. Bud is, Charlie Brumfield replied, "If I have to meet Dr. Bud in a tournament, I won't have my teeth fixed by him for at least a month before the tournament."

In the finals Dr. Bud defeated Myron Roderick in a great match by the scores of 21-17, 20-21, 21-12. Dr. Bud was ahead, 14-9, in the second game, but Myron came back to win, 21-20. In game three, Myron was ahead, 11-7, when he got leg cramps. Although the match was still very close at that time, Myron really couldn't maneuver. Not to take anything away from Dr. Bud though, he is awfully tough.

Dr. Bud said, "I felt stronger each match. I didn't want the Garfinkel semis to go three games. (Gar sure did.) Over the years you can count the number of three game matches I've lost on one hand."

"Racquetball actually gets boring sometimes, but it is like a game of chess. You wait for your opponent to make a mistake, then you make your move."

"As far as Myron is concerned, you..."

Len Marks presents awards to finalists Muehleisen, left, and Roderick.
and I made two bad errors. I keep a surprise quarterfinalist named Richard Bishop, 21-9, 21-14. Dick had pulled him when it was 17-17 in their third game at 4 p.m. It consisted of one doughnut.

In the quarters, Dr. Bud defeated a surprise quarterfinalist named Richard Bishop, 21-9, 21-14. Dick had pulled two major upsets. One was over Ken Porco, who had a late breakfast in their third game at 4 p.m. It consisted of one doughnut.

The other was against Jim Trent in three games. In fact, the players were calling him “Arch Bishop,” after his two great wins. Trent, who is in tremendous shape, is very quick, and keeps coming at you.

“Against Dr. Bud, it was a different story,” Bishop said. “I’ve never played against anyone with such an array of shots, different speeds on the ball, and such an intelligent game plan. I didn’t know where he was going to hit the ball. He is a tremendous player.”

In another quarterfinal match, Myron Roderick defeated Ron Starkman, 21-12, 16-21, 21-1. Myron said, “I played the ceiling, until I got my shot. I was shooting from deep, and I moved the ball well.

“In the second game, I was missing. I didn’t change, and Starkman got hot. In game three, he was tired, I kept running him, and kept him moving.”

Ron, who ranks number two on the all time hair styles list, was disappointed, “I thought I had him when it was 17-17 in the third. He just made some good shots, and I made two bad errors. I keep getting closer and closer though.”

Dr. King, who is the Mid Atlantic Regional Champion, and Virginia State Champion, played extremely well.

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Ron, who ranks number two on the all time hair styles list, was disappointed, “I might have won, but I ran out of gas.” (Was it high-octane or regular?) This was my fourth straight tough match. I’ll have to get in better shape.”

In the Mark Wayne-Charlie Garfinkel match, we had 6’ 6” Big Bird versus 6’ 4” Mark “Superman” Wayne. Between the Big Bird’s wings, and Superman’s cape, there was no room to move.

Wayne said, “I was ahead, 16-6, in the first game, when the Big Bird’s feathers stuck in me. I was moving well, and forcing Gar into errors. He switched to a slow serve, and that changed the match around.”

Gar said, “Mark was crushing the ball. I had to do something. Mark’s resemblance to Superman is amazing. I knew he was mad, because the telephone booth was in use and he couldn’t change his clothes. At 17-20 in the first game they called two avoidables on his cape.

“Mark couldn’t figure out why he felt so weak in the second game. I didn’t want to tell him, but I had a piece of kryptonite hidden under my left wing.” Gar won, 21-20, 21-11.

In the final quarterfinal match, Bill King defeated Bruce Russell, 21-16, 21-10. King said, “Russell likes to cut off shots. I kept him deep in the backhand court, and Z-balled a lot. I shot well, and he got tired. I played well, and I tried for consistency.”

The third place playoff between Gar and King had more to it than meets the eye. King wasn’t done until almost 10 p.m. the night before against Roderick. He was exhausted and starved after the match.

Bill and his wife, John Moshides, and Gar left the Ramada Inn at 11 p.m. With Gar’s directions, they drove for almost two hours all over St. Louis looking for a place to eat.

As Bill drove, Gar naturally told all his old stories. Bill’s wife pleaded with Bill to throw Gar out. He was tempted.

However, they finally arrived at an open restaurant after going to at least ten closed ones. When they were ready to order, Gar demanded a “Rubber band sandwich, and make it snappy.”

That did it. Bill drove back to the hotel. At 2 a.m. he staggered into bed. They had to play at the club at ten the next morning.

King jumped off to an 11-2 lead. Gar started to talk, and King said, “I’ll give you a default.”

Suffice to say, every time Gar started to talk, King would lose two quick points. Gar had a “talkaway” against a very tired King at 21-15, 21-10.

In an earlier round, Jerry Davis had a fine win over tenth-seeded Pat Colombo by the scores of 21-16, 21-18.

In closing, we have to congratulate Dr. Bud Muehlisen again on his great play, and want to apologize to the good doctor. We have spread the rumor he only practices dentistry an hour a day. We are sorry to mislead you. It is actually only forty-five minutes a day.
It was Halverson's tournament but this is Grape's proverb:

"I wish him the success that I deserve . . ."

Halverson Masters
the Masters

"I will fly higher than any man has ever flown." No, Charles Lindbergh did not say that. It is rumored that it was said by Mark "Superman" Wayne. "I am the greatest." No, it was not Muhammad Ali. It is rumored that it was said by Charlie Brumfield. The above proverbs have not been validated. However, "Fear none; but respect all," was said officially by John Halverson. John won the Masters Singles Championship by defeating Bob Troyer, 21-8, 21-16, in the finals.

Halverson, a guidance counselor, specializes in the usage of many proverbs.

He also specializes in being in excellent physical condition, shooting extremely well, and being mentally alert while playing.

After the finals against Troyer, John said, "I cut off his serve. My shooting and passing game were really on. I went to the ceiling until I got a break. Then, I would shoot it."

"I also tried to shoot early off the return of serve. I tried to prepare for all possible back wall shots. I missed some easy shots, but so did he.

"I play as much as I can, but during the summer I just play for pleasure."

As for the defending champion, Dr. William Sellars, he had to default his second round match. However, he barely, and I do mean barely, got by his first round opponent.

Dr. Sellars defeated Stan Altman of Cleveland by the scores of 21-16, 21-20. Stan said, "I play a real soft game. Sellars was surprised, and not used to it. He also seemed surprised at my stamina. I can go. I've been an athlete all of my life. I've always loved all sports, and was all-city in both basketball and baseball.

"This was my first Nationals, and I haven't seen all of the top players. I don't really know if I'll play in future tourneys. I also have commitments in other areas." (Stan is manager of one of the top softball teams in the country.)

Altman, who has a remarkable touch up front, should have stayed in the tourney. If Dr. Sellars knew beforehand that he couldn't continue on a number of players feel he should have defaulted.

In the quarterfinals, Bob Troyer defeated Gene Grapes, 21-20, 21-13.

Bob said, "At 20-20 in the first game, I killed a shot in the left hand corner. I was lucky to win.

"In the second game, I knew Gene's arm was bothering him a lot. I tried to hit everything to his forehand. I really hated to win like that. (Why was Bob smiling throughout our interview?) I did play well though, and Gene is a real gentleman."

As for Gene, he said, "I'm really going to have to do something. My arm is to the point that it isn't fun to play anymore. Troyer did play well. I wish him the success that I deserve in the rest of the tournament."

In another quarterfinal, an old, familiar face, Jerry Lapierre, defeated Schmitty Schippers by the scores of 21-15, 21-16. Jerry, who used to be the IRA's roving ambassador, has a deceptively good forehand, and a fine backhand.

When Jerry traveled around to different clubs and centers, he would report such pertinent information as: Twenty-three divorcees use the Houston YMCA Courts on any given Friday. Or he would report that more bakery drivers play racquetball than funeral directors in Horseheads, New York. This, and other information proved invaluable to us.

As for the match, Jerry said, "I tried to keep the ball on his backhand throughout the match. His forehand was tough, and I tried to keep him off balance. I shot his return of serve a lot, and played the ceiling only when I had to."

Schmitty, one of racquetball's finest gentlemen, seemed to have trouble with Lapierre's unorthodox style.

In another quarterfinals, Richard Walker defeated Glenn Turpin, 21-14, and was ahead, 18-4, when cramps forced Turpin to default.

Walker realized that this opponent was hurting, and was very gracious in winning. Walker said, "I overpowered him, I outshot him, I outran him, and..."
If this keeps up we may have to ban him from the game

I shot the eyes out of the ball. Otherwise, the match was a tossup. He also got tired, and then he got cramps. After the cramps, it was all over. He had to default.

"I have to play Halverson next, and, if I shoot, I'll win. Otherwise, I'm in big trouble."

Halverson defeated Pat Whitehill, 21-9, 21-17, in the other quarters. When I asked Halverson what his strategy was for the match, he replied, "To score the last point." (That's a good strategy!)

John continued, "I hadn't played him before. I played to the ceiling, until I got my shot. Then I just prayed. His skip shots were working to my advantage. Whatever shot I had was the one I was going to shoot.

I'm not trying anything fancy. I just want to win."

Walker lost to Halverson, 21-8, 21-16, in the semifinals. Walker said, "I've got hope for next year, at least. Halverson actually got a little tired in the second game. He is so marvelously conditioned; that he keeps you always on the run. He's a good player, but I'm going to run, train and run some more."

Halverson, when asked how he stays in such top shape, said, "I play 3-4 times a week before a tournament. If there isn't a tourney, I will play two times a week."

John was asked what other sports he had excelled in. He replied, "I was adequate in all sports: gymnastics, track, and the javelin."

In the other semifinals, Bob Troyer was defeating Jerry Lapierre, 21-11, 21-16, in two well played games.

In the playoff for third, the former IRA roving ambassador seemed to be thinking of Friday nights in Houston's YMCA, and dropped two straight to Walker, 21-8 and 21-5.

Some of our younger players should watch the players in the Masters. They would get some wonderful pointers.

We asked John to give us one more of his wonderful proverbs. He replied, "Expectations precedes failure."

John is a tremendous champion, and a credit to racquetball. However, he does have some characteristics other champions do not have. They are:

- 1. He is humble.
- 2. He does not protest calls.
- 3. He is fair at all times.
- 4. He congratulates his opponent on a good shot.

If this keeps up, we may have to ban him from the game.

A Big Win for Jenny and Jannell . . .

They couldn't have been happier; they were tremendous!

In every sport, there are certain things that are good for the game. Some of the things that have been suggested to help racquetball are as follows:

- 1. Getting rid of this writer.
- 2. Buying platform shoes for the IRA Executive Director in order that he can see eye to eye with his Board of Directors.
- 3. Having a portable dentist's chair on the tour, so that Dr. Bud can stay in shape for his booming dental practice.

Women's Doubles

continued on next page

Probably, one of the best things to happen in any sport, is to have new faces as our National Champions. This is precisely what happened in the finals of the Women's Doubles.

There are two people who are not overly happy about the results; namely Peggy Steding and Jan Pasternak. However, it is great for the game.
Two girls from Texas now know how they felt at the Alamo

Not only were Peggy and Jan shocked, but the two girls from Texas, now know what happened to the Alamo.

As for Jannell Marriott, and Jenny Harding, our new National Champs, they couldn't have been happier. They were tremendous!!

Jannell, a recent Utah State graduate, and Jenny, a dental hygienist, from Portland, Oregon, "pulled" the entire tourney's biggest upset.

They met in the Nationals last year. As Jannell said, "We both like each other's style. Also, Jenny is left handed, and I'm right handed. When I asked her to play, she readily agreed."

Even though the girls hadn't played doubles together before this tournament, they played as if they were Siamese twins. That's how closely knit they were as a team. Seeded number two coming into the tournament, no one gave them much of a chance. However, after their convincing 21-4, 21-5 semifinal win over Wright-Zelson, people were starting to take notice.

After their first game of 21-16 over Steding-Pasternak, Jannell said, "I couldn't believe it. We both played well. Jenny's ceiling balls were fantastic. She was driving a lot, and I was shooting well. It seemed I was getting a lot of shots." (Unfortunately, when this writer plays doubles, he receives all of the shots. You know the old adage: "Always play the weaker player.")

Jenny and Jannell had an excellent game plan. They would sometimes shoot when they had the shot, or they would drive it. It really kept Peggy and Jan off balance.

Jannell continued, "It was hard to believe that we had won the first game, 21-16. We felt that we could now win in two straight."

In game two, Peggy got hot. She literally took over the game. As Jannell said, "They had us 13-1, and Peggy was controlling the match. It was just amazing to see her shoot. Peggy was shooting so well, that she would have made Annie Oakley look like a novice. All of a sudden, we got hot again. We came back to 18-20, but we couldn't quite pull it out. They won, 21-18.

As Game Three started, we changed our game plan. Instead of trying to keep the ball away from Peggy, we played good percentage racquetball. Peggy was still taking everything, but we were really making her run.

Jannell wasn't too pleased with Peggy taking all the shots now. Especially, when we were losing. In fact, Peggy was taking so many shots, that Jan had time to read the latest Racquetball Magazine completely through twice.

Jenny said, "It is a tremendous win for Jannell and me. I feel much better than I did in the singles. We played just super in doubles. It is an incredible feeling to win over these two fine players."

Jannell repeated her earlier remarks. "I still can't believe it. We're National Champions." The girls were very modest in their remarks. They still seemed in a state of shock.

Summing it up, Peggy and Jan played defensive racquetball. They were tight and nervous. Jannell and Jenny were ready, and they played tremendously.

One of the top upsets of the doubles, was the win of Nancey Zelson-Shannon Wright over third seeded Camille McCarthy-Jean Sauser by the scores of 12-21, 21-19, 21-10.

In the playoff for third, Bette Weed-Ruth Knudsen defeated Zelson-Wright by the scores of 21-14, 21-8.
"All the girls are getting better"

Steding—May 25, 1975

"I was ahead, 18-13, until the roof—also known as Peggy Steding—fell in . . . ."

Instructional movies on racquetball that were to have been delivered to the West Port Courts. However the person who was delivering them accidentally slipped into some muddy water outside of the club. The films fell into the water and were ruined.

When Myron Roderick was asked where the films were, he didn’t want to go into detail. He just said, "We can’t show the films on Peggy anymore. They’re too dirty."

Hence, Peggy’s new nickname was almost “Super Sex.”

As for the tournament itself, Peggy won again for the third straight year. But it wasn’t easy. She defeated nineteen year old Shannon Wright in the finals by the scores of 21-11, 17-21, 21-9.

Shannon had provided the two major upsets of the tournament by defeating number three ranked Jenny Harding in the quarters, 21-15, 21-5, and number two ranked Jan Pasternak in the semis, 21-20, 21-8.

Shannon said before her match with Peggy, “My husband, Pete, has shown me the “Wright” way to improve.

“The main change in my game is my attitude. I’ve had two super wins so far because I’m much more patient, and much stronger. I realize that everyone’s tough, and I have to play hard and concentrate. I’m hitting great ceiling shots, and I’m killing well. I’ve also been taking a lot of vitamins.”

Pete, her husband, said, “Shannon’s form is exactly like mine. (A statement which somehow doesn’t ring quite true.) She also runs better. Shannon hits perfectly. She doesn’t rush her shots. She’s playing super. Shannon will play her regular game. Peggy will have to win it on her own.”

A very confident Shannon concluded, “She’ll have to play especially well to beat me.”

Peggy did play well, at times. She even had an extra Supergirl costume in her locker.

Peggy remarked, “I was down 9-3 in the first game, then I started shooting and won, 21-11. In the second game, she was killing everything. I was down 15-5—I adjusted my Supergirl cape and started shooting again, but couldn’t quite win. Shannon won by 21-17. In game three, I played well and completely dominated to win, 21-9.”

Peggy’s comments are true. However, Shannon seemed to get nervous in each game, and would stop shooting. She is without doubt the strongest girl in the sport, and will be a very serious title threat from now on.

So will be Jannell Marriott. Jannell, a tall twenty-two year old willowy blonde from Utah was leading Peggy, 18-13, in the third game in the semifinals.

“I couldn’t believe it myself, Jannell said. Everything I hit was just rolling out. I could tell what Peggy was going to do, and I put the ball away. I was serving great. All of the serves went to the backhand. Before I knew it, I had defeated the National Champion, 21-8.

“In the second game I was so excited I couldn’t do anything. Peggy was now shooting, and I was constantly out of position. The game was gone at 21-9.

“In the third game, I started moving again, and I was getting my shots. I was ahead, 18-13, when the roof fell in. Peggy hit some great serves, and killed the returns. Before I knew it, it was all over.”

Peggy was very modest. She said, “These girls are lucky. I can blow them out if I want to. I keep it close, so it doesn’t get boring.” NO! NO!

Women’s Singles
please turn the page

Please believe me. Peggy really said, “All the girls are getting better and better. They’re inspired, and they want to beat me. They have nothing to lose. I’ve got all the pressure.

“In my match with Jannell, she just put everything away in the first game. In game two it was reversed. I was lucky in the third game to get some good serves and shots to win the match. Jannell is a fine player.”

In the other semis, Shannon Wright defeated Jan Pasternak, 21-20, 21-6. Shannon was passing beautifully. She went in shooting. Shannon felt that, “After I won the first game, 21-20, Jan just gave up.” Jan was not available for comment.

Remember the name Shannon Wright. She could be our next champion.

Jan Pasternak played well in the quarters. After defeating Bev Franks, 21-18, 21-12, she said, “I’m playing well, and I’ve got my confidence. Peggy’s confidence is less, and she’s not playing as well.” Unfortunately, Jan never got to the finals.

Shannon Wright

As the Women’s Singles started, a rumor was circulating that Peggy Steding’s nickname had been changed from Super Tex, to Super Sex.

It seems Peggy had made four in-

JULY-AUGUST 1975
Bette Weed set her own record . . . of sorts

Meanwhile, Shannon Wright was pulling her first big upset by overpowering petite Jenning Harding, 21-15, 21-5. Jenny may not be Number One in Women's racquetball but she surely would win the Miss Racquetball Beauty Crown.

Women's Singles

Jenny just did not play well, and she had no answer to Shannon’s power and explosiveness.

Peggy Steding defeated Ruth Knudsen, 21-7, 21-9. “My cape's in good shape, and I'm shooting and moving well. I'll just keep playing my game throughout the tourney.”

In the final quarterfinal match, Jan Marriott defeated Betty Johnson by the scores of 21-16, 21-10. Jan said, “I had no particular game plan. I was just patient, and took my shot when I had it.”

Bette Weed also set a record of sorts. She won her third National Women's Consolation Championship.

In the battle for third, Jan Pasternak defeated Jan Marriott by the scores of 21-14, 21-19.

Summing up the women's singles, Peggy Steding is still National Champion. Proof that it was tough for her, is the fact that four hairs were reported out of place.

Shannon Wright is confident she will win it all next year. Many other people think so too.

Jan Pasternak will have to go on a conditioning program to get back to the top, but she can.

Jannell Marriott will be really tough when she gets a few more tournaments behind her.

Jan Harding just had a bad tournament. She'll be contending again next year.

Jan Campbell, who could not attend due to an injury, will also be tough.

In closing, will Peggy win again in 1976? We'll know for sure next year at this time. We do hope that Peggy does not get involved with any more dirty films.

Probably the smartest players of any division . . .

None Better than Vetter

When the term “Golden Masters” is mentioned, you may think of silver haired old men, slightly pot bellied, semi-retired, and watching television for their only exercise.

DON'T YOU BELIEVE IT!!!!!!

These men are in incredible shape. Their weight in most cases is excellent, and they are probably the smartest players of any age division.

As for the game of racquetball, these men move around the court like men ten to fifteen years younger, shoot the eyes out of the ball, and have a tremendous desire to win. In fact, some have to bring their birth certificates to prove they are indeed fifty-five years old.

As for the tourney itself, the motto that rang true was “None Better than Fred Vetter.”

Fred, a remarkably conditioned fifty-six year old, proved to be the class of the tourney, in an unbelievably close field. In an unforgettable finals, Fred defeated Calvin Murphy of San Diego, 21-18, 21-17, in the finals.

As Murphy himself said, “I was ahead, 18-13, in the first game, then Fred came back. He was hitting great ceiling balls, until he got a shot on his forehand. When he got the shot, he didn't miss. I wasn't tired. I tried to cross court more, instead of going to
Heart surgery in December; plays semifinals in May . . .

the ceiling. He shot the hell out of it!

"In the second game, Vetter went ahead, 14-7, and I tied him up at 15-15. He went ahead at 19-15. I came back to 17-19, and then he hit a great 'Z' ball at 20-17. He passed me to win, 21-17."

As for Vetter, he felt that, "My conditioning really paid off. I have had some really close matches. I play four times a week for an hour a day. I also do vigorous exercises for twenty minutes every day, and try to do some running. Being in top shape, and being able to shoot my forehand as well as I did, really paid off."

Believe it or not, less than a year ago, the doctors felt that Fred had suffered a heart attack. After resting for months, he was checked again, and was given the okay to play. You can see how well he has progressed.

"Heart of My Heart" is his favorite song, and he isn't too "vein", to tell you all about it.

Fred pulled the top upset of the entire tournament by defeating top seeded and defending champion Ike.

to get to the courts quickly, and yes, you guessed it, Bill King drove us. Jack was as sure he knew how to get to the club, as I was. Under Jack's and my guidance, King only had to drive an hour and a half to get to the club that was only five minutes away.

As for the match, Bowling said, "Murphy's ceiling balls and my errors hurt. At 15-15 the third, it was anyone's guess as to who would win it."

Murphy said, "I just forgot about the second game. I just decided to go to the ceiling, until I got my shot. Fortunately, he missed some, and I made some at the end."

As for Bowling, Murphy said, "I tried to 'spare' myself, and wanted to keep my shots down the 'alleys'. I didn't want to 'strike' my ceiling balls too hard, as I didn't want to be 'pinned' in deep court."

As for Bowling, he was asked if he was kidded a lot about his last name. He said, "Look, I'm proud of my name. Outside of racquetball, I think bowling is a great game. It gets the kids off the streets, and into the 'alleys'."

In the other quarters, Ben Wirkus barely edged Bill Kennedy by the scores of 19-21, 21-15, 21-19. Kennedy, a former fine handball player, played remarkably well.

Mr. Wirkus was almost more proud of his sons than he was of his fine own play. He said, "To me, Joe, and Jim were all Wisconsin State Champions in one category or another. I taught them all. I tried to show them that winning was important, but I really stressed good sportsmanship."

It shows in all of the Wirkus's games.

In the final quarterfinal match, Ray Crowley defeated a former fine handball player named Larry Lederman; by the scores of 21-6, 21-5. Larry was also a former IRA director.

We have saved talking about Ray Crowley in detail until now. He lost to Fred Vetter, 21-20, 7-21, 21-12, in the semifinals.

The amazing part is that he is able to walk, let alone play. Let Ray tell you about it.

"I'm fifty-nine years old. I had open heart surgery December 13. I was walking on the third day. I had no attack beforehand, just pressure on my heart."

"I went in to find out and they said my main artery was completely blocked. The other two were ninety-five per cent blocked.

"I would have been dead fifteen years ago if I hadn't exercised. If you are over forty, you should take an electrocardiogram after exercising on a treadmill. It is the only way to check yourself."

"I feel great, and I owe so much to racquetball."

Vetter said, "I knew Ray was in tremendous shape, so I was geared for a tough match. As far as the second game, it was over before I could get going. In the third, I started putting the setups away. That was the difference."

In the other semis, Cal Murphy defeated Ben Wirkus, 21-10, 21-19. Wirkus observed, "He was like a tree trunk in the middle, and I just couldn't cut him down to size."

Murphy said, "I'm playing better because I'm in much better shape than last year. I've got bad knees, but I still play five to six times a week."

In the battle for third place, Ray Crowley defeated Ben Wirkus by the incredible scores of 21-19, 12-21, 21-20.

As you can see, there were many close matches. This division plays top notch and exciting racquetball. Most of all, they are enjoying themselves.

Golden Masters

Gurner in the quarterfinals. The scores were 10-21, 21-17, 21-3.

Ike said, "It was like playing myself. Watching Fred shoot his forehand, was like looking in the mirror. He just outshot me, and he outplayed me. I've got no excuses," he commented, taking a stronger grip on his crutch.

Fred said, "I broke my racquet in the first game. I didn't have a good touch with it. In the second game, I was coming around on my kill shots. I barely eked it out at 21-17.

"In the third game, I got hot, and ran eight points right off. I think Ike got tired, and just ran out of gas."

The second big upset also occurred in the quarters, when second seeded Jack Bowling, aged sixty, lost to Calvin Murphy in three close games by the scores of 21-14, 7-21, 21-15.

(I must be a jinx. Jack is from Buffalo, and is one of the finest gentlemen in the game. He also has been an immense help to me. He had
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An international champion at seventeen

Is it possible for a National Champion to begin playing at age eight, to semi-retire at age ten, and then win a national championship at age seventeen?

This is what Marty Hogan, our new National Junior Champion has done. Marty has a great future ahead of him.

He defeated Steve Trent in the finals by the scores of 21-16, 21-14. Steve, a recently married eighteen-year-old, was in the doghouse at home. It seems that on his recent honeymoon, his wife asked Steve if he'd like a nightcap. Steve, being a little naive, remarked, "Now, why in the world do I need to wear a hat."

As for Marty, his temperament is much better. He is mellowing all the time. He breaks only three racquets a match, instead of four. His impish look on and off the court will always be with him, but his court manners are one hundred percent improved. He may move up from number thirteen to number twelve on the all time sportsmanship list.

In his final against Steve Trent, Marty played well, but he did have some concentration lapses. Trent's backhand was unbelievable. He was consistently rolling them out.

After the match Marty said, "I've been lucky to have been on the professional tour. I didn't try to murder anyone in this tournament. I'm far superior to these kids due to my experience and background. (That's what we like—modesty.)"

JULY-AUGUST 1975

Junior Singles
continued on page 57

"I've gained ten pounds in the past five months. I've grown a couple of more inches, too. (Height, of course.) Physically I'm much stronger." Marty said this, as he was eating his Captain Marvin strength capsules.

"I do one hundred pushups every day. I do them in twenty sets of five. I also need incentive. For instance, I'll do fifty pushups, if I'm offered a milk-
"Let him up, Myron, his dues are paid!"

“But if you are one of the five or six who haven’t renewed.... Wow!"

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RACQUETBALL
Don't ask him what 150 pushups will do . . .

shake. One hundred pushups for three milkshakes.”

I then asked Marty what he gets for a series of one hundred fifty pushups. He replied, “Back ache, lower leg pain, etc., etc.”

When asked about his game, Marty replied, “People think I've been playing for nine years. I started playing at eight years old, and quit at ten.” (Rumor has it, that his playing time conflicted with Howdy Doody on TV.) “I started playing at fifteen again, when I saw great players like Serot, Hilecher, and Wong in action at the St. Louis JCCA.

“As I said before, my exposure to the top players has naturally helped. I feel my back wall game is as good as any. I pass a lot, and I'm shooting as well as ever. My hard three wall Z serve helps me, too.”

Marty is ranked number two of the players with the best potential. If he keeps his new mental approach, he'll go far in this game.

In the quarterfinals, Marty defeated Bryan Swartz by the scores of 21-11, 21-10. Bryan had defeated eighth seeded Steve Kulick in the round of sixteen by the scores of 19-21, 21-20, 21-15 in a mild upset. Bryan has a well rounded game, but Marty was just too strong for him.

Bob Adam, Jr., defeated Mike Fatolitas in a well-played match by the scores of 21-19, 21-11. Bob, who thanks his dad for his success, barely eked out a close win over Mike in the first, but came on strong in the second.

Ben Koltun defeated Hank Marcus, 21-8, 21-14. Ben relied on his shooting game mixed with a great deal of patience. Ben had upset sixth seeded Pete Tashie in an earlier round by the scores of 21-2, 21-20.

In the final quarterfinal match, Steve Trent defeated John Moshides, 21-14, 21-19, after being down, 19-16, in the second. Johnny had defeated seventh seeded David Fleetwood, 21-17, 21-18, in earlier action.

Johnny has nice sidewall kill shots, and a wonderful court temperament. He needs more experience, and he could do really well.

Johnny is from Niagara Falls, and roomed with Mike Zeitman and me. In fact, it seemed everyone roomed with us. The room was in my name, but John roomed with me, as did Mike, Mike's father, and a guest that will remain anonymous.

In the semifinals, Marty Hogan defeated Bob Adam, Jr., by the scores of 21-8, 21-3. Bob had the following to say, “Marty just shoots better than all of us. When he gets the shot, he puts the ball away. He also has a wide variety of shots, and gets everybody to play his game. If he does get in trouble, his added experience really helps.

“Losing to Marty won't deter me. I'll still play three-four times a week, and will listen to advice from my dad.”

In the other semifinals, Steve Trent defeated Ben Koltun by the scores of 13-21, 21-8, 21-15. It was a hard fought match. Steve has also been fortunate to play with a fine player at home in San Diego—Jim Trent.

Ben Koltun defeated Bob Adam, Jr. for third place by the scores of 21-11, 21-11.

**Junior Singles**

**continued from page 55**

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Len Marks was asked for his comments about managing the IRA tournament. As evidenced by the Mayor's proclamation on May 15 his work began early. And when the tournament results were lost in the mail for two weeks, Len provided a duplicate set, which means his work not only began early, but ended late. In the accompanying columns he talks about what went on in between.

By Leonard Marks

The Seventh International Racquetball Tournament is now history. Based on calls, comments and letters, it would have to be said that it was truly a great tournament. Perhaps, even, the greatest ever held. Although it is difficult to be objective, since I was so intimately involved, let's take a look at what makes an outstanding event possible. To my way of thinking there are four main ingredients.
“There are four ingredients for a successful tournament”

THE FIRST INGREDIENT would have to be players. In light of previous tournaments the very numbers are stunning. A total of 322 entrants in all classes; 46 entered in the women’s singles; 107 entered in the open class, and so on down the list of classes.

And what about these participants? They came from California, Florida, Washington, New England and across the borders. Whether Pro of junior, Golden masters or women—they were ladies and gentlemen first and players second.

They were kind, considerate and cooperative and their sportsmanship both on and off the court was outstanding. Their conduct was true evidence that racquetball is indeed a fraternity made up of some of the finest people you could want to meet. These people are the number one ingredient you must have to make an outstanding affair.

THE NEXT PREREQUISITE for success would have to be the facilities. While this was the fourth International tournament held here in St. Louis it was the first held outside of the JCAA. When we held the others in 1969, 1970 and 1973, we had, at our disposal, the enormous staffs connected with the “J.”

Such was not the case this time. However, the Westport Racquetball Club, with its outstanding people, headed by Ron Loepker, more than rose to the occasion. They made up, in hard work, what we lacked in numbers. They most graciously handled the innumerable phone calls and inquiries that go along with a tournament such as this. They did so without compensation, but with good humor, and we, of IRA, owe them our gratitude. True, locker space was in short supply, towels sometimes scarce, and viewing facilities sometimes strained by the enormous demand placed upon them.

However, these minor problems were more than offset by the eleven outstanding courts they made available to us. In addition, Bud Donnelly and his twin sons, Tim and Tom, along with a handful of our own people, we at the club long after play had ended for the day, cleaning up and doing the policing. When players arrived early each morning, the place was spotless and ready to go. You couldn’t ask for better cooperation.

But Westport tells only part of the facility story. We had four days and eleven courts with which to run our tournament—what’s to worry? Then came the bombshell from headquarters at Stillwater. “We need eighty outside hours to accommodate the unforeseen, extraordinary amount of entrants.”

Well, maybe we wouldn’t have needed those extra hours had we been willing to continue daily play into the wee small hours of the morning. We did not feel taking that course was in the best interests of the players. Accordingly, a scant three days before the scheduled start of the tournament, we began looking for an auxiliary facility.

Castle Oak, a truly beautiful country club-like layout came to our rescue. This facility has indoor-outdoor tennis courts, swimming pools, ice skating rink and six outstanding racquetball courts with five more under construction.

Manager Phil Schreiber and owner Steve Apated generously donated their courts for our use. This turned out to be a two way street as, from all reports, not only did our players enjoy their matches there, but Phil told me that his members really got turned on to racquetball when they saw some of the world’s best players perform.

Here, again, I must come back to these players. The seniors, who played their first round matches at Castle Oak, the women and masters, who played their second rounds and the consolation participants who played there on Saturday, were cooperative and uncomplaining.

Although they had to be away from the center of activities at Westport; although they had to adhere to rigid bus scheduling, and other inconveniences, they did so with good humor and helped us get through those first two trying days.

A THIRD INGREDIENT that goes into making a tournament is the degree of smoothness with which it is run. The scheduling, the maximum utilization of courts, referees, and the multitudinous little things that sometimes, we take for granted, must be accounted for. That it all comes off as well as it did must be attributable in no small measure, to Myron Roderick and his staff at Stillwater.

440 MATCHES

In the course of this four day event, we ran approximately four hundred and forty matches including consolations. The entire draw, scheduling and time assignments were laid out for us by the Stillwater office. That it all came off as well as it did, however, called for implementing their efforts with our own hardworking people. Marlowe Phillips for one.

Marlowe not only worked at the top echelon to put this tourney together but he personally floor-managed the entire operation at Castle Oak. He ran matches, scheduled players, got the refs, called in scores, and even found time to play. When he was all through that chore, he rushed back to Westport to help floor-manage the tournament there.

Dan Hilecher was another who helped put this tournament together. In addition he took his turn at the floor

“When it comes down to the bottom line the main ingredient is people”

JULY-AUGUST 1975 59
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RACQUETBALL
manager's desk in spite of the press of his other duties, duties which I shall come to in due course.

"Hey—need a car to pick up a late player—go to airport; pick up package; need towels; need someone at the front desk; need help in getting injured player to the hospital; clean-up detail; more ice, more gatorade, more cups, more of everything!" That should give you some idea of the myriad unforeseen things that come up in the course of an event such as this. Fortunately, we had the man we could turn to and rely upon to handle all of these problems.

That man was Alan Hilecher and I don't know of a harder working, more dedicated person than Alan. Of all the people who gave of their time and effort, no-one could have done more. Alan organized the volunteers, ran the errands, arranged for the stands, speakers, etc., and through it all maintained an air of calmness that belied the enormous pressures placed upon him.

To Alan, his charming wife, Linda, and all the other people who worked with him, our thanks. Without them our tournament would have been chaotic.

I would suppose that one of the most difficult duties of a floor manager is coordinating players, courts and referees. The first two are not too difficult, the third, an endless task. It is amazing the number of reasons a prospective referee can come up with. All floor managers waste precious court time pursuing this thankless chore.

Well, this is one floor manager that had not the slightest problem in this area, because that job was capably handled by Rudy Serot. All I had to do was get the players, the court and call Rudy. He did the rest. I don't know how he did it but he did and he made it all come off as smooth as silk. His contribution to the tournament's success cannot be overestimated.

I must mention, in all candor, that when someone by the name of Steve Serot was playing, Rudy was a little hard to come by but at those times, I could turn to Gus Gowiseow who filled in most capably. Gus posted scores, made up score-cards, helped get refs and took his turn at the desk. His contribution was just super.

I've singled out these people, not so much to thank them, but to indicate what you have to have to make a tournament great. We had the players, the facilities, and the beautiful dedicated people who worked to make it all come off.

please turn the page
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF SAINT LOUIS  
MISSOURI

JOHN H. POELKER  
MAYOR

May 23, 1975

GREETINGS...

Participants in the International Racquetball Association 
Tournament

As Mayor of the City of Saint Louis, may I bid you 
welcome with all the warmth of the tradition of our two 
centuries of hospitality.

Saint Louis, the city surrounded by the United 
States, is happy that you have chosen to hold your tournament 
with us. It is with pride that we ask you to note what we 
are doing in Saint Louis ... the physical rebuilding of our 
city may be seen all about you. More importantly, you will 
find that it is a dynamic city, with a new pulse of community 
excitement born of achievement and growing promise.

You may be sure that the City government, in co-
operation with our numerous civic agencies, will do everything 
possible to see that you have a most enjoyable stay in Saint 
Louis.

Cordially yours,

Mayor
FOUR INGREDIENTS—continued from page 61

THERE IS ONE MORE INGREDIENT that distinguishes one tournament from another. That ingredient is hospitality, and I am proud that we, here in St. Louis, are known for it. I believe that in addition to all the other things we contribute, our hospitality is among the more important attractions to the players. In our opinion there is no way a tournament can be a success unless the sponsors of the tournament take into consideration the needs and wants of the players. You must make them feel they are truly the most important part of your affair. The only way to do this is through hospitality. We, here in St. Louis, take a back seat to nobody in this regard.

The hospitality room at the hotel with its gifts, beer, pretzels, etc., the fantastic Saturday night Luau, attended by over three hundred people, were the province of Dan and Ann Hilecher. They did a tremendous job. They made sure that the players had a place to congregate, visit, shoot the recquetball breeze and kept them from being lonely or wandering around at loose ends.

They knocked themselves out making sure the players were looked after. I am sure that many of the players will be hard pressed, in the future, to recall many aspects of the tournament but I am equally sure that they won’t forget the sight of Myron Roderick doing the limbo. That is indeed a memory to be cherished and one not likely to be seen again soon if, indeed ever at all. Dan and Ann made it all happen and did it with a graciousness that made their hospitality outstanding.

The hotel was only part of the hospitality story. Another part was the Westport Club itself. Here I must single out Sarah Marks (a distant relative) for her tremendous contribution. She, along with Ann, ran that hos-

continued
THE COST OF GOING TO COURT HAS JUST DROPPED FOR THE SUMMER.

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Saturdays and Sundays:
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- 5:00 p.m. — 11:00 p.m. ............................................... $6.00

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- Convenient location.

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Creve Coeur, Mo. 63141
Telephone 569-1110
FOUR INGREDIENTS—continued from page 63

hospitality room in a pre-designed manner to primarily cater to the wants, needs and desires of “her” players. To that end, weeks before the tournament, she scrounged apples, oranges, candy, potato chips and other items, too numerous to mention, from all over the City of St. Louis. She arranged the menus, beverages, chairs, and tables, to provide for the comfort and well being of the players. Then she proceeded to put herself on round the clock duty to see, personally, that every player got his or her fair share.

She not only recruited her own help (among them our daughters on penalty of losing their allowances) but also did yeoman duty in clearing up the rubbish from the tables to make them attractive for the next group. When, in the course, of checking her “lists” she discovered some players who had not had an opportunity to eat, she somehow managed to “hide” some plates so those players would not be overlooked. Sarah made our hospitality room truly hospitable and through her efforts helped make our tournament the criteria for others to emulate.

Since, although I didn’t intend it, this article has turned out to be one great big thank you note, I would be remiss if I failed to mention Mike Mace, who was responsible for the toilet articles, tote bags and racquet covers that were given to the players in addition to their normal loot. Also to the folks from Racquet Time, Voit, Vittert, Trenway and Ektelon for their contributions. It all helped to make our tournament a success and I want them to know it was most appreciated.

These then are the ingredients it takes to make a great tournament. Players, facilities, efficiency and hospitality. But when it comes right down to the bottom line, the main ingredient is people.
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Bud Muehleisen
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They'll soon be known as,
"The Firehouse Gang"

The accompanying February 7, 1975 story and picture have been reprinted with permission of the Chattanooga News-Free Press. Their editor adds to this story that commissioners Roberts and Guerry won the first game; no report on how the police and fire chiefs fared.

By J. B. Collins
Urban Affairs Editor

Residents of the St. Elmo-Alton Park areas have a special interest in their brand new fire station.

In addition to its fire protection features, the new building at 40th and Pinola streets includes an indoor, air-conditioned handball-racquetball court available for use by the community.

The facility was made possible by a contribution from the Chattem Drug and Chemical Foundation, which furnished two-thirds of the $36,000 additional cost.

Commissioner Roberts said it is a new venture in fire station construction—to include community recreation facilities.

He said he is already convinced that it is a "good thing" even before the facility is formally opened today. Already residents of the community have been reserving the court for handball or racquetball games even though comparatively few of them had even seen one of these games before the court was built in their fire station.

Formal opening ceremonies were scheduled for today at 11 a.m. They include a racquetball game between Commissioner Gene Roberts and Alex Guerry, chairman of the board, and president of Chattem Drug and Chemical Co., and Commissioners Pat Rose and Steve Conrad.

The winners of this contest will play the winners of a second game between Fire Chief Jerry Pitts and Mayor Robert Kirk Walker and Commissioner John Franklin.

And just in case this lineup of athletic ability doesn't attract a crowd, firemen at the station have agreed to cook up a batch of beef stew to be served to the public attending the ceremonies.

Commissioner Roberts said the two-bay station houses a pumper company and a ladder company and also provides shelter for a Chattanooga-Hamilton County Rescue Unit.

The building was designed by Architect Frank Gibson and cost a total of $243,000.

The station was located so as to serve two neighborhoods (St. Elmo and Alton Parks) allowing Commissioner Roberts to extend approved fire protection coverage into the annexed areas at a considerable tax savings.
PART I—THE GAME

1. What type play is recognized for tournament play by the IRA?
   A. Singles
   B. Cut-throat
   C. Doubles
   D. Singles and Doubles

PART II—COURTS AND EQUIPMENT

1. The specifications for the standard four-wall racquetball court are:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Width</th>
<th>Height</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A.</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D.</td>
<td>20 40</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. The back wall must be at least how high?
   A. 8 Ft.
   B. 12 Ft.
   C. 16 Ft.
   D. 20 Ft.

3. The receiving line is the line:
   A. You stand behind when you serve
   B. You stand behind when you receive
   C. You stand in front of when you serve
   D. You stand in front of when you receive

4. What is the official IRA sanctioned tournament ball?
   A. Seamco 558
   B. Vittert
   C. Voit
   D. All of the above

5. The IRA official ball must meet the following standards:
   A. When dropped from 96" it must rebound 67"-70"
   B. When dropped from 98" it must rebound 69"-72"
   C. When dropped from 100" at 76 degrees it must rebound 67"-72"
   D. When dropped from 100" at 72 degrees it must rebound 67"-72"

6. What is the maximum width of a racquet at the widest point?
   A. 7"
   B. 8"
   C. 9"
   D. 10"

7. What is the maximum length of the racquet head?
   A. 9"
   B. 10"
   C. 11"
   D. 12"

8. The overall length (including grip) and width of a racquet may not exceed how many inches?
   A. 18"
   B. 20"
   C. 22"
   D. 27"

9. What color uniform may not be worn in a match?
   A. All white
   B. All black
   C. All pink
   D. All yellow

PART III—OFFICIATING

1. A referee may forfeit a player for which of the following?
   A. After two technical fouls have been called on a player
   B. Being more than 10 minutes late for the match
   C. Drinking alcohol on the premises
   D. When a player refuses to abide by the referees decision

2. A player may be forfeited if he has not reported to play within how many minutes after he is scheduled?
   A. 10 minutes
   B. 15 minutes
   C. 20 minutes
   D. 30 minutes

TEST MATERIAL FOR OFFICIATING
Questions On The Rules
Test Produced By The Oklahoma Racquetball Association

Please answer the following questions by placing an "X" over the letter which indicates the most appropriate answer.

The accompanying test material was forwarded without comment to the magazine by Oklahoma's IRA state chairman, V. Z. Lawton, Norman, Oklahoma. There are 34 questions. Although the test says it is for "officiating," keep in mind the answers are the same whether the test is being given to a referee or a player. Some think otherwise.

(There is no truth to the rumor that IRA members scoring 17 or below on this test will have their Adidas recalled by the factory and replaced with bird-watching binoculars.)

*But, that is an idea.

3. Can a Tournament Director change the amount of time a player is late?
   (Check One)
   Yes ___
   No ___

PART IV—PLAY REGULATIONS

1. The server may step out of the service zone after:
   A. The ball has been served
   B. The receiver strikes the ball
   C. The ball hits the front wall
   D. The ball passes the short line

2. After the Server is in place in the Service Zone, he has how many seconds to put the ball in play?
   A. 5 seconds
   B. 10 seconds
   C. 15 seconds
   D. 20 seconds

3. The Server may serve the ball
   A. When he is ready
   B. When he has waited 10 seconds
   C. When he has waited 15 seconds
   D. When the receiver is ready

4. A Dead Ball serve is a serve that
   A. Is made with a dead ball
   B. Hits the servers partner while he is in the service box
   C. Is struck with a dead racquet
   D. Hits a dead part of the court
5. A Fault Serve is a serve that
A. When two have been made results in an out
B. When one has been made results in an out
C. Is made with a faulty ball
D. Is made with a faulty racquet

6. The following is a Hinder:
A. Any body contact between two players
B. A straddle ball (between legs)
C. Body contact that interferes with seeing or returning the ball
D. When the ball hits the crotch between wall and floor during the rally

7. A Screen Ball hinder occurs when:
A. The ball passes close enough to opponent that the receiver hasn't a
fair chance to see or return the ball
B. The receiver loses sight of ball played against a glass wall
C. The ball passes between bright lights and the players vision

8. An Avoidable Hinder is:
A. When a player does not move sufficiently to allow opponent his shot
B. When a player moves in the way and is struck by the ball just played
by his opponent
C. When a player deliberately pushes or shoves an opponent during a
rally
D. All of the above

9. The penalty for committing an "Avoidable Hinder" when on offense is:
A. A service out when the offender is serving
B. A point taken away if the offender is not serving
C. Both "A" and "B" are correct
D. Neither "A" or "B" is correct

10. During Doubles play the first player serving commits an "Avoidable
Hinder" and should receive the following penalty:
A. A service out
B. A loss of point
C. A side out
D. Addition of a point

11. Which of the following serves is considered "Good"?
A. A corner crotch ball on the front and size wall
B. A back wall-floor crotch ball
C. A front wall-floor crotch ball
D. None of the above

12. In Doubles the score is 16-20, player A of team A-B serves out of order to
21-20 when the discrepancy is discovered. How should the referee rule?
A. The score shall revert to 16-20 and a handout occurs
B. The offending team is penalized one point and a hand out occurs.
C. The offending team loses one serve and no points
D. None of the above

13. How many minutes are allowed for an Injury
A. 2 minutes
B. 5 minutes
C. 10 minutes
D. 15 minutes

14. How many (minutes or seconds) are allowed for a faulty uniform
adjustment? (at the request of a player and after substantiation by the
referee)
A. 30 seconds
B. 1 minutes
C. 2 minutes
D. 10 minutes

15. How many (minutes or seconds) are allowed for equipment adjustment? (at the request of a player and after substantiation by the referee)
A. 10 seconds
B. 20 seconds
C. 30 seconds
D. 2 minutes

16. How long is the "Rest Period" allowed between the first and second
games of a match, at which time the players should NOT leave the court,
without approval of the referee?
A. 1 minute
B. 2 minutes
C. 10 minutes
D. 20 minutes

17. How long is the "Rest Period" allowed between the second and third
games of a match, at which time players may leave the court?
A. 2 minutes
B. 10 minutes
C. 20 minutes
D. 30 minutes

18. A Technical Foul may be called by a referee at any time, whenever he
feels that a player has executed or exhibited unsportsmanlike conduct either
vocally or by any other means during the course of a match. What is the
penalty for a "Technical Foul"?
A. A service out
B. A loss of point
C. A side out
D. Any of the above

19. A third "Technical Foul" call upon any single player during the course of
a match will result:
A. In loss of point
B. In side out
C. In automatic immediate forfeiture of that match
D. In awarding opponent one point

PART V—TOURNAMENTS

1. How many events may a player participate in an IRA-sanctioned tour-
ament?
A. One
B. Two
C. Three
D. Four

2. In all IRA-sanctioned tournaments the referee is empowered to default a
match if an individual player or team conducts itself to the detriment of the
tournament and the game?
True __________
False ________

Signature

JULY-AUGUST 1975

69
So, you want to fill in the brackets?

By Bob Dellinger

The philosophy of bracketing and seeding, in any sport, admits to but a single objective—to separate contestants of proven ability so that the best two have the opportunity to meet in the finals, having defeated he next-best two in the semifinals, having beaten the next-best four in the quarterfinals, etc.

This discussion of seeding and placement is aimed particularly at the line-bracketing which constitutes a great majority of the competition in the United States. In round-robin events, where every player meets every other player, seeding is of limited importance, except that for the spectators it is desirable to have the best players meet in the final round.

Seeding for any bracket should be carried out without regard for personalities, style of play or geographical location and should be determined solely on merit. Criteria for determining seeded positions should include:

(1) Excellent records during the current season, weighted in light of the caliber of opposition.

(2) Head-to-head competition among contestants being considered for the same seeded positions.

(3) League championships or other accomplishments in fields of known quality, even though the contestant may not have competed directly against all the strong individual opponents.

(4) Achievements in past years, such as national, regional or area championships.

(5) A contestant nominated for one seeded position may not be withdrawn from consideration if he loses that selection. For example, two players are considered for No. 3 seed. One is selected. The other must be regarded the top choice for No. 4 seed.

It is accepted practice, when there is no apparent difference among candidates for seeded positions, to determine those positions by lot. For example, after three seeds have been selected, four players of apparently equal qualifications are considered for subsequent positions. It is permissible to draw lots for seeded places No. 4 through No. 7 among these four contestants.

After the seeded contestants have been ranked, solely on merit, their placement in a line bracket should follow an unvarying formula, in keeping with the basic philosophy of seeding.

The No. 1 seed, favored to win the tournament, should be placed on the top line of the bracket.

The No. 2 seed, favored to meet him in the finals, should be placed on the top line of the second half of the bracket. In a 32-man draw, he would be placed on the 17th line.

The philosophy of seeding determines the location of the No. 3 seed. Two questions are considered: (1) Who, other than the top two seeds, has the best chance of reaching the finals? Obviously, No. 3. (2) Who, among the top two seeds, does No. 3 have the better chance to defeat in the semifinals? Obviously, No. 2. Therefore, the No. 3 man should have the opportunity to meet No. 2 in the semifinals. He should be placed on the top line of the fourth quarter of the bracket.

Note: It is important to seed and place without regard to personalities. One could say, “Joe might beat Sam, but he can't beat Bill, so he ought to be paired up there with Sam.” Such views never should enter into an objective, impartial tournament operation. Seeds are earned on merit and placed by formula.

This leaves No. 4 to be placed. He should not have to meet any of the other three seeds before the semifinals, so he must go in the second quarter of the bracket, on the top line of that quarter.

To continue through the remaining seeds, return to the two basic questions: (1) Who has the best chance to
advance beyond his seeding? Obviously, No. 5. (2) Who does he have the best chance to defeat? Clearly, No. 4. Thus, No. 5 should be paired in the same quarter as No. 4, but in the other eighth of the draw, so they would not meet until the quarterfinals. (In a 32-man draw, No. 4 would be on the ninth line, No. 5 on the 13th line.)

The same reasoning places No. 6 against No. 3, places No. 7 against No. 2 and No. 8 against No. 1. To follow, in the round of 16, No. 9 would face No. 8 and so on, in reverse order, until No. 16 is paired against No. 1.

It is thus possible, and recommended, that every line of the bracket be numbered.

Any number of deserving contestants may be seeded, the rest merely placed by drawing numbers and placing them on corresponding lines.

The practice of numbering every line of the bracket also simplifies the placing of byes and preliminary matches necessary to bring each bracket to an eventual power of 2.

Byes should be placed in reverse order. In a 32-man draw, with three byes, they would go on lines 32, 31 and 30—which would award them to the Nos. 1, 2 and 3 seeds.

Preliminary matches often are necessary to reduce a bracket. For example, a 35-man draw would require three preliminaries. (This actually is equivalent to a 64-man bracket with 29 byes.) The player drawing No. 33 would meet No. 32 in the preliminary round, the winner facing No. 1. The player drawing No. 34 would meet No. 31, and so on (see illustration).

As a check in numbering each line of a full bracket, each pair of first round numbers should total one more than the total bracket. In a 32-man bracket, the pairings from the top are 1-32, 16-17, 8-25, 9-24, 4-29, etc., each pair adding to 33.

The entire procedure of seeding, bracketing and tournament operation is to give each contestant an exactly equal opportunity to determine the outcome of his own skills against those of his opponent. Each event should be conducted objectively and impartially with the benefit of the contestants foremost.

CONSOLATION BRACKETS

Many tournament committees find consolation brackets of value to guarantee at least two matches for each contestant. The most popular form of consolation play brackets every contestant who loses his first match, including those who receive a bye, then lose, and those who receive a forfeit, then lose.

This procedure usually requires that two rounds of championship play be conducted before the consolation bracket is finalized.

The original draw numbers should be followed in drawing the consolation bracket. For example, the loser of 1-32 would play the loser of 16-17, the loser of 8-25 would meet the loser of 9-24, etc.

DOUBLE ELIMINATION

Another form of bracketing, popular in many sports—particularly soft-ball is the double elimination bracket in which every contestant except the champion must be beaten twice. Care must be taken to cross-bracket the losers from championship rounds so the same contestants are not re-matched in the early stages of the tournament.

The accompanying article on bracketing was prepared by Bob Dellinger, former editor of the Racquetball magazine and a top sports reporter. Dellinger has been repeatedly named the leading sports writer in the field of wrestling.

INSTRUCTION

"What most of us want
we can really enjoy"

"I know of pros and near-pros who spend five hours a day practicing racquetball and even more time running five to ten miles a day to build up their stamina for tournament play. They manage to turn themselves into machines that efficiently place the ball where it's supposed to go. I can't do that. And I don't think most of the readers of this book can do that either. What most of us want is a game we can really enjoy that keeps us in really good shape."

Edward L. Vockell holds a doctorate in psychology and teaches at the university level in Indiana. Somewhere along the line he began playing racquetball and true to his professional field he began applying the principles he was teaching, to himself . . . and to his game.

The first paragraph of this article is a quotation taken from Vockell's pre-facing remarks in his book, "Developing Racquetball Skills, by Ed Vockell, Ph.D., and Ottis Campbell," and should reassure the beginning and non-professional player that this book has been written for him.

Vockell and Campbell pay tribute to professional and very expert players throughout the book, and quickly admit how much newcomers to the sport can learn by watching the pros, or by actually playing against them, but the main thrust of the text is to help the non-pro improve his game, and thereby enjoy the sport that much more.

Crammed into 111 pages that cover, chapter by chapter, such things as basic rules and equipment; how to develop skills, strategies, serves and the return of serves; offensive and defensive shots; safety guidelines; forming leagues; and a glossary of terms, the book is an unusually complete digest of the sport.

There is also a brain-storming section, "You call the shot," which sharpens the player's thinking about exactly what he would do under certain conditions.

And, if a player wonders where "psyching out" an opponent stops and poor sportsmanship begins (the games people play!), Dr. Vockell devotes a couple of paragraphs to this subject.

The easily read commentary on the sport is accompanied by helpful diagrams of various shots; charts, and tables and even a suggestion for uses of busted racquetballs. Squeeze 'em to strengthen wrist muscles.

Copies of the book are available for $3.45 each by writing "Dynamic Racquetball," Department 300, Box 2023, Hammond, Indiana 46323.
International Pro-Singles Championships

Charles Brumfield
Bye
Brumfield
Bill Dunn, Union City
Bye
Dunn
Jerry Hillecher, St. Louis
Bye
J. Hillecher
Dave Bledsoe, Memphis
Bye
Bledsoe
Steve Keeley, San Diego
Bye
Keeley
Harold Lusan, Mont.
Bye
Zuckerman
Jerry Zuckerman, Mo.
Ron Rubenstein, Ill.
Bye
Rubenstein
Kenny Wong, St. Louis
Bye
McCoy
Craig McCoy, Calif.
Steve Strandemo
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Strandemo
Len Stream, Calif.
Larry Larkin, Va.
Bill Schmidtke, Wis.
Bye
Schmidtke
Tamas Kutas, Ind.
Bye
Kutas
Steve Serot, Calif.
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Dave Charlson, Ariz.
Paul Ikier, Tenn.
Mike Zeitman, Ky.
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Mike Zeitman, Ky.
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Victor Niederheffer, N.Y.
Bye
Niederheffer
Niederheffer
Steve Serot, Calif.
## International Open Singles Championships

### OPEN SINGLES

#### Preliminary Round—(1st sheet)


### OPEN SINGLES

#### Preliminary Round—(2nd sheet)


### OPEN SINGLES

#### Preliminary Round—(3rd sheet)


### OPEN SINGLES

#### Preliminary Round—(4th sheet)


### OPEN CONSOLATIONS

**Quarterfinals**: Campbell def. Karas; Schmidt def. Field; McDowell def. Bemis and Taylor def. Frye.

**Semifinals**: Campbell def. Schmidt; McDowell def. Taylor.

**Finals**: Campbell def. McDowell to win the consolation. 21-15, 21-2.
International Seniors Championships

**SCOREBOARD**

**SENIOR CONSOLATION**


RACQUETBALL
International Masters Championships

Masters—Preliminary Rounds


Masters Consolation

First Round: Hilecher def. Feigen; Daines def. Zelson; Hansen def. Tanner; Pearl advanced on by; Weiderman def. Krushes; Perelman def. Rizzo; Schingle def. Schneider; Grula def. Gauthard.


Women's International Singles Championships

Women's Singles


Women's Consolation


Golden Masters International Championships

Golden Consolation


Women's Doubles Championships

Junior's Singles Championships

Racquetball
Mid-Atlantic Regional

SINGLES
Quarterfinals: King def. Harmon; Dick def. Larson; Duda def. Wang; (21-20 in the third); Ashland def. Superstein.
Third: Duda.

GOLDEN MASTERS

WOMEN'S
Quarterfinals: Carol French, Newport News, Va., def. Laboe.

SINGLES
Quarterfinals: Sullivan def. Thomas; Loughery def. Laperlo; Roberson def. Moody; Raymond def. Griffin.
Semifinals: Sullivan def. Loughery, 14-21, 21-18, 21-10; Roberson def. Raymond, 21-12, 21-21, 21-12.
Finals: Roberson, Sullivan, 21-6, 21-19.

JUNIORS
First round: Jordan Sloan, Virginia Beach, Va.; lost to D. Parson, Durham, N.C.
Finals: Becker def. Humphrey.

MASTERS

helix court house

PRO-EXHIBITION

OPEN SINGLES
B SINGLES
C SINGLES
Semifinals: Larry Handley def. Mark Harris, 21-9, 8-21; Wayne Weightman def. Bill Torres, 13-21, 21-17, 21-13.
Finals: Weightman def. Handley, 21-12, 21-21, 21-10.
NOVICE SINGLES
WOMEN'S OPEN

Utah Doubles

OPEN DOUBLES
Semifinals: Mansfield-Weinstein def. McNabb-Rogers, 21-16, 18-21, 21-10; Sayes-Sayes def. Citi-Sakamuki, 21-12, 21-14.

CLASS B
Quarterfinals: Anden-Darrow def. Dehn-Bowman, 21-13, 21-8; McNabb-Rogers def.

JUNIOR SINGLES

WOMEN'S NOVICE

B DOUBLES

WOMEN DOUBLES

JUNIOR SINGLES

MASTER SINGLES

* 1975
All-Cal Tourney

April 11-12

SINGLES

Men's Finals: Scott Gaynor def. Mark Susso, 21-13, 21-16.


Consolation: Eva Martin def. Amanda Bennett, 21-3, 21-1.

MEN'S DOUBLES


First: Irvine.

Second: UC Santa Cruz.

Third: Berkeley.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES


First: Irvine.

Second: UC Santa Cruz.

Third: Berkeley.

TEAM STANDING

Irvine, 10 points; UCLA, 9 points; Santa Cruz, 6 points; Berkeley, 3 points; Riverside and Davis, none.

Tumwater

WASHINGTON STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

OPEN SINGLES


Consolation: Amos Deaven def. David Hathaway, 21-17, 21-14.

WOMEN'S SINGLES


Third: Gina Baird def. Pat Hawkey, 21-17, 21-4.

OPEN DOUBLES


Harrer-Tom Saterdal, 15-4, 15-10.


WOMEN'S SINGLES


Third Place: Sue Dostal def. Barb Tennesen, 21-18, 21-16.


WOMEN'S DOUBLES

Finals: Koni Porter-Kathy Frazer def. Mary Adam-Jan Moore, 15-9, 15-10.


Consolation: Jan Mahoney-Denise Malarkey def. Sue Dostal-Carolyn Perry, 15-10, 15-10.

PRO AM MATCH

Koni Porter split with Bob Lutensia a game apiece and didn't have time for a third fall, 21-20, 21-20.

Super 16

LEAGUE "A"


LEAGUE "B"


LEAGUE "C"


LEAGUE "D"


SUNDAY-TOP 4

Semi-Luciw def. Guinter, 21-17, 21-16.


Final-Luciw def. Marsocci, 21-4, 21-10.


SUNDAY-SECOND 4


Final-Garfinkel def. Allier, 21-17, 21-20.

3rd-Aguiglia def. Winterton, 21-17, 21-12.

SUNDAY-THIRD 4

Semi-Yargostas def. Sweeney, 21-17, 5-21, 21-12.


Final-Yargostas def. Mallie, 21-3, 21-12.


SUNDAY-FOURTH 4

Semi-Muswicz def. St. Onge, 21-6, 21-12.

Semi-Pelletta def. Grapes, 21-0, 21-3.


GEORGIA STATE
OPEN SINGLES
First Round: Auerbach def. Ludzink, 21-6, 21-5; Worster def. Rhuland (forfeit); Rhodes def. Irwin, 21-6, 21-12; Nelson def. McLaughlin, 21-5, 21-12; Johnson def. Fulks, 21-4, 21-3; Thompson def. Kaufman, 19-21, 21-2, 21-1; Siegel def. Vaccarella, 21-8, 21-14; Stark def. Moore, 21-4, 21-7.

SENIOR SINGLES
First Round: Devine def. Derdeyn, 21-9, 21-7; Wessel def. Patterson (forfeit); Scallon def. Bradford, 21-17, 21-20; Krafcshick, Knox, Mangino, Baskin and Payne received byes.
Finals: Scallon def. Krafcshick, 21-14, 21-13; Baskin def. Devine (3rd place).

WOMEN'S SINGLES
First Round: Dianno Crowe def. Kathy Gray, 21-5, 21-9; Linda Poole def. Emily Lowery, 21-6, 21-3.
Finals: Crowe def. Poole, 20-21, 21-7, 21-7; Gray def. Lowery, 21-12, 21-0 (3rd place).

B SINGLES
First Round: M. Smith def. Little, 21-12, 21-17; Lee def. Crain (forfeit); Carrol def. Bullock, 12-21, 21-14, 21-11; Stratton def. Feinberg, 21-4, 21-10; Benedict def. Hall, 21-3, 21-1; J. Smith def. J. Perry, 21-6, 21-3; Lansky def. Shaw, 21-14, 16-21, 21-9; Hilliard, Highlander, Gray, Werner, Redelheim, Kiker, Schantz, Bishop, and Easterlin received byes.

W. VIRGINIA STATE
A SINGLES

B SINGLES
Finals: Annand def. Martin, 21-20, 21-12.

WOMEN'S SINGLES
Quarterfinals: Donna Cayton def. Ruth Ann Gardner, 21-0, 21-1; Cori Jordan def. Pat Smith, 21-7, 21-10; Sandy Mendenhall def. B'Ann True, 21-10, 21-11; Mary Scherer def. Wanda Yagghay (default).
Finals: Cayton def. Mendenhall, 21-14, 21-8; Third was Mendenhall; fourth was Cori Jordan.

DOUBLES
Kansas State

MEN'S OPEN

Semifinals: Phil Stepp def. Dennis Clark, 21-10, 21-16; Wayne Clark def. Gary Steele, 21-9, 13-21, 21-7. (Steele def. Clark for third, 21-12, 21-11.)

Finals: Campbell def. Stepp, 21-9, 21-6.


MEN'S B


Consolation: Grant Canaday def. Haig Hugopian, 21-17, 21-17.

MASTERS


Consolation: Paul Hutsey def. J. D. Frederick, 21-11, 21-7.

WOMEN'S OPEN


Finals: Brundage def. Wilson, 21-11, 21-16.


WOMEN'S B


Finals: Goodman def. Rieger, 21-12, 21-14.

Consolation: Barbara Mann def. Patti Campbell, 20-21, 21-12, 21-11.

Daffy Open

OPEN SINGLES

Semifinals: Condrotow def. Stephens; Byers def. Altman.

Finals: Condrotow def. Byers, 21-18, 21-15. Third was Altman with win over Stephens.

MASTERS


WOMEN'S SINGLES


B SINGLES


Semifinals: Johnson def. Kirk; Mason def. Kennedy.


C SINGLES

Quarterfinals: Ceroci def. Stratton; Stary def. Quisbe; Brookens def. Sula; Elliott def. Lindstrom.

Semifinals: Ceroci def. Stary; Brookens def. Elliott.


OPEN DOUBLES

Semifinals: Jackson-Stephens def. Pfeiffer-Poppino; Condrotow-Smyth def. Williams-Deaven.


King of Cataraqui

By Chuck Lepitre

Guy Leeder who came back from the regionals with a third place singles trophy and sharing a second place doubles trophy with teammate Bob Speagle, proved himself the King of the Cataraqui Handball and Athletic Club in the Kingston, Ontario, closed competition.

In their first game of the tournament Bob Speagle and Guy Leeder sparred around the court until Leeder accumulated 21-12 points, but the second game became more intense. The score saw-sawed back and forth. With the count 9-8 in favor of Speagle, Leeder took the serve and with nine consecutive rollouts rebuilt the score and the lead to 17-9.

Speagle had an opportunity to even the contest with two more serves but managed to pick up but one additional point. The game ended 21-10, Leeder.

The consolations sounded more violent than they really were. Blood and sweat marred the court, but the nose bleed came without physical contact—just exertion—and a bruised leg occurred when Barry Nicholson hit himself with his own racquet.

Barry Nicholson and Colin Gallo­way sweated out the consolations for two hours 30 minutes with Nicholson emerging victorious, 12-21, 21-13, 21-14.

Neil McNeil beat Vance Garafalo two out of three to meet Leeder in the semifinals where he went down in three games. McNeil's power surprised many by exploding a Voit ball before it hit the front wall.

Harvey (the Cat) Vallouette was playing some of the best racquetball he has shown, but still went down in two straight to Speagle in the quarter­finals.

A major change in this year's sec­ond Ontario Closed Tournament, was the introduction of four Queens Uni­versity players. Formerly paddle ball players who converted to racquetball, they had but six-months experience.

The university students reported about ten players at the campus, but with true spirit of the newly converted (redeemed?) predict a strong upsurge of participation this coming year. The university has about 5,000 enrollment.

Additional courts needed

By Don R. McMahill

The highly favored team of Jeff Paul and Dr. John Parrish lost only one game on their way to winning the Pueblo YMCA's first men's doubles tournament, March 8-9.

Close play was the norm during the two day tournament and the championship finals were no exception. Paul-Parrish took 90 minutes in the finals match but out-endured, and out-
At the New Britain YMCA by defeating Leo Marsocci of Niagara Falls, New York, 19-21, 21-16, 21-11. On his way to victory, Luciw also defeated Tom Waltz of New Canaan, Connecticut, 21-10, 21-7; Tom Sweeney, 21-11, 21-9, and John Morrin, 21-5, 21-8.

Marsocci defeated Joe Tyree of Buffalo, 10-21, 21-17, 21-20; Dave Yurgaitis, 21-15, 21-18; and Deniz Fonseca, 21-11, 21-13, before meeting Luciw in the finals.


The consolation singles was won by Jim Dollinger.

In the doubles entries, Mike Luciw and Leo Marsocci went all the way without losing a game. They beat Pat Columbus and Ed Castilla, 21-15, 21-11. They also downed Tyree and Moshides, 21-17, 21-3; Risley and DeMauro, 21-0, 21-1.

The doubles consolation was won by Price and Dollinger.


Cities represented in the Connecticut Open included: Waterbury, New Haven Naugatuck, Hartford; from New York, Portchester, Rochester, Buffalo, Niagara Falls; from Massachusetts, Springfield, Pittsfield; and from Maine, Portland.

A hospitality room was offered on Friday and Saturday. Trophies were presented to 1st and 2nd place winners, in both events.

Iowa needs IRA women’s tourney

By Dr. Burdette Hansen

Dick Bishop is the new Iowa YMCA singles racquetball champ. He defeated Steve Chase in a shoot-off of champs. Chase was last year’s YMCA champ, while Bishop was the IRA title holder.

The title game was perhaps the finest racquetball game ever played in an Iowa tournament. Chase won the first game rather easily, 21-12. Bishop controlled the second game, 21-9. In the final and deciding game, Chase led all the way and near the end of the game was ahead, 19-14; then Bishop started hitting. Chase won the serve at 19-17 and made one point. Steve had three serves with match point at stake.

At one time he had a chance to end the game with a long bouncer off the back wall, but skipped it off the floor about one foot ahead of the front wall. There were some volleys that were absolutely exceptional during the entire match, but particularly during the third and final contest.

Both hit the ball exceptionally hard, low, and accurately—shooting all the way, and played defense only toward the end of the third game.

Detrich defeated Hunter for 3rd place, while Icenogle won the consolation over Nau. The Burlington men did an excellent job conducting the tournament.

Several Iowans participated in the IRA Regionals. All did quite well, but the big Iowa winner was Bernie Nielsen. Bernie won the senior division championship. Every Iowaan was at least one match. (Remember, 25% of all participants do not win a match.) Steve Chase and Charles Drewel lost in the open quarterfinals; Sue Dostal was second in women’s doubles, but lost in the singles quarterfinals; Jerry Lucas won his first match in the senior division; Wayne Nelson won his first match in the senior consolation; Dr. Hansen won one in the master division; the Lucas and Chase team won their first match in open doubles.

OTHER IOWA NOTES: Members who have sent their $2 state IRA fees will receive their ID cards as soon as they are made available. For those who have not, don’t wait. The state treasury needs the money.

WOMEN’S IRA TOURNAMENT: Iowa needs one. Who would set it up?

For additional scores in the Iowa YMCA singles tournament see Scoreboard.

Kent Taylor takes
Kansas Mid-America

Kent Taylor of Wichita, Kansas, defeated unseeded Harold Youngen- tob, Topeka, Kansas, 21-9, 21-15, to capture the Men’s Open Championship. Harold made it to the finals by defeating 3rd seeded Gary Steele of Wichita and 2nd seeded Wayne Campbell of Wichita. Campbell defeated Dean Lemmon of Topeka for 3rd place, 21-3, 21-8. Dennis Clark of Garden City captured the consolation beating Ron York of Kansas City, Missouri, 21-20, 19-21, 21-11.

pointed the number two team of Andy Sabo and W. I. Thomas by scores of 13-21, 21-16, 21-12.

In the semi-finals Sabo-Thomas out-scored the third place team of Dick Lepetso-Mike Miller, 21-10 and 21-15.

In the C-Novice play Frank Albo and Ron DeLeon emerged victorious over Ramon Romero and Ray Gomez, 21-19, 21-10; and over Jim Garren and Jerry Smith, 21-8, 21-16.

Earlier Smith-Garren had defeated the team of Max Trout and Charlie Graham, 21-9, 21-16, in the semi-finals.

Consolation finals were won by Tom Bratz-Sam Clay, 21-10, 21-14, over Keith Frazier-Gene Valliant.

Merchandise prizes, donated by local merchants, were awarded in place of trophies, in order to keep costs to a minimum, and to involve businessmen with the tournament who might not otherwise be aware of the sport.

The Pueblo Y is currently investigating plans for the construction of two additional courts, which is an indication of the growing popularity of Racquetball in this southern Colorado community.

Connecticut open

By Phillip J. Panarella

Mike Luciw won the Connecticut Open Racquetball Tournament held

Leo Marsocci, left, congratulates Mike Luciw. Phil Panarella, state chairman looks on.

JULY-AUGUST 1975
CONTENDER'S DIVISION: Larry Swank, Hutchison, Kansas, beat Jack Kindlesparger, Salina, Kansas, 21-6, 21-10 for first place. Fred McMillen, Wichita, beat Ed French, Salina, 21-6, 21-11, for 3rd. Rod Kitts, Garden City, beat Steve Klingzell, Salina, 20-21, 21-10, 21-18, for the consolation.


The First Annual Burlington Open Racquetball Tournament was held February 7, 8, and 9 at the Burlington YMCA in Burlington, North Carolina, with 24 entries in the open singles and consolation events.

Top-seeded Paul Saperstein, High Point, N.C., defeated Jim McComas, Durham, in the open finals and Joe Cox, Burlington, crushed Jim Rangle, Lexington, for the consolation championship.

After an opening-round bye, Saperstein met Johnny Thomason, Thomasville, and outlasted him, 21-14, 7-21, 21-14. That proved to be the only game Paul was to lose in this tournament as he was in complete control of every match thereafter. In the quarterfinals he stopped Carl Wiles, 21-18 and 21-16, and picked up a forfeit (due to illness) from Sonny Harmon in the semifinals, that placed him in the finals against McComas.

McComas worked his way to the finals with wins over Duke Pierson, 21-6, 21-8; Bill Freshwater, 21-14, 21-16; and Anthony Giordano, 21-12, 21-12. However, in the championship match McComas never got untracked as Saperstein completely dominated play, 21-12, 21-13.

The consolation division finals found Joe Cox, a very promising 19-year-old from Burlington, facing the veteran Rangle. The young southpaw lived up to that promising tag by destroying Rangle, 21-5, 21-8.

Keeley and Wong head Illini win list

Steve Keeley from San Diego captured the men open singles of the Third Illini Open, at the University of Illinois, defeating Kenny Wong of St. Louis, 21-19, 21-11. Joe Wirku outlasted Jeff Bowman, 16-21, 21-6, 21-6, for third place.

In the Women's Open, Sue Carow of Chicago put on a display of aggressive, controlled racquetball to defeat Betty Johnson of San Diego, 21-6, 21-3, in the finals. Teri Davis defeated Jean Sauer, 18-21, 21-11, for third.

Shelley Clar of Chicago captured the men's senior event defeating Fred Blaess of Chicago, 21-10, 21-17. Bill Williamson outpointed Paul Franks, 21-13, 21-8, or third place.

The Masters was won by Joe Bechard of Milwaukee, 21-20, 21-9, over Joe Zelson of St. Louis. Phil Dziuk captured third place over Don Van Fossen, 21-17, 21-7.

Helix Court House Gatorade open provides exhibition hall for Brum and Strandemo

The semi-annual Helix Court House tournament, appropriately named the Gatorade Open, attracted 175 entries to Spring Valley, California. Owner Bette Weed said the highlight of the event was the pro-exhibition between IRA international champion pro Charlie Brumfield and Steve Strandemo.

Brumfield was continuing his St. Louis championship form, and completely controlled the match in spite of fantastic playing by Strandemo. The scores of 21-12 and 21-10 pretty well tell the story.

In the open division Steve Trent and Stan Wright met in the finals with two even first round games going 21-7, 14-21; then Wright got hot or, as he said, "lucky when you take the deciding game by one point—21-20." But, he continued the luck by teaming with Ron Starkman to win the Gatorade doubles.

In the semifinals Creese and Moran gave Brumfield and Bloom a good workout, splitting the first two games, and forcing the winners to a 21-20 extra- tion in the third. At the same time Wright and Starkman were having...
In the very vocal finals the first game went to Brumfield-Bloom, 21-19; the second to Wright-Starkman, 21-20, then for some reason Brumfield forfeited the deciding game. Until that move the tournament was not lacking for excitement.

In Class A Jim Trent defeated Alan Kent, 21-19, 21-9. Trent was put out of the open by going three with winner Stan Wright, so Wright had his hands full, going three with both Trents to win.

"C" singles showed the largest number of entries. Wayne Weightman won this division, with second going to Larry "Lefty" Handly.

The next largest division—with 32 entries—was the Novice class. Bob Elder from Orange county, who didn't look much like a novice, won over Chris Martinez.

The Junior division provided a lot of excitement for the more than 100 spectators on hand for the tournament. In the finals Darryl (better known as Tumble Weed), was down, 20-13, and made a comeback to win, 21-20, only to lose the second game, 13-21. In his third game—with Beaver Wickham, who had bested him in two earlier events—Weed clinched the match with a 21-18 showing.

In the women's open singles, National champion Ann Gorski was upset by Bette Weed, 21-12, 21-15. Ann was never really into either game, and it had been more than a year since the two women had played against each other. In the doubles, Weed teamed with newcomer Patti Berneathy who is going to be a player worth watching. They took that division over Kathy Schrillo-Kathy Gardner.

Bill Stevens managed the tournament, and the $300 pro-purse was supplied by Chula Vista Electrics, Best Auto Supply, Crower Racing Cams, and the Helix Court House.

Dr. Norton captures Columbus throne

At the top of the list of things not to be, if you want to win the Columbus, Ohio, City Wide racquetball tournament, is last year's champion.

In the May 16-17-18 tourney Gene Erwine, Zanesville, who won the 1974 event was dethroned by Columbus YMCA champion Don Schiefer in the semifinals of the open; and in the masters division, the 1974 winner didn't even show.

The city tournament drew players from Marion, Zanesville, and Columbus, Ohio, and Detroit, Michigan.

In the finals of the singles open Dr. John Norton defeated Don Schiefer in a 2½-hour three-game match. The first game went to Schiefer, 21-19, but Norton came back in the second, 21-19, and finally in the third—after a 10-10 tie—ran seven straight points to take the win, 21-12.

Before that, in the semifinals Schiefer had defeated Erwine, 21-7, 21-11; and Dr. Norton had eliminated George Geissbuhler, 21-13, 21-10.

The quarterfinals went as follows: Erwine defeated Larry Shell, 21-9, 21-3; Schiefer defeated Sam Comstock, 21-9, 21-3; Geissbuhler defeated Bob Anderson, 21-15, 21-16; and Dr. Norton advanced on a bye.

In the masters division Art Payne of the Columbus YMCA defeated Bill White, also of Columbus, 21-10, 21-4.

In the open consolation Mike Thomas, Marion, won by an injury default over Chad Tennant, and later met the consolation master's winner Bob Box in another 150-minute workout to determine the overall consolation winner. The prize went to Tennant by scores of 21-17, 14-17, and 21-7.

MORE COURTS FOR ARIZONA — The Phoenix Athletic Club (PAC) is adding ten new courts for Arizona racquetballers, plus a number of social and athletic amenities, according to John Norris, one of the clubs owners. Shown with Norris, extreme right, are from the left; Conrad Grassmick, superintendent; Larry Freedlund, architect; Art Payne, architect and Tom Crammins, co-owner. The facility is scheduled for a November opening.

US Court Clubs and PR firm schedule series of racquetball clinics

A series of racquetball clinics is being organized and promoted by "jib communications," a Texas based public relations and sports promotions firm managed by Jim Bollinger, Houston.

Bollinger stated, "Our main purpose is to educate the public about what we believe will be the game of the '80s. To do this we are cooperating with Jim Austin, executive director of the United States Court Club Association and other leaders in the sport."

Top names in racquetball, said Bollinger, have endorsed the clinic concept. "Splendid, was Peggy Steding's reaction; great concept said Dr. Bud Muehleisen; far out! was Eric Campbell's comment," according to Bollinger who said he had talked with each of these people about working with instructional clinics.

Bollinger said Mike Carr feels the clinics will introduce the sport to a great many new people, and both he and Bollinger said they will rely to some extent on the use of famous personalities who are also avid racquetball players.

"For example," Bollinger said, "Danny Abramowicz, star receiver for the San Francisco 49-ers and formerly of the New Orleans Saints is one of a number of professional athletes who keep in top physical condition during their off-season by playing racquetball."

The first of the scheduled clinics has been set for September in Houston. The second will feature Peggy Steding, and will be held in Odessa, Texas, this October. Bollinger announced, "In November the clinic will move to Dallas, and possibly Baton Rouge. Others are planned for St. Louis, Denver, San Diego, Oklahoma City, and New Orleans."
Florida southpaws dominate tourney

Steve Terry, Tampa, Florida, took first place in the Florida Springtime Double Elimination Singles May 3-4, over a field of 42 players.

In the two day tourney 42 racquetballers met in a total of 78 matches, which might have set some sort of record for left-handed winners. Not only was the titlist a southpaw, but add to the list: Mike Fatolitis, Clearwater, who took second; Rick Stevens, Gainesville, third; and Ken Hendricks, Fort Lauderdale, fourth. All left-handers!

USCCA changes date of annual meeting

The US Court Clubs association will hold its second annual meeting in October at St. Louis according to an announcement from Jim Austin, executive director of the association. The meeting had earlier been announced for September.

“A nationwide series of racquetball clinics and the October annual meeting in St. Louis will highlight an active schedule for the USCCA during the remainder of 1975,” Austijn said.

The USCCA, in conjunction with “jb communications,” is organizing and promoting a racquetball clinic to be held in Houston this September, Austin said. Some of the top names—such as Peggy Steding and Dr. Bud Muehleisen—are assisting with plans for a comprehensive two-day session in what many believe to be the first and certainly the most ambitious endeavor of its kind.

The “jb communications” firm is a Houston based Public Relations and sports promotion company headed by Jim Bollinger.

Austin said he was pleased to announce at this time the tentative acceptance by several outstanding speakers who will talk with members on vital areas of court club operations. “The first half of this year,” Austin said, “has been spent organizing an excellent package of benefits for USCCA members; the second half will be spent promoting our attractive 1975 charter membership plan.”

The September/October issue of Racquetball magazine will carry a comprehensive picture of the USCCA, Austin indicated, and will carry a description of the framework within which the association plans to operate.

“The October session in St. Louis should prove to be a very exciting one for all court club owners and management, and we are inviting everyone connected with court clubs to attend the annual meeting. A great deal of thought and a great deal of work has gone into the program.”

Members will be notified of the agenda and meeting place. Others may write to the US Court Club Association, 2020 Southwest Freeway, Suite 200, Houston, Texas 77006. The telephone number is (713) 524-3894.

New model Champion

A new half-finger racquet glove has been introduced by Champion Glove Company of Des Moines, Iowa. Called the Model 650, it has been designed for those players who prefer a direct touch of the racquet handle but also desire the no-slip feature of a glove.

The Terry cloth glove is easy to put on and take off because of the large “V” wedge opening which has a Velcro tab closure for exact tightness adjustment. A thin doeskin palm is included for a firm grip and the stretch-fit pattern assures proper fit. The gloves are available in three sizes for both men and women in both lefts and rights.

Cedar Valley invitational captured on film

By Jim Holthus

The 2nd Annual Cedar Valley Invitational Racquetball Singles Tournament was held May 9-11 at the “Family” Y.M.C.A. in Charles City, Iowa. Fifteen entrants from seven cities took part in the three-day competition. When the smoke had finally cleared, Bernie Nielsen of Marshalltown emerged in the number one position. Bernie beat Helmut Braun of Waterloo in the finals, 21-19, 21-15. Third place went to Jim Holthus of Charles City by default over Bob Tonkin of Waterloo. “Mac” McCulley of Iowa City won the consolation trophy for the second straight year.

This was the first invitational tournament for many of the participants. Everyone who entered commented on the hospitality and friendliness of the townspeople.

One of the finest matches of the tournament was McCulley’s 21-17, 21-16 victory over Gary Icenogle in the semifinals of the Consolation. This was the third match on Saturday for both of the men and they still had a lot in reserve.

Jim Koenig of Rochester improved rapidly throughout the tournament and took home quite a bit of knowledge about the game. John Engelkes of Cedar Falls got swiped in the head with a racquet but recovered sufficiently to help referee some of the later matches. Craig Frey did a super job for the home team with his hospitality line-up, as did Larry Snyder as the Floor Manager and Al Hart as the Referee Chairman.

Gary Butzloff and Bernie Nielsen kept everyone entertained with stories of each other’s heroes and exploits. If half of what they said is true, both of these men should be on the “Ten Most Wanted” list down at the local post office.

The participants in the tourney enjoyed movies of the 1974 Cedar Valley Invitational. The tournament’s roving candid cameraman (Yours Truly) again managed to film some of the highlights of the tournament and these will be shown next year to all entrants.

The 1976 Invitational will be held in late April or early May in Charles City. We may sponsor an “A” singles limited to 16 players, and a “B” singles for the same number. This tournament is proving to be a popular one for the married men as all entrants are invited to bring their wives and families along.
Keystone invitational — as usual — doesn't go as usual

In an otherwise “routine” tournament where the top seeded, and favored players defeated their opponents by casual scores of 21-20, 21-19, and other easy matches, one of the outstanding games was in the finals of the open doubles.

Wes Hadikin and Vic Olshevskei were teamed against Bob Moreland and Randy Delavau. In the first game Moreland came out shooting like the marshall in an old western and with teammate Delavau gunned out a first round victory, 21-14.

In the next two games the story-line switched. Wes and Vic made some offensive and defensive adjustments, came out from behind the rocks and proceeded to teach the ups-starts what the game is all about. Second and third games were 21-7 and 21-14 for Hadikin and Olshevskei.

The second annual Keystone Invitational Racquetball Tournament at Winnipeg was held June 13-15 with 51 entrants from Canada and the U.S., and in spite of the first paragraph of this story, was full of tense moments, tight scores, and a number of upsets.

This year’s affair featured four divisions: open singles, open doubles, “B” singles and women’s singles.

In the open singles semifinals Wes Hadikin was hard pressed to beat Ken Sufferion, 21-16, 21-18, to advance to the finals. However, in the other semifinals, Bob Moreland was upset by Olshevskei, who was shooting extremely well, by scores of 21-13 and 21-17. Hadikin went on to win the finals, 21-6, 21-19.

In the “B” singles there were no upsets as Gerry Bilodeau, Nick Jackin, Brian Burke and Ron Frick advanced to the semifinals. Frick had a fairly easy time handling Burke, 21-17, 21-7, to reach the finals. In the other semi, number one seed Bilodeau was upset by Jackin in a three game match that went 19-21, 21-10, 21-18.

The women’s singles featured an upset when Mary Calof of Winnipeg beat Winiki Richard of Fargo in three games to advance to the finals against Kay McDonald, the defending women’s champion. But that was as far as it went, with McDonald turning back Ms. Richard’s challenges, 21-14, 21-11, and retaining her title.

In the semifinals of the open doubles Bob Moreland of Sioux Falls was teamed with Randy Delavau, Winnipeg. The pair managed an upset of number two seeded Tom Marshall and John Cate, 21-17, 21-8.

In the “B” singles Ron Frick defeated Rick Jackiew, 21-10, 21-12.

CONSOLATION WINNERS


The Canadian Nationals will be hosted by the MRA October 9-12 in Winnipeg.

UNM’s first three-day tourney attracts 44 players

By Clay Childs

In the three-day New Mexico State Open Racquetball Tournament Earl Badger took first place in the men’s singles with a score of 21-7, 21-20 over Clay Childs; and Lynn Chirigos took first in the women’s singles, 21-1, 21-5, defeating Sharon Marren for the title.

Other singles finalists from the field of 36 men and eight women were: Jack Blystone, third; and Dennis Chavez, fourth in the men’s singles. Jim Danley won the consolation event. Third and fourth in the women’s singles went to, respectively, Cheryl Holm and Jane Hagen. The consolation event was taken by Renee Lowden.

In the men’s doubles Jack Blystone and Jess Hernandez teamed to take first place. Second went to Earl Badger and Dennis Chavez; third, Clay Childs and Gary Mazaroff; and fourth, Jack Wrenn and Frank Silva.

The New Mexico state club was organized last year through the efforts of Gary Mazaroff, program coordinator. The group plans its next tournament during the coming school year.

At the present time there are a number of private courts in Albuquerque, with three new ones reportedly under construction. This will ease the burden on the 20 existing courts.

Racquetball players from out of town who would like to play while in Albuquerque are invited to contact either Gary Mazaroff or Clay Childs in care of the University of New Mexico Handball/Racquetball Club, Intramural Department, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Irvine cops All-Cal undergraduate event

By Alton J. Creweley

Six of the nine University of California campuses sent teams to compete in the April 11-12 All-Cal Racquetball Tournament held on the Santa Cruz campus. The event was limited to UC undergraduates, and offered men’s singles and doubles, and women’s singles and doubles.

In the men’s singles Mark Sussen of the Irvine campus took a hard fought win from Scott Gaynor, UCLA, 21-13 and 21-16. The second game in particular was a see-saw affair, but Mark’s hot shooting style provided a little too much for Scott. Though losing in two straight, Scott is a player to watch for.

Don Schag of the Santa Cruz team, repeatedly using a super Z-ball shot against George Bilgere from Riverside, took the men’s singles consolation, 21-16, 21-9.
The nation's top ten professional racquetball players have been invited to the second annual World Racquetball Championships sponsored by Eastern Washington State College and the Spokane Elks Club.

To begin July 30 at EWSC, near Spokane, with the finals August 2 at the Elks Club, the meet will feature two new divisions this year, Thornie Tibbitts, tournament director said.

One is the professional category, with entry by invitation only. The other is the women's novice singles.

A new classification system for B and C singles will be used in the tournament, Tibbitts said. Winners of the first match will advance to class B, losers to class C. Double winners will go into class B-1, winners-losers to B-2. Losers-winners will be class C-1, losers-losers go into C-2.

Other categories remain the same as last year. They are men's open and women's open singles, open doubles, senior singles and doubles (35 and older), and master singles (45 and older).

Five of the ten invited pros have already entered the tourney, Tibbitts said. They include the top four, Charles Brumfield, Steve Strandemo, Steve Serot and Steve Keeley, all of San Diego, Calif., and Bill Dunn, Union City, Calif.

Although housing is available on campus for competitors and spouses, they may also find accommodations in Spokane, Tibbitts said. EWSC is only 16 miles from the "All-American City" and Spokane Transit Lines buses provide transportation.

For those who wish to stay in Spokane, he said, the developing Riverfront Park on the site of Expo 74 is within walking distance of downtown hotels and motels and several of the six attractions offered through the "Yes You Can in Spokane" program.

The six are Pacific Northwest Indian Center, the city's carousel, the gondola ride over Spokane Falls, Indian Canyon Horseback Rides, Spokane River Raft Float Trips and the riverboat excursion which leaves from the Riverfront Park.
Bud, Peggy and Jim are helping plan the comprehensive two-day clinic. Some of the game's other top players from Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana will assist in demonstrating the fundamentals of America's fastest growing and most dynamic sport!

OTHER CLINICS PLANNED IN:

Odessa, Texas  Baton Rouge, La.  Stillwater, Okla.
Dallas, Texas  New Orleans, La.  Oklahoma City, Okla.
San Antonio, Texas  Lafayette, La.  St. Louis, Mo.

For more information:  jb communications, inc.
Sports Promotions Division
2623 Kipling St.
Houston, Texas  77006

A communications, inc. presentation in conjunction with the U.S.C.C.A.
CALENDAR for...

Upcoming Racquetball

JULY


18-20: Edina, Minnesota. 1975 Aquatennial Racquetball tournament at the Kings Court. Open singles, doubles, senior singles and doubles, women's singles and doubles, B singles and B doubles. Souvenirs, awards, buffet, and Saturday evening barbecue and beer. Tournament is IRA sanctioned. 7001 Cahill Road, Edina, Minn., or call 941-6391.


24-26: Centre Hall, Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania's Nittany Lions will host singles and doubles. Luke St. Onge, chairman, (814) 364-1482 or write Box 193, Centre Hall, Pa. 16828. (THIS IS A CORRECTED DATE.)

OCTOBER

9-12: Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. Canadian nationals will be hosted by Manitoba Racquetball Association. For additional information write V. C. Olsheski, 626 Lockhart Hall, University of Winnipeg, 515 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, R 3 B 2 E O.


NOVEMBER


DECEMBER

5-7: Winona, Minnesota. 6th Annual Winona YMCA tournament. Men's open singles, women's open singles. Men's open doubles and senior men's. Manager, Andy Blomsness (507) 454-1520; 207 Winona St., Winona, Minn. 55987.

NOTICE

When mailing information for the calendar, please check your letter for these items: Dates, Place (city and state), Name of meet, Divisions of play, person to contact—address and phone number.

Additional information is welcome, once the preceding is covered.

The Winona YMCA sent this photo along with an announcement of their next tournament. Name of the Game was not given.
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The Roll Out ball, on the other hand, is formed in precision molds which produce not only a rounder but also a better balanced ball because the wall thickness is more uniform.

The result is a precision ball that lets you play your very best game.

The Roll Out is also tops in durability. Super strong seam construction virtually eliminates the major cause of ball failure.

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

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